

I have not received a Rebounds for sometime, but I imagine you are so busy getting ready for the basketball season that it's publication has been delayed. Tell everyone hello for me.
Dec. 2, 1944

Dear Dr. Allen,

At 2:30 we leave by bus for Ardmore AAF where we play our 4th basketball game of the season. So far we haven't even been pressed. Some of the officer players are flying over, it being only a 40 mile hop. Two more have quit the squad, so my chances improve as the season progresses--and elsewhere it has hardly begun. The Army-Navy game comes on when we leave so unless someone brings along a portable radio I'll just have to read about it in the papers. I have played in the last three games.

I am enclosing a PILOT, yesterday's edition. My contributions are checked. Next week the editor, Sgt. Dana Blocker, will be on furlough so Sgt. Max Stokesberry and I will have more work to do. The basketball team will leave Monday afternoon for Denton to play North Texas State Teachers so one "writing" day will be interrupted. Also, classes are going to be started Monday in radio code and aircraft identification. So, if I know what is best for me, I had better get in them. Pre-flight will be rough for many wash out for failure to pass courses. Santa Ana, Calif., pre-flight and Maxwell Field, Alabam, pre-flight have been closed and only SAACC will remain open. So Joe Starke and I may be together yet. Only the Central AAF Training Command, thus, will remain. They will probably close the Eastern and Western Commands Fields.

I went before the CO, Capt. Lagather, to talk about my bond purchase in the 6th War Loan Drive. Since I take out a \$25 bond each month I was more than doing my share. He is the finest CO I will have in the army. He got us lined out on these jobs, did away with a lot of chicken stuff. He referees the basketball games, is a phys. ed. grad. from Minn.

The Schmidt boy, who collided on his motorcycle with the mule, died yesterday morning of a blood clot on the brain. The boys in the trainee section gave \$225 to Mrs. Schmidt, \$25 to buy flowers. I knew Duane quite well since he was in my flight; he was a fine fellow. One mercenary, tactless, dumb trainee rushed to Mrs. Schmidt's home to tell her when Duane died, to ask if he could accompany the body back to Reynolds, Ill. In that way he could miss shipping to SAACC Sunday, and stay here where he is living in town with his wife. Mrs. Schmidt is an expectant mother. Yesterday morning a field bus ran into a mule on the highway, turned over in the ditch. Some one should be sued, and hard, for the range law does not apply to Grayson County. No one was hurt in the bus accident.

I received a fine letter from Jerry Richard who is in the infantry at Camp Hood, Texas. Should we have a basketball trip down south that way I might work a pass with it and visit Jerry. Our section first sergeant said we WOULD NOT get six day Christmas furloughs unless we lived at Denison or Sherman, even if we had private transportation home. Always a chance for a change in ruling, but not likely. It has been pretty cool the past few days, and it is rather dark yet when I wake up about 7:30. I'll get to see what the 2nd air force chow tastes like at Ardmore tonight. With the navy at McAllester the last basketball trip their food was little better, but 90% of their enlisted personell are colored. The niggers load shells, do other manual labor on the reservation, an ammunition dump, seven miles square. They surely have two fine recreation halls there, one for the navy and one for the marines. At present we have basketball trips scheduled for Denton, Texas; Ft. Worth AAF; Paris Jr. College, Paris Texas; Harmon Gen. Hosptl, Longview, Texas; Norman NAS; Red River Ordnance, Texarkana, Texas; Waco & Blackland AAF, Waco, Texas. Also, if I am here long enough, I will make trips to Frederick Okla, North A, *Paridony* at Dallas, and perhaps games with TCU, SMU, Baylor, or some other college team. I plan to go to the Cotton Bowl game between Okla. A&M and TCU at Dallas New Years. I have already seen TCU when they were trounced by Oklahoma U. So the Aggies, with Bob Fennimore, should triumph. I might take a three day pass--I'm entitled to one anyday--and go to three day basketball tourney at Okla. City. It is just too much work to hitch hike to Kansas for only three days. The last time back it took me 20 hours to make the 450 odd miles back. One time I made it in only 13. You just never can tell, but it's kind of uncomfortable waiting when you have bad luck these winter days.

BOB BOCK *Bob Bock*