

V-MAIL
[Transcription begins]

Lt. (jg) Douglas Leach USNR
USS ELDEN DE-264
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

S. R. Leach
168 Grand Avenue
Edgewood, R.I.

#65 Wednesday Nov. 17, 1944

Dear Douglas - I am trying to form the habit of immediately answering your letters by V-Mail, thus getting in an extra letter to you and commenting on your letter while it is still fresh in my mind. Your #136 (not dated) reached us November 15th and with it the amusing legal (?) document Habel vs. Leggett. Some one on board is a good typist! Do you ever pound the keys? We all had a laugh over the case and know it must have brightened some of your monotony (or on your ship is it "never a dull moment"?). Dad has sent the pen for Lt. Lee and before it arrives he has also mailed you a comic magazine, "Gags," chiefly because he liked the front cover. We do hope you have received some mail by now but we can tell by the news in the paper that things are pretty busy and intense in your part of the world. Glad you don't have too many court martials [sic] to officiate at. John Brown is still at Pearl Harbour (a telephone call to Browns just now tells me I am wrong!) He is on his way to his own ship, has crossed the date line & his address is John M. Brown, USNR, USS Wilkes - DD441, Fleet PO San Fran. No, Daryl Anne isn't quite old enough for measles, etc. but occasionally has a cold. Yes, we enjoy the Hour of Charm¹ on the radio. Jane Meyer tried out for it but didn't make it. No, we never get Japanese broadcasts. Your comment about canned pineapple makes us smile for one of the things we long for is that! We are allowed about 16 points a week for canned goods and a can of pineapple takes 80 points! But we have plenty of food altho not always the choice we like. All our love and will write again Monday.

Mother [Transcription ended]

¹ The Hour of Charm radio program, which aired from 1934 to 1948, featured a 22-piece orchestra led by Phil Spitalny. This orchestra, known as the Hour of Charm Orchestra, was made up exclusively of females, a novelty at the time.