

Many Happy Returns / Sept. 6, Ma!

Sept. 4, 1944

Dear Folks,

Your mealy letter
still come from Squam.
Though I realize that by
now you must be, perhaps
reluctantly, back in Groton.
At least the weather
should be more cheerful
there than when you left.

Yes, the Squam letter
between them made up a
mealy log and cut down
the distance between there
and here immeasurably.

Not bad to have eleven
at the camp and people
at Hoag and Jimmy Point
and Grandma at Hodge!
— like old times, but
doubtless also like times
to come, often and ^{ever} in the
near future.

You may remember
my slighting the "Invasion"
a little and showing
more interest in Saipan.
Well, the latter with
its accompanying sea
and air battles, the
greatest seen yet, was

3

largely over (The Navy)
show - remember the
Marines are part of the
Navy - but its now
over. I cant say that
the show in Europe
has just begun, but
it did bog down a
little, didnt it? The
progress now is to me
positively thrilling.
that from the South
almost as much so
as the other. I wish
I had had a share

4

in the attacks around
La Plage. What a
thrill it would have
been to dive bomb
that airport! It won't
be long now before
we'll be getting
considerably more help
in the Pacific, though
this is just one way
of looking at the
things that are making
Adolph sweat. Already
the latest Newweek's
map, including even
speculated drives, is out

5

of date. I'd say the
main thing to worry
about is what's going to
keep the public from
feeling that the war
is good or over as soon
as Germany falls. Maps
in the newspapers will
help. What a boon to
the science of geography
this war has been in
several respects.

Speaking of wars
the battle of California
continues unabated. We

don't do anything very different from what we've been doing. Though we fly more often with the other squadrons of the air group, in short practice group tactics.

Just recently we've shifted to an 0800-1700 day, which makes it nice to get through earlier, but grimmer to get up.

On the last couple of days off I've gone bicycling from Oakland.

7

a week ago Sunday
with feminine company
(M. 12.9.) up to the hills,
rather on the foot of same,
climbing afoot the rest
of the way - some nice
second growth redwoods
seen; yesterday (it just
happened some of us got
two Sundays in a row
off) alone to the
mud flats of south
Alameda to look for
shore birds, of which
there were thousands,

including various
sandpipers, yellow-legs,
dowitcher, plovers, millet
godwits and even avocets.

beautifully marked
creatures (splashes of
light and dark) with
remarkably up-turned
bills.

Lately I've played
more tennis than swim-
having found several
not too good enthusiasts
in the squadron.

I'm the food line
this seems to be the

me last season, so you can imagine my mood
watering just before I dig that you're
too. It's a pleasure to note in

Best time for me. Bottom line
stomach up, being married, which is nice to me.