

18 May '43

Dear Jim -

It may be some time before I am able to finish this letter, but I'm keep trying and see if I can't bring you up to date on the activities around here. And if I can't tell you everything I'll at least hit some of the high spots. It's been so long since I've written you I hardly know where to start but I guess I'd better tell you something of my past days in Lincoln and the trip up here to begin with. I hope I haven't already told you all this and now will be boring you.

About precisely a week before we left to come here we were taken to the Nebraska National Guard Rifle range on the North Platte River some 28 miles from Lincoln. I guess you know that the air forces uses the American made British Lee-Enfield which we call the M1917 a some such thing. The rifle seems longer and to my way of thinking has a much better battle sight on it than the Springfield. However, the respective demerits of each are hardly interesting now even though we had 30 rounds to fire and really gave us a lot of fun. I made 116 out of 150 and rather well compared with anything else shot that day since we had no marksmen present.

However, when we got there Monday afternoon it was cold - ready to rain - and very discouraging. The really nice thing though ~~was~~ the trees which lined the river and the numerous ducks and geese around. In fact (while I was sleeping) "Orson" Wells saw a flock of snow geese in a nearby field.