

SQUADRON ~~XXXXXX~~ 369 ~~XX~~ A/C Number 185 Letter J Date 14 February, 1945

Bomb Load 6 x 500
4 x M-17 H.E.

Position in Formation 40 C
Low

Time Took Off 08:05 Time Landed _____

1. FFI NEWS to be shown in. Yes No
If BITCHING hold crew and fill out special form in detail.

			X		
X	X	X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X	X	X
X	X			X	X

Last checked after night attack

CIDE: Give Rank and Initials

Friendly A/C in distress:
(Give position, time, altitude, full details)
If lost, state whether U.S.A., E/A action, accident or undetermined cause)

*Hawkeye's log, p. 180
checked out at 1:30*

- Capt. B. B. Lewis P
- 2nd Lt. R. S. Whitelaw CP
- 2nd Lt. L. A. Harrison N
- F/O. J. R. Sicard B
- Sgt. H. F. McChesney RO
- T/Sgt. J. F. Standlee E
- Sgt. A. S. Lubjacky BT
- Sgt. F. L. McDonough KG
- Sgt. L. Nahmias TG

2. TARGET ATTACKED: (PFV or Visual)

Primary: _____ Time: _____
Secondary: _____ Heading: _____
Last Resort: _____ Height: _____
T.O. _____
(Circle One)
Turn off target: _____

3. Number of BOMBS dropped on target: Jettisoned: Returned: abortive:

4. Observed RESULTS OF BOMBING: (For this plane or others)

Own Bombs: _____ An. Nichols: Yes No

Other Bombing: _____ Number and type: _____

5. Any PHOTOGRAPHS taken: Vertical? was camera turned on _____
Hand _____ Movie _____

6. WEATHER: _____
WHAT MESSAGES REC'D FROM BUCKEYE? _____

7. CONDENSATION TRAILS: _____

8. FLAK: Encountered on way out, at target and on way home.

Time	Place	Height of A/C	Type (light, heavy), intensity, moderate or slight	Color of Bursts	Location of Bursts in relation to A/C	Accuracy

14/2/45

About
~~at~~ 1152, Buckeye said the clouds were up to 28,000, breaking abruptly
on approach to target. advised not trying to go ~~underneath~~
underneath.

~~right~~ FIGHTER SUPPORT: Excellent fighter support picked up at Dutch
Coast at 1045 hours. gave close support to target and ~~xxxx~~ were on
hand when low squadron was attacked. good support all the way out.

A/C in Distress: An unidentified fighter seen to go down at 1358 hours at approx-
imately 5025N-0620E.

A B-17 blew up in the Frankfurt area about 1430 hours. Plane believed from
3rd Division, "J" in square-390th Grp.

One B-24 was seen to crash 5 miles south of Ostend.

A plane, type unknown, was seen going down one mile south of Koblenz--hit by flak--
one engine on fire. No chutes.

Four chutes seen near the ground at 1452 hours at approximately 5025N-~~0620E~~
0620E. Reported by two crews.

Our A/C in Distress:

1233 hours, in Preschen - Chemnitz area.
Our A/C 185-J, pilot Lewis, left formation shortly after fighter attack. One chute
reported (may not have been from Lewis' A/C). Pilot Hathaway, A/C 914-B, says
Lewis did a 180 and headed east.

Our A/C landing away: A/C 908-J, pilot Higginbotham, landed at B-53.

A/C 975-F, pilot Henley, landed at B-53.

A/C 713-K, pilot Carakostas, left formation at 1516 hours between Liege and
Brussels, *reporting to land he intended to land.*

HEADQUARTERS 306th BOMBARDMENT GROUP
Office of the Intelligence Officer
United States Forces

APO 557
14 February, 1945

SUBJECT: Intelligence Narrative
Mission: Dresden, Germany

TO : Commanding Officer, 306th Bombardment Group (H)

1. Narrative

The 306th Group flew 39 A/C including 4 PFF A/C and 3 spares as 40th "C". Route: Left Felixstowe-1007; Dutch coast 5240N x 0438E, 1045 hours; IP 5053N x 1223E, 1206 hours; target Dresden, 1218 hours; from 10 to 15 miles north of course between 1250°E and 1000°E; Ostend 1557 hours; English coast 5150N x 0115E, 1633; base 1720.

