Dear Folks,

I suppose you've been wondering when that other letter I promised was going to arrive. This is it, and I hope I don't have to chop it off all of a sudden like I did the other one. I really hadn't finished it, but I decided if I was ever going to send it, I'd just have to stop right there.

So date I've received two letters from you - one from Marine Wood at work. [uncle] also joined, sent me a little letter with the same cartoon in it that you did. I really got a kick out of receiving it twice.

I called him Sunday the 5th and we talked for about ten minutes - in fact until my supply of two nickels ran out. He didn't have much to say except that he should find out if he could come out and see me. Since this I've
found out they don't allow any visitors what so ever. I've tried to reach him twice but he's been out. Will try again soon.

you might call the kids at work + tell them to get on the ball & write. There are nine of them + I've heard from 8 of them. She sent me six dollars for the four of them & took for the plane ride.

Yes, it was candy the Navy Materis gave us. Between the four of us whose room mate we had six pounds of candy which lasted us until about last Wednesday. Now we're back buying it at ship's store. Though we can't really eat it up - that + plentiful mixed nuts.

The ships arrived Thursday but I wasn't able to get over to the P.O. until this afternoon to pick them up. I see they are Barbizon + alot nicer than the others ones I had. Thanks
act for sending this.

Also thanks for sending along any newspaper clippings that you think would be of interest to me.

When we arrived in Chicago at the L. C. station, Mavis, Louise, Mary, Betty, one of the Red Waves, and I took a cab to the Loeb Ill. station, waited there until after 11 o'clock in order to check our one suitcase, and then called Elly. She then took me to her office which was only about two blocks away, and waited until 12 so we could all go to lunch. We had a nice lunch at the Fair, and then went back to the station where we waited until about 1:15. At that time we went over to the Board of Trade Hotel, got into groups according to alphabetical order, waited for about an hour, and finally showed off to the station. We left right away on our
eventful trip. No one was in charge of us from AFD to Chicago.

You mentioned about my personal interview and what I might be headed for. We had time just yesterday and my first choice is aerographer mate which means a specialist in meteorology. There will be only 6 or 7 people chosen out of our whole regiment of 1600. You can see what the odds are. Maria also has this as her first choice. The school is at Lakewood, N.J. and I believe the course is 12 weeks. My second choice is called as specialist ORX who works with the plotting of courses. I don't see where it ties in with aviation, but the requirements stated that one should have CAA ground school knowledge and general aviation information. If I don't get my first one, I'm sure of the second. The specialist school is in Rhode Island, so it looks like what we do, I'll be here in the East.
We just had mail call and received another letter from you. I certainly look forward to them and when I don't get any, naturally I'm disappointed. However, I realize I can't get a letter every mail call.

About the prices, please forget about the extra three dollars - keeps them for all your troubles, etc.

Now you referring to a certain person when you wrote me about our boot training? I can't figure out who it can be. Yes, it is true about everything having to be immaculate. Our rooms are open all the time, so that means things must be in the proper order and clean until 5 p.m. We rise at 5:30 a.m. and have our meals at 6:15. In that time we must get dressed and have our rooms in order which includes making our bunks. Since we usually don't come back after mess, you can see that we can't just run when the bell rings. When it comes to making my bunk I don't have much trouble.
they've made the same change except that all the covers must be tucked in. Also the pillow has a special twist. Our bedspread has a very design on it which goes a certain way, our blanket that's folded at the foot must be folded in plaid, just so, our towels at the head must be folded so they read U.S.N. You can see that we have a lot of little details to see to.

In the galley (kitchen) all our cosmetics, shoe & sewing kit, stationary, luggage, combs & brushes etc. must be arranged in size. Having all this stuff in another room makes it very inconvenient when it comes to getting dressed. If you want to wash your must run in the galley for your wash bags, soap & comb, then into the bedroom for your towel, & finally back to the head (bathrom).

Today, & every Saturday, we had what is called Captains inspection. It's a super inspection job done by special women or men officers. They arrive in the
building at 9 a.m. + have around tea. During that time the girls in each room line up in the middle of the room at attention. You stand straight ahead at some spot on the wall where they speak to you. In the meantime they're going over the apartment with a fine tooth comb. Today our room didn't have a thing wrong with it, although in the other room, which we don't have anything to do with, had dirt behind the mirror + on top of the Navy locker. They feel eftes with their gloves, brush, or towel.

You should have seen me Friday night! We scrubbed the floor & wiped them, dusted everything, including our bedsprings, venetian blinds, moldings, in the bathroom where Movie + I put special attention, we squared everything in sight. The important thing was we passed inspection.

Yes, it's also true you can get out of the Navy, that is if you declare your intentions during the first
few days & especially during your medical. He had it last Monday & naturally passed. In one department they inquire about your mental attitude & if they think you're not going to like it or get along, they'll send you home. He has this girl out of our sector (457) that way.

