

Sunday evening
October 29, 1944

Dear Mother,

I am now operational — that is, my crew and I have been checked and found ready for the air war against the axis. But training will continue on days that no bombing mission is scheduled as part of the constant effort to gaining complete mastery of the air for the United Nations.

You all back home are probably wondering just how the airbase of the 447th Bomb Group of the 8th U.S. A.A.F. compares with a typical airbase in the United States. The most striking difference is that here in England there is no fenced off plot of ground reserved for the military — planes, personnel, equipment and buildings are scattered for protection against possible enemy attack. I have to skirt a turnip field to go to the mess hall and a small English pub stands by field headquarters. Barracks are also

different - low long Niessen
huts with bricked up ends.
But the remaining features
of this base are no different
than at any continental U.S.
base. The situation might
be summed up as adequate.
Little lacks such as fresh eggs,
ample lighting or sidewalks
cause most peeves.

As yet I have had no
time to go on pass but from
now on I should be getting
a couple of days a month.
Of course I will make a point
of visiting London and if given
enough time I will see
Edinburgh. I would also like
to see Cambridge and Ipswich.

Love

Lee