

22 September 1945

Dear Jimmy & Mary,

Well we just finished a 3 day stop in Saipan and are back on the high seas again. Believe it or not I have spent the last 14 nights sleeping on the deck as it is so ungodly hot down in the troop compartments. Fortunately enough I have a place under a lifeboat so I at least stay out of the rain. Boy this deck is really getting to be hard sleeping and I am dreaming about my first night in a good bed again (when ever that is)

I went into shore 2 out of the 3 days there and toured the island from one end to the other. We ~~say~~ saw just about every thing of interest if you are interested in it. The island is even smaller than I expected and there are no towns at all.

The whole thing is just a military reservation with a few civilians here and there. You can really see the damage done by the war and the only thing standing is what we built up. The B-29 base is really something to see and its hard to believe all that could be built in a years time. The Marines have one of their cemeteries on the beach where the first landings were made and it sure is a peaceful place now. A graveyard like that sure puts a lump in your throat when you think

that all the boys there are young Americans who
never dreamed of fighting a war but then they are
landed there.

Well it won't be long now before we hit
the beaches of Japan. It's really a joke the way
we are going in. We are going to make an amphibious
landing just as though we are going to fight. Every
one will have ammunition and what's so funny is
that if a Jap fires at us we will all probably
turn around and run the other way. I don't know,
maybe the war isn't over. If it is over let me
know right away as that will be a big load off
my mind.

I will write as soon as we land and
let you know how the operation goes off. I can
see it now, the Japs will probably sell tickets
to the public and they will all be there watching us
like a football game. Well when you see
and I hope I can be home to see you all
in another 6 or 8 months

Your brother
Dwain.