Dear Doris—

You #235 arrived today with the details about the stealing incident. I am happy to know that your "solution" and the one I recommended were so similar. What you are doing seems to me to be the best course of action.

One thing you must do—and 2 know I am right on this—is to follow through. Do not let all be sweetness and light once this is settled. Those boys should have their movement restricted closely to the place where it is not an inconvenience, but interferes with the way they like to live their lives. Not only do you really want to keep close tabs on their whereabouts at all times, but you should make this obvious to them. You should cut out and cut down their 'out' time severely.
it really bite into their line, and stick with it for a long time, say, until I get home. You can say—up to the or so that "because I can't check on you easily then, and I don't feel I can trust you any more." And do it consistently and make it stick!

I know this will be tough on you. I know it will be more easier on them, but we must make some basic progress even if it is slow in the short run. You know how Tom usually

and I—once the ugly scene is gone, he can walk his brain of the whole thing. He

you. I hope that will leave a lesson, but I am absolutely sure in my own mind

that we do (that is you, for the present)

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must make a federal case out of this.

As for any money involved— you must not only make sure they saw it, but do not make it easy for them to do so by finding “jobs” and being generous in pay. Even if you had you should make it hard.

Tell them there is nothing they can do except routine chores, which they do not get paid for. If you have “pay” jobs, be magnanimous so they will have their noses rubbed in the thing for a good long time. Also I would set some kind of time limit, during which no ball playing, etc., that or the other, at all, until the money is paid back. In fact, I would say no recreation of any kind until it is paid back. This is not too much punishment for the one do not think you are taking this too seriously. Your mother is obviously not aware of the seriousness of the matter.

In another year, Tom could be bailed.
into an adult court for this in some state — maybe S.C. for all I know. Regardless of the legality involved, I, and you, I know, consider it serious, as most civilized people.

If in the long run, it turns out to be a bojish aberration in the live of two decent men, or we both hope it will, it will be because we made it seem serious to them now, not because we made it seem a bojish prank.

We, and I mean we, have somehow failed to teach them respect for the property of others, yours and mine as well as other.

And I feel very strongly that we don't have much more time left to do this. I have much more time left to do this. I know the things I have said for you to do now the things I have said for you to do will be a bit rigorous on you, but I know that is the only way and must be done at any cost in trouble. I am sorry I am not there to assist you, but I will be thinking of you and will give you what
small advice and comfort I can by mail. As for the radio, it cost about 
$25. I don't know whether or not I can get another one—I haven't seen them in the PX for a long time. And finally, I don't care. He can do without a radio for a while. As far as I care, if he is damn ever, as far as I care, I frankly hope he loses it over the course of time, he's least prone to ease the pain of the loss. The radio is nothing, but somehow we must get to him, and this may well be a way. I would not worry about Will. He is in a 5 am pee-ing phase. He has done this before and then he gets oriented. Just get up and let him out and go back to bed.

Briefed the deputy J2 today on the Greenville problem. Davidson has gone on leave to see his wife in the Philippines.
No solution, of course, we just found a way to postpone the inevitable day of reckoning. I hope it comes after Saigon, because the roof may fall in. I can't say more -- let's explain when the war is over.

The war goes on in Saigon. The official releases make light of it, but we have a large number of small forces troops in the outskirts of the city delivering heavy attacks. The jets and choppers are going almost round the clock blasting them. Tonight before supper we sat on the roof for about an hour watching some A-10s bomb Cholon -- probably down by the Y-Bridge. The city is already far worse than ever than before. And the end is not apparent. Of course they could and may stop the attack at any time, but they have truly struck some...
heavy blow—much much worse than the sabotage and terror incidents of the last of January. And the Paul Gaits are just beginning. I fear we are in for a bad couple of months. The heat of the fighting around Saigon is being carried by the 15th division. The ARVN fought fairly well the first 2 days, but they are out of gas.

The 2nd field hospital is right by CVC, and they are bringing the casualties in there in almost a steady stream, by chopper and ambulance. leg and arms torn off and such—only the seriously wounded get this far.

Enclosed are the last of the Singapore shots—one of the bartender and one of a couple of belly girls I just happened to see.

Love,

Jim

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