

Robert L. Stone to Jacob Stone

Marianas Islands, 19 December 1944.

Autograph letter signed, 2 pages + envelope.

[Draft Created by Crowdsourcing]

The Marianas

December 19th, 1944

Dear Dad —

Well here 'tis another year and December 19th has rolled around again but somehow this year it has less meaning than years in the past — right not it's just another day nearer to returning home. I don't know how you timed it so perfectly, but your letter arrived yesterday. I want to thank you for your swell birthday letter Dad, and also for the overgenerous present of war bonds you got for me. I too hope and pray that it won't be too long before I'm home and we can catch up on alot of lost time together. I hate to think that I'm spending these years away from home but that's the way it goes. You're a swell gent Dad, and I wish there was some way I could express my love and admiration for you — perhaps I can when this whole mess is over.

Everything is about the same as ever out this way. I still only have twelve missions due to the fact I haven't flown lately because of a sore wisdom tooth. It's all fixed up now and I'll be back up there again on the next raid.

I saw Barry again a few days ago and he's in fine shape. I believe he'll be over again tomorrow or the next day.

[2]

Before I forget, please tell Bee that as yet I haven't gotten the letters she thought she'd sent to APO 344 in error. If she did, they will be forwarded to me eventually. The box of cookies you sent arrived in good shape. Many thanks for the sweets that R. L. S. and many other hungry birdmen enjoyed. As yet the packages sent to APO 953 haven't arrived but I still have hopes. I have received quite a number of packages sent to APO 241 and forwarded alright. All packages seem to take about two months. Mail generally takes a little over two weeks to a month.

Speaking of mail wasn't that funny I should have written that I had a friend writing to APO 316 and it was in England and a few days later I got your letter saying that Don was somewhere in England.

I've just about exhausted all the recent news from out here. You read alot more in the papers than we're allowed to write in letters. Please continue to send the various clippings as you spot them in the papers re the 7th AAF Liberators in the Pacific area.

Again many thanks for your swell birthday letter and the war bonds, Dad.

With all love —

Bobby

[envelope]

Lt. R. L. Stone 0-696041

431st Bomb Squadron 11th Group

APO 246 % Postmaster
San Francisco, Cal.

Mr. J. C. Stone
375 Park Avenue
New York City
N.Y.