

K570/DRAFT-WCN-4/3/90(2)

COMMENTS LeCENTER SCHOOL

4/6/90

I'M PLEASED TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK WITH ALL OF YOU. IN THE PROCESS, I HOPE THAT BOTH YOU AND I WILL LEARN SOMETHING NEW.

THE TOPIC WHICH APPEARS TO BE MOST APPROPRIATE IS THE IMPORTANCE OF LEARNING TO READ WELL AND TO ACCOMPLISH THAT GOAL EARLY IN ONE'S LIFE.

I WILL TELL YOU ABOUT IMPORTANT EXPERIENCES IN MY LIFE WHICH WOULDN'T HAVE HAPPEND HAD I NOT BEEN ABLE TO READ WELL. AFTER THAT, IF YOU WANT TO, YOU CAN TELL ME WHY YOU THINK IT IS IMPORTANT TO READ WELL OR YOU CAN ASK ME QUESTIONS.

ALSO I WANT TO A LETTER IS SENT TO ME BY A SCHOOL TEACHER IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS.

ONE ROOM SCHOOL

WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE, I WAS ATTENDING SCHOOL IN A ONE-ROOM COUNTRY SCHOOL IN NEBRASKA. I WAS BORN AND RAISED ON A FARM NEAR RED CLOUD, NEBRASKA. THE TOWN WAS NAMED AFTER THE FAMOUS INDIAN CHIEF RED CLOUD. *LEGEND HAS IT*

I MEMOJ
THE SCHOOL WAS ABOUT A MILE AND A HALF FROM THE FARM. MY TWIN SISTER AND I RODE DOUBLE ON A PONY TO GET TO SCHOOL AND BACK HOME.

IN THOSE DAYS, THERE WEREN'T ANY SCHOOL BUSES, ONLY A FEW CARS. PEOPLE TRAVELED MAINLY ON HORSEBACK OR BY HORSE AND BUGGY.

NO RADIO OR TV

WE DIDN'T HAVE RADIO OR TV SETS AT THAT TIME EITHER.

KIDS HELP TEACHER

AT ANY ONE TIME, THERE WERE USUALLY AROUND 12 STUDENTS IN OUR ONE-ROOM SCHOOL. WE HAD ONE TEACHER WHO TAUGHT ALL GRADES, I.E., GRADES ONE THROUGH EIGHT -- ORDINARILY, THERE WEREN'T STUDENTS IN ALL GRADES, MAYBE 5 OR 6 GRADES. BUT EVEN SO, THE TEACHER NEEDED THE HELP OF THE OLDER KIDS TO TEACH THE YOUNGER ONES, ESPECIALLY WITH READING.

HELPING OTHER STUDENTS

OLDER KIDS HELPED ME DURING MY FIRST YEARS; AND, IN TURN, I WANTED TO DO MY PART BY LEARNING TO READ WELL, SO THAT I COULD HELP OTHERS. I DID LEARN TO READ WELL EARLY, AND I WAS ABLE TO HELP OTHERS AND I ENJOYED THAT VERY MUCH.

AS YOU NO DOUBT HAVE DISCOVERED, ONE OF THE MOST SATISFYING THINGS ONE CAN DO IS TO HELP OTHERS.

RADIO STATION

BEING ABLE TO READ WELL EARLY IN LIFE WAS BOTH A SOURCE OF ENJOYMENT, AND A HELP IN PREPARING MYSELF FOR A CAREER IN ENGINEERING.

I BORROWED BOOKS FROM THE LIBRARY IN RED CLOUD ON MANY SUBJECTS. I ALSO SUSCRIBED TO A MAGAZINE WHICH CONTAINED INFORMATION ON HOW TO BUILD SHORT WAVE RADIO TRANSMITTERS AND RECEIVERS. AS A RESULT, I WAS ABLE TO BUILD THE EQUIPMENT TO SET UP AN AMATEUR RADIO STATION AND COMMUNICATE WITH OTHER AMATEURS IN THE U.S., AS WELL AS OTHER COUNTRIES. THIS WAS VERY EDUCATIONAL AND ENJOYABLE. IN ADDITION, IT GAVE ME A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT ENGINEERING IS ABOUT.

IF I HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO READ WELL, I WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO BUILD THE RADIO EQUIPMENT OR GAINED THE CLEAR UNDERSTANDING ABOUT ENGINEERING AS THE KIND OF CAREER IN LIFE I WANTED.

