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OA/ID Number: 25832
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Folder Title:
May 1944

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	35	1	1	1

PHOTOCOPY
GB HANDWRITING

Write the complete address in plain block letters in the space below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

To Mr Knight Woolley
Brown Bros. Hardware
59 Wall St.
N. Y. City 6)
N. Y.

From

Ens. G. H. W. Beach
(Sender's name)

VT 51. F.P.O.
(Sender's address)

San Francisco, Cal.

May 3, 1944
(Date)

Dear Mr. Woolley,

I received a letter from you today dated Dec. 14th. Apparently the F.P.O. got it mixed up, but I have it now and I do want to thank you for writing me. I shall forward the letter on to Bombardier immediately.

As Dad probably told you, I am now on an aircraft carrier in the Pacific, flying a Grumman Avenger Torpedo Bomber. Life at sea appeals to me quite a bit, but it is also nice to get ashore occasionally.

Operating from a carrier has all the thrills of regular flying and then, the added 'attractions' of landing on a ship, navigating completely by dead reckoning, etc.

I am sorry that you were not in town that day in March when I went down to the office with Dad. Many thanks for your very thoughtful letter - very sincerely
G. H. W. Beach

V--MAIL

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1944 16-52424-4

May 5th 1944

Dear Mum and Dad,

I have your letter about Pinkwater and was so glad to hear that you had such a good time and that there was plenty for Nance to do.

May 7th

Interrupted but will continue now.

Tummy did make Lt. Commanders according to Harry Pannish, a fellow on our ship. Pannish is an old friend of Tim's and he too made Lt. Com. This ^{last} promotion caused a good deal of talk. Lt. Com in the Navy is really an extremely responsible rank - there are so many qualifications which must be had - (much more so than for major in Army or Air Corps), and some wondered if all those promoted were fully qualified. In my opinion they certainly deserve their promotion as they had been in a good while. Isn't it nice that I see Tummy.

Have been flying quite a bit lately - that is quite a bit for carrier based. So many people don't fully realize the differences between land and sea based planes. I must say I never did until I was aboard a ship.

The new engine I have in my plane

AIR MAIL

seems to be really fine. Two days ago another plane ran into mine on the deck. Fortunately #2 was tied down and sitting still so the damage was limited but it was maddening. I have a new plane captain now, and one who seems to really be 'in the know' - he is a second class wreck which is a rate higher than Sgt. in the Army so you can see he must be pretty good. He takes a keen interest in the plane and has a very pleasing personality. Oh yes the Pacific Fleet apparently allows names on planes so ~~my~~ mine is now "Hamp Queen"! I used to tease Ben about being the Queen of Northampton so that's what I call the plane. I will try to get you a picture of it. The little marks will be for bombing missions.

The weather has been extremely hot - not unbearable, however. At night I have no trouble getting to sleep but in the day I feel all beat up. We have to keep "dark ship" of course at night so our fresh air is cut off from the port, nevertheless the room is not too bad at all. The ready rooms are always cool. (Yes, Dad I do know my way there by now - blindfolded in fact.)

I heard "Tokio Rose" on the radio 2 days ago - what a laugh - urged all 'the boys' to return home and told of the beauty of Japan. I don't believe anyone

could sure be taken in by such an underhanded
hoax!

Ben gets out of Smith on the 12th
and gets a couple of weeks off I think.
I hope you ^{both} see her when she's home. I got
one letter from her not too long ago which
cheered me all up. Tell Mary I've not
to bother about the baseball clippings, but
Mum if you do have any news about
either the Sale or P. A. ball team please
send it to me, any clippings or anything.

It must be really lovely at home
now. I can picture it all so plainly and
long to be with you all. I suppose Bushy's
ball season has started too and he and
Fisher are the winners of a flashy
aggregation. Is Nance going to go to
Vassar all summer long - Ben is
going to Smith as you know. As I remember
Nance doesn't go for a couple of weeks
is that right?

