

VIII - 75 - 23. Letter from Lt. Col. E. F. Carlson, 4th Marine Division -
c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, Calif. to Miss
Agnes Smedley, Yaddo, Saratoga Springs, New York -
envelope postmarked U.S. Navy May 12, 1944. Letter
dated May 11, 1944.

Lt. Col. E. F. Carlson,
4th Marine Division,
C/o Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, Calif

U. S.
MAY
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1944
P.M.
NAVY



SARATOGA SPRINGS
MAY 20
6 P.M.
N. Y.



Miss Agnes Smedley,
Yaddo,
Saratoga Springs,
New York.



*Car 7 Knoblauke
algebraic apt
55th + 7th St - New York City*

4th Marine Division,
C/o Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, California,
11 May 1944.

Dear Agnes:

At long last I have seized time by the forelock and started a letter to you. I am always plagued by the need for doing things that are right here in the present, and I have a devil of a time squeezing out opportunities to attend to personal matters. Since my return here, which was a few days after I talked with you, I've had the old nose down to the drafting board.

It was good to hear your voice over the phone, even though I could not see you. I appreciated your telegram. Haven't learned yet whether the talk was well received or not. That was a hectic trip, with only time to go and come. When I returned to the west coast the plane went directly to St. Louis from Columbus, so did not have an opportunity to stop in Chicago.

There is not much I can write from here. This matter of prosecuting the war continues to be paramount, though it is getting to be a pretty weary task to me. After all, I've been fighting the Japs since 1937, which is a hell of a long time ago. Think of what the Chinese people have been through in that time. It makes me boil when I think of our old friends and the little attention they have had from the powers that be.

Thank you, Agnes, for the book of clippings. That was awfully thoughtful of you. I never keep clippings myself, and some day I'll want some to refer to. My object is to get ideas before the people for I feel that they will see the merit in them and will take steps to implement them. I can do very little where I am, except through personal contact.

Well, some day this will all be over, and then we can gather for a good talk about it all, as well as about plans for the future. By and large, I am optimistic for the future, for I have great confidence in the intelligence and judgement of the men who will be coming back from the various fronts.

Keep your spirits up, you old campaigner, and keep your faith strong. The time will come when we will see our hopes realized.

With my constant affection, and with admiration
for the work you are doing,

Sincerely,
Evans