

Sat. After.

2:30

9-11-43

Dear Folks:

Surprised to hear from me again
so soon? I did not expect to be
writing again this soon either
but I am "acting queer" for a
few minutes & as we do not
have "enemy territory" just yet, I'll
stop a few lines.

I am in a B-17 today & we are in a bit with
a lot of things of the same type.

I was pilot for a while
carried on radio telephone com-
munications getting passengers
to take off, etc. We have a
somewhat, navigator, pilot,
copilot, radio operator & mechanic
& I am the gunner.

I had to stop here & go up
to the pilot's compartment & take
over the gun and am now back in
cabin & it is 5:30. We eat at
6:00 & boy, am I hungry!

It sure was a wonderful experience today to work in the old B-17. It is in class 26 (most to be flown but was flown in here & could be flown out if necessary. It is pretty well shot up & worn out in general but ok. It was for student radio operator use.

We pretended to be on an actual mission today. Had to be off instructions from control station, took off & changed to regular frequency, sent message such as, "would be sent for a flight, had 'navigator' shoot bearings on Radio Compass & pretend to plot our course, bombarding around Brest Bay Area & we bombed our target, and several 'shootings' were made with guns & on the last, managed to get shot down so as to imitate going thru the radio permission to land & so forth.

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SIOUX FALLS, S. DAK.

I have all a lot of fun,
educational, & interesting.

those old B-17's were real
ships but I'm anxious to see
+ inspect - & possibly fly in
those new B-29's & B-5's
which are now coming out.

I've been smoking my pipe
to the extent that a pack of
cigars has lasted me about 2 days
now. How's that?

I think I'll better mention, Mom,
that I slept very warm

Chow!!

Back again - just morning 9-12-43
 Chow wasn't worth a damn
 + there was hardly any of it so
 4 of us took off across the air
 field + went into amx + ate in
 a mess hall + got some candy,
 cookies, crackers, + jam + fruit
 + took out here. Got back
 about 10 o'clock + went straight
 to bed since I was so tired -
 but I wasn't hungry + still am
 not.

As I was saying yesterday, I
 slept pretty warm the night before
 last but I was colder the night
 all night + we were huddled to
 cover out at 6 am. Same way
 last night + this morning only
 it isn't quite so cold.

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SIOUX FALLS, S. DAK.

We are going to stay in just
a few minutes as I guess the
letter found this party quick.

I got a nice letter from you
yesterday & you mentioned con-
gratulated me on my joining.

Thanks a lot. Your encouragement
all thru school helped me a
lot!!

Yes, we have a class book &
will get it Thursday. That's what those
small pictures were taken for & don't
worry. I'm going to send it home
soon after graduation. I'll also
send those addresses soon, too.

How is football coming, Duke?
I'm not getting what it takes, kiddo.
Use it!! Another thing - have
confidence - not conceit - but

Confidence in yourself +
the team. That is just as
important as being good!!

I hear by the news
when I was back, Dad, that the
allies have quite an interest +
immense fleet now.

Till tomorrow if I have
time —

Paul Shaw...