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454452

Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. Loops
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Washington, D.C.
U.S.A.

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

Mr. Frank W. Loops
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Sept. 13, 1943
(Date)

Belleville, Mo.

I wrote you all I knew yesterday in a "regular letter" so don't expect a heck of a lot tonight!

First off I'll repeat, as you will be sure to know, that two days ago when I came back from my mission I found a package awaiting me! - It was postmarked Aug. 17th - and lo & behold - it was my camera! - Thanks are awful lot for sending it - and didn't it make good time? After seeing that you "sweating out" the mails every day now for my sake! - Already I've taken pictures of some of the boys, our tent & slit trench, and a couple of "Sweet Sue" our plane. - Of course you will have to wait to see pictures of me - for we aren't allowed to send pictures revealing any type aircraft! -

Tomorrow marks another red letter day for me. - I'm to go out as "first" pilot on a combat mission making my first one as such! - I'm taking our own crew, Capt. Buschert isn't flying with me!

I'm strictly in my own, and I don't mind confessing I'm experiencing qualms in my "mid-riff" akin to those of my first mission! A half million dollars of airplane & I'm an no mean responsibility! - Capt. Buschert is making last operating officer - and as such he has no regular crew. I'm a good change of continuing on as first pilot with our old crew! - Keep your fingers crossed all the time!

Love, love & love,
Frank

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