The low squadron followed lead over Dresden but failed to drop. Made 130 degree turn to left, taking I.P. northeast of target, dropping at 1230 hours on heading of 239 degrees. 5018N x 1253E, 1258 hours; 2 miles south of Plauen 1314; 5019N x 1135E, 1327; 5040N x 0912E, 1402; 5023N x 0859E, 1411; then substantially on course to Ostend, 1615; 5 miles south of Clacton, 1653; base 1736.

Buckeye said the clouds were up to 28,000, breaking abruptly on approach to target. Advised not trying to go underneath.

All P.F.F. equipment worked satisfactorily.

2. Fighter Opposition and Fighter Support

At 1233, low squadron, after a second run on target, was flying alone in area between Dresden and Chemnitz. One A/C 916-N, pilot McKahan #2 of low element, was straggling, when 3 F.W. 190's in line abreast closed from 5 or 6 o'clock level. As tail gunner opened fire, at 600 yards, F.W.'s broke line abreast formation, one flying high, other two below. High F.W. flew directly over McKahan's A/C and attacked 466-G, pilot Carder, #3 in low element, this A/C receiving serious damage. The other two F.W.'s broke off to the right, one attacking 814-G, pilot Sanderscock, #6 in lead element, damaging this A/C severely, and wounding two crew members. The other, closed to within 100 yards of lead A/C of high element, A/C 297-N, pilot Wood, and is claimed as destroyed by Wood's top turret gunner. F.W.'s had this for only one pass, as they were immediately bounced by P-51 escort. Several crews, including 297-N report P-51's knocked down the F.W. which attacked Carder's A/C.

Our A/C 185-J, pilot Lewis, #3 in high element, did not return, and may have borne brunt of attack reported by Wood. Fighter support was close and good.

3. A.A. Gun Fire

None at target. Total damages to our A/C 2 slight. Range inaccurate tracking north of Kassel, at Chemnitz, North of Frankfurt, over front lines.

4. Bombing

The 306th as 40th "C" bombed Dresden PFF. Each squadron made its own run, lead dropping at 1218 on a heading of 66 degrees, high at 1219, heading 62 degrees. Low failed to pick up blip on first sighting, and made a second run on practically a reciprocal heading, dropping at 1230, 239 degrees. Photos show no strikes, 8 to 9/10 cloud cover, very faint ground detail at bombs away, probably not plottable.



TEXAS CZECH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

ČESKÉ STOPY

Czech Footprints

Quarterly Publication of the

Texas Czech Genealogical Society

Volume 5

March 2005

Number 1

Czech Americans' Military Legacy



Travis Urbanek - Iraq



Alfred Lubojacky - WWII



Albert Vojtech Franek - WWI

Podpora

BENEVOLENCE



Lidskost

HUMANITY



Česká



Část

ROČNÍK 93 ČÍSLO 22

Uředni orgán SPJST ★ Založené rok 1897

Back to the Homeland

By Connie and Everett Kaminsky

On February 14, 1945, a B-17-G Flying Fortress was hit by enemy aircraft fire while on a raid over Dresden. The pilot, Captain Boylston Lewis, tried to make it to the Russian front but, as the plane filled with smoke, it became obvious that the crew would have to bail out. The plane exploded right before it hit the ground near the village of Hridelec in Czechoslovakia, and the crew were considered MIA by our government.

After VE-Day, one by one they straggled home, released from German POW camps. Except for one, Sgt. Alfred "Buddy" Lubojacky, the 21-year-old ball turret gunner and the uncle of SPJST Lodge 28, East Bernard Sales Representatives, Everett and Glenn Kaminsky. His family never knew his fate. Although his status eventually was changed to KIA, his mother, Louise, went to her grave believing that, since he spoke Czech, he had settled in Czechoslovakia, suffering from amnesia.

