



From Okinawa, Clark R. King, CSKD, 13 N.C. Battalion, wrote to Bjarne Erickson of the P.U.C. on August 14:

I suppose you are spending as much time as you can listening to the radio. We are too, but at present the Japs seem unable to come to a decision. I think a few atomic bombs would help them in deciding. The only good thing I can see about this hell is that a number of lives may be saved because of it—our lives, not theirs. The Russians as usual are realists.

I don't know when I'll start drawing my salary check, but it can't be too soon to suit me. I have 76 days before I can put in for a discharge. I'm hoping that the Navy will come out with a de-

mobilization plan or I'll be sent back on leave before that day arrives. One thing about it, the trip back will be much more comfortable if the war is over. No blackouts and too, it won't be necessary to go in convoy.

I went on quite a trip this morning. We drew money for payday tomorrow. An invasion currency, yen and sen, is used on this island. We tried to draw bills of large denomination but we cannot obtain any larger than 10 yen or one dollar. We have just finished stapling them together in bunches of ten to make ten dollars.

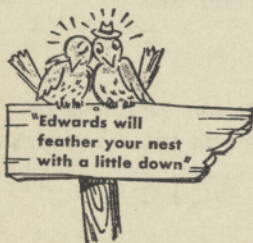
This island must have been beautiful. The vegetation at this time of the year is lush. The hills and valleys are very pretty. The road, or at least part of it reminded me of the cut off from Fossil. You may know how that roads swings around a hill and dashes through some farmers yard. Around the hill here and through a native village. If the wind is blowing in your direction the sight of the village is never unexpected for the stench always lets you know what to expect. You can only think of animals when you pass through such a town. There are kids everywhere, people squatting on their haunches and

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