



U. S. AIR FORCES

Wed. Mite
9:20
5-17-44

Dear Swell Family!

Well, this will be my last letter for quite some time. I may have time to write another tomorrow but I doubt it. I'm sorry I haven't written more often lately but I just haven't had the time. We've been flying - making calibration checks - & processing like mad.

We were supposed to have left here tonight but we had to re-calibrate our magnetic compass so we'll probably leave tomorrow night.

Tomorrow we pack our stuff in the ship, draw our .45's & ammo, brief, go to bed at 4 p.m., be awakened at 11:30, eat breakfast, brief again,

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+ Take off about 1:30 a.m. Fri. morn.

Where are we going? Well, it's gonna be quite a trip! Poe says: From here to Marshall (I think), Fla. which is a P.O.E. + be there about 12 hours. Then on to somewhere in So. America + stop there for a few more hours. Then to Dakar, No. Africa. We aren't sure but we may stay there a month or so training + then to Italy or go on to Italy right away. How's that for a trip?

Drew a lot of stuff in our clothing check: Summer ^{+ winter} flying suits, winter + summer helmets, goggles, mosquito repellent, gloves, + head net, Mac West, 2 new pair of O.D. pants in place of my others, new leather jacket, flash light, etc.

I know I don't have to warn you



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as to how important it is that you mention none of this to no one till I can write & tell you just about when Sam!! thome!!

Wim had some very interesting lectures on secret material which I won't even discuss cause it's too important & may mean my neck someday.

We have "KISSA MUSTS" & the picture to go with it painted on our ship now. It's really cheap & everyone likes it.

You should be getting a large picture of the crew on o' these days. It's not very good but the best we

could get.

Here a little line for you that I wrote the other day & haven't mailed yet. I'm awful sorry but, as I said before, I'm sure crazy busy.

Got paid \$45 yesterday - partial pay on this month. Had telling when I'll get paid again. Paid Don Walker another \$20 so I only owe him \$10 now. Also stocked up on shaving lotion, cigarettes⁽⁵⁰⁾, candy & gum, & bought a new pair of shoes (\$3.50) & still have money left!! How's that?

Have your bag out all day now. Dad & I mean it's really sharp. I mean keep ratta this guy's way!!



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Your mail comes thru fine & you should have this by Sat. & I'll be well on my way across by then so for your sake, you may as well quit putting until I can send you my new address because it's hard telling when I'll get 'em & I don't think they forward 'em over seas & ~~you~~ us. I'm really gonna miss your mail like the devil!! I'll write ~~in~~ Mail as soon as I get my new address.

I tried to call you twice today between 4 & 5 o'clock but you weren't home so I'll try afterwards when the circuits aren't so busy. I've

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been gonna phone for the last
week but his bus was + I
wanted to wait till the very last
minute 'cause it'll be a long time
before I can phone you again.

I don't think I thanked
you for the \$1.5 in my last letter
I wrote you. Thanks, a million!!

It came thru swell + was a
plant. As I said, I had a swell
time + was a good boy + am still
sagging of this "on the wagon".

Well, I wanna drop Ruthie
a line yet + phone you is till next
time

I Love You All
Shane