

Sun. Eve.

7:30

2-10-44

Dear Swell Folks:

No letter today. Must be a mix up in the mail. I guess they made a mistake in our schedules cause I got off at 1 tonite. Good deal! Brief tomorrow morning at 6a.m. + then am off home room until 11:30 a.m. Tues. I have a chance to get caught up on my letter writing cause I don't have the money to go to town. Oh, well. If I don't have it, I won't send it. That's one way to save money!

Next day - Mon.
2:30

Hi Pals:

Back again after nearly 24 hours. The guys were real & to note the show last nite so we took off. It was good - Broadway Rythm - Leo Murphy, (Charles) Winnicker, + I found the female kids.

Up at 4:30 this morn. + on the Flt. Tuesday 6:00. Our crew didn't fly but I got in 4 hours + 15 min. with another crew where Radio Operator was sick. It was my 1st time up in a B-24

and I was so damned busy that I hardly knew we
were off the ground. I didn't have to go up but
I volunteered. the more I fly, the more I learn
& the more I learn the more I know & that's
the best life insurance a guy can have. Besides,
I'd fly 24 hours a day if they'd let me. cause I
love it just that much!! It really is a thrill
to know you're up in one of those "big babies"!!
It was windy as hell but the old liberator took
down smooth. The Pilot was a big fat
guy I haven't shown with Poe - I'd rather
fly with him than anyone! This is the first kind
of a guy. I sure wish you could meet him!

There are ~~18~~⁸⁴ guys here in this barracks
who are all in one platoon - "D" & I'm the only
one of the bunch who did not go to town today.
Yes, it's because I'm broke but I could have had
the money. Both Poe & Castillo, & Pomeroy
offered to loan me money but if I had borrowed
I'd have to pay it back & I'm short again
next month so I decided to stay here and
answer the 13 letters I owe & then to home
you this evening. I don't mind at all except



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I was s'posed to see a girl
- Kate, whom I met & danced
with last Thurs. - at the Ho-
gan to write but I guess still like with out
me. I know I can get along without her
- "my honey" still loves me!

Will you excuse me while I go out
& take a shower & clean up a bit?
there! Be back later - Summer!

Back again & really feel a lot better!
I just used my electric razor & it worked fine!
Remember how much trouble I used to have with
it, Dad? Do you s'pose that in a year my
beard has become a little stiffer? Ha Ha. A
lot of things have changed in the last year!

I read your 2 boxes today & once
again felt that old twinge of homesickness
as I always do when I receive a "box from
home". I like it tho'. A box seems to
bring me closer to you. I always think,
"See, just a few days ago this very house
back at dear 454 So. Summit." What a
wonderful place that is & what wonderful
Parents you are to send me all the things you do.

Pardon me another minute while I lite my
Pipe again — there!

My things came fine line + all is more
than satisfactory! The Judge is a grand Mom.
You know where to send it! I wish I had been
there to watch you iron the shirts. Mom. No.
I don't mind it you pined a few times over 2m
cause I almost did when I opened 'em. Thinking
of all the such orders I used to give you on my
shirts + how I swore that Florence would
ruin iron another of my shirts cause she
couldn't do 2m like you. That's my Mom!
Not another like her in the world!!!

No letter from you yesterday but
2 from Ruthie - Mamma - I love that gal
+ she loves me, too. We are happy even tho.
we are apart. I did get one from you +
another one from that darling wife o' mine
today. And I'll excuse you for missin' the
other note. Heck. I wish I could do as well
as you do with my writin'! You've only missed 2
or 3 times in over a year. Packed + there!!
I have a pull in for the air mail stamps. too
I can't afford 'em. - Pay Day in 7 days!!





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-5-

I like the new stationery too! As Ruthie would say: "I give you taste a lot! Whatta gall + what Parents! Solid! She was ~~crazy~~ about + tickled pink with her new slip. She's ~~crazy~~ about all of you! How can she help it?! Wish her folks liked me! Her bro. David wrote her + told her I was ok, wished her happiness, said he liked me, + that he was sure her folks would learn to like me. Everyone yotes + tells me that they're nuts!

Speakin' o' brothers, you're a birthday today happyt you, Dale? 17 years old - you been kissed?! HaHa. I'll bet not! Gee, it seems as tho' I were squintin' just a couple days ago. Makes me feel like I might be gettin' close to the age o' a man. HeHa. Well, buddy, looks like your "big" brother can't send you a present yet but I will someday. I feel bad to think that I don't even have the price o' a card but I'll ~~try~~ make it up to you somehow. I swear, honestly Pal, but it just can't be helped. Damn this war!! I'd rather take a beating than to miss sendin' you something intime for your birthday but.... I thinkin' of you, wishin' you luck + Happy

Birthday, Fella!

As you can imagine, Dad, I don't have much time to read the news or listen to it on the radio but every morning at briefing we get the latest news reports from an Intelligence Officer. He has several large maps, covering all fronts, & gives a very good news summary. From what he says, things seem to be moving along fine in all theatres of the war. He mentioned this morning that we had lost 67 bombers in a raid over Hungary last week. He told yesterday that the German fighters always went after the bombers & kept the exciting Allied fighters alone but about 3 nights ago, they pulled the unexpected & tore into the fighters, knocking down 43 of them but only getting 8 of our bombers. Those birds are tricky as hell! I've got a few "caliber 50" trucks for 'em myself!!

I think from now on will get 4 hours flying & 4 hours of a round school a day. The flying will consist mostly of radio operation for me. Some gunnery, a lot of bombing practice, & some formation flying. Yes, it's all plenty interesting & I'm learning a lot. I'll get a chance to fly the ship but I'll never know



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all about it. My God, what a job Poe
has!! You can't imagine how much
of a job it actually is! The ground
school consists of code, blinkers, procedure,
equipment, first aid lectures, Malaria lectures,
jungle life, parachute jumping (No. Mom, much
to my disappointment, I don't get to jump unless
I have too!), gunnery, - & a million other things.
It's all very interesting & I like it a lot. Before,
it was a matter of learning enough to gradu-
ate; now it's a matter of a lotta time -
time for one - good old insurance!!

I wrote Bud at the same time I wrote Rudy &
now his home. It's about time those guys got a
break. Tell him I say hello & I'd sure like to be
here to salute him 'cause his one guy who, in
my estimation, takes it!! No, I haven't heard from
Rudy as yet, but hope I do. His another one who
needs a degree. Put some of those damn Permanent
Party "Pencil Pushers" overseas & give the others a
crack at Class "A" Passes & any women!

You're wrong, Mom, it's and pencil,
not red ink but I'm a lad, you like it. It's
different anyway.

Don't worry, Mom. I give you & Dad
a lot of credit for what you've taught me.
I have you to thank for Ruthie!

23307 14

Yes, Mom. Dad is mighty nice. He is
always interested in us. Wants to know if our
food is still ok & says, "Bye, Dad. It had
better be!" He bitched about the long school
we had, too. Whatta guy!

Ruth wrote me & said she'd bet me a
carton of cracker on the Bee Bee vs
Triangji game & then today I rec'd a letter
from her saying she owed me a carton!
Haha. I'm glad they won that game, if
they lost all the rest of 'em! Boy will I kill
her! Bee Bee is my school!!

I guess I'd better quit or I won't have
another to write tomorrow - or next time
I have time - so till then - I guess ya
know I love ya all - Phew!

Love

Ble Blinn!