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Sunday evening

November 5, 1944

Dear Mother,

Last week B-17G 719 was assigned to crew forty one of the 709'th Squadron of the 447'th Bomb Group of the 8'th 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 air 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'th 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

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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 inter-party 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.

Love,

Lee

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