

U. S. S. CHIEF (AM-315)

FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

18 April 1944

Mr. Dolph Simons,  
The World Company,  
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Dolph:

As I write this we are at Sea, and I have the time I have been looking for for several months to write you, and let you know that I am still alive and kicking around; and some of the things I have been doing since I left the privileged estate of the civilian.

Dad may have mentioned to you that I have seen a little action since I have been out here, but I must say that War for the most part is ninety percent waiting and ten percent doing. I think of home many many times a day, and this, in my case you know includes Lawrence along with San Diego, where my family are staying for the duration. Many times when I was in the University, I thought I would never look back on the "ordeal" with pleasure, but with age comes wisdom, and I find myself thinking of those "good old days" with a great deal of pleasure. Censorship, of course, prevents my telling you of the many interesting things I have seen since I have been in the Service and of any of the interesting experiences. However, I think after we have been at Sea for a long period of time, all my shipmates would agree with me that our little mascot becomes to us almost the most important creature on board. In our first action, he was greatly frightened at the noise made by the guns, but soon got used to it and is gun shy no more. He has steak for his dinner more often than we, and I may say he is the most privileged character on board, which is only right, because of the excellent role of "morale builder" that he plays. This discourse may sound like a lot of drivel to you, but in its way will serve a purpose in showing how important the little things become to us when we are at Sea for long periods.

I hope it won't be long before we will all be able to return home and I can tell you of the really important things I have had the privilege to participate in. In the meantime I sincerely hope that this message finds both you and yours in good health and spirit. Please give my very best regards to your father.

Sincerely yours,

