

20 January 1946

Dear Folks:

I am now trying to learn to type using the touch system, and I think that I'm doing fairly well. However its rough getting used to not looking at the keyboard. So forgive me if I make too many mistakes. Since receiving the money order from you. Also, I haven't heard from Bauer yet.

Well, I've finally heard some good news, in fact, two items of good news. The first is that all men with two and one half years service will be out of the theatre by the thirtieth of April. This means that we will probably leave sometime near the beginning of the month. The second item is that I'm being given a chief clerks job in message center, which means that I will work days. This is supposed to occur the beginning of the week. I really like the prospect of working days again, because I was getting to the point where I couldn't get any sleep, and I was losing my appetite, and I was starting to lose weight. So this job is coming through just in time. With regard to my coming home, the enclosed sheet will explain how I expect to get home. I've underlined the portion which pertains to me.

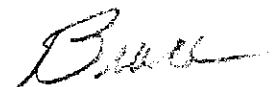
Last night the base adjutant asked me to drive him to a town about fourteen miles from the base, and I did so, picking him up at ten-thirty. I really enjoyed myself. The country is very pretty, and the road was fairly good. Also, the fact that this was the first time that I have driven since June, made it much more enjoyable.

I just had a cup of coffee, and knocked off for a while to have a bull-session with the boys. All the fellows are talking about going home, awwhat they are going to do when they get home. I realize that this letter does not make too much sense, but as I told you, I'm trying to learn to type by touch.

The weather has been very cold lately and the ground is all covered with a very pretty hoar frost. Its amazing to me how it can be freezing and have a heavy fog at the same time. But then again, this is England and anything seems to go here. Boy, will I ever be glad to leave this country.

Enough for now, I'm going to wall it a day---- so

Love-



HEADQUARTERS
BASE AIR DEPOT AREA
AIR SERVICE COMMAND
UNITED STATES STRATEGIC AIR FORCES IN EUROPE
APO 635

C/E/F

AAF 590

17 January 1946

370.01

SUBJECT: Redeployment of Personnel.

TO : Chief All Staff Sections and Commanding Officer's All Units, Base Air Depot Area, ASC, US Strategic Air Forces in Europe, AAF 590, APO 635, US Army.

The following teletype from Commanding General, US Air Forces in Europe is quoted for your information and immediate dissemination to all troops under your command, as outlined in paragraph 11: A, B, C below:

"COMPLETE DISSEMINATION OF THE FOLLOWING WILL BE MADE TO ALL PERSONNEL UNDER YOUR COMMAND BY FASTEST POSSIBLE MEANS IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT OF THIS CABLE. THE WAR DEPARTMENT HAS ADVISED THIS THEATER OF THE FOLLOWING FINAL PROGRAM FOR DEMOBILIZATION.

1. EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, THE FOLLOWING WILL GOVERN THE DEMOBILIZATION OF THE ARMY UNTIL 30 JUNE 1946:

A. BY 30 APRIL 1946, THE FOLLOWING WILL BE SEPARATED FROM THE ARMY OR ON BOARD SHIP RETURNING HOME: (1) ENLISTED MEN (EXCEPT VOLUNTEERS) WITH 45 POINTS AS OF 2 SEPTEMBER 1945 OR WITH 30 MONTHS SERVICE AS OF 30 APRIL 1946. (2) ALL ENLISTED WAC PERSONNEL (EXCEPT VOLUNTEERS) WITH 24 MONTHS SERVICE AS OF 30 APRIL 1946. (3) ALL MALE OFFICERS (EXCEPT REGULAR ARMY, VOLUNTEERS AND MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OFFICERS) WITH 67 POINTS AS OF 2 SEPTEMBER 1945 OR WITH 45 MONTHS SERVICE AS OF 30 APRIL 1946. (4) ALL WAC OFFICERS (EXCEPT VOLUNTEERS) WITH 36 MONTHS SERVICE AS OF 30 APRIL 1946.

B. BY 30 JUNE 1946, THE FOLLOWING WILL BE SEPARATED FROM THE ARMY OR ON BOARD SHIP RETURNING HOME: (1) ALL ENLISTED MEN (EXCEPT VOLUNTEERS) WITH 40 POINTS AS OF 2 SEPTEMBER 1945 OR WITH 24 MONTHS SERVICE AS OF 30 JUNE 1946. (2) ALL MALE OFFICERS (EXCEPT REGULAR ARMY, VOLUNTEERS, AND MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OFFICERS) WITH 65 POINTS AS OF 2 SEPTEMBER 1945 OR WITH 42 MONTHS SERVICE AS OF 30 JUNE 1946. (3) SEPARATE INSTRUCTIONS COVERING THE DISCHARGE OF WAC PERSONNEL (OFFICERS AND ENLISTED) FOR THE PERIOD AFTER 30 APRIL WILL BE ISSUED BY THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

C. MEDICAL CORPS OFFICERS WILL BE DEMOBILIZED BY SEPARATE CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

D. AS SOON AS TABULATION OF THE DESIRES OF OFFICERS ACCORDING TO CATEGORY AS PRESCRIBED IN WAR DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR 366, 1945, HAS BEEN MADE, FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS ON THEIR SEPARATION WILL FOLLOW.

E. IT IS EMPHASIZED THAT THE RELEASE OF ALL PERSONNEL WILL FOLLOW THE PRINCIPLES OF PRIORITY OF RELEASE FOR THOSE WITH HIGHEST POINTS AND LONGEST LENGTH OF SERVICE.

2. COMPUTATION OF LENGTH OF SERVICE WILL INCLUDE TOTAL ACTIVE COMMISSIONED AND ENLISTED HONORABLE SERVICE, CONTINUOUS OR INTERRUPTED, SINCE 16 SEPTEMBER 1940. TIME LOST UNDER ARTICLE OF WAR