

TRIESTE  
15 Sept 54

Dear Edy:

All is quiet. Received two letters of yours yesterday. I will send the check to the person named in your letter. Am so glad that no damage was suffered by our possessions from the hurricane. Thanks to Marilyn & Gretel for their notes in your letters.

I had planned on going to Yugoslavia this weekend but am ~~TRUST~~ duty officer on Friday night. That will probably change things quite a bit.

No more news from the home-dependent section. The so-called 10-day decision on whether dependents will be permitted to return to Trieste has been further postponed to ~~the~~ October. Perhaps sometime during that month we may be told. This postponing from week to week and month to month has quite a number of Officers fighting mad. The General has his wife here and will have a reception for all the Officers & their wives (if here

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I will on pay day try to buy some things I need. Am quite low in funds today.

We just live from day to day here. It gets pretty monotonous at times. Looks like rain outside. I wrote Gretel a letter and mailed it two days ago. Let me know her reactions: --- and also the reactions of Marilyn to the letter I wrote her some weeks ago.

The problem of leave comes up. We have it plotted for the year - which is a good plan. I had 59 days accrued coming to me when I arrived here. I don't propose to lose any more even though we are working quite hard, steady & long. I'm going to quit giving up my leave just to be on the job. Perhaps I'll be able to do even a better job by relaxing once in a while. I shall go on a few tours, funds permitting. I've never been to Rome or Naples or to Sicily. I may get the chance while down here. I doubt if I would visit these places from Germany. The travel time is too long. I'm definitely going to Yugoslavia which is only about 20 minutes drive from my hotel. When

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graphs, fill out a long form re my parents  
birth dates + places, reason for visit, amt. of  
money I expected to take with me, people I  
know in Yugoslavia, etc. I had to buy  
fifty dollars worth of travelers checks and show  
them to the agency. They wrote down the  
numbers of each travelers check. It sure was  
a lot of Red tape. Furthermore, I had to leave  
my passport + call for it the next day. This was  
not special for me, but is mere routine for  
everyone going to Yugoslavia. Other officers have  
had the same experience. Sort of makes you want  
to change your mind about going there - but the urge  
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Took some Pix Sunday for the 1st time with  
the camera on the Boat ride to Soldier's Beach.  
... was testing the camera. Have already  
made arrangements to to have it repaired  
if film shows leaking of light. Had my  
Omega watch repaired. Cost \$5.00 It was in  
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excellently & keeps perfect time.

Have not had time to check on the repainting of my car... but made inquiries today and expect to have it ~~done~~ completely checked for price estimate tomorrow.

The increase of food prices and the doing away with the meal plan ~~that~~ has driven away officers in droves from the Hotel Officers dining room to the snack bar just two blocks away. It's amazing and a bit surprising to see what effect a 10¢ or 15¢ increase in a meal price will have on the ~~Americans~~ now economy minded American. Folks will walk or ride a mile just to save the money. More than 50% of the Officers (~~Officers~~) (or perhaps 70% is a better figure) have deserted wholesale & now snack at other places. Leading the parade, too, are field grade officers of Maj + Lt Col grades. . . . . And quite a number of the field graders, who do continue to eat at the Hotel, can now be observed eating conservative

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meals . . . . or snacks . . . to be more accurate .

The lower ranking Officers have finally mustered up enough courage to order a lunch repast of one (1) frankfurter @ 15¢ and a cup of Coffee for 5¢ . . . making a grand total of \$0.25 for lunch. Their courage came from observing <sup>what</sup> the field graders were eating. . . . When the meal plan was in effect, everyone ate the full meal because they were paying for it whether they ate it or not. . . . but not so anymore.

Under this a-la-carte or individual order system which may be called pay-only-for-what-you-order - but - it - will - cost - more - than - before, the diners really scan the menu closely, looking at the row of prices first before following the dotted line to the left to see ~~it~~ just what it is that costs that ~~much~~ nickel or dime. If it happens to be other than coffee or tea or milk, they've hit the jackpot and here comes an egg, fried, at 10¢ each.

The menu says you must pay 5¢ for the first cup of coffee, ~~but~~ and 10¢ for an

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7/ order of bread = = = But that additional bread and coffee may be had without any additional charge. . . . That is the possible ~~and~~ ~~reason~~ reason why the management is somewhat appalled by the sudden increase ~~of~~ ~~great~~ ~~great~~ ~~consumption~~ in consumption of coffee beans and the great decrease in the shelves of bread that formerly were so abundant.

The doing away with the meal plan also has encouraged both obese and slim jim officers to investigate more thoroughly all the claims made by advocates of dieting. Yes, the place is beginning to be overrun by these experts. . . They can tell you how many calories there are in a half slice of bread and several cups of coffee. It may soon be announced by the management that in order not to overcrowd the field with these diet experts, it may be forced to cut down on the number of ~~the~~ Master + PhD degrees handed out to <sup>qualifying</sup> Post graduates of

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Seriously, though, the dining room is  
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plan that members of the Board of governors  
are predicting restoration of the meal plan by  
month's end. It will not be so fashionable  
then to be known as a dyed-in-the-wood  
dieter.

As for me, I am eating sufficiently  
and adequately and as economically as possible  
because my funds allow me no lee-way -

Begin to buy your clothing so that you  
will have sufficient when you get your Post Call.

Love to all... especially to you.

A kiss + a hug to all the little ones

Hubby

Curry Scott

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Address letters to me as follows

~~CAPT IVOREY COBB  
HQ TRUST (T.T.O.)  
APO 209 4/5 PM, #  
NEW YORK~~

CAPT IVOREY COBB  
TRUST TRANSPORTATION (TTO)  
APO 209 4/5 PM  
New York NY

They will reach me faster & direct from the APO downstairs below our office instead of being tied up with the mail clerk at 7:00 A.M. This means a one to three day delay because of the enormous amount of mail the clerk must assort. ~~sort~~

If this doesn't work I'll give you another example later

W

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IC