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April 16, 1943

Dear Mom:

I have been reading over your last letter trying to find something to write about. ~~For~~ one thing Jimmy can wear that jacket if he wants to, but I don't see why he would want to, it was pretty badly torn when we were in South Carolina and I was the one to sew it.

Ever since I got out of school I have been trying to get a leave but every where I go I get the same answers, either "why didn't you get on at your last station, we can't give you one here" or "We can't give you one here, but you can get one at your next station". Now the time has just about run out beginning next Sunday we will be confined to the post and processing. The mess d.t.s will begin.

② We got our new ship yesterday, boy is it a beauty, we have been trying to decide on a name for it but the enlisted men on the crew are off on passes. The best I could do in the way of a furlough was to get a ~~three~~ day pass (the first I ever had). There other officers and I went over to Omaha to observe the flood and buy some summer clothes. I bought a short + pair of pants made out of buff colored (I guess that's what you would call it) gabardine. I ordered a blouse and another pair of pants out of the same material. according to a letter we got from the store we may not get the blouse. It sure will make a beautiful uniform if I do get it. Some of the officers in the Squadron already have them.

(3) I was thinking that if we go through Bangor, Maine on our way across (we'll fly) You and ~~to~~ Mrs Williams could come up. If its possible I will send you a wire and some money. Don't count on it because in the first place we may not come that way and if we do and the weather is right we will probably only stay long enough to refuel.

I haven't seen Jock in ~~a~~ almost a month now he has been at Casper, Wyoming as far as I know. I was down there overnight about a week ago but I didn't see him, I'm begining to think he might have gone home. I looked for him in the mess hall at meal time and if Jock Williams is not in the mess hall at meal time he is either dead or at some other

(10) place eating.

I haven't got much more to write about except that I really glad that we are at last going some where where we can do something besides train. After two years of training its getting so it hurts. I'm getting anxious to see if I'm as good as I think I am. We will have to undergo another month of training when we get to the combat area but I'll bet it will mean a whole lot more then

Dont get nervous if you get a telegram it will be from me.

Love  
Charlie

P.S I'm sending an envelope I got from a fellow in the 43rd. Save it for