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May 12, 1944  
Southwest Pacific

Dear Mom & Dad

Received two letters from you today. Sure was swell too. They were mailed the 3rd and 4th. That was pretty good time, wasn't it?

So you received the picture of our group and liked it. Glad you did. Could Pa recognize me on the picture? He had another picture taken today. They were taken out at the dining hut. All of us were just black from the dust. That will really be a picture.

Keith is coming along O.K. from the the information you gave me. That is O.K. He should get the breaks. He's smart and had the education. But he is happy the day he receives his officers uniform?

So Janice's sister has the scarlet fever. Hope she doesn't get it. Short visit good for anyone. Might hurt her permanently. Have received a letter from her either yet. That may be the reason.

The prom was the 6th of May huh? But the place was really a time that evening. By the time you get this letter school will almost be out, won't it? Are you going to the commencement exercise this year? Hope you do.

This is quite an evening. It has

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rained a couple of times so far. Just like home. So it has been very changeable back home? Well "variety is the spice of life."

Dark is coming along just fine. He worked last evening for a short spell. This morning I ~~had~~ had off, so just laid around and absorbed some good rest. That is good duty for me.

How is the spring clearing coming along? But you are as busy as a bee! Is your pet squirrel still around? Tell 'a not to worry too much about his degree. It can't be too rough.

So Carl is busy trying to get all the planting done. Next time you write, say hi to them for me. I'm really lazy about writing. That coupled with little time really keeps a person moving.

Guess I will close for now. Say hello to everyone. Also any of the servicemen home from around there.

Love,  
Bill

P.S.

Am sending you a cartoon out of the Leatherneck. Hope you like it.