NAVY

AFTER I FINISHED THE EIGHTH TRADE, I ATTENDED HIGH SCHOOL AT RED CLOUD. AFTER GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL, HAVING ALREADY DECIDED THAT I WANTED TO BE AN ENGINEER, I ENROLLED IN THE ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING COLLEGE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF

NEBRASKA. AFTER GRADUATION, I WORKED FOR THE WESTINGHOUSE Co. IN 1940, I LEFT WESTINGHOUSE TO GO INTO THE U.S. NAVY -- WORLD WAR II HAD STARTED. I WAS ASSIGNED TO A UNIT WHICH WAS ENGAGED IN DECIPHERING THE SECRET CODES USED BY GERMAN SUBMARINES OPERATING IN THE ATLANTIC. THEY WERE SINKING U.S. SHIPS CARRYING GUNS, AMMUNITION, FOOD, ETC. TO ENGLAND AND FRANCE AND OUR OTHER ALLIES.

THE SITUATION WAS VERY SERIOUS, AND IT WAS URGENT TO IMPROVE ANTI-SUBMARINE MEASURES TO DO THIS. A VERY HIGH PRIORITY EFFORT WAS LAUNCHED TO SPEED UP THE PROCESS OF DECIPHERING THE SECRET RADIO TRANSMISSIONS BY THE SUBMARINES.

EVERYDAY, EACH SUBMARINE HAD TO SURFACE IN ORDER TO CHARGE ITS BATTERIES. THIS WOULD TAKE ABOUT TWO HOURS.

SHORTLY AFTER THE SUBMARINE SURFACED, THE CAPTAIN SENT A RADIO MESSAGE WHICH ALWAYS CONTAINED THE POSITION OF THE SUBMARINE.

BY DECIPHERING THE SECRET MESSAGE, THE POSITION OF THE SUBMARINE WAS IDENTIFIED AND THEN A NAVY PLANE WOULD BE ^{SENT TO} SINK IT WITH BOMBS. UNFORTUNATELY, EARLY IN THE WAR, IT OFTEN TOOK TOO LONG TO DECIPHER THE MESSAGE -- BY THE TIME

THAT WAS ACCOMPLISHED AND THE NAVY BOMBER ARRIVED, THE SUBMARINE HAD GONE BACK UNDER THE OCEAN.

I WAS GIVEN THE ASSIGNMENT TO HELP LOOK FOR SOME WAY TO SPEED UP THE DECIPHERING PROCESS.

I SPENT HOURS AND HOURS AND DAYS IN LIBRARIES TRYING TO FIND INFORMATION ABOUT GERMAN RADIO TRANSMITTERS, WHICH WOULD BE THE BASIS FOR SPEEDING UP THE DECIPHERING PROCESS. FINALLY, I FOUND IT AND WAS ABLE TO HELP. THE POINT IS THAT I WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ACHIEVE THAT RESULT IF I HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO READ WELL. I COULD NEVER HAVE READ THE HUNDREDS OF ARTICLES SOO ENOUGH THAT WERE NECESSARY BEFORE LOCATING THE NEEDED INFORMATION.

WRITING & SPEAKING

AT THIS POINT, I SHOULD ALSO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF READING WELL WITH RESPECT TO ACHIEVING GOOD WRITING AND SPEAKING SKILLS. WHEN ONE READS A LOT, NEW WORDS APPEAR WHICH REQUIRES THE USE OF A DICTIONARY TO EXPLAIN THEIR MEANING. THE ADDITION OF NEW WORDS TO ONE'S VOCABULARY, I.E., THE WORDS WHICH YOU USE IN WRITING AND SPEAKING MEANS THAT YOU EXPRESS YOURSELF MORE CLEARLY.

BEING ABLE TO DO THIS IS BECOMING MORE IMPORTANT BECAUSE ALL THE GOOD JOBS THAT ARE AVAILABLE NOWADAYS REQUIRE PEOPLE WHO CAN SPEAK AND WRITE CLEARLY.

SO LEARN TO READ WELL SO YOU CAN WRITE AND SPEAK WELL AND BE ABLE TO QUALIFY FOR A GOOD JOB WHEN YOU GROW UP.

PLEASURE

BY LEARNING TO READ WELL, YOU WILL GET MORE ENJOYMENT IN YOUR LIFE BY READING BOOKS AND MAGAZINES. READING IS FAR MORE ENJOYABLE THAN MOST TV AND RADIO PROGRAMS. EVEN TV AND RADIO PROGRAMS, WHICH ARE BASED ON BOOKS, ARE NEVER TRUE TO THEIR FULL MEANING.