Dear Doris,

Enclosed find a color shot from which you have picked out a lamp base. I have bought the one marked by X. Look carefully at the purple in the base. This is quite a psychedelic color, and in spite of this having been taken by a truly adept photographer, the purple is much more pronounced in the real than in the photos. The reason is that the leveled surface—see arrow—is predominately the purple. Also, in spite of what I thought was careful measuring, this is only 24" near 36. However, 24" is a lot. This is a big move and will make a big savings. Anyhow, the point is that I can exchange this only for any reason you don't want it.
Neither the size, color or both are not acceptable. And now, I can exchange it for a large one. The tall 3-ft. ones are about 22 - this was about 415.

As to the alleged 2-ft. one, picture also enclosed, the one marked X is only one - they are not 2 to be had. They have several smaller ones (this is really about 15”, which would seem big on our mantel) which are quite pretty. By smaller, I

mean about a foot. Oh I can get 2 which don’t match. I have taken some picture of same other which I should have back any day and will send. A new one (1-foot one) which I saw today, and liked for butterflies all over it. I can get most of the smaller ones in pairs. Let me know what you want by return mail, or at least as soon as you get the other picture.
Package with powder and battery etc. came today. Thank list.

About Tom and school. I think it is normal or at least reasonable that a vigorous boy like Tom would want to get "on his own" about age 16. However, this does not mean it is a good idea. Even if it were, a boarding school is hardly being on one's own, but simply being away from home and in the constant company of other children who have all been sent from home, for a variety of reasons, and under the supervision of a system designed largely to the needs of such children.

Incidentally, Gram has not said anything to me about this school or any school, for that matter.

It is of course true that I am going to sea. However, next year will certainly be better than the one in that respect.
That is, unless in my present concern. By that
so it may, I am certainly not going
to go on all the time. You know how
it was when I was in Europe. I
was home lots. And from what I
hear, the Atlantic Fleet ships operate
much less now than they
except when deployed. And the
prospective deployment is basically
all in the summer! Anyhow, I would
much prefer to see him remain at home
through high school.

Sorry the Wash. stamps are gone.

Next time you buy some, get some late
model commemoratives. Actually they were
recently a 10c air mail commem which I
would like to have come over (and a
plate block). See if you can get some.

No rockets again last night.

There are still a bunch of VC about
2 mile, one East of Tan Son Nhut, and the ARVN keep killing them, but they keep infiltrating now. Night before last they mortared a big ammunition dump out there, started a fire and most of it blew up. At least they are out of Saigon proper and they are no longer shelling the place.

My old woman friend is having a party tomorrow afternoon and I promised to run some errands for her in our truck tonight - fetch tape records, get cakes, etc. O.K.

Love,

[Signature]