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To: Mrs. H. K. Kelly
498 Belle Ave.
Lakewood, Ohio
U. S. A.

JAN 17 1945

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VIA AIR MAIL

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Mrs. R. H. Kelly 0-315094 JAN 17 1945

Dear Folks:

Dec 20, 1944

Herman's going nuts. Mad, positive.
Positive mad! "Paris by Christmas"
that's the word among the junior
supermen of Deutschland. Yurak!

The whole thing makes me mad!

Where were the characters with the photo
recon.? Nuts! Well, it's one of those
things - can't tell me if Jerry didn't
have this thing planned down to a **T**.
Caught us with our plans down.

"Paris by Xmas" Nuts!

I've got my enlarger made
now & tonight I'm printing up
a mess of shots I've taken here & there.
I'm leaving to use the camera now.
I got a wonderful batch of shots

2] from the ~~the~~ roll I just developed +
now have hanging up to dry. I'll
send you a couple of prints from
this latest roll. It was taken
before we took off for a recent
raid.

I'm sending along a shot
I had taken a while ago of me
and my model B-17. I sent
you a contact print of it. ³

The pictures are a little dense
in the center, you'll notice. That
is because I don't have a suitable
way of diffusing the light enough.
I have a frosted ~~one~~ piece of
perspex glass to diffuse light now. I'll
have to get something better.
I had the developer a little too

warm in the latest film — 3] 4
I put scratches all over it.
That really makes me sore. Pure
carelessness on my part — It
has a lot of un-ruined pictures,
the best roll I've made thus
far.

We went up the other day + there
were lots of beautiful vapor trails.
I shot a lot of pictures with Kodachrome.
Blue sky - white vapor trails.
Beautiful. I shot a few pictures
up when we landed too. I've got
the other roll to ~~develop~~ expose +
then I'll mail them to Eastman to
be developed + then sent on to you.

1) I want you to take the money
necessary for ~~the~~ Kadachoni
rolls. ~~Get~~ that money you get is
my allotment. That is fair enough,
for the rolls are sure expensive.

Dec. 21, 1944

The German Radio is giving us the
old needle tonite. "We can advance
in bad weather, but the Americans
can't," say they. Aw Nuts.

The two pictures of me under
the wing waiting for the mission to
start came out good, especially one
of them, except for the stupid
scratches. Anyway, that is me at the
latest - complete with hair comb I
guess I sure have gone to the dogs
without my mamma to keep
after me!

Notice the difference in the picture 15
taken of me with the model B-17 before
I figured out how to use the camera &
the one taken less than a week ago before
take-off ~~of~~ time. I think I've figured
it out now - camera, I mean. I'll
make up a few extra of the good ones &
mail 'em to you later.

The group picture - all scratched
up - is the guys standing around shooting
the breeze before the same raid.
From left to right is: Joe Tarr;
Al Dougherty; Russ Carrier [back to
Camera]; Art Jones. The guy in the
background is Manning, but he's
behind Carrier, so ya can't see him!

ANSWERS to QUESTIONS FROM

INTERESTED READERS:

1) Joe Tarr is 22. He's about 7028

6) Months older than I am. Several of the guys are older than he. Dougherty is the old man at 26. Currier is 16, the youngest. The Jones is 19 too.

2) Mr. Erikson, I'm sorry to say, is way off. If he was right I'd almost be home now!

3) Bugs flew over when we did. It was just luck that we are at the same base, tho.

4) I'm not thinner, I think. I still weigh 135.

5) English are friendly enough & the Americans are quite popular. But you have to break the ice with them.

6) "Time" that Pete & Paul sent hasn't arrived. I'll write them when it comes.

7) Ted had 35 combat hours. I have 3 or 4 times as much now.

8) No, ~~we~~ we haven't a mustache

contest. It's a good idea. 12
9) Packages arrive in A-1 condition. One had a squashed tube of toothpaste ^{ON THE} ^{SHAVE} ^{COGNAC} in it, that was all.

10) I'm working on the Scottish ^{and} ^{my} ^{bro} Shawl. I'll get one when I go to Scotland in a couple of weeks.

11) I have about 5 pairs of "Long John" underwear. I'd die of cold & damp if I ever took 'em off. I sleep in them & they're much warmer than pajamas.

Ahah! I should pick one of these sweet little Hi School girls for a wife! I hadn't thought of those tender young characters. I could abscond with all their money, being so unworried as they are. Huh!



ME LOOKING OVER
CROF.

The Stars & Stripes printed an article by some doctor who obtained

2) Hi altitude combat flying produced temporary sterility. That worried Wally, who expects to accomplish great things when he get home. Wally was relieved to read the next day's issue ~~which~~. Some flight surgeon said it was all a horrible lie. Gave no something to tell him about.

Wally's a cocksure little guy - a lot like Whitley.

Saw today in the Stars + Stripes that certain universities will have various programs to assist returning vets. One will assign a faculty member to act as counselor + guide to returning student servicemen. That would be nice, except that most ~~soldiers~~ soldiers & we known could tell most college profs. quite a few things about life in general!



What's this stuff, Dave,
about mailing records? I
don't mean that. I just
want you to buy them &
put 'em in my collection.

You wrote something about
not being able to get one
in the mail.

Incidentally, I wonder if
you could send me a
few old magazines - *Lifes*,
Sat. Eve. Post, *Colliers*,
etc. There was a *Life* out
recently as a letter to G. I.'s
that was very interesting.

Well, it's very late & I

want very much to fly ²
tomorrow. I get mad every
time I think of those German
characters pushing american
characters around.

The Germans in their English
broadcast always sign off
with: "This is Jerry calling"
[KUNST-ROSEMAN] signing off +
to all you Tommies & Yanks
we wish the best of luck. "
Good Nite" Boy oh boy what
gals!

Well, good night

Love,

Bob

