

August 30 1945

My Darling Melva,

Another day away from you darling, but from now on they should be days closer to ~~to~~ my return. Its like serving a sentence and not knowing the length of it.

This afternoon while I was visiting in CIC (other words I wasn't on watch) the lookouts reported whales dead ahead. I went up to the flight deck to take a look at them. But by the time I reached the forward edge of the deck they were already at the stern. There were too many planes on the deck to let me get up very fast so I went up on the Island structure to take a look, but by the time I saw them they were too far to see them very well. There were four of them playing around kicking up the water.

Our job the last few days have been to furnish air cover for destroyers that are "picketed" along from Okinawa to Tokyo about one-hundred miles apart. The destroyers are for air-sea rescue work and guiding stations for the steady stream of army transport planes and bombers that are flying in the occupation forces to Japan. There are two smaller carriers with

2/ us, one battleship, and one anti-aircraft cruiser like the Reno, and six destroyers. We have been steaming around out here in the same area half-way between Tokyo and Okinawa. This should be over with soon and then I hope we can come back to the states, but I suppose they will find some other patrol missions for us.

I haven't done much today. I got off watch last night at midnight, so I ~~she~~ went back to sleep after breakfast until noon. This afternoon I only had a short watch from 4 to 6 but tomorrow I have two of them. There hasn't been much doing, just routine things. We have an Admiral and his staff aboard in charge of this unit. The Admiral is all right but some of his staff are surely jerks. They cause us more trouble straightening them out on what goes on than anything else.

The tankers refueled us today, and we took on more provisions, also the APA that brought me out here was in the group to take the men back to the states, poor fellows! although I could stand anything going back. There wasn't any mail though, which I had hoped for. Take care of yourself and our little families. All my love,
Florence

AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO

Lt. (JG) F. E. Swagerty

US. Ticonderoga CV-14

76 F.P.O. San Francisco Calif



VIA AIR MAIL



Mrs. Floyd Swagerty
1029 Cleveland Lane
Napa, California

Recd. 9/15

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