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Dear Toot,

It was wonderful hearing from you the other day. So you're in Daytona; sounds like you've become a permanent fixture of Florida. How do you like the SBDs? I've been flying them a good deal around here when I want some time or want to go to Diego or over to Phoenix to see Louise and Dad I can usually get one. The reason is this; 232 is being changed from a dive bombing to a torpedo bombing squadron and therefore the SBDs are "de trop" and not flying as much as the TBFs especially on Sundays when all the SBD pilots are at the beach. The TBF pilots fly every day. Lately we've been shut in by fog and low ceilings until about eleven in the mornigg so we have lots of time for letters and reading etc.

We're getting Field Carrier Landings or Bounce Drill as I believe it's called. I haven't gotten any yet but have some scheduled for this morning if it clears up. Personally I'd rather be back in twin-engine but will have to wait till I get back from overseas duty before trying to transfer back to it. Chances are when we get back we'll be Captains and get our own Squadrons but I'll refuse that; God knows, I don't want any responsibility like that hanging over my head. The happiest people in the service are the first and second lts. I get \$289.00 this month which isn't bad at all.

Last time I had a day off two us us and a girl drove down to Tijuana, just across the border in Mexica and have a very touristy time of it; buying knicnacks, trying Mexican cigarettes which are foul, and having our pictures (more like a Daguerreotype) taken by the street vendor for thirty-five cents. We got dizzy on a bottle of white wine at ø lunch which quite blinded us to the squalor and filth of the place.

Well, old man, there's not much more news so I'll knock off now. Write again when you get the chance; I ought to be here until the first of June.

love,

Phil