

Sat. After.

4:20

6-3-44



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Dear Swell Family!

See, I'm waiting for you! I also miss your letters too, but I guess it takes a couple weeks for mail to travel so I'll just have to wait.

I am "somewhere in Italy". That's about all I can tell you except how I'm living. As to what I'm doing, you already know from my address that I am in a bomb squadron & will be going on bombing missions. I cannot, of course, tell you where or what we're bombing.

Another thing I can tell you is that I'm a damned



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good outfit & that my chances
of getting back to the U.S.A.
are excellent.

We lost our ship & another
squadron but the crew
is intact & will remain that way.

We've only been here a few
days & have been kept pretty
busy with lectures & things of that
sort.

As to how we're living, it's
not "honey & milk" but is a helluva
lot better than Tent Life in So.
Pac., Fla. where I got my start!
We live in tents, eat out of



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mess kits, wash in our steel
helmets, go a couple miles &
take a shower, & to sum it
all up — it's pretty damned
rough & rugged but, in spite
of all, I really like it a lot.
It is very healthful & we have
our tents fixed up with windows,
mosquito bars, tables, & floors
so it's not bad at all.

As for the food, it's swell!

It's a lot better than a lotta
stuff I've had to eat at different
fields in the States. I can see
now that I'm gonna put on weight.



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We have an N.C.O. club, Church Services, cookies once a week, a can of gum, 5 candy bars, a can of cigarettes, & a can of fruit juice ^{once} every week.

Wayne Pomeroy will be the first man to fly on a mission as he is already slated to fly as a gunner on another crew. Can't tell you just when, but then that's unimportant anyway.

After we get so many of our missions in we go to an unnameable place for a rest of a week or 10 days. There will



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do almost as we please, rest,
live in hotels, & have a helluva
good time in general.

We can also go swimming
& into the small movie town
when we have time. I'll get you
some souvenirs then send in
to you. I also have some things
and you that I brought along the
way on the trip over here.

How's the love-life coming
Duke? Good, I hope. Don't for-
get to keep your "big brother"
posted on it! I hope you're work-
ing this summer, dragging down



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about twice as much dough as I
am. More power to you but be
smart & sweet 'cause you sure
as hell won't gonna collect my
insurance!! Haha!

Whatever you do, Pals, don't
worry!! I can tell you that I
have no cause or reason I do so
so who should care?! I'm getting
the best of food & having a lotta
fun so if I know you're not
worrying so much it'll help me
march a bit! You know I can
get around so have it up & me!
I don't when I get home again, you
can have the job of looking after



you again. Okay? Thank!

I'm a little sign off &
write but the same things are gonna
be scarce to write about so till
next time —

I Love
You All
Shan

P.S. I still think Beathie is a
damned heel, in spite of
what Margie says!

Sgt. Shan M. Whitacre - 35544927

376th Hvy. Bomb. GP.

514th Bomb. Sqdn.

A.P.O. 681

% P.M., N.Y., N.Y.