



Commander South Pacific Force

Letter # 26
11 Oct 1943

Sweetheart :-

Received your delightful letter of Sept 29th (no 13) + also "Kathleens" cute letter of Sept. 27th (no 12) I certainly enjoyed them both. You cannot imagine how precious these letters are.

The mail arrived while I was extremely busy but I took time out to quickly read these two letters and then stuck them in my shirt pocket. Then just before evening dinner I laid down in my bunk for a few minutes and took them out and read them again. Just now before writing you I read them for the third time.

If I am not mistaken in my very last letter I asked about your art class. I note now that you have started and are drawing a "bent" tea pot !!! What a change from the "curves" you drew

in the other class!! I am really
thrilled that you are taking up drawing.
You have ~~so~~ much talent for it and are
sure you will get real enjoyment out of
your studies. Your little cartoons alongside
of "Lums" letters were so expressive.

It is hard to realize that she
is talking so much. I could just picture
her drawing on things she should not
and her facial expressions when you
corrected her.

I will certainly look forward to
the pictures that were taken.

Kathleen must be almost too big
for her crib. I suppose she tries
to climb out of it now.

One of the Minnesota Doctors
whom I met has left for another
assignment back on the mainland and
will be home on leave. He is Dr. Snell
of the Mayo Clinic at Rochester and
may telephone you when he is in Rochester
just to give you greetings from out here
and report a professional opinion on
my health etc etc. Others who have been



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out here a year and more occasionally
start back & frequently offer to call you
so you may receive an occasional
phone call.

Was interested in reading of your
part in the Waves etc drive. Glad you
are helping along. We need yeomen (secretaries)
out here and as more waves take over the
work on the mainland yeomen will be
sent out here.

I too am very hopeful of the postwar
international situation. It seems to me
more & more men & women are writing
and saying things in line with the basic
principles that I emphasized over & over
again before I went into service.

I am receiving clippings from Quinett
quite regularly now. He apparently did
not get started at first but now sends
them regularly. He writes that he is
in the throes of deciding whether or not
to get married. Bernard confirms this

+ says that consequently he is of no use
right now!!!

McDermott's article certainly is
kindly on the extreme. You recall we met
him ^{again} at the Chgo meeting of the Nat Council
of Religious Ed just before we went west
in February. — which starts a whole
train of thought about our trip west —
wasn't that grand!!

Do not urge Glen to write too much.
I know it is quite an effort and he is
busily engaged in school + play. I do not
want him to think of writing me as a duty
or problem. As he proceeds in the third
grade he will write more easily.

I told some of the officers here of
your mention that a boy wanted the job
of shovelling snow this winter: we all
got a big laugh out of it. Seemed so
strange to us in this climate.

Love & Goodwishes

Harold



Commander South Pacific Force

13 Oct 1943

Darling Esther:

How are you today my sweetheart! Have been very busy and have moved around some. Have also been given increased responsibility in my same job and have had an indication that they feel I am doing a better job than they thought I would when first given the assignment. Which of course makes me feel pretty good.

Had a nice letter today from Les Miller and another one from Jim Bennett. Both very interesting.

On one of the tugs got to a place where they had an officers club and music orchestra etc. - Seemed strange even after there few months.

I frequently think of how Glen & Kathleen are growing & what they are doing. Wish I could see movies of them but that is not possible.

The stories that float out here
via radio about political developments
cause some kidding out here. Also
attempts of newspapermen to get
comment from me which I
do not + will not make. Some of
the statements of the radio news
sound rather strange way out here.

I continue to be in good
health. Hope you are also.

Love

Darling,

Harold



Commander South Pacific Force

October 16, 1943

Sweetheart of mine, -

Your letters of October 3 + 5 Nov. 14 + 16 + Jean's letter (#15) arrived late yesterday so I had a very pleasant evening reading them + thinking about you all. In the same mail received a fine letter from Ed Thye. He also mentioned that they were waiting you to the homecoming football game. Hope it was nice weather and that you enjoyed it. I suppose that this year Glen understands more about the game. We usually get the scores of the games by a mimeo report of the radio news.

I have now received Burnett's clippings - I believe all of them that would be due - either by ship mail or air mail. My watch is running very accurately and I use it all the time.

Sorry to hear what you write about Les.

Is it definitely worse than it used to be?
In other words he always did quite a bit of
inhibiting but not so much that he was not
still a grand secretary. Who did you hear
it from? That would help me judge the extent.
I cannot quite see what kind of a letter I
could write him about it as he is extremely
reserved and it is hard to be gentle but
definite in a letter the way I used to
be in oral conferences with him.

I have written Violet that I did
not feel that she should work for Walt.
She can get plenty of part time work
without and I feel definitely she should
not work for Walt.

It was nice of the McDougalls to take
you to the Auditorium. Am glad he is not
narrowminded - too many people are. I do
not remember Capt Gates but may know him
if I saw him.

I will look forward to receiving the
tin box of studdel and the candy. Unusual
things like that are very acceptable. It helps
to vary the diet.

I was delighted with Glen's letter.
Will write him personally.

I think your suggestion of the steak
fry down at the fireplace with the group you
mentioned is grand. I have just one suggestion.



Commander South Pacific Force

How about extending me an invitation !!!
Would I ever like to be able to accept!!
I miss you very much + love you more than ever!

