

knowlton amcross sheet 2.

9 May 1945.

Good morning darling:

Just a few lines before I stick this in the mail and get it on its way to you. Early to bed (8:30) and lay on my cot until 11 listening to a radio somewhere across the area. The music sounded good, but not the frequent Japanese boasts about the great things, they are doing. They are the damndest liars. But Tokyo Rose or someone had a record of "When the Leaves Come Tumbling Down" [see recording on blog audio player] and I nearly died... what ever happened to Bud.. did he ever get in the Army?

Slept pretty good however, considering... no raids.. by morning I was freezing; with two blankets under and two over, and wearing shirt and jungle sweater.. but as soon as the sun comes up it turns blistering hot. ..what a climate.

We now have men on Ie Shima... have not been over there yet, but want to go soon and visit Pyle's grave. Imagine there are great things going on in the States these days... this Pacific thing is really too far away for the average person to grasp, the names are too strange, the territory too vast. Actually we are in the front yard of the Japanese Empire, and believe should have been played up that way in the papers, as I'll bet few voters ever heard of Okinawa, as I know that I never had.

Incidentally, the story can now be told. I indicated a desire to come on this operation last December. Our work on Oahu could not be considered "overseas" in any sense... we were still on U. S. territory, and further more were hemmed in by a false military social system that was the result of countless years of development.. one of those things that just grew. I wanted to get a taste of the real thing.. and believe me I have it, as this is about the toughest operation we have ever had. Another thing involved was that I was getting nowhere with Area in the way of becoming accredited, but now that is being worked

out from here... I hope. In the meantime I am operating as if I were. At the moment we are actually under Navy command, and its quite a trick to get Navy credentials. The point is I knew damn well what I was getting into, so can't squak about anything that happens. I just hope the ARC men in Europe... many at least, will want to stay in the service and be re-assigned out here. In that case we could get relief by the end of this year, but there is no immediate chance I know.

You will have to get your military news from the papers and magazines, but believe I can tell you that this campaign is no pushover.. there goes the air raid siren.. will put this in the mail and get to work. All my love to you and those precious chicks of ours... how I would like to see Henry Kaye... does he plan to spend the summer with Lyd and Em again?

Your own,



Henry!