

25 Sept 1944

Dear Mother and Dad.

Hiels from North Africa! Tarrying here just momentarily enroute to destination. Mission perfected in less time than it would take to tell and as effortless on my part as the winking of an eye. Personally I hope that I never get any nearer to heaven than the upper limits of our atmosphere. It is the most inspirational experience of my life and I say this without reservations. It would appear that I have had many 'the' moments but this experience tops them all.

In somewhat of a contrast I suffered my first shock this afternoon upon contact with this new order of civilization; a surprise as profound and effective as would be a physical blow upon the head. The shock was more than just an amusing surprise - it truthfully exposed my lack of actual and true knowledge of the customs and habits of these new peoples. I have never been so forcefully impressed with the fact that there is something drastically wrong with this old world of ours to allow or better to have allowed such a horrible state of society to have developed as I find here. These poor creatures have been forced to degenerate much on the same order as the American Indian and certain negro groups that I have found so stupidly suppressed in the southern part of the United States. I am quite confident that these people could never have developed those fine civilizations of antiquity if they were in the condition then as I find them now - degenerate parasites! Just from a cursory and superficial inspection and analysis you readily see that they have fallen victims to our so call super race of intellects. If this war is to correct (and I don't know how) all irregularities of mankind and his society are sure that merely the proper disposition of Herr Hitler and Japan will be far from adequate to make this world what you would call civilized or human. I dare not think of what conditions of equality I will find as I move further on toward my destination. Frankly I would rather see the former diseased native than today's healthy