W. H. Knowlton American Red Cross, APO 957 San Francisco.

25 January 1945. Oahu, T. H.

Dearest Katherine; Barbara; Henry; and Ann

Migosh its Christmas... right to the day... one month late to be sure but just as welcome. The package came this morning all in good order.. not even one broken cookie...and were they delicious... just enough to go once around the hungry office and give everyone a taste.

Tell the children I loved every bit of the box... tell Barbie I really needed the tie... tell Ann the shirt is beautiful and just the right weight for warm weather.. and tell Henry Kaye I loved the lighter.. such things are very scarce out here and become Prize possessions.. like typewriters and cameras.

Still have the warm slippers but they are no good where I am going when I leave here and the ones you sent will undoubtedly save my feet from many cuts on sharp coral rocks... coral gets as sharp as razors .. Particularly "live" coral along the end of the water.., the slippers are marvelous.

You might whisper in Dinah's ear and tell her that while the pup she sent will travel with me... I will be looking forward to the day when she is "expecting" and hope to come home to a beautiful male pooch... one we can use some day for a stud dog. As for the tie.., honest to gosh honey.. it almost made me weep.. one of the damndest things about this deal is the g-- d--- uniforms.. none of us will ever want to see one again once this war is over. We could wear civilian clothes here when off duty.. but you can't get off the post with them on.. and it would be a lot of trouble to carry them around. If I had my checkered slacks here and a shift, would wear them now and again.... [one line cut out by censor] so don't bother.

Had nice letter from father this morning... am meeting one of the vonHamm Young men this afternoon (Airtemp dealer) and going to town to look at some of his jobs. Tomorrow night I teach school again.. and so it goes... last night went to a GI show.. they had marvelous black orchestra.. but the show was pretty corny. The orchestra, was as good as I ever heard and

their arrangement of Stardust a la Chet and Ilah.. was right out of this world.

Thanks, thanks thanks for the box.. it was more fun opening the packages, and the little Christmas Tree that was atop the cookies is standing on my desk... also the pooch.... it would be very hard to let you know what things like that really mean to us out here... makes you want to weep I love you all... so very, very much.

Daddy.