

8-5-43

Dear Folks,

It has been so long since I've written a letter that I hardly know how, when, or where to begin. It will have to be short because you know we G.I.'s are pressed for time, and things aren't much better, as far as time goes, since we came out here.

I will start by saying that I got your letter to-day with Jack's enclosed, both were quite welcome.

Papa, I found out about this pigeon that Jack was telling about. It was your pigeons brother, the

speckled one. If you remember, you didn't like him. Any way he and another one, one that we bought from ~~Ref~~ Helfensteller and settled were home from a 1,000 mile race. It took them quite a while but they made it.

I have been quite lucky up to date. I have only drawn one detail since I've been here, it was a 12 hour guard detail, real easy.

8-6-43

We started our tests this morning to decide whether we are going to be pilots, navigators, or bombardiers, or maybe nothing. They kept us in a fast hustle for about 10 hours taking one test right after another just as fast

as we could write. To morrow we  
take tests where we play with a bunch  
of machines to test coordination, reflexes,  
etc. Its a long hard climb but I  
think that I can make it.

I'll close with a little bit of  
gossip. It is rumor that "Dr."

Buffington is being court martialed.  
Maybe I'll know more about it  
when I write again. Don't look  
for a letter until you see it in the  
mail box. I'll be busy for the next  
few days.

Love,

Joe