

H.Q. 84th Bomb. Group
Hunter Field,
Savannah, Ga.
November 24, 1942

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
Dept. Physical Education
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Dr. Allen,

I was very happy to receive your letter in answer to my card from O.C.S. Since then I was commissioned and assigned to the 84th Bomb. Group as Physical Training officer.

When I arrived at this base I found physical training in a drastic state. Lack of fields, poor ground and only one period a day available for Athletics. The men were doing alternate running and walking on the hard roads and use of the obstacle course. The program was distasteful and consequently the morale was pretty low.

Since I started a well rounded program of competitive athletics and a required program of training that is interesting because of its variety and still is conditioning, it is remarkable to note the increasing interest and enthusiasm among all the men and officers.

It's funny "Doc" whenever I hit the nail on the head I have to write and tell you about it as it always relates back to the basketball class at K.U. or some material I prepared from "Better Basketball!"

It looked like rain this afternoon, and I took all the officers into the Gym that was recently made very attractive, especially for basketball. The Commanding officer appeared for the physical training class for the first time since I've been here, and after the hour of a combination of calisthenics, sprinting, basketball relays, "machinegunning the receiver," crows and crains" etc. then breaking off into team games, he seemed to be pretty sold on the new set-up. He liked the idea of getting a special dressing room for officers and building some treating tables especially for flying officers whose muscles become so hypertensed while flying. I intend to train some enlisted men to do the treating. The men who need P.T. the most are the flying officers, and they have been the hardest ones to get out. The attendance has been increasing every day and with the new training room, I know they will be eager to come out. In addition I hope to get scales, keep a bulletin board showing the results