And if the girls aren't crazy about it but don't mind letting you know about it. Naturally we all have our low moments & I'm no exception. However, the big thing is getting used to an entirely different sort of life. Sure, you must realize that this is a test period & they're trying to get your goat. After a bit, things let up & we can see what that is already happening.

I got a kick out of what you said Miss Fennell told you. In the first place I meant with you when she called - I was supposed two blocks away. Also we're not having what you'd call exactly a wonderful time, although we all are getting along fine. While we were here they tossed the idea from your head that
this is a wonderful adventure + its very glamorous or something. scrubbing + humping everywhere helps remove it. But by all means, don't worry. as I said before we are doing fine. We like it better + better as we go along.

Last Monday when we had our physical we also received two shots - one for typhoid in the left arm + the other for tetanus in the right. Tomorrow we have two more - i believe both of them for tetanus.

I'm certainly sorry to hear that both of you have colds. What's the matter - now that I'm gone I can't look after you, aren't you able to keep well? I'll have to ask the Navy for a release.

By now I'm feeling all right after my siege with pneumonia. For several days after I had no appetite at all + even the smell of food nauseated me. Now I've started to develop an appetite + I hope I don't put on weight, as I'm hanging all the time.
After being here a while mine mom or less discovered that all the good jobs are taken as you take what's left. Everyone says we would have been sitting pretty if we had joined right or nine months ago. They plan on closing the school after the class of Dec 28th goes through.

For example, the Aviation Machinist Mate school is closed, as is Radio school, Aids Trainer, Mail Clerk, Aviation Gunner, Photography, Parachute Rigger, and a lot of others. In other words we find the field is very limited in choice of schools. It is especially worse if you have had no previous working experience, in which case you may find yourself assigned to some station doing any odd job or position that crops up. I don't think this will happen to me.

The enlistment information is very deceiving to a lot of girls in that it says there are 237 jobs to be done in the Navy. Many girls quit the job they had in order to leave a new one. Now they find they'll probably be sent to do this don't work.
It is now Sunday morning, in fact it has been for two pages.

Last night we heard Jose Iturbi in person. Only ten girls out of our 40 could go, Mrs. Davis and I, and two room-mates were lucky enough to have our names drawn. He played a lot of Chopin, a composition of boogie woogie that Morton Gould wrote for him, 'Regression, The Five Dance from the Third Suite, and several other selections. He can really pound the keyboard.

Did either of you see "Two Girls and a Sailor" or "The Thousand Dollar Chin"? He was in both and in "Two Girls" he and his sister played the Five Dance on two pianos. Everyone asked for it until he finally played it.

There are no laundry facilities available to us so we do our own. I've been able to keep up with that, but I've sort of fallen behind in my morning.
C'mon now we are fitted for our uniforms. It will be the first one for me, but the second for the others. I missed my first one when I was sick, so I may be a few days late getting into uniform. Even so the others won't be in their blues until Saturday.

Yesterday morning our whole company attended a regimental review. We were just spectators but neat hat. We will be part of the show. It was certainly impressive with 2300 girls in the uniforms with flowers late marching in groups of 80. They also had two bands who "stuffed their stuff." As they went by the reviewing stand they all "eyes right." I was reviving I will be on the wing outside line going by the stand. I won't get to see the "big shot." Cause I keep my head straight while the others turn.

Can you get cigarette? If you want me to I can send you some cartons of Camels, Chesterfields, etc.

Yesterday at the soda fountain we waited in...
line for 45 min. for a sundae. Just as we got in the door they informed us they were closing because everything was in such a mess. Honestly, we all felt like crying. That's another thing I've discovered about the Navy - you wait and wait, usually in line, for everything.

This has turned out to be a book, still it seems like there are hundreds of things to write about. However, I'd better sign off soon.

Such this is what it is, would you see that all the family gets to read it? I think other is still in Madison, so after she and Clay read it, have them send it on to Mandy.

In the future I hope I'll be able to write to all of them individually, but in the meantime, they can invite me, too.

I've been curious to know if you've hung up the Marine service star flag they gave me. They got quite a kick out of having two stars at work now.
Thanks lords for the arnold stamps. I'm afraid I may have to put two of them on this.

This afternoon we are all going to see Bern
erson in "Mrs. Parkington." Can you imagine, it's compulsory that we go?

Although it didn't seem real to me being copied up here - not knowing what's going on, the election is on. Thank goodness Roosevelt is in again! Wednesday morning at Miss someone said they'd heard Roosevelt was ahead the night before, but we didn't know for sure until a man walked by reading a paper. We all practically mobbed him trying to see the headlines.

How Jefferson been behaving himself? Tell him for me not to stay outdoors too long & make a bear of himself.

Put my compliments to my address, too. Discern its not basic for them to seat. 8 to 10. 30 till.

Will close now. Lots of love to everyone,

P.S. Don't worry about my playing poker. In the June prompt pleased me this. Second, yesterday in particular. I love my tennis racket!