

27 September 1945

a Day from Hawaii

Darling Melva,

Hello Sweetheart! I am so much closer to you now and yet so far away. I will call you tomorrow or the next day as soon as I find out what is going to happen.

This is the only letter I have written on this trip back from Tokyo because the letters won't be mailed until we get to Pearl Harbor and by that time I will call or send a cable, and there is a good chance I may beat the letters to you. Mail coming from the U.S. gets out to the fleet in fairly good time because the planes flying from the U.S. have plenty of room, but those returning to the U.S.A. are loaded with former war prisoners and they have the highest priority; so the mail is being delayed for awhile. I sent you a \$90.⁰⁰ ~~money~~ check from Tokyo and I hope you get it real soon. It looks almost as if I could have gotten it to you faster if I

2/ had brought it with me.

All the way from Tokyo we thought we would be in San Francisco on Navy Day, but yesterday my hopes were dashed when we received a dispatch stating we were to be in Seattle for Navy Day. Tonight the Captain announced that the air group would fly off the ship and land at Hawaii and that he felt we would only stay in Hawaii 36 hrs. pick up more passengers, about 1500 more, and take them to the U.S., then return to Pearl Harbor and join up with our unit of the 3rd fleet going into Seattle for Navy Day. That means there is a darn good chance that we will take these passengers to San Francisco and I may see you in about a week. I surely hope so. I miss you so much darling.

Our trip back from Tokyo has been very routine. The air group flew a couple of days in order to get their flight time in. While they were up they had anti-aircraft practise firing at a sleeve then a sled was dragged behind the ship

3/ and the planes made diving runs ~~out~~ on it firing their machine guns and rockets. It was surely intresting and after watching it I don't see how the anti-aircraft gunners ever hit the planes diving at them. They are such a small target when they come head on ~~they~~ travel so darn fast. By! I am surely glad this blasted war is over with.

On the way back we passed by a couple of whales again and I was able to see them this time. They spouted water and everything, quite intresting. I tried to get a little sun tan on the way back, but it has been cloudy off and on so much that I haven't been able to get much sun.

Since the war is over we don't worry about aircraft anymore so only one person stands watch at a time in C.I.C. except Enr. Brooks and myself. We are still under instruction and stand with one of the other officers. so we have only been standing one watch in nine.

We have been playing volley ball and badminton on the hangar deck

4/ for exercise.

The food situation has gotten pretty bad. The Japs quit when most all of our transports were back in the U.S. getting loaded with fresh provisions for invasion of Japan and then when they quit they caught us low on provisions for such a long stay out that wasn't planned. As a result we have had to eat all kinds of dehydrated vegetables and canned meats which are classified as dry stores, but it hasn't been too bad except I am sick and tired of ^(SP) asparagus and some kind of canned beef they have.

Well I will close for now darling and I hope I can see you real soon.

Your loving husband,
Floyd

AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO

Lt. (JG) F. E. Swagerty

U.S.S. Ticonderoga (CV-14)

% F. P. O. San Francisco, Calif.

SEP
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VIA AIR MAIL

Mrs. Floyd Swagerty
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Napa, California

9/27
Recd. 10/2

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