

Okinawa August 19, 1945

## AMERICAN RED CROSS

Dearest Barbie:

W. H. Knowlton

Tenth Army Hdq.

San Francisco

APO 357

American Red Cross

This is a beautiful hot Sunday... the days here in summer are always hot, but there is enough breeze coming from somewhere to keep it fairly comfortable. I have been meaning to write to you ever since your last letter, which I enjoyed very much.

There is something I would like to have you do.. and do it right away, as it takes a long time to get an answer... find out the best way you can, what size ring mother wears on the fourth (ring) finger of her left hand. You will have to get her to a jewelry store and they have rings used to measure people's fingers. You see some of the soldiers out here make beautiful rings out of a live shell formation known as "cat's eyes" and I might be able to have one made ... but I do want to know the right size. If you can find out the size without telling her ..O.K., but if you have to tell her what's going on that's still alright with me.

Also, please write and tell me Grandma Hickey's new name and her new address. I would like to send her something nice from Okinawa.. little rice dishes with covers or something like that.. but want to know where to send them. Please let me know right away.. in the same letter.

We understand that the Jap envoys are landing on an island near here today on their way to sign up the treaty. Am glad to know that the whole thing is over, but it will be quite some time before I want to go anywhere around here by air or water without a fighting escort. It's going to take Tojo and Co. quite a time to get the word out to all the fighting units that the war is really over.

We are expecting a lot of (censored) in here soon, both soldiers (censored). It's going to be an experience to talk to them. Today all the war correspondents are over on the other island, getting a peek at the Japs. Don't know exactly when I can get home, as we have a lot of work to do here, but I still have high hopes of making it before the holidays. Transportation is going to be a problem, as for a time all planes and ships will be needed by the army to get things set up out here.

There are quite a few (censored) here, and yesterday one of the officers came to mess leading a 3 or 4 months old springer spaniel... black and white one. I sat right down in the dirt and held the dog.. she was so gentle and reminded me so of Dinah that I could have cried.. right there in front of all the officers. You can have a cocker if you really want one.. but me for springers and several of them as soon as we get a place for them.

It was wonderful to go to bed last night and not put my helmet and flashlight close, and not have to think that all hell might break loose before morning. Its really swell. Please answer this letter promptly... will you darling, and give all my love to mother, Henry and of course, Ann.

> Your own, Daddy

Modely.