

Born in Milwaukee in 1901, Stewart C. Yeo chose the army as his career in 1926. In 1941, Major Yeo was serving with the XI Corps Artillery, stationed in Hawaii with his wife, Eunice, and his children, Stewart ("Tuffy") and Mary Stewart. He wrote to his father, Fredric, describing the Japanese attack and its consequences.

Honolulu
December 15, 1941

Dear Dad:

I know you have read about the air raid of Dec. 7th. We are all safe and none the worse for the experience. The attack started at 7:55 A.M. Hawaiian time on Sunday morning. I was still in bed when the first bombs hit an airfield adjoining Schofield [Barracks]. After hearing a few more and machine gun firing above our quarters from planes I finally decided it must be the real McCoy. So I ran out in front with my field glasses and Eunice and Tuffy following. When we saw the large red spots, the rising sun, on the wings of the planes we only needed one guess. The Jap planes were flying around hither and thither machine gunning the area. Bullets went thru neighbors' houses and splattered the ground in front of the house. After retrieving Tuffy who broke away and ran out into the open across the street, we kept inside. A Jap bomber flew directly over where Eunice was standing at one time at a distance of about 100 feet, close enough to see the pilot. There were no casualties, miraculously, among the officers' dependents. I can give no information as to damage or casualties due to censorship. I reported immediately for duty at the Battalion and we moved to our defense station. Eunice and the kids were evacuated to the basement of concrete barracks until the morning raid was over and late that night they moved into the hills outside Honolulu, after the area was again machine gunned. The family stayed in Honolulu in a civilian cottage for 5

days and returned to Schofield. The maid, a loyal Jap, went with them. She is also a U.S. citizen by virtue of being born in Hawaii. Her name is Hisako Kusaka, but she is really a superior maid and was a great help to Eunice during this experience. There have been no attacks since the 7th, but one is enough with women and children around especially. The papers of course stress the attack on Pearl Harbor but the other points of attack: the airfields and adjoining areas had no picnic exactly. The forces are of course on constant alert and it is difficult to visualize the Japs trying anything here again. The Islands are under blackout every night. Martial law is in effect. Food and gasoline rationing is also in effect. I believe dependents will be sent home in the near future, altho nothing definite. We are going ahead with our Xmas celebration of course. I have not been home to see the folks since the raid but did see them twice under blackout after the kids were in bed while they were evacuees.

Best Regards from us all

Stewart