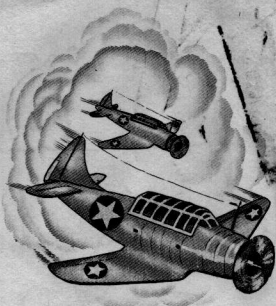


Comments
on European
Theatre;
(of War)
Squasm
imagined
Shell
collecting
good letter



U. S. NAVAL AIR STATION
DAYTONA BEACH
FLORIDA

Sept. 9. 1943

Dear Folke,

Well, now, like
Hannibal, we have only the
Alps to cross, only from the
other direction, though actually
the Channel is probably still
considered the principal hazard.
After all, we had all of
Italy during the whole of
the last war. It must still
have been a satisfactory
feeling, especially for Alexander
and Montgomery, to have won

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such a great victory with
such comparative ease. I'd
rather like to be sent to
Europe first and get in on
that show before its over
and then be sent to the
Pacific, but that doesn't
seem very likely what with
the British Navy having
things pretty well in hand.
Atlantic duty might mean
North Atlantic patrol, which
would be definitely grim.

At any rate, whenever and
whenever I'm called, I
won't be too sorry to leave
Florida.

News about Squon was
most welcome though tantamount

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Too bad you couldn't have
been up there longer. It
isn't hard to imagine a
nice stimulating north-west
breeze and hardly a cloud
in the sky up there right
now. At night now Vega
should be twinkling brightly
directly overhead and the
air full of chirps and
whistles of migrating warblers
and thrushes. With a
telescope on the moon, which
should be waxing along,
one could ^{even} catch glimpses
of a few of them.

So far in back and
also George Bigelow. This
morning we had an interesting

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lecture by one of his associates,
also just returned from the
southwest Pacific. It doesn't
make one feel quite right
to have all one's friends
coming back before one is
even sent out, but I'm
still glad of getting this
job because of the experiences
gained. Besides piling up
the flight hours it improves
one's bombing, gunnery, etc.,
and of course it's supposed
to improve the same of
one's students. Even if one
doesn't always set a good
example, it is a rather
satisfactory feeling to see



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improvements in said students.
We've been having another
series of thunder storms that
have dampened things in
two respects. They have also
spoiled plans for bicycle
trips on my last two days
off, but the bicycle has
itself misbehaved. A little
while ago a sailor put on
a new rear axle, bearings,
etc., and even more recently
I put on a new front axle.
The thread on the old having

worn out, causing wobbly,
rubbing wheels.

I'm now reading, with
surprising interest, "The Pocket
History of the United States"
- cost \$1.0005 per page. It
seems to me to be a well-
balanced job and fair but
priced. A lot of interesting
stuff I'd forgotten and some
I'd never known.

My latest collection,
shells, grows whenever it gets
the chance. Few ^{good} shells
are washed up at Daytona,
and few were at Tax
(Atlantic Beach or Ponte Vedra),
but the inlet twelve miles
or ²⁰ south of here is ~~supposed~~
pretty good spot for them.

The ^{south} west coast of the state
is famous for shells, but
is hard to get to from
here, there being no east
west passenger railroads.
There is a nice little book
about Florida shells, a
copy of which I bought.
That describes most
varieties. Here is something
rather interesting I first
noticed not so long ago,
that practically all spiral
shells spiral to the
right. There is one local
species that is supposed
to spiral to the left
and very rarely to the
right, yet the majority

local swainsonii, but someone said there was steel
to suffer (very rare, food only so - so right along), and I'm
hungry as usual. Love, Toot

of my several specimens ^{of said species}
spiral to the right!

Your last two letters
came in the middle of
this letter. The black
and white party must have
been something - right
down to the incident of
the missing match box.

Our colored maid, who
had always seemed pleasant
and surprisingly intelligent,
recently told me she
majored in music at
Temple Univ. after winning
a \$1500 scholarship. She
(plays church organ on Sunday)
quite a contrast, to our
new hall boy, said to
have been recruited from