

SELMAN FIELD  
MONROE, LOUISIANA

Friday

Dear Mom & Orey,

I received Orey's letter yesterday & yours today, & for the first time this week, I have time to write. This is because I am Officer of the Day today & have not been able to go to classes. I sit in an office & so have time to write letters.

We are really busy every minute of the day, all week long. Even last night, when we were supposed to have open post, we had a night classes. There are two night classes tonight & classes after our exam tomorrow, for the whole afternoon.

We flew only one mission this week - on Wednesday. We were supposed to fly on Tuesday, & we went down to the flight line in the morning when it was overcast & waited over an hour for weather information. Finally, the flight was cancelled & later that morning it started to pour. It was the first all day rain since I've been here, & the

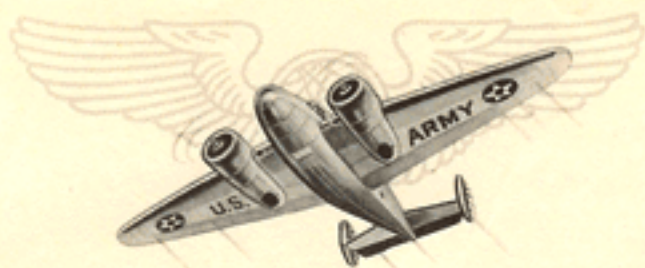
whole field was flooded. Some of us walked around without shoes & socks, & even the officers had their pants rolled up above the knee. We flew Wednesday, though, over to Texas, near Dallas, & everything was all right, although it was still cloudy.

The only reason I forget about Ceil's anniversary & Orey's graduation, was because I didn't have time to think. Pearl even bought a card for Ceil about a week before, but forgot about it & still has it. I meant to tell her about Orey too, but I don't see her very much, & when I do, I forget to mention half of what I planned to. As far as writing to Ceil is concerned, every letter I write is for everyone. I don't have time to write to each one individually.

Well, I'm through with 5 weeks already. It won't be long before I'm through. In another 6 weeks, I'm measured for my uniforms, & in another 10 weeks, I'm through with regular classes. So far, I'm doing O.K. I hope it continues.

How is everything at home? It's damn hot down here, but I guess it's just as hot in New York.

I didn't mention it (or maybe I did) that I kept Dad's memorial. We had to send 100 miles for a glass, but Pearl managed to get it.



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We'll send you more pictures when we take them. So far, we have taken only 2 rolls of film, & one is being developed now.

Yes, you're right about navigation being tough. It's the hardest course the army gives. We don't learn to fly a plane, but sometimes in the air, we take the controls for a while. In combat duty, some navigators act as co-pilots.

Well, that's all the news for now. Give my regards to everyone & write. Pearl sends her love.

Marty