

1 Nov 1945

Kodiak, Alaska

Dear Mom -

I mailed 2 letters to you at Dutch Harbor on the 20th. We have made so many stops it seems we'll never reach Seattle. Since Dutch Harbor we've docked at Sand Point, Chetrik Bay, Port Wakefield, and now Kodiak. We aren't in the main part of Kodiak but at some out of the way part of the Island where there is nothing but a dock and a few warehouses. The rumors say it's a \$5 taxi fare or 10¢ by bus from here to "town". I think there's a village here somewhere called Kodiak which they call town. Rumors further state that we'll be here 36 hours, although I don't know why. At all the other stops we've loaded fish and fish oil - even a few live foxes. (For their furs). I guess

This is about the most interesting trip I've ever made. We've always been near land since leaving D. Harbor, sometimes sailing through peaceful inland passages with land on either side. The weather has been all sunshine except for one day of snow at Port Wakefield. Sun on water and snow-capped mountains makes for beautiful scenery. The sky is constantly alive with birds, mostly sea gulls. Porpoises, (big black and white fish) swim alongside the ship. This AM we sighted a whale but we could only see his spout. The ship's pilot announced the whale over the speakers thus: "There's a whale dead ahead blowing his nose." He must have been mighty - the water would spout at least 6 feet

and the salt spray would hang in the air for several seconds.

Remorse about the date we'll hit Seattle run all the way from the 10th to the 15th - so it's hard to say. We're scheduled for another stop at Ketchikan. That's in southeastern Alaska I stopped there once before in 1942 when I first went overseas.

Now I've gotta get this to the Purser's office or it won't be mailed.

Be seein' you.

Love to all,
Bill