

HENRY J. BAILEY RM2/C
NAVY #35
C/O FLEET POST OFFICE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

U. S.
OCT 16
10 30 AM
1944
NAVY



VIA AIR MAIL

MISS MARGARET LUCILLE APPEGATE
R.R. 12, BOX 120
INDIANAPOLIS 44, INDIANA



Received
October





OCT. 15, 1944

DEAR MARGARET:

I RECEIVED YOUR LOVELY LETTER ABOUT A WEEK AGO, BUT I AM JUST NOW GETTING DOWN TO ANSWERING IT. I'M SORRY I DIDN'T DO SO SOONER, BUT WE WERE PRETTY BUSY HERE.

I GUESS PAT HAS TOLD YOU THAT I AM STATIONED IN PANAMA. MUCH TO MY REGRET. YOU SEE, PANAMA ISN'T A PRETTY PLACE. AS A MATTER OF FACT, IT IS JUST EXACTLY OPPOSITE OF PRETTY. SO THAT IS WHY I SAY IT IS TO MY REGRET THAT I AM STATIONED HERE. I'M SORRY I HAVE TO BORE YOU WITH THIS SORT OF TALK, BUT I JUST WANT TO WARN YOU TO NEVER COME HERE.

SINCE YOU HAVE WENT TO ALL THE TROUBLE OF TELLING ME ALL THE DETAILS OF YOUR PAST AND PRESENT LIFE, I GUESS IT IS ONLY PROPER THAT I DO THE SAME. BUT I WARN YOU, YOUR GOING TO BE BORED TO DEATH....

WELL, TO START OUT WITH, I AM AT THE PRESENT TIME, NINETEEN YEARS OF AGE, AND WHEN I STAND UP, I REACH THE INCREDIBLE HIGHTH OF FIVE FEET ELEVEN AND THREE QUARTERS INCHES. I HAVE BABY BLUE EYES, WONDERFULLY WILD BROWN HAIR AND A COMPLEXION THAT WOULD WIN A CONTEST. I WEIGH AROUND ONE NINETY, WHICH I ASSURE YOU IS VERY VERY TIRESOME TO LUG AROUND. WELL, ALL KIDDING ASIDE, I DO MEASURE UP TO THE ABOVE, BUT THERE IS NOTHING WONDERFUL OR NOTHING BABY ABOUT MY COMPLEXION, EYES OR HAIR.

AS FOR MY PAST LIFE! WELL, THERES NOT MUCH INTERESTING ABOUT IT.

I LIVED AT INDIANAPOLIS THE MAJORITY PART OF MY LIFE. THE REST WAS SPENT AT DETROIT.

I FOUND INDIANAPOLIS A VERY DULL PLACE, UNTIL THE TIME CAME FOR ME TO LEAVE IT. THEN I REALIZED HOW MUCH HOME SWEET HOME MEANT TO ME. I WAS SO BORED WITH LIFE THERE THAT THE THOUGHT OF TRAVELING MADE ME JOIN THE NAVY. BUT MY LIFE JUST WASN'T MEANT FOR MUCH TRAVEL I GUESS. BECAUSE ALL I DID WAS GO TO GREAT LAKES FOR BOOT TRAINING, AND THEN BACK TO HOME FOR RADIO SCHOOL AT THE ARMORY, AND FROM THERE OVER TO WASHINGTON D.C. FOR A LITTLE ADVANCED TRAINING, AND THEN HERE. BUT THAT ISN'T EVEN WORTH MENTIONING, AS FAR AS TRAVELING GOES IN THE NAVY.

OH YES! MY BOYHOOD DAYS WERE SPENT EITHER PLAYING HOOKEY OR JUST MAKING MYSELF PRESENT AT SCHOOL. ALSO I SPENT A GREAT DEAL OF MY TIME WORRYING THE LIFE OUT OF MY AUNT. WHICH PAT WILL VERIFY.

AS FAR AS EDUCATION GOES, I HAVE HAD VERY LITTLE. BUT I HAVE SEEN WHAT A FOOL I HAVE BEEN IN NOT LEARNING ANYTHING NOW, AND I PLAN TO TAKE UP NIGHT SCHOOL AFTER THE WAR. I DON'T KNOW WHETHER MY RADIO EXPERIENCE WILL



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HELP ME IN THE POST-WAR WORLD OR NOT. BUT I THINK THAT I WILL BE ABLE TO MANAGE.

WELL THAT IS THAT AS FAR AS MY LITTLE LIFE IS CONCERNED. YOU CAN SEE THAT IT HASN'T BEEN MUCH. BUT I'M HAPPY.

I SEE THAT YOU ARE QUITE AN ATHLETE, AND ALSO QUITE A BUSY LITTLE BEE. I GUESS YOU REALLY HAVE YOUR HANDS FULL WITH ALL THAT STUFF. BY YOUR DESCRIPTION OF YOURSELF, YOU ARE NOT VERY BIG. BUT THAT DOESN'T CUT ANY ICE. WE HAVE FELLOWS WERE THAT ARE QUITE SMALL, AND THEY HAVE MORE AMBITION THAN I WOULD EVER THINK OF HAVING.

WELL, I HAVE JUST ABOUT RUN OUT OF THINGS TO SAY FOR THE PRESENT. SO I THINK THAT I WILL CUT THIS LETTER SHORT.

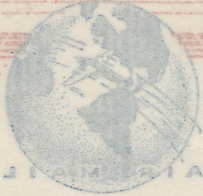
BY THE WAY, MY AUNT WROTE AND TOLD ME THAT PAT HAD AN ATTACK OF APPENDECITIS AND THAT SHE WAS GOING TO BE OPERATED ON. DID YOU KNOW THAT?

WELL MARGARET, I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS IN WRITING TO ME, AND I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I APPRECIATE IT VERY MUCH. SO WRITE AGAIN AND LET ME KNOW HOW YOU ARE,

YOUR FRIEND
HENRY.

P.S. WOULD IT BE TO MUCH TROUBLE IF I ASKED YOU TO SEND A LITTLE PICTURE OF YOURSELF. THANK YOU.....

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