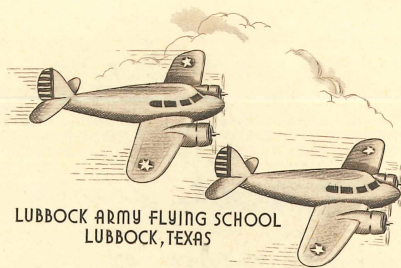


LUBBOCK ARMY FLYING SCHOOL
LUBBOCK, TEXAS



Sunday noon
Oct. 11, 1942

Hello folks!

Let me add to my conglomeration of writing paper by sending some of my new station.

We left Goodfellow Friday about noon, arriving by chartered bus in Lubbock about 8 Friday night! All of us, who came, chipped in and chartered the bus as the easiest and most convenient way of coming. It's only around 200 miles (cost us about \$3.75 a piece) but we were awfully slow getting here. We traveled observing the new speed laws and twice we had to stop and change tires! One of the dual rear wheels blew out two times. The first time the retread came off and the second was just a plain old fashioned blow out. The poor bus driver was fit to be tied! - He said they used to throw away tires that were in the condition their "best" ones are now.

We spent Friday night in a hotel and reported to the field yesterday morning - and what a surprise we've had. - After the brow beating we took in basic - we've all been sorta cowering waiting for the bull whip to smack us - and instead - they're killing us with kindness!

That's no kidding either. - We were assigned barracks, equipment & stuff yesterday - and then of all things turned loose on "open post"! This morning we went to the flight line, met our instructors, learned some of the ropes, - started the engines, - then came back to dinner! After dinner we got "open post" again! Really - it's unbelievable. It seems so strange to be treated like "white folk"! - Yesterday we were called to an assembly and the law was laid down to us as to what we would be expected to do - and listen to some of it. We only get open post on Wed. night & weekends our first month here (we're not even dodgers!) or most any time we are free enough to go to town! - Our second month - well - we fly every other night but we can go to town when-ever we aren't flying! Our ground school is finished the first month. They know how hard a schedule we have to keep, so won't bother us with too many military angles, etc. - all the time we can get off for our own recreation, well, more power to us - and all that stuff!

Of course - I know our schedule is hard and we won't have any time to enjoy leisure - but just the same - you can't imagine what it does to one's mental attitude not to be "hollered at" and gigged everytime you turn around. I always have said you could get more out of people this way. - Maybe they figure we have enough military in us now so that they can afford to let up. - Besides, we're pretty damn

close to being an officer now! - Just two months to go! - There are rumors out that they are trying to speed the graduation of 42-K so as to take place on Dec. 7, - a sorta celebration of our entry into the war! - Nothing authentic but very possible.

It's almost fun to get transferred now. - Each step we go we run into people we haven't been with in a long time. - This time I'm back with Bob Walling & Bill Kyle, the two West Pointers I was with in Chickasha! (The ones I went ~~to~~ with up to Wichita?) There's a new set up for them. They had their Basic at Randolph and were to return to the Point and graduate as per schedule next June - but now - they finish with us - return in Dec. to West Point, and after a months intensified training, they get their commissions in the Air Force. - Are they glad!

I saw my instructor at Goodfellow just before ~~he~~ I left Friday. - He told me he had quit and was going with the Ferry Command. He had been awaiting a commission for 6 months and as his papers were lost - he was still a civilian and this other job suited him better. - He is to ferry heavy twin engine planes - he said he was just trying to keep pace with his students!

These twin engine planes are the nuts! - Once I can start the engines, I have no qualms about flying it - but learning to start the engines! - Ye, Gods. - you've never seen so many gadgets to pull and push in your life! - Prop pitch, manifold pressure,

hydraulic systems! - They've got everything we've ever had before plus lots of new things, ~~for~~ plus a lot of the old things working mechanically that we used to have to work by hand before, so it's like learning again. - There are so many things to do and remember you actually have a list that lights up on the panel! We have two different type ships to fly and after 4 hrs. - we are expected to take them up without an instructor and land them from either the right or left hand seat. - Oh, yes - we have finished our solo flying - we fly two together now. - Pilot & Co pilot! - In other words - we fly twice as much now - but only ~~for~~ by the time we are acting as pilot. - From here on I will probably get to go to 4 engine school for heavy bombers - or go somewhere as an instructor for awhile. - That's what usually happens ~~for~~ to those who graduate from this school. My instructor seems to be nice - but time will tell. - He says we already know how to fly - his just here to keep us from breaking our necks while learning the "whims" of twin engines!

Did you get the class-book from Goodfellow? I thought it an exceptionally good one - that is, of those I've seen. -

I started to call you last night, but the fellows persuaded me to go to a foot-ball game instead. Texas Tech is located here in Lubbock so we ought to see some good games. Last night they played Oklahoma A+M and got beat. - What a game. - I think even Geo. Wash. - plays better than either of those

two did last night! - And that's saying a lot! All I got out of it was a renewal of my cold which I'd just succeeded in throwing off, damn it. - Oh, well. - What's the difference - colds or hay fever - I ain't win'!

And speaking of cold - Have you got the furnace fixed yet? - I hope so, cause I imagine it gets real chilly up there at nights. - Here too I guess. - Some man in town the other night told me "Lubbock sure is cold in the winter. Ain't nothing between here and the north pole 'cept a fence, and that blows down!" - What do you know?

Well. - I'd better stop now, but I may call you before the day is over, yet! -

Bye now and lots of Love,
Frank

My new address - once more

A/c _____ 42 K

Barrack 12-D-3 (Imp)

L A F S ("this stands for
Lubbock Army Flying School) - I know
you were curious!
Lubbock Texas

I forgot - I have a complete physical, like I had at Kelly, - coming up this week. Keep your fingers crossed for me!