

Wed. Eve.

9:30

3-1-44



AIR FORCES

Dear Sweet Family:

The guy who put the wings on this sheet of paper, musta been cock-eyed, eh?

I am one mighty tired coolie so this will have to be short - but I hope a sweet.

Had a swell time in town & all -

& as per usual, was a good boy! Got my watch back. It sure ~~feels~~ feels good to wear it again.

Also bought this fountain pen. I'm afraid I paid a hell of a price for it - \$8.15 - but ~~that~~ Water-

man used to make a pretty good pen

so I took the chance. I sure made

a mess of this letter so far, didn't I?

I should start over but I'm too lazy!

I also bought a stationery folder

(& keep my stationery + envelopes in)

+ box of stationery for a total of

\$4.50. The folder is a nice leather one

+ I've always wanted a good one. Re-

member the shoes I bought when I was



at Jando? Well, they had composition roles on them which cracked to beat the devil so I have 8 have them half roled - another \$2.00!

Then I bought a new pair of gumshoe wings for \$5. This morning I bought your belated birthday present, Polo, & that took a little money. I had it sent out from the menswear shop & you should get within a couple days after you get this letter. Hope it suits you ok.!

Last night we went out to Hogan's till 11:00 & had a swell time.

Rosmeroy & I were together & we saw Poe & Perkins. The pilot of <sup>crew</sup> 13121 - a really swell guy - 2nd Lt., out there & spent the evening dancing. Neither Poe nor Perkins believe in the regulations laid out here about Officers & E. M. not being allowed to associate with each other in





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town so we sat at the same table + said "It'll be with the M.P.'s!"

We had a room at the Chequer Hotel - another \$8 - + slept between sheets again! We could have gotten a cheaper room but this was "if things" as long as it was pay day - \$11.50 - & we didn't regret it a bit!

I'll enclose \$10 for Crosby. in this letter + then try to send some money later when I see how the dough is gonna run.

Also am enclosing one of the pictures <sup>of me</sup> they took ~~of me~~ when we went thru processing. Every one in the crew had his picture taken + we'll all gonna get enough made so we can all have one of each. Can't say too much for mine as the guys made me laugh when they snapped the picture.



Some work you could have  
 seen me this afternoon! I was  
 right on top o' the world! We were  
 "up" for  $4\frac{1}{2}$  hours & day & Poe let  
 Castillo, Tudd, & me fly the ship!  
 I flew it for 20 minutes. When  
 I first got in the co-pilot's seat  
 I was scared to death that I'd do  
 some thing wrong but in less than  
 a minute he had me perfectly at  
 ease. I love to fly in a ship but  
 there's no word to describe how well I  
 like to actually fly one!! He  
 showed me how to bank both ways,  
 keep the nose up or down, & keep  
 it level. As soon as I sat down  
 he pointed at Pike's Peak & told  
 me to keep the nose right on it.  
 Well, I flew the whole 20 min.  
 right at it & didn't get a damn  
 bit closer & we were hitting close  
 to 200 m.p.h! I don't know





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how they judge distance  
out here. I sure can't.  
I'm telling you, the kid  
was even more pleased

with any new toy than I was  
with <sup>flyer</sup> that B-24! I can hardly  
wait to try it again! He told me  
I did fine & was glad that I could  
"feel it" - no, not ~~in~~ - in the  
seat of my pants. And kept ask-  
ing me if I had ever flown be-  
fore - handled the controls I  
mean. Boy, was I a pleased, happy,  
sprung toy when I got out of that  
seat!!

Rec'd Sunday's letter yesterday  
& Monday's today. Very good mail  
service for a change.

The Intell. Of. told us a  
little about the situation in  
Berlin today. Kinda sounds like they  
may make a little ground out of  
that place, eh, Paul? He also told



us about the invasion of the  
Admiralty Islands. They ~~are~~  
are gaining ground steadily over  
there. I think he said that in  
the last week that the Russians  
had taken 1500 towns & cities!  
That's a hell of a lot of places  
in my estimation.

I wish ~~we~~ you had the dough  
& I had the time to phone you ~~every~~  
other night - or more often - in-  
stead of once ~~or~~ a week. The time  
goes so damn fast. I can hear  
you very well, too. Say, Dad, how  
about staying home once in a while  
on Max day nites? I may have  
to fly this morn. eve so if I  
don't call, you'll know why & I'll  
make it Sun. or Tues. instead.

I think Kilgore has trouble with it.  
There's a lot of it going around.





AIR FORCES

Thank you, I don't have  
to worry about that!

I'll really appreciate  
you doing my laundry for me, Mom.  
It'll be close right, too! I'll make  
us both tomorrow, honey, but I'm  
glad we can do it this way.

We've had perfect spring  
weather here but the civil lines  
tell us that it won't last. Hope the  
damned pessimists are wrong!

Did I say this would have  
to be short? I just write & write  
& wind up with a fairly long one.

Hope you can read it ok!

Till next time —

For Mom