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Aviation Cadet Santa Ana Army Air Base Santa Ana, California

Friday afternoon August 27, 1943

Dear Dad,

They are to announce our primary schools in an hour but I have already seen my shipping orders — I am going to Phoenix, Arizona — Thunderbird Field II.

I have rather mixed feelings on it all. I don't like the idea of being stuck in the Arizona dessert [sic] and being separated from most of my friends but Thunderbird is the best primary in the country as well as the hardest. It is an army school in contrast to most primarys which are civilian run. I believe that I will fly bi-wing Stearmens. Approximately 100 of G4 are going to Thunderbird but only a couple from Nebraska or Miami. Others are going to King City, Tulari,

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Santa Maria, 29 Palms, Ryan or Santa Rosa.

This afternoon we are to have our graduation ceremonies on the main drill field.

Yesterday we heard an interesting talk by Colonel Hans Adamsun who was lost in the Pacific with Rickenbacker.

Don't send any mail until I let you know my new address.

Oh yes, that new letter heading certainly adds something to Ferris.

As ever,

Lee