To the Members of the Club:

Your very welcome letter of March 14 was received in a little over a month due to distance and the very slow mail service out here.

By out here I refer to a pin head somewhere in the Pacific that they call an island where all you can see is water, coral, and palm trees. To walk entirely around the island in about three hours you can see it's pretty small. We have an occasional ship stop now and then and it's a wonderful sight.

We have a long working day and are on call twenty-four hours a day. When we do get a few hours to ourselves, we can play tennis, basketball, handball, swim, fish, sail in the lagoon or go shell hunting. Believe it or not, shell hunting is the most popular and I guess you might say the most dangerous for coral is the worst thing I can run up against for cutting a corral. Shells known as Cat Eye are obtained beyond the reef which surrounds the island and it is necessary to swim under the breakers through the coral to reach comparatively calm water beyond where the
will

water be anywhere from ten to fifty feet or deeper.

The shells are found clinging to coral shelves in this water, and with the aid of underwater glasses you look out at fish of all colors and shapes, including sharks which don't exactly make one feel too much at home. It is something you

read a dream about but very seldom think you

will try. Sharks come within easy reach at times

and they are not to be trusted so we usually make

a caution and keep their vicinity.

The house movie is a movie in a black-out room

and the theater where we can read, write, play,

cards, drink beer and fruit juice also figuer if you

are fortunate enouagh to have had the thought

and brought your own personal stock. No light

including cigarettes are allowed outside after dark

and unless there is a light source our illumina-

tion watches out more or less as a means of

avoiding bumping into people in the dark.

The weather is ideal so your not there long

before you acquire a dark tan. I have been out

for a little little than three monts now

on the way out I stopped at Pearl Harbor

where I was shown around the island of

Oahu by one other than Eddie Kwock a

well known alumnus of Boeing College.
I am in contact with Jane Schmitt who is a lot in the Army and in Texas also. Sgt. Ray Smith in California. Both of them have the life they are leading even if it is quite a bit down after being a combat.

When I was stationed back in the states it sure was nice to receive packages of cigarettes, candy, etc. from the service club and I really appreciated it. But here we can get cigarettes without any trouble. As far as food goes, don't afraid it would get stolen or it may not be the things they try to give us. Anything that is possible in the line of combat is with the mail. A boy in war is an added need to send and for packages. Thanks for wanting to do something in the line of these welcome packages but I suggest that in many cases when you cannot send them letters will always be welcome.

In turn you will receive mail from the boys which will be money at first but later on they show you all the more they have cut down due to economy. I hope this letter will give you a general idea in brief what life is like on a Pacific Isle, all but
the details that cannot be told for obvious reasons.

I was very sorry to learn of Ben Austin being missing in this part of the globe. I hope he will turn up safe and sound. Judging by his work he was operating off a canoe and was expected myself from one I know that being rich of credit coming to him the news for it it is just about the toughest assignment in the navy but it also one of the best.

It isn't like me to talk as long but I did want to show my appreciation of all the help you'll see me on the hill until return to New. You'll see me on the hill until then write letter to the boys over there plenty of them they are always welcome.

A. Bryant Alumnus

Lt. Marshall

U.S. Marine Corps
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Yours truly,

Robert W. Marshall, U.S. M.C.