Have been very busy the last few days and have been moving around some. Everything worked out very well. Am getting to know more + more about my work so that I can really accomplish a few things for the Navy now from day to day. Occasions are beginning to come up where because I remember something or analyze a situation I am able to assist other officers who ask for assistance in unusual things that arise. As you know so well I get real enjoyment out of being able to accomplish something, especially if it's new or difficult. You are probably reading me like a book even at a distance of thousands of miles !!!

Am enclosing a *Chgo Tribune* clipping which an officer brought in which will give you a good chuckle.

All my love darling

Hawley



Commander South Pacific Force

October 18
1943

Dear Son Glen: -

I was happy
to receive your letter.
You write very well.
Now that you can
write should I write
to you or should I
still print my letters?



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I saw a cute French boy on one of the islands out here. He was seven years old.

He had black curly hair.

He had bright eyes.

He talked very fast in French. He did not look like you but he made me lonesome for you.



Commander South Pacific Force

Mother writes me that
you have been a
good boy and are
very healthy and strong.
I am glad.

What do you do
in the third grade
besides writing?

Love

Dad



Commander South Pacific Force

Staff

7 April 44

Darling Esther: -

How are you this morning!

Wish I could have breakfast with you!
Incidentally, I am eating heartier
breakfasts than I did before &
still keeping trim & waist!

The surprising news
of Willkie's withdrawal following the
complete lack of delegates in Wisconsin
reached me this morning via the
enclosed reprint of radio news. It
is difficult to weigh just what this
will mean. I trust our friends all
maintain their poise and sense of balance
and do not do anything rash in the
excitement. I wonder what Tom Dewey
will do now. Also what Wendell
leading friends in publications, radio
New England and for Northwest will do.

I presume our friends will be talking
to them and following the course of
events. I do not wish to learn of
these developments and merely write
to you as we would meet at the breakfast
table. The surprising thing to me is that
I find that I can close out even news
like Willkie's withdrawal and go on
with my work here. My mind has been
pretty well disciplined by this time in
this respect. It also helps that I have
been very busy and have been working
on some special work of late that is
very interesting and quite suited to my
experience.

I hope Wendell realizes that with
the result what it was and with the
Polls showing that those who supported
my name would go to others to a greater
degree than to him, that my friends did
not cause his defeat by their decision
to present my name. I hope then the
Comdes + others he gets to understand



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Staff

this without any I told you so attitude
on the part of our friends.

Julian Bond sent me
some interesting reports on postwar plans
for international cooperation. Thank
him and I will write when I have time.
The Prof Whitwell analysis in the St Louis
Sun Times booklet is so close to my
presentation of 2 years ago that it is
amazing. Expert opinion at least must
be swinging around considerably.

I wonder how my name will
fare now in those states where Tom Dewey
is not presented and the question is
between Buckle Macbeth and my name.
Believe S. Dakota and Oregon and Maryland
might be in this class. I wonder what Iowa
and Des Moines will do now.

The line article about Kathleen
was cute. The picture she used was



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certainly terrible. Do not know when
this was shot. I look surprised and
pop-eyed!! I suppose I am may amaze
now and sweep everything. Also suppose
the Becker group will begin to drive the hard.

As you know from the press
the war news from here continues to be
very good. Distances are great but the
developments are certainly encouraging.

Am looking forward to Easter
morning services and will be thinking of you.

Love darling

Harold



Commander South Pacific Force
Staff

13 April 44

Dear Esther:

This has been a
busy day - very busy - but also
pleasant. I thought they did not
know it was my birthday + dashed out
to the beach for a quick swim this
noon and the whole gang - Admiral
included began to sing Happy Birthday.
Then they presented a string of natural
shell beads necklace with some humorous
remarks - then a big bag with a
green bow. This turned out to be
about 2 dozen Red Cross doughnuts
which the Red Cross girls brought
out. So I passed the doughnuts
around and asked everyone to have a

piece of my "birthday cake."

Then back to the office and many things to do. Then we received a request from Adm Nimitz that I be assigned to his staff for certain work saying he would like to have me. Adm Halsey asked whether I wanted to go and I said No Sir!!

So he sent a dispatch that I was not available - was a key member of his staff. Made me feel pretty good. I was nothing better than to continue to serve with Adm Halsey as he is a truly great skipper and has given me unlimited opportunities to learn & work & contribute.

The first clippings of the celebration book there have arrived today. Also your letter with the photo at night. The whole thing touched me very much. Will



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Then a colored doll ^{baby} with the
admonition to start kissing them
som for votes. Then a box with
"soap" printed on it to help
we make speeches after the war.
All were presented with a lot of
wreathes. Then we sat down
to dinner and when we reached
the desert course they brought
out a beautiful cake with
the inscription in the frosting
Happy Birthday to Lt Comdr Starn
from Admiral Halsey's mess and
Best of Luck. It really was
a pleasant dinner. Then coffee
+ now the office to finish work.
Might tell Elmer that I received

a fine letter from Al with a
lot of worthwhile news and ideas.
Am always glad to hear from
any of the gang even though I write
rather seldom.

It will be interesting to see
what Massachusetts does now.

War news continues good
in the Pacific as you know from
the press.

And so to work again
with love
Harold



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