



2-16-44

Dear Folpe,

If you don't hear from me again for the next two months don't be surprised. This place is murder, its every bit as bad as Maxwell plus flying, as if either one of them aren't bad enough by themselves. Our day starts at 5:30 A.M. and some times, on off days, it ends at 7:30 at night. Sometimes we have classes on up to 10:00 at night and in two or three weeks when I start night flying there just won't be time for anything. An example of how things run around here. We get up at 5:30 and by 6:10, 40 minutes later we are to have accomplished the following, gotten dressed, made our toilet, marched to the mess hall and eaten, marched back, and ~~fall~~ fallen back out for classes. On alternate days, when we fly first, we get to the flight line at 06:50 and the day ends at 7:30 P.M. when we get out of our last class. After that we eat supper and on some days get go to code, blinker code, and link trainer on up until 11:00. On top of all of this they are unusually strict on discipline and such

publishers as that. Our boots and shoes are always shined, no half way jobs will get it either, fresh uniform on at all times, hair cut once a week, and the room is always to be in inspection order. Besides classes and flying we have a full hour of P.T. and a full hour of drill every day with 5 or sometimes 10 minutes between formations. In those extra seconds we have left over after the changing clothes we are supposed to keep the room dusted and swept. Besides all of this they have started this old 50% washout again. They have finally filled the critical need for pilots that Dec 7, 1941 caused and now they have started taking only the absolute best again. But, as I said before they ~~are~~ are going to ~~them~~ have to get mighty tough to be as tough as I am. ~~2~~

Any, or who ever it was that told me, Benny hasn't gone to California or yet. I got a letter from him today and he is still slanging away at Consolidated. However he is to report to N.T.A.C. March the first. Any also, thanks for all of the letters, candy, and the encouragement and best wishes that I have never acknowledged receiving from you. The Martha Washington especially was swell.

Howdy, and thanks to everyone else for the letters, valentines, cookies, etc. that have also been recieved, enjoyed, and never acknowledged. Don't look for any improvement soon however, They have kept my little twat in a fast hustle ever since I got in the Air Corps, but I'm afraid it ain't seen nothing yet.

This will be all for now and for a long time I'm afraid except for a favor from Papa. The first time you have time go down to 1505 Main Street and purchase me a good, little pocket knife. If Wolf and Klar doesn't have one probably no one will so just ship it. I lost the one that I bought myself just before I came into the Army. I kept it about a year, thats pretty good for me.

Loads o' love,

Joe.