



ARMY AIR FORCES

Fri: Wife

7:00

2-11-44

Dear Swell Family:-

Well, I'm finally with a permanent outfit & I like it very much. This is a swell job & I'll be here 3 months for all 3 phases of O.T.W. & then - overseas. No furlough, no matings. I had to write that last sentence cause I was kinda hoping against hope that I'd get home again before going over. But they shut that all those hopes for us today. I did think a month ago that I'd go A.W.O.L. & go home for a couple days & then come back



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but they were smart enough to fix that up. You see, according to the Article of War, when you are on the alert & go A.W.O.L., you are ~~not~~ deserting — an offense which is punishable by death or D.D. & imprisonment. Even if I didn't get either one of those things, I'd hate to have a charge like that on my Service Record! A.W.O.L. is one thing but Desertion is, by far, another!

Our crew is complete with the exception of our Navigator, whom none of the crews pick up till 3rd phase. We have a Pilot, Poe, a really swell guy from West Va.;

a co-pilot, Barder, from Detroit +
Mich.; Bornhardt, Costello, from the
Bronx; + aircraft mechanics: Judd,
from Episcopi Mich; Pomroy, the
only westerner of the bunch, from King;
Meyers, from Brooklyn; + Webber,
from New Jersey; + an armorer,
Kilgore, from Alabama.

They are all a swell bunch of
guys & I'm sure I'm gonna enjoy
flying with 'em very much. Speaking
of flying, we don't process until next
Tues. & until then we don't do a damn
thing but lay around + do as we please.
Maybe a couple lectures now & then. After
processing, we get a Class A pass & whenever
we are not flying or going to school we
are free to take off for Colorado Springs. I



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don't know, as yet. How the town is but
will let you know as soon as I've had
a visit to it.

I sent you a wire this morning in-
forming you of my new address, that
I'd phone Mon., & I send my 3 Khaki
Shirts & more to me. I'm glad I'll
be here for a few months so I'll
get my mail regularly for a while.

I'm going to take all my Class
A's over to the canteen tomorrow & may
be buy a new pair of C.D. Trousers at
the commissary here. It's all according
to how much they cost.

Yes, I did my picture of Ruth &
I just five minutes before I left for
the sta. in S.C. A mighty nice looking
couple went over. You're down right in

ragging!! Boy, we were really happy
that day. I'll never forget the few
days we spent together. This a won-
derful girl + I think I'm mighty
lucky to have her! This is a swell
post for married men but I guess
it's a little to much to ask of her.
I'd sure like to have her with me
there but 3, or 4 at the most. months
that I'm still in the States. It's my
opinion that we should be together.

Send me the songs that you said
you had developed, will you? Thank.

It is cold as hell here. I guess
the altitude is 6500 ft. Pike's peak
is right off to the front of our
cabin.

Yes, Dad I'm allowed to wear a
cotton for that one year in the



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Swiss because I served it with good
behavior. I'm down glad I can say that
for 1 year + hope I can maintain
the record of no demerits on my
Swiss Record.

Worng. I'll be glad when the day
arrives that you have a couple Grand-
children too! They'll be the toughest
kids in the block + if they wanna
say — it's okay by me if they do!

I want to write Ruthie yet
write so till tomorrow you know
that —

I love you all

Gene

"C.C.T.S." means
Combat Crew
Training School
more school