Had a vigorous workout up on the
flight deck today. It was pretty good
fun - The sun and the workout itself
combined to make me pretty tired,

Wish I could give you the full
word on what we're doing - That is
impossible so just read the papers
and do your guessing. All is not serene
I assure you. You probably remember

AIR³⁰
MAIL

our Captain at the commission - In his letter
he mentioned carrying the fight to the
shores of Japan. He is a fighting man,
(also an respected and admired by all
hands) and when he is in command of quarters
I do believe we'd be somewhere off the
coast of Tokio!

I told you Nussak was left in
the state so we now have an ^{ex} pilot.
Our shipper (Mont or we all call him
not to his face however) is in form shape
and 'has the word' as well as ever.
He is a smart man - a very smart man -
and one whom ~~it~~ it is comforting to
fly with on I hope I always fly on his
wing - his place is #1 and I am #2 right
next so I am usually in his section as his
wingman.

Well this about winds it up for
now. Oh yes - Happy Birthday Dad - a week
from tomorrow it I'm not mistaken.
Much love to Puss when you write, love to
Nancy, John, and Busby boys and
much ~~love~~ high love to you both -
your ever devoted,


Dear Mum and Dad,

May 12th 1944

Today I mailed you 4 pictures. These were taken of our pilot and since I have no use for 'em I give all yours - please dispose of them 1 to Ben, Pres, etc.



Things have not been too exciting lately but I do want you to know long all should change, and I do want you to get this letter. There have been rumors circulated that we may be allowed to write but one letter a week - I hope they are all false - however, my letter may be a bit scarier from now on anyway.

Oh yes there is a fellow aboard from Greenwich a marine capt. named Pat - from Belle Haven. His father is a friend of yours, Dad. He apparently has spoken to you about the ship etc.

I was most interested to read all the news which arrived yesterday - Bill Gray's Corsair incident for example. What about is he - what Squadron etc.? Also be sure to write me what Ed, Vin, "Brother," and all are flying, when they go etc.

Johnny Peacock who used to be in our outfit is now out here. He came over to our ship and told us some very interesting tales of operations he has been on. He's been in on a lot of the big shows lately. You probably remember him, then, the big nice looking fellow whose brother was there the same day you were (Charlestown) He has been out here on a large carrier. He got home on his way out.

I certainly miss Barbara an awful lot - her letter means a great deal to me and I read 'em all the time. The last one I got was postmarked last month but perhaps will arrive soon. The mail (except for VT 51) has been arriving in amazing order - by that I mean with colossus to the ship - but I still suggest sending mine to VT 51 in case we ever should leave this ship, be put ashore on some island or something. By now Bar is home - I do hope you see her soon. John said some

Groups haven't out more than 6 or 7 months - I get excited
just thinking of such things, but hardly have hope for
a break like that. I do hope the Press will not oppose our
getting married. Can feel sure they won't -



Tell Garry, Flash, and all I haven't
forgot them. But say ask us not to write too.
very little and I have been pretty busy. I have just
written you and Ben - and once in a while a couple of
others. So John is a left fielder - that's where I was
on my 7th grade year, too - no I guess I was in right.
I wish I could see them in action. What news
of Mrs and when will he return.

Seems terribly long to fly around and see
little islands - so peaceful looking and so insignificant
looking - and then realize that they were stages for battles.
~~can't~~ It is somewhat unbelievable to and ironic
to realize that 2 great powers fight with all their
strengths to control little dots in the Pacific. Of course I
see the reason for it strategically and all, but the
irony of it all does strike me. Thank God we are in the
right in this war and all of us can fight and fight hard
with a clear conscience. Since leaving home I have seen
a good deal and heard a good deal more which has really
opened my eyes.

Well so long for now and much with love to
all - I do miss you. Happy Birthday (3 more days) Dad!

ever lovingly
[Signature]

PHOTOCOPY
GB HANDWRITING

No.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

To Miss Nancy Walker
345 East 57th St.
New York City, N.Y.

