

wednesday 19/6

Dear Mom & Drey,

Sorry I didn't write last week, but this is the first chance I've had in the past week and a half. We have been busy finishing up our flights, & this takes up all our time. Last week the weather was bad here, & there were no celestial flights all week. However, we were scheduled to fly, & re-scheduled 3 times during the week, & finally flew one mission Saturday, getting back about 2 A.M. Sunday morning. We went to South Carolina on that trip, & covered about 1200 miles. Then, we flew our final mission last night, which is an all night mission. We went to Texas, taking off at 8:30 P.M. last night, & getting back about 6 A.M. this morning. Then, after we landed we had to be critiqued immediately, so that we didn't get to our barracks & bed until 8 A.M. Now it's about 11 A.M., & I just got up. We don't have to go to class until 1:00, so I thought I'd take advantage of the time & write to you.

Well, it's all over now, but the shouting. We have completed everything necessary, & what little is left, doesn't count. However, several fellows will probably still be washed back because of their celestial flights, & such a procedure is not extraordinary even in the last week. Last night's mission was

a deciding factor for some, & several who couldn't afford to, failed the mission. You see, your flight ~~of~~ average must be above 70, & it's not easy to keep it so because the highest grade given is 85, & not many of those. Therefore, the final flight averages usually run between 70 & 75. The highest average is never above 77%. (Mine is 75.)

I've gotten all the things necessary for graduation, except the wings & bars, but I guess I can get those now too. I'm all set now, & am hoping for a leave. We are all ready to get home on Sunday, Oct. 17, & I sure hope we are not disappointed.

Paul is fine, & anxiously waiting for next Saturday. How is everything in New York? The weather here is very nice here now. It's very cool, & I never perspire anymore. However, we are still wearing our summer khakis.

Well, that's about all the news there is right now. We hope to be home in about 10 days, but let me hear from you before that time. I'll try to write again, too. I hope that we can get some good food in New York, because the food has gotten worse & worse here, & now we are on field rations.

Paul sends her love, & give my best to Ceil, Al, Grandpa & Grandpa.

Marty