

# On Or About This Day In Phil's Archives

PHIL'S BLOG

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## Buddy's Letter to Home - April 2, 1954

4/2/2024

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Hello Family and Friends. Today is a "two for Tuesday". Buddy wrote two letters on this day in 1954. The first to his sister, Mary at 4:45 pm and the second to his sister Ann at 9pm. I have transcribed the letters, but also included a pdf version below. Once again, the letters speak for themselves, but I have made some annotated comments.

I have possession of one more complete letter from Buddy and will post that in June.



August 1951 - The Fallon Family - Back: Patrick "Buddy", Fr. Marty, John, Mary, Jimmy; Middle: Tommy, Marie, Dolly (Sr. Patricia), Patrick Sr.; Front: Irene, Ann, Eddy

## Author

I have been interested in preserving family history for many years. Hope you enjoy.

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2 April 1954  
Friday 4:45 [pm]

Sasebo,  
Japan

Dear Mary,

Arrived in port about an hour ago. They had the mail aboard before we were even finished tying up. That's the kind of service I like. — Really made out, for a change! Received your letter postmarked the 23 [24] of March, one from Joey with the same postmark, one from our Ann postmarked the 25<sup>th</sup> & last but not least, my income tax return for \$13.00. That's doing fine I'd say. --- Joey is really a character — but a cool one, eh?!

We were only out for a day and a half. There were 3 other ships along. 2 Columbian & one from Thailand. We were the big wheel, oce & otc which means Officer in Charge of Exercise & Officer in Tactical Command. Conducted a few exercises off the Southern coast of Korea, near Pusan. Good deal — we were in the war zone & don't have to pay any income tax on this month's humble wages.

Glad to hear Ma is doing OK. Course we can give her a pass for St. Paddy's day.

I don't know where Kay got the idea that Tom & Alice were having a party. Had heard from John's Ann where there wasn't any.

Sent an album to Johnnie to stick all my

pictures & clippings in. Ann said she has started on the job. Be nice to have in years to come. Ought to take a look at it — good for a few laughs.

Paid for one of the suits I had made over leave. It's a one button, single breasted, patch pocket midnight blue with tuxedo lapels. I think it looks sharp. Going to wear it to Ann's wedding. Having a gray flannel suit made now. Looks like I'm the only one getting presents this year. --- "God takes care of those that take care of themselves".

Our letters are stamped aboard the ship. As I [said?] on the last one I wrote you it was in the wee hours & went out late that day. This one won't leave the ship 'till tomorrow.

I received Peg's letter a little while back. I'll answer her & Joey as soon as possible. For the present tell them I send my best.

Say kid that was quite a scoop you let me in on. Nice going. What a bunch of devils you & Joseph are!!!!

That's about it for now.

Love to All,  
Bud

**Phillip McGovern**  
<https://cnrj.cnic.navy.mil/installations/CFA-Sasebo/About/History/>

**PM** **Phillip McGovern**  
That is how Buddy wrote the word 'fine'. I am thinking he was trying to be cute here by writing it as he would playfully say it as 'fojoe'

**PM** **Phillip McGovern**  
The Korean War had ended by the time of this letter. But there must have been a "war zone" that was still in effect.

**PM** **Phillip McGovern**  
Kay is a girlfriend of Buddys. He had been seeing her for a while. I am not sure how they met. She was from the LaGrange, Illinois area. Some 15-20 years ago, Aunt Dolly and myself made a visit to see Kay and her husband Bob for a couple of hours.

**PM** **Phillip McGovern**  
I am going to make a guess on this "scoop" and note Mary wrote to Buddy in March 1954, and she must have mentioned she was pregnant with her youngest child. The child (my cousin) was born the following August.

[LINK TO Letter to Mary April 2, 1954](#)

2 April 1954  
Friday 9 PM  
Sasebo,  
Japan

Dear Ann,

The ship arrived in port this afternoon. We're only out for a day and a half but that's long enough for me. I don't care for this sea duty. Most of this trip was full of laughs. We were with 2 Columbian ships & one from Thailand. Was really hard to understand them over the radio/telephone. All we could do was ask them to "Say Again". Same thing went for them. It was a mess all the way around.

Anne I'm afraid by the time everything gets back to you it's a bit twisted up. I told you in a letter before -- I have no ill feelings towards you, Sil -- or even Pat Dillon for that matter over what has happened. The only thing I mentioned about writing was I couldn't understand why you quit writing me Patrick J. Fallon because you broke up with him. Still can't for that matter.

Sorry to hear that Pats leave plans aren't too definite yet. But that's how this d\_\_\_ Navy is, can't make any plans at all. It's the same deal with me. Still don't know for sure when I'll get leave. Just between you and I if you're getting married on the 24<sup>th</sup> of July, I'll get home whether the Navy likes it or not.

Kay and I are still going along the same as ever. Not much a poor swabber with 18 ½ month to go can do. Can't make very many plans even. She writes once a week. As of last week that's all I intend writing.

That's nice that Irene is going to be your Matron of Honor. She's the greatest. Bet all her boys are big now.

Heard about your haircut & how it looks so nice. That's the style isn't it?

Received the letter from Joey today in which he said he said [sic] he is going to send me \$2.00 to buy him some things -- & keep the change. His letters are really the funniest ever. Get many laughs out of them -- real masterpieces.

How is Jim making out with the police department. Next time you pass by Aubins stop & tell him I said to get some orange juice & vodka ready to make screwdrivers. About 83 more days & we arrive in the states.

Keeping a sharp lookout for Pat's ship. Hope I run into him. Has he my address?

I have the midnight till 4 AM watch so will close for now.

Love,  
Bud

**Phillip McGovern**  
I know of Sil. Sil is short for Silvio Fioroni. Besides being a shipmate of Buddy's on the USS Marsh, Sil was a boyfriend of my mothers. I have never heard of Pat Dillon. I don't know if he was a boyfriend of my mother, or just a friend of Buddy's.

**Phillip McGovern**  
Joey is my first cousin. He would have been age 10 and a ½ at this time.

**Phillip McGovern**  
Most of my family know of this name. There was a local bar in the neighborhood where the Fallons lived at (3940 Polk Street) and Aubin was the owner.

[LINK TO Letter to Ann April 2, 1954](#)



<b>Form W-2</b> <small>U.S. Employment Tax Return</small>		<b>WITHHOLDING STATEMENT—1952</b> <small>Wages Paid and Income and F. I. C. A. Taxes Withheld</small>		<b>EMPLOYEE'S COPY</b> <small>(DUPLICATE)</small>
<b>EMPLOYEE TO WHOM PAID</b> <small>(Print name, full address, and Social Security number)</small>				
304 75 02 FALLON, JR. PATRICK J.				
<b>FEDERAL INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS ACT</b> <small>Total F.I.C.A. wages before pay-roll deductions paid in 1952</small>		<small>F.I.C.A. employee tax withheld, if any</small>		<b>INFORMATION FOR INCOME TAX RETURN</b> <small>Total wages (before payroll deductions) paid in 1952</small>
\$ 553.52		\$ 43.00		\$ 43.00
<b>EMPLOYER BY WHOM PAID</b> <small>(Print name, full address, and identification number)</small>				
D.L. THOMAS, ENR., SC, USNR SSN 540647 USS MARSH DE699 d ave 10-1000-1				
<b>KEEP THIS COPY FOR YOUR OWN RECORD</b> <small>*If past wages were subject to F.I.C.A. taxes, full copy not alone, plus F.I.C.A. wages not the same as wages shown under "INFORMATION FOR INCOME TAX RETURN," but not more than \$3,000.</small>				



0 Comments

