

Sunday evening  
November 5, 1944

Dear Mother,

Last week B-17 G 719 was assigned to crew forty one of the 709<sup>th</sup> Squadron of the 447<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group of the 8<sup>th</sup> 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 447<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group for assignment to an operational combat air crew — mine. After final checks it is now ready for action against the enemy. Its 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 <sup>on</sup> 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