

Hilo, Hawaii

Trips to look  
for birds etc.

Confusing since  
it mentions  
<sup>future</sup> possible duty  
in the States

Dec.  
~~Nov.~~ 6, 1944

Dear Folks,

It was nice to hear that Nance got up for the funeral. Too bad she couldn't have stayed for Thanksgiving. I'm still hoping to be stationed awhile in the East not further south than Norfolk (preferably at "Fort Devens airport") some time myself, and since one in some times given over preference upon returning to the States, such is not beyond the bounds of possibility. I should warn you, however, that two tones of overseas duty

T. Richards

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are the usual thing for a  
naval aviator before he is  
given more or less permanent  
duty at "home." My Daytona  
deal was of course exceptional  
and considered to be "temporary."  
After this present "tour" a  
"pool" and then attachment to  
a squadron forming somewhere  
north of Norfolk would not  
be unlikely unless the East  
Coast is over-applied for and  
I'm sent back to the West  
Coast. In any case 30 days  
leave has been the custom  
lately ~~before~~ immediately  
before this, and I'm gunning  
for next summer.

T. Richards

I've been in fine shape ever since leaving the States by the way, and even the voyage didn't bother me much, though we did much more pitching than rolling, which bothers me more. Very likely a storm blowing across our course would still make me miserable. We'll see.

Speaking of censorship rules, remember that they are <sup>as a rule</sup> for stricter for a unit temporarily based somewhere than for one "permanently" assigned to the same place.

We are still fortunate  
T. Rutledge

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enough to get a day off at  
regular intervals, as on the  
Coast. The routine being in  
fact much the same.

A little while ago some  
of us took a scenic train  
ride. The train consisting  
of two white trucks, <sup>or rather buses</sup> vintage  
of 1925, one pulling and one  
pushing a similar, but  
engineless car, all, however,  
on what seemed to be  
regular-sized rails. We  
passed fields of sugar cane  
and sometimes over gorges, or  
often or not containing a  
waterfall or two. Another time

one thing taken in more notes. The latest, Home in Indiana, having been especially enjoyable. Love to All. Toote

we went on a bus ride, and while the others continued on a special tour, I had been on before. I went looking for birds and with considerable success. The most interesting being one marked, <sup>much</sup> like a scarlet tanager, but with a sickle-shaped bill and a voice capable of weird sounds. This was in a very pretty bit of forest containing many kinds of trees, some of considerable size.

I've been feeble about reading lately (except about fauna, flora, etc.), having for  
T. Richards.