

Sunday evening
November 5, 1944

Dear Mother,

Last week B-17 G 719 was assigned to crew forty one of the 709th Squadron of the 447th Bomb Group of the 8th U.S.A.A.F. — my crew. The ship had been built and checked at a Boeing aircraft factory in the midwest United States and then flown to a staging camp where it was assigned to a combat crew to be flown across the ocean for combat in the E.T.O. At a base somewhere in England the plane was rechecked and modified for combat and then flown to the airfield of the 447th Bomb Group for assignment to an operational combat air crew — mine. After final checks it is now ready for action against the enemy. It's name? Blue Hen Chick.

Today has been a typical November football day — cool, windy and grey. Last evening, and every Saturday, at 1900 EST (English Summer

Time), I listened to a football
broadcast from the States —
Navy — Notre Dame. The AFN
(American Forces Network) broadcasts
regular sports news and the
Stars and Stripes (daily service
paper) and Yank (weekly service
magazine) carry good sports
news — but mostly major
league and little analytical
comment. However these are
very popular features to a
sports minded army.

AFN, Stars and Stripes
and Yank also furnish ample
news and entertainment
even though the quantity
and selection and, of course,
local news are not what
we are used to. The small
English papers furnish further
news and pictures but much
of their content is foreign
to our world and their
comments are ^{on} interparty
squabbles or calls for British
imperialism. Despite all claims
movies are six months old,
or older. As yet I know nothing
of England except of this air
base I call home.

P.S. Last letter received Love,
from you - 10-19-44, mailed. Lee