17 December 1941
Kaneohe, T. H.

Dear Pete,

I was certainly pleased to get your letter and Aunt Thresa's enclosed note. I got a letter from mother also. This is the first mail I have recieved since the war started.

It seems impossible that we are at war — like everyone else around here, and in the states too I suppose, I never expected the Japanese would tangle with us, but facts are facts — they did!!

The full story of the attack on us here will go down in history as a great piece of military strategy. Naturally I can't write a thing about it — if I did the censors would blot it off the paper or send the letter back.

In your letter you mentioned volunteering — well listen to me — don't volunteer for a damn thing! Don't fall for that glamour stuff you read in the papers — don't let that military music go to your head! You will be called soon enough, and that will be time enough to find out what hell it is. But when they do call you, I think you should get into the Navy for the duration.

I guess you can imagine that they are flying the hell out of us now, and I might add that they will get a red-hot reception when they come back next time.

I have been granted two days liberty, because of the hop I had last nite

I'm glad to hear that you are playing a little football I sure hope you get to go home for Xmas, and please don't mention the contents of this letter to mother!!

My roommate was killed during the first air raid he didn't suffer at all - I think a piece of shrapnel from a bomb got him.

Well, brother, you can rest assured that when its all over the Japanese will be plenty damned sorry they ever tied into the good old U.S.A. Democracies are slow to get started, but they are like a snow ball rolling down a hill - once they get under way, they are hard to stop.

Notice my new address - address my mail exactly like that.

Take it easy, and don't print your job to volunteer.

Sincerely
Johnny L. Jenks