



U. S. NAVAL AIR STATION
MIAMI, FLORIDA

Dec. 20, 1942

Dear Folks,

Just as our schedule is starting to get more or less definite we find ourselves almost through the course. At first we were going to get both the full scout-bombing course and the small amount of torpedo work they give here, but then the authorities decided to whittle the whole thing down. It seems that we are wanted back in Jacksonville

Dive bombing
in B-24
Jacksonville
\$30.00
Some
instructing

by Christmas, so we are being
rushed through these last
few days. - perhaps I
should say nights, because
night flying will hold me
up if anything does. This,
incidentally, isn't anything
new for us and not much
different from that that
we had in Squadron 14.
We've had two or three
dive bombing practice hops,
and now have begun to
take up new students to
show them how it is
done (more or less). Dive
bombing is an art, and it
takes a great deal of practice



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for anyone to get good at
it. Here we use BT-
and dive from much
higher than we did in
OS-2, but actually don't
get going as fast because
of diving flaps. Without
them the speed one would
develop in a prolonged
dive from high altitudes
would make it difficult
for one to keep aimed
at the target and would
make a high pull-out
necessary. The great sport.

but not easy, especially
when there's considerable
wind, as is often the case.

There are no grim
sensations in the dive
unless the pull-out is
such that one blacks
out, as I did a few
times in OS - after
excessively fast dives
(prolonged or abrupt
pull-outs), but dive
bombing does seem to
tire one rather thoroughly.
My only scouting hop is
tomorrow, but that's nothing
new. We'll probably go



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to the rear of the Bahamas
and back - without landing,
and I may just ride in the
back seat (SBC). That
we checked ourselves out
in the TBD seems to have
been a mistake, as we
apparently won't fly them
again.

Well, there's still no
positive word on whether
we'll be back at Jax
by Christmas. If only
we were given enough
travel time to spend
Christmas either here or

P.S. Christmas shopping has been almost impossible.
I am over to all. I got
done and I'm rich too.

There. I'm invited to a
Christmas Eve (deb) dance
in Jan and to Christmas
dinner at The Ritchies
and hope I can take in
one. Personally I like to
stay down here for a few
months.

A day off to-day was
partially wrecked by night
flying both last night
and tonight.

Thanks for squash
racket, press and balls.
Pa. Forner has been used
twice.

Good for teaching again.
Pa. After all, why not?
Good for Nancee too! Henry?