



Shanghai China
December 23, 1940

Hello Mike:

Well how are you? What are you doing for yourself these days? I know I haven't written to you for a long time but I'll make up for it some way. What are you in high school R.O.T.C. are you a captain or a major yet?. The last time I heard from you, you were a sergent or something. Everytime you go to camp you are advance one rating, is that the way you work it? You stay right in there and work and you will go far.

Over here in China the duty is tough. We still have the guard duty and beside that we go to school, we have a two parades each week. And also two heavy marching orders also. The duty is stiff as hell. We don't get much liberty as it is. Say how about sending me a picture of yourself in uniform?

I haven't heard from Ernest since I've been in the marines. You say he has been home on leave? What did he have on? I'll bet he had on his blues. And he is PFC to, well I made it long time ago. I also go up for corporal next month.

Well, what is the dope on the situation in China? We are still having hell over all the time. Now don't get the idea that we are fighting or anything, but the Japs are fighting in south China, and being in a country at war is no fun. You can't do anything or anywhere. If you go out and get drunk some old gal will take you over in Hongkew and collect a nice reward for you, you see the Japs so I've heard will offer fifty thousands dollors for each dead marines. Now thats just what I heard, I don't know if there is any truth in that or not. Well Mike, I must close now and you write me soon if not sooner. Tell everybody hello for me and I wish a "MERRY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR"

Your cousin,
Pete