



UNITED STATES NAVY

Wednesday
5/31/44 1900
(7.00)

Dear Delta!

Not long before you will all be parting for a few months. No doubt you are looking forward to vacation... or is it going to be a vacation?

One of my patients said that we probably would not have rain until next October but we are postponing it - today. It is an ideal time to catch up on my correspondence. Free time is quite scarce.

Perhaps you know that I work on the maternity ward. No, I never expected to be employed on such a ward at a Naval base. But it is very busy on the production line. I have nothing to do with the nursery. I take care of the new mothers. And they are really nice to work with, or I should say for. They are pretty helpless and lead themselves to be-

believe that never before did
a woman suffer so. My
working schedule is
unusually complicated.
Some mornings I report for
duty 0700, others 0800, and
one morning 1200. One
day I am relieved at 0400,
another 2100 (0900). Every
other weekend I have
shore liberty which hap-
pens to be this coming
weekend.

This hospital is known
as Oak Knoll Hospital. I
doubt whether you ever
saw so many big hills.
And our wards are scattered
ed every which way on,
below, and above these
hills. Imagine having
a hospital among Super-
ior Hills. The wards are
connected by wooden
ramps with cement decks.
They surely come in handy
on such a day as today
and especially when I
go on my missions. You
see I am a messenger for
our ward 73 B. I like the
additional detail because
I get exercise (in the open.
I covered lots of territory
inside too) and I meet
the corporals, corporals,
and officers in other wards,

medical supply office, the pharmacy, surgery, the administrative building, the commissary, etc. Usually when I do messenger work I push a green steel cart filled with drugs and medical instruments. Oh, it's a fascinating business!

I envy my good friend Joyce Hartley who here who has already checked four names from her list of correspondence. But you know the detail I often go into. However I have been practicing piano since 5 o'clock. I had my first piano lesson Monday night from Sister Mary Mercy, a faculty member of Holy Names College in Oakland. All people around here speak highly of this college, especially in the field of music. After 14 lessons I shall receive one college credit. The Sister is an excellent teacher and so very sweet. She laughed heartily when she informed me that she hails from Reno. Yesterday, no today, she left for Warm Springs, Georgia, to spend ten

days at a ranch for news.
I am so enthusiastic about
practicing. The college
itself is beautiful. The
grounds are typical of Cali-
fornia landscape.

I have not seen very
much of California yet. Two
weeks ago Angela (my Yugo-
slavian friend) and I spent
an evening in San Fran-
cisco. It is of course very
~~metropolitan~~ metropolitan, but different
from N. Y. C. I think the
Navy is present everywhere.
It is every block has at least
one Navy store. While
going over the Oakland-
San Francisco Bridge we
were very thrilled when
we saw the many war-
ships. They appeared small
of course.

I am very appreciative
of this opportunity to
come to the coast. I shall
have lots to talk about
on my next leave. By
the way that is at least
49 weeks away!

Still girls, have an en-
joyable and worthwhile sum-
mer. I shall try to keep
in touch with you and Miss
Truffley. So long. Love, Lotta