

Friday.

HOTEL

Tuller



45

ON  
GRAND CIRCUS PARK

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Dear Mum,

I got home from the base early today, and Bar is downstairs doing her laundry; so I have a few minutes in which to write to tell you what is happening and that your 'middle sized' still loves you very much.

Bar probably told you we had our room here at the Hughes' house on Church Place in Trenton. It is a nice room ~~that~~ and we were lucky to get it the first day; but it costs \$14 per week and we don't get kitchen privileges; so now that we have time we are looking around for something else. Out at the base they help us find places. The main difficulty is I don't know how long we are going to be here.



I eat at the base for lunch and  
early breakfast (I get up at 645,  
catch a 700 bus to get me out  
on time) It's about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles  
to the base and about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile  
to the center of town. Bar walks in  
for lunch and then we walk in  
together for supper. They have one  
small-townish restaurant, but  
it's not too bad. It is sort of a  
lonely existence for poor Bar, but  
she doesn't complain at all, and I am  
just in heaven having her here.

The base itself is nice - lovely  
skating rink with music, swimming  
pool, big gym etc.; but the  
routine is terrible. We get  
treated like cadets, master here -  
master there - grand school (example:  
combat lectures by men never in  
combat) It's really sad. So far  
I have just been checking in  
but Monday I start work. We do.



very little flying - a few instruments  
hope one about all. As yet I haven't  
flown. All I want to fly

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at this place is 12 hours so I can  
get my back flight pay.

write and I have applied  
for F4U's (Corsairs) as fighter  
bomber pilots. I don't think  
will get them, but I am hoping.  
The Corsair is much faster and  
more exciting than the fact that  
it will be more interesting flying  
a new plane. If I get F4U's  
I probably won't go to Sanford  
but I will get East Coast.  
If I stay in VT will probably go  
to Ansonia and then Sanford. In any  
case I should be in the States  
for 5 months anyway.

Bar has returned from the  
laundrying and is now sitting at this



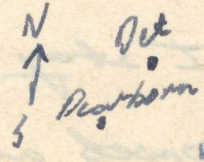
table making a puzzle. Tomorrow she is going out to check on a new place to build.

This is the coldest spot in the world. Yesterday it snowed a lot and then again a little today. I imagine in the summer it is beautiful at Grosser Ile. There are a lot of lovely houses out there, plenty of places to yacht and swim etc.

Yesterday I had a day off and Mitt, Bob, and I went to Detroit. Saw a <sup>wore</sup> show, dined and came out - good fun.

Trenton is about 14 miles from

Retroit - map.



Some of the fellows

live at Monroe and Wyandotte but they have cars. This is the best place (not counting Grosser Ile itself) for a walker. (Spur)



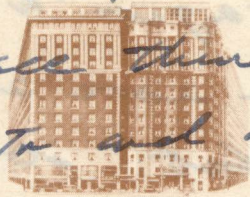
The last day at Norfolk  
Uncle Sam, Stu Jr, & Ann called  
up. We ~~couldn't~~ see them as we  
were leaving. Stu Jr and Ann  
are at Portsmouth Va., not  
Va. beach. The sail time was  
still at Norfolk so I went  
down to the pier, only to find  
uncle Sam was all wet - Tim's  
ship had sailed.

We don't have any ration  
points so could you please  
send Ben's book. We don't  
need 'em here but if we  
move we may.

The address to write to  
here is c/o GHWB Box 10  
NAS - 60222 FL. That is  
quicker than FPO NYC. and  
safer than 2004 Church Place  
so please use that. In case  
we move the Navy will forward  
from there.

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ON GRAND CIRCLE PARK

DETROIT, MICHIGAN



Our landlady has an electric  
massager which I love - I have  
had a sore shoulder for a week  
now, but it's well on its way to  
recovery. Ben is in good health, and  
is ~~a~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~perfect~~ <sup>is</sup> with. It ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> such  
fun to come home and find her  
here - she always is in a good  
humor and when worryin' Pop  
appears on the scene she always  
cheers him up.

Give our love to Gango  
Gango. ~~We~~ <sup>we</sup> are anxious to  
know about the roosters next  
door - how did Gango ~~begin~~ go  
over with Mr. Grace.

Think I shall stop and  
catch a quick bath before  
dinner -

Think love to you Mum,  
already it seems like ages since  
I've seen you - your ever loving,  
P.S. It's now raining! What weather!



Dear Mum,

Monday

We got your 1<sup>st</sup> letter today - It arrived at the station. In case you didn't get the new address, it is Box 10 N.A.S. Bar and I roared over the worrying. It is true, I do worry foolishly, ~~but~~ No sooner had we finished your letter than I started worrying again, for Bar's ration book and the letters never did arrive. Also did you get my letter asking you to mail the values presents out. If not, I'll send you the addresses again.

We have been having such a time trying to find a more reasonable place to live. Every day I inquire at the base and Bar looks in town. Today at noon I walked out to a place on Grosvenor St, only to find it full. ~~We~~<sup>We</sup> would be perfectly satisfied with the place here if we didn't pay so much money. \$18 per week with no kitchen privileges runs into a sizeable sum in the end. Our landlady is funny - nice and friendly and I feel fine having Bar with her all day, but she is so odd. She thinks she is being so patriotic having those 2 rooms for rent, when actually she is making a mint on us. She even thinks she's making



a huge sacrifice when she lets Bar & I wash  
the laundry. If she were a nasty soul  
I'd report her to the OPA, and have her  
in some trouble. Maybe something else  
will turn up soon. West & McCarty are  
living way on the other side of Detroit. They  
have Mac's car so can manage it alright.  
If I could buy a good car for a  
fair price I would do it, I believe,  
but that too is quite difficult even here  
in the center of the auto industry.

