

Robert L. Stone to Jacob Stone and Beatrice Stone

Oahu, Hawaii, 30 September, 1944.

Autograph letter signed, 3 pages + envelope.

[Draft Created by Crowdsourcing]

Oahu, Hawaii

September 30th

Dear Dad & Bee —

Finally we finished up our training missions when we flew out last this week. By the time you get this letter I'll almost certainly be on my way to destination unknown. As I've said before you can follow my whereabouts by watching the doings of the 7th AAF Liberators in the daily papers. Incidentally, enclosed is a clipping from a local paper that I thought might interest you. It gives some idea of the type of flying etc we're up against out here. It won't be any tea party but we're all pretty anxious to get going and take a crack at the Nips. From now on you'll have to cross your fingers for me to get my thirty-five missions completed. Would that it were as easily done as said!

I was terribly upset last week when I received the grapevine and a clipping from Pam with the news of the death of Jimmy Levy. I don't recall if you ever met him, but he went on one of the skiing trips to Conway with Pam et moi. We' [*struck*: re] were quite close and he was really a great guy. Somehow I didn't think he'd lose out in the war but the odds were against him and he was shot down over Elba. A really swell kid I'll never forget. It

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always seems that's it's the best who have to pay the price of war while the no-goods get by untouched. I don't mean to seem bitter but Jimmy's death really hit me a low blow.

I wasn't too surprised but yet very happy to hear of Timmy's engagement. Delia's wedding sounded swell and I'm sure she made a lovely bride. (Just entre nous, I can't picture she and George hitting it off but maybe she's changed alot.) I hate to hear of everybody getting hitched up because there won't be anybody left for the poor fools who are off at the wars. All I've got to hear is that a certain person is engaged, and I believe I'd settle over here on some small island. Enough said!

I was certainly glad to hear that Don got home for a few days. From what I gather, he must have had a fine time while in town. The St Regis and Stork club sounded rather gay. What I wouldn't give for a night of that now! By the way, be sure to tell Eddie Hilson that I think he's a "stinker" for stealing away my gal when I'm away and can't defend myself. Be sure to kid him along for me.

Many thanks for all your letters [*struck*: ,] which have been coming through quite regularly of late. Please be sure to keep writing regularly because mail will

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mean more than ever once we get down under. As soon as I have a new address I'll write you but until then continue to use my present address. I doubt if I'll have a chance to write much more before we pull out because we'll be kinda busy, so don't expect to hear from me for awhile.

Incidentally Dad, you wondered about the dates on my letters. I believe that the postmark is put on in Frisco since that's where we pay postage from. Mail from here to the mainland is sent on a basis as of Frisco to where it's going — that is packages go to Frisco for nothing, and you're charged rates from there to where it's going. I think that explains it because the dates that I put inside the letter is always accurate when I write it. Incidentally Bee, the film hasn't arrived yet but I'm sure it will after awhile because most packages go by boat. I'll let you know as soon they do arrive.

Well all, I guess that's about it for now. Please be sure to send my letters around to all the boys from now on because I doubt if I'll have too much time to write from here on — bear with me and I'll write as often as possible.

My love to you all —
Bobby

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