



Fort Sill, Oklahoma

Monday Evening
8-2-43

Dear May,

Received your letter today so I sat right down to fill out this application. The only thing I was in doubt about was my mailing address so I put it Etowah. You see I will leave here about the 21st so I thought it would be best to put my home address but if it should be my address here, you might change it. I sure hope I get in as I have always wanted to get in the Mason's. I also appreciate your interest in getting me the application and everything.

Fort Sill is really a fine place Mayan, you really should see it. We have an air port at the Fort where all these small "Grasshopper" are located and it sure is an unbelievable sight. On Sunday they are all grounded and there is some 350 or 400 planes all lined up. You have never seen so many planes in one place. If the Air Force has as many planes in every base as the Art.

"We don't need spurs or boots and we fly too low for 'chutes; We're the eyes of the Artillery" — so goes the song of the new flying artillery known as "Grasshopper pilots." These tiny flivvers of the air have taken the place of the observation balloon of first World War fame. Flying back and forth behind battery positions, these aerial observers watch the targets and correct errors in firing. Especially trained for observation, these commissioned and non-com flyers have no connection with the Army Air Force, but are products of the Field Artillery.

has here will sure must have a hell of a
big air force.

Gene has probably told you about the
Fort from my letters so I won't take up a
lot of your time with the details. Although
I am sure glad to have been stationed here
as the life is like it would be in some resort.
Being Section leader I have a private
room so I really have it made. No K.P.
or extra details so you can see that I
don't miss it at all. I doubt if you can
make this out as I am sitting on the
side of my bed and I can't do much good.

By the way we have been having
quite a spell with the heat here as it
got up to 118° in the shade. I don't find
it too hard though as I do no physical
exertion so naturally it isn't hard to take.

All the boys here at Camp have
to crawl ~~up~~ under that 13" machine gun
fire for 75 yards and they say it is suff
as hell. I don't know if I will do it
while I am here but I will no doubt
before I go across.

I am going to Dallas Texas this
weekend with a fellow that lives down there
so I should have a good cheap time. He
has promised me one of these Texas beauties
and I don't mean a "long horn steer."

It is a good chance for me to see Texas as
I have never been there so I don't want
to pass up the opportunity.

As for these Okla gals, I don't

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think any to much of them. Most of the
girl are these Indian squaws and I am
not that hard up yet. I was lucky
that I got in with a gal from Cal. whose
father is a Capt, so I have plenty to
do in my spare time. If you play the
right angles you can take these girls out
Dutch as they realize the income of a poor
soldier.

Well May, thanks again for
sending me the petition and let me
know if any thing comes up. Write
when you have a chance, or nothing
else better to do, as I enjoy hearing from
you.

Owen