I flew yesterday for the first  
time. The weather has been terrible  
but late yesterday was clear and  
today the sun came out and it  
really was nice. The snow started  
melting though so it was rather sloppy.

Tonorrow Bar & I are going out  
to the base to see National Velvet.

Then Wed. we may go to a U20  
dance on Grosse Ile. They have  
dances Wed and Sunday. There are

no decent places to eat in town and  
the base doesn't permit wives except  
and nites; ~~the~~ 20 Bar hasn't been  
eating too well. I usually get up at  
630 - hit chike out in time for breakfast  
at BOQ before unstriving at the  
squadron at 745.



This week we have mostly ground school and swimming. 2 hours of swim per AM and 1 in the PM.

The pool is tremendous and really wonderful but I have borders on me too much side. The ground school is everything from engines to etiquette and is mostly dull - some is interesting though.

I applied for a station book today and tomorrow Ben goes to the board to get it over in Wyandotte, next town. Ben is quite the wife-  
launders, irons, cleans well etc. The only thing she hasn't tried is cooking, but perhaps she'll get a chance at that soon.

Well Mum, ~~the~~ we are one off for the Trenton Restaurant for dinner -  
Cute Ben is finished dressing so I better stop and get ready to go.  
I am so very lucky having my little "bieber" here with me. In spite of being a woman open things, even if we had us roof over our heads I would still be happy just having Ben here.  
I shall try not burden her with



my worrying, Mum - I assure you  
all my love to you and Dad  
and give Garry a kiss. From us  
both. We're so happy she is so much  
improved.

Much love,  
P.P.

P.S. I won't worry but I will  
"sweat in" Bar's book and those letters.



Dear Mum and Dad,

W5 Monday - 2/26/

Time seems to be whipping  
right by, but still no orders. I am inclined  
to believe will be here a few more weeks yet.  
VT 152 Fours soon, but we are not going with  
them it seems, in spite of Commodore Martin's  
endorsements. They go from here right to  
Zantford Maine. Where my orders will take  
me I do not know. There are rumors going  
around that a big Nite Torpedo outfit  
is forming - may get stuck in that.  
I wouldn't like it too much, since I find  
it enough work flying of a carrier during  
the day. Worse than the nite part though is  
the possibility that it may form at  
Boca Chica, way down in the Florida Keys  
where you can't take wives. That would  
be too much to take. I am hoping I won't  
get a nite group. There's a possibility  
on the other hand that I may get in  
a CVB torpedo squadron. That means a  
squadron to go aboard the new super  
carrier (CVB) They are bigger than the  
Wasp class by quite a bit. That would be  
a perfect deal for me if I could get it.



So far I have heard no more about my transfer to Fighter bombers. I still am anxious to make the switch. The F4U is a much more versatile plane - fast as blazes, (actually one of the fastest in the world). In VFB we would carry bombs - glide bombing like in a TBF, then after dropping them ~~we~~ I'd have a good speedy fighter. Also there is no responsibility for anyone else's life since the Corsair is a single seater. With me I both applied for VFB, but so far we have heard nothing. If I get VFB I'll go in a squadron to go aboard a ship, same as in VT.

Yesterday was a clear day and I flew two TBF hops. It was sort of fun to get back to flying alone, though I must confess I was a bit nervous.

Today is a dreary rainy one. All the snow has disappeared leaving a muddy sea of slush. The field is fogged in and it looks as if I'll get to go home early this afternoon. We still are going to classes and athletics - Navigation, Biology, Medical lectures etc.



The package arrived. The Gorbau present  
was from Mr. Olsen - a <sup>silver</sup> serving spoon.  
Milt likes his knife - Lou Grab is  
completely out of the picture!!

Am still looking for a car - if I can  
get a good one I think it would be smart  
to do it - save money on travelling, and  
besides that it would be so convenient.  
I wouldn't buy one from a dealer, as  
they usually rob you, but if I could find  
one directly from a private owner it  
would be O.K.

Am going down to check on my  
union tax today - It comes to around \$150  
thanks to a \$1500 serviceman's deduction.

Yesterday was my day off - Bar and I  
stayed in the whole day - just rested  
and read the paper and Newsweek.

Comin P. ty's Fruit cake arrived  
today - It was mailed to the Post last  
Fall.

I don't that line about Reddog  
and Doty - I am so happy for Red. He  
is such a wonderful guy.

Bar had a little cold a few days  
ago but she is now completely cured.



She is really a good cook now. The other  
day we had fancy 2 hard eggs - He is  
good on vegetables, too. Yesterday we  
had sausage, beets, and mashed potatoes  
a real good lunch. She always has the  
milk box full of milk - we drink about  
3 1/2 - 4 quarts a day, and that counts  
my eating lunch out here

Dad, I really do want to see  
Fighting Lady soon - sounds wonderful  
to me.

Must get going to Herology,  
chase now, wish much love to Buck,  
John, Nancy, Mrs. St. L. when you write,  
and to your folks -

your ever loving,

Pop