

March 26<sup>th</sup>. 1944

Dear George,

Spent another swell weekend with Fran. We meant to go to Long Beach, but decided it was too expensive. I don't know when I'll get paid again, as I received a partial payment two weeks ago, pending my shipping out.

The weather is great, and we managed to get some sun.

Now that the rainy season seems to be ended, the weather continues perfect day in and day out.

I started to tell you a little about this new squadron I'm in, so I guess now would be a good time to give you some more dope about it.

180 is shunned by all other cadets on the field. It is

supposed to be the 8 ball squadron.  
no laziness, or lack of vitality as  
it were. Well, now that I'm part  
of it, I know more about the facts.  
A lot of washed out cadets, are  
sent back here to wait for their  
new classification in cadets. That  
is, a washed out pilot, may be  
a qualified navigator or bombardier.  
There are several washed out  
bombardiers here, and I'm getting  
some first hand info.

Many of these men were  
only 3 days to 2 weeks away  
from their bars. Now they're bitter  
and reticent, and trying to get  
them to be eager is out of the  
question. Mostly, they're older  
service men that the average  
cadet, so I'm in my element,

more or less. We catch a lot of details, and unnecessary crap, but we manage O.K. so I'm not complaining. It could be a lot worse.

Just received your 3/21 letter, and am glad to know that all goes well. You'll get your stripes so don't worry. I just heard from my old Bronx Pal Jerry, and was surprised to learn that he's a lieutenant. You'll get your break too, just be patient.

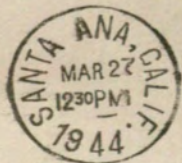
Believe me George, I wish we could Team up on the handball courts once more. We will too, just as soon as this fracas ends. I'm afraid I'll never get the chance to play again while I'm

in this squadron. I didn't like  
the court anyway. (Sour grapes)

I sure had a scare,  
learning about the 30 thousand or  
so cadets who were eliminated  
and sent to the ground forces. Since  
first learning of this deal though,  
I have ascertained that we, in  
this phase of cadets are safe. If  
I wash out after Gunnery, I'll  
take a shellacking. I'll either be  
back in the Infantry, or an aerial  
gunner. Rough! -

Fran and I are both  
well, and hope you like the  
snaps I'm enclosing. Just as with  
the other pictures I sent you, they  
appear cloudy or something. I blame  
it on the Maly film we're using.  
With that handshake always in mind  
Bob

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Free

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