

Robert L. Stone to Jacob Stone and Beatrice Stone

Childress, Texas, 29 August 1943.

Autograph letter signed, 2 pages + envelope.

[Draft Created by Crowdsourcing]

Sunday

Dear Dad and Bee —

Here it is Sunday again and I have a chance to bring you up to date on all the latest from Shangri-La.

The thermos bottle arrived this week and I can't thank you enough for it. I'm the envy of my flight because it's such a treat to have a swallow of something cold while on a long bombing or navigation mission. Many, many thanks! Also, thanks for sending me my class yearbook. It was fun reading it, but that all seems so long ago that it almost seems unreal. Things have changed so, since then.

Had a tough week on the line since I flew double missions three days. You see one mission goes out at 12:15 and returns at about 3:00 and then if you're on the operations board you go out again at 3:15 until 5:45. When you fly navigation, once a week, that's about a four hour mission in itself.

This week they took quite a toll on our class down on the line. Five kids were washed out on their check-rides. Their ground school grades were good and their bombing wasn't too bad and yet out they go. Nobody seems

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to know why but they're sure cracking down. We seem to live from day to day down on the line and you're never sure of your status.

My bombing was O.K. this week but it only takes one bad mission to put you up for an elimination ride. There's no human element to this game — it's all cut and dried!

To make things more bearable for us they've scheduled a parade for this afternoon. It seems that we have too much free time on Sunday so that they're remedying that, by having a parade.

Can't think of any more now. Thanks for your letters. Keep 'em up.

Lots of love —

Bobby

P.S. [*struck*: Ki] Give my best to O'ma and explain that I haven't had time to write. She's written me several times.

[envelope]

A/C <text loss> 12120188

Class 43-15

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