

1

United States Army Air Forces

Sunday evening

January 30, 1944

Dear Dad,

At this moment I am seated at a small maple writing desk in the Cadet Day Room writing letters to you, to Shirley and to Julia. At the same time I am hoping to complete a long distance call home to Wilmington.

Last evening I was best man at the wedding of Donald Harold Sites and Wilma Wittenberger. I have been with Hal ever since CTD at Nebraska and we have paled [sic] around together. Both he and the bride are from Boise, Idaho, are alumni of the University of Idaho and are twenty years of age. They were childhood sweethearts and so the

2

moment Mr. Sites decided to take a vacation from his lumber business it was also decided that Mr. and Mrs. Sites and Wilma would come to Pecos and that Hal and Wilma should marry. Present plans are for everyone to remain in Pecos till class 44-C graduates and then to return to Idaho in the family car. But don't worry; I have no definite plans along this line, as yet.

Early this morning the Cadet Area was fleeced - waletts [sic] were taken from pants of nearly everyone. Because of the Cadet Honor Code suspicion centers on some enlisted man, and even more so since a G.I. was apprehended at this same type of job about two months ago. But pay day is tomorrow. I only have about five dollars in my walett [sic] and so I wouldn't have missed it so much but the thief only lifted one pocket - the pocket

3

containing my photo - walett [sic] with my complete address book, pictures and clippings. Maybe it will be thrown aside and found but in case it is forever lost I wish that you would

1. send me names and addresses of Mr. Herring, Wetstein, Baker, Yingst, Dr. Thompson, Dr. Wing, Uncle Marion, Uncle Roger, Aunt Margaret, Grandmother Minker, Daisy, Dr. Johns, Ben, John Curlett, Bill Hyde, Mr. Boykin, Marion Keene, Mrs. Henderer, Mrs. Dexter, Mrs. Lasher, my Christmas card list and any others that you can think of.

2. search for old film negatives and have retakes made up.

3. try to get three or four packs of film for new pictures for use when I get my graduation furlough.

Have you been able to get any new slant about my graduation furlough or transportation home?

4

Last week I contracted to purchase my minimum uniform at the Post Exchange. The total charge will be around \$125.00 out of my \$250.00 uniform allowance, about a third below outside prices. It is all good standard but I will need to add to it quite a bit. You should have some good contacts at home and thus be able to line up some articles of good quality and of fair price.

1. Basic Summer Uniform:

Size 7 1 cap, garrison, khaki

Size 14 2 shirts, khaki cotton, officer's 1 necktie, khaki cotton mohair

Size 28 2 trousers, khaki cotton

2. Trench coat - wait until latter [sic] but it is a combination topcoat - raincoat, regular length, gray. (I may get it here if they can get some on stock).

Size 35 3. a wool blouse of forest green (I am buying one here but it is very lightweight)

Size 9 4. a dozen pair of wool or rayon khaki socks and also of tan plus garters

5. extra winter pinks or greens or summer uniform.

5

Make sure the clothing is all strict government regulation and of good quality and don't let them rope you for the terrifically [sic] high prices they charge. Concentrate your attention on summer clothing, socks and blouse.

Because the planes had to be overhauled last week I didn't fly many hours. I now have fifteen hours and have started formation and instrument flying. I will not fly at night this week as previously scheduled but will instead fly transition, cross country, instruments and formation. Two boys washed out last week by the way.

Of late the weather here has been perfect spring baseball weather. Is the Interstate League going to operate this year; is Delaware Park?

It doesn't look as if my

6

call east will come through tonight. Maybe some future week night would be a better time to call.

As always,

Lee

P.S. One of the planes on the base flys [sic] all mail to El Paso hence the El Paso postmark on my letters.