

Sept. 12, 1945

My Darling Melba,

Another day just waiting around in Tokyo Bay and separated from you by miles and miles of ocean. The first liberty party from the ship went ashore today. They have some strange tales to tell. I go ashore on the 14th two days from now. I'll give you a full report when I return.

Tonight I saw a pretty nice movie entitled "Rhapsody in Blue". It's the story of George Gershwin's life. It was surely swell music.

The navy is already going back to the old "Peace Time Navy". They are polishing bright work again (it was all painted over during war) they are chipping paint and repainting everywhere, they have the enlisted men on watch stand in dress whites, and they pipe all officers over the side now. I want to get out, they can have all this pomp and ceremony. I think it's for the birds.

The last two days there has been a ~~board~~ selection board come

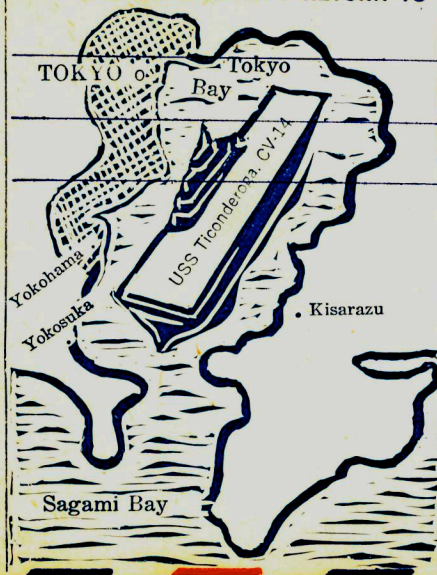


4 aboard this ship to interview reserve officers desiring to apply for the regular navy. There were several pilots that applied and a few officers that had come up through the ranks, but there were darn few just ordinary reserves that even gave it a second thought. I think the Navy is going to have a tough time getting enough men to stay in.

The pay list came out and I only have \$90.<sup>00</sup> on it. I thought it would be more ~~but~~ because last pay day I didn't draw any money and I had \$115.<sup>00</sup> listed. The thing was they hadn't subtracted the \$20.<sup>00</sup> I drew when I came aboard to pay my mess bill, mess share, and share in the cigar mess (which <sup>is</sup> the officers equivalent of ship's service). I will send you the check for the \$90.<sup>00</sup>. I am sorry I haven't more to send you. I love you darling and please be careful and take care of yourself and "Little Swag".

I love you with all my heart,  
Floyd

*Mr. F.E. Swagerty*  
U. S. S. TICONDEROGA (CV-14)  
Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, Calif.  
~~AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO~~



**VIA AIR MAIL**

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*THE "BIG T" WAS T*

Red. 9/28

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