

1020th A.A.F. Base Unit  
Croydon Arms, Hotel  
Miami Beach, Fla.

Sept. 8, 1944

Hello Ch,

and how are ye old, kid? But you thought I wasn't going to write, didn't you? - Hell, I've been a busy man.

For nearly every day since I arrived here - we've been busy being examined in one way or another - and personally I think some one is nuts! - Whoever could think up some of those questions on the psychological exams would have to be nuts! -

And my physical - I breezed thru that easier than ever before - even with a head full of water from swimming! - Had to go back on a recheck resulting from the water - but it only consisted of a look to see what it looked like without the Atlantic ocean up there, too!

2  
And now - by dent of my perfect health,  
I'm in the hospital! - For observation (no.  
not the results of the psychiatrist's exam.)  
It seems my chest x-ray showed signs of  
a lung infection at one time, but  
that it had also healed itself, too. -  
This hospitalization is only to make  
certain as to what actually took place  
in the lungs - and that it is properly  
healed. - It's all new to me - but if such  
is the case - guess I shouldn't kick. I'd  
sure hate to have trouble of that nature.  
In the meantime while I'm here - they  
are rechecking everything - all my organs,  
apparently. - Doc says when I get out of  
here I will be assured I'm tip top in  
every slightest way. - Also - this is  
supposed to be a "rest" for me whether  
I like it or not! Won't be bad for a  
few days - but I can see where it's  
gonna be tiresome if they drag it

out. - a swell chance to catch up on my reading & writing however.

You should have been with me on my trip down! - Didn't have much fun with the conductor - but there were lots of others. - a flight surgeon who shared my compartment, a naval officer with some screwy tales; - and two nice looking gals who sat across the aisle!

The girls, by the way, - were very nice - and I even had a couple of dates with them after getting home. - They were both reservationists for Eastern Airlines and had worked in the Nash offices. - One was transferred down here to the Miami office and the other just came for a few days for company. - So now we have Airlines connections, too. If you ever need any tickets contact Miss Adeline Schackman of Eastern Reservations and tell her you are my brother! - ! - !

41

Miami is quite the place. - An awful lot of hotels - of which the Army & Navy have most of them. Everything is expensive as the devil. and if you go into either a night club or restaurant - you are lucky to come out with your "arm". The restaurants are all "a la carte" and the clubs have a \$1.50 to \$2.00 min. / person! - It ain't hay. - There are a few bars in "our" hotels - but they only serve "set ups" - since the governor of Okla. dug up that old Army law about liquor on posts - a person has to have his own bottle.

Got a letter from Sister telling me about the Doctor's visit to Mama. - It's a shame she had to be let down so, after having built her hopes up. Am glad Daddy isn't to go back to work either. There's no sense in it.

Don't know anymore as to what or where I'll go. Seems like my original

5!  
guess is still good - as most every 26  
pilot I know has gone to Louisiana.

Have me - same address - and I'll  
stop now so as to get this in the  
mail.

Joe