From

Ens. G. H. W. Bush
[Sender's name]
VT 51 F.P.O.
[Sender's address]
San Francisco, Cal.
May 13, 1944
[Date]

Dear Flash,

Thanks for the letter. Before I forgot about it, and so you won't think Bess & I are noons; we were kidding Muna about walls and alcohol - also however, Flash, we weren't kidding you about our beer and oysters. How happy I was that day -

Your letter really cheered me up. It was of only one, and I was so happy to get it. Tim is Lt. Commander according to Harry Parrish, one of our officers and a friend of Tim's. I haven't seen Tim but hope to shortly.

Today I went in for my first swim in quite a while - it was wonderful. The coral presents the only problem. Frisby Egan is around there. I hope to see him. Much love to Garry & Garry and much love to you - Pop
P.S. Sorry I can't tell you so little news. It is interesting, I assure you.

PHOTOCOPY
GB HANDWRITING

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(CENSOR'S STAMP)

To Miss Nancy Walker
345 East 57th St.
New York City, N.Y.

From

Enz. G. H. W. Bush
(Sender's name)

VT 51 F.R.O.
(Sender's address)

San Francisco, Cal.

May 13, 1944
(Date)

Dear Flash,

Thanks for the letter. Before I forget about it, and so you won't think Bob & I are wrong; we were kidding Mum about water and alcohol - also however, Flash, we weren't kidding you about our beer and oysters. Very happy I was that day -

Your letter really cheered me up. It was of only one and I was so happy to get it. Tim is Lt. Commander according to Harry Parnish, one of our officers and a friend of Tim's. I haven't seen Tim but hope to shortly.

Today I went in for my first swim in quite a while - it was wonderful. The coral presents the only problem. Frisby Gers is around there. I hope to see him. Much love to Garry & Garry and much with love to you - Pops
P.S. Sorry I can tell you so little news. It is interesting, I assure you.

PHOTOCOPY
GB HANDWRITING

Dear Mum & Dad,

Friday May 19

Just a line to let you know that all's well with me. You probably won't receive this for a good long while, but I'll drop it in the box now anyway.

I got Busby's letter before we left but none from Bar. I haven't gotten any from her for almost 3 weeks, but when we hit port next time I hope a stack will be sitting there for me.

You were right about Betty Trotter's first love - too bad we won't get there anymore. Ask her if she's seen Molly or Walt -

It seems like ages since we've been away, but in reality it's only been 2 months - less even.

Certainly is a far cry from duty in the States - you get to see some things - newspapers for example. We have a ship's paper which prints news received by wire

but it can't take the place of a nice
N.Y. paper. (Don't think of sending me
a paper though, cause so far I
haven't gotten any of the magazines
the Piers gave me) ~~the~~ We still
have some aboard which are good.
When in port we get some volleyball
for exercise, but when out on a job
the athletics are cut down almost
completely. In port we lead a
pretty soft life - sleep, eat, & lecture
mostly. Did I tell you that
Frick Byers was around these
parts - at least his boss is, so I
assume Frick is with him.

Connerick must really be
hanging now. Ben is still home as
I write this; I hope she can up to
see you. Guess I miss her more
every day - love her more every
too -

I wish I could tell you what we
are doing, where we go etc. I assume
you're plenty exciting and interesting.
Undoubtedly you will read of our
exploits - ~~but~~ much more to you
both and to all the family -
your ever loving,

P.S. Changed my place to
"Box II" - it really looks nice - yellow letter
Bj

PHOTOCOPY
GB HANDWRITING

Dear Mum & Dad,

May 24, 1944

Can't quite remember what I wrote last time but here goes anyway, although there still isn't a great deal we can say.

The seas have been calmer and we've been working a good deal lately. Bed time late, arising early, but usually we can manage to squeeze in a few hours of sleep during the day. Hamit gotten any mail in a long time but as soon as we hit port we should be writing.

I wonder whether you saw Bea while she was home. I certainly hope so, also sort of wish I could see her right about now (Bea and all of you for that matter).

I am reading Wild Geese calling and really love it. After this war I'd love a nice peaceful trip into the heart of some beautiful country.

