

"Somewhere in the  
"Marianas Islands"  
15 January 1945  
24/88

Dear Bryant Service Club Members -

A heartfelt of thanks  
for your swell box of candy.  
The mates in my hut thank  
you too - for they helped  
me eat it. That is a  
usual occurrence - it works  
both ways. We share & share  
alike.

Since last writing your  
things have changed. We no  
longer have trouble with  
the Japs who tried to snipe  
at the camp - that is a  
relief. Instead we are  
visited (faithfully) by the  
Flying Gun bombers. Three  
months ago I saw my

first Jap plane going down  
in flames. Now, it is not  
unusual to see 2 and 3  
Bogeys to down in flames.  
Outside of bombings there  
isn't much more to  
report in the line of  
activity.

One of our beaches  
looks like Waikiki Beach  
in Honolulu. I like the  
water here a lot better  
as it's quite cooler. Diving  
for shells & cat-eyes is  
fun. Poisonous aquatic  
life is not frequent this  
particular beach, however  
some poisonous species have  
been known to appear  
occasionally. But that does  
not stop me from  
taking a dip.

Well, I've got about  
8 hours of sack  
duty & put in so  
once again - thanks,  
& I'll be looking  
forward, when once again,  
I get a letter from  
you. The best of  
luck & success to  
you.

Sincerely,  
Jim Russell