PHOTOCOPY
GB HANDWRITING

I can say ~~now~~ that I have
been in battle against the
enemy. It is quite a feeling - when
to be shot at I save you.
The nervousness which is with you
before a game of some kind,
was extremely noticeable but no great
fear thank heavens. I wish I
could tell you more about it,
probably will be able to later -

Must stop now -
With much love,
R.

Mum and
Dear Dad,

May 26th 1944

The first letter I have received
from a couple of weeks reached me tonight.
We had a good deal waiting for us
and I hope that when they get it
resented your letter will be supplemented
by several from Ben and Mum.

I was really happy to
receive your letter of the 15th tonight.
Being out at sea is always
exciting and fortunately the time
goes quite quickly, but it's always
a pleasure to hit port and
get some news from home. I
loved hearing all about the
ball game, your dinner at the
Pyon's and also about seeing Ben.
I am so glad she dropped up
to see you all. I am awfully
lucky and I appreciate that
I am not, but sometimes I
wish Ben so terribly much that
I begin to wonder (not seriously)
your letter wondered as to

whether we were with the Fleet - my
preceding letters should have reached you
by now telling you about that. I hope
you have been getting my letters
regularly, dull though they may be.

I wish we could tell you
about our

I would love to sit down and
write all details of our hopes etc
just to talk to you about it if for
no other reason, but unfortunately
that is impossible. I have had
some interesting and exciting
experiences, and by the time
I hit Greenwich should have
some fine tales to tell you. I heard
before that our Capt. is a fighting
man - his ship's the same. It is
nice to have Jimmy Walker along
and always nearby. ~~that~~ I
have been doing quite a bit of
reading ~~and that~~ whenever the opportunity
presents which isn't very ~~much~~ other -
except when we're in port.
A lot plenty of thinking about the
future etc. Right now all I

really would care to do would be to
be married to Ben and be near home
doing anything at all.

Ted White's mother knows you
back and all cousins etc. ~~the~~ Ted
is from St. Paul, but she was
from Columbus originally. His full
name is Wm. Gardner White.

Here is some distressing news
which I ~~will~~ ^{have to} report. Tim

Wyles is now officially missing.
It has affected those of us who
knew him very deeply as he was a
fellow whom everyone liked. I,
personally, have far from given
up hope, and so I write this
to let you help but feel that he
will turn up. He may fall into
enemy hands, but at least he'll
still have his life. All we
can do is hope. His family

has been notified, so it's O.K. to
mention it now. He disappeared
on a search mission - with him
were 2 crewmen, both good men;
one of whom has been just now.

PHOTOCOPY
GB HANDWRITING

a letter slowly upon leaving the
states. ~~There~~ Now like this is
unpleasant, but the guess I'll just
have to learn to take it. Jim was my
closest friend on the ship - a
fellow whom I gave ~~to~~ was very
fond of. There is a definite hope -
perhaps he will even turn up soon.

Well I must stop for now
and ~~not~~ get up on security watch.
With much love to all the family
I am - Respectfully yours,


PHOTOCOPY
GB HANDWRITING

No.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

To Mrs. P. S. Bush
Grove Lane
Greenwich, Conn.

From

Ens. G. H. W. Bush

(Sender's name)

V.T. 51 F.P.O.

(Sender's address)

San Francisco

May 27th

(Date)

Dear Mom,

Just a note to let you know I got your 2 letters written after Bais Sunday visit today. I was sorry to hear that my letters are not arriving regularly. Your letters were wonderful and now all I hope for is one today from Dad. If the V-mail is quicker let me know.

I loved getting Dad's yesterday too. I wrote our ~~today~~ regular mail yesterday so compare the speed and let me know which is quicker.

I am well and happy -
Tom's 8th is Bais birthday.

Thank with love to you all -
P.S. 2 letters from you & 2 from Dad ~~just~~ arrived.

V-MAIL

Happy Happy Day!!

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1940 20-55220-4

PHOTOCOPY
GB HANDWRITING

Dear Mum & Dad,

May 30th

Today has been the
longest I can remember. We got up
this AM at 220 and I have
been up ever since - it now being
830 PM. Flying, standing by took
up most of the time.