In 2000, his niece, Barbara Neal, recently retired from the FBI, redoubled previous efforts to try to find out what had happened to Buddy. She interviewed surviving crew members

and the family members of those who were deceased, and she learned that some believed Buddy had jumped; others were not sure. The family did learn the details of that hellish flight and what his final moments were like, and that brought some closure to his surviving siblings.

Then, in January 2005, through a coincidence, Barbara learned about a Czech citizen, Milos Podzimck, who had become obsessed with the B-17, particularly Buddy's plane. She contacted him and learned that he had located a Nazi document proving that Buddy, badly wounded and with his parachute only half opened, had been found dead and his body removed. We still do not know where he is buried, but after 60 years, the family finally knows his fate.

Milos told Barbara that the Czech Republic was honoring the crews of all the crashed English and American bombers by building memorials at the sites of the wreckage. He invited the families to attend the dedication ceremony, scheduled for May 8, 2005.

Thus it was that on May 5, twenty-four family members, spouses and friends began the long journey "back to the homeland". The family members were Buddy's brother, Walter Lubojacky; sister, Ann Mikeska; cousins, Robert Franek and Edna Kundel; nephew, Everett Kaminsky; niece, Barbara Neal; and great nieces and nephews, Misty and Dawn Neal,

Shawna Sandel, and Clint and Cody Mikeska. The two surviving crew members, radio operator Sgt. Hardir McChesney and tail gunner Sgt. Leon Nahmias, physically were not able to attend; however, we were joined by Jim Whitelaw, grandson of the co-pilot, Lt. Robert Whitelaw who had died last November.

The dedication ceremony was very impressive. Czech soldiers stood at attention at each side of the monument, and a live band played both the Czech and the American anthems and "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." The mayor—an official who is the equivalent of our Congressman—a Czech Army officer, and an Airman attached to the American Embassy spoke. Walter Lubojacky spoke on behalf of the family. Flowers were laid at the base of the monument by the officials and family, including, of course, a yellow rose. From this small village of Hridelec, approximately 400 people gathered in the cold and intermittent rain. From the very young to the very old, they turned out to honor those brave men who helped in their liberation.

Afterward, we drove to Lazen Belahrad to attend the dedication of wing of their museum dedicated to the history and crew of this airplane. Milos had put together a large exhibition, a result of his many years of research. We saw much of the wreckage that had been hidden by the



LEFT PHOTO: From left to right: Walter Lubojacky, Everett Kaminsky, Misty Neal, Dawn Neal, Barbara Neal, Edna Kundel, Ann Mikeska, Clint Mikeska, Shawna Sandel, Cody Mikeska. Not pictured



Česká Část



Uředni orgán SPJST ★ Založené rok 1897

1. červen 2005

and the family members of those who were deceased, and she learned that some believed Buddy had jumped; others were not sure. The family did learn the details of that hellish flight and what his final moments were like, and that brought some closure to his surviving siblings.

Then, in January 2005, through a coincidence, Barbara learned about a Czech citizen, Milos Podzimek, who had become obsessed with the B-17, particularly Buddy's plane. She contacted him and learned that he had located a Nazi document proving that Buddy, badly wounded and with his parachute only half opened, had been found dead and his body removed. We still do not know where he is buried, but after 60 years, the family finally knows his fate.

Milos told Barbara that the Czech Republic was honoring the crews of all the crashed English and American bombers by building memorials at the sites of the wreckage. He invited the families to attend the dedication ceremony, scheduled for May 8, 2005.

Thus it was that on May 5, twenty-four family members, spouses and friends began the long journey "back to the homeland". The family members were Buddy's brother, Walter Lubojacky; sister, Ann Mikeska; cousins, Robert Franek and Edna Kundel; nephew, Everett Kaminsky; niece, Barbara Neal; and great nieces and nephews, Misty and Dawn Neal,

Shawna Sandel, and Clint and Cody Mikeska. The two surviving crew members, radio operator Sgt. Hardin McChesney and tail gunner Sgt. Leon Nahmias, physically were not able to attend; however, we were joined by Jim Whitelaw, grandson of the co-pilot, Lt. Robert Whitelaw, who had died last November.

The dedication ceremony was very impressive. Czech soldiers stood at attention at each side of the monument, and a live band played both the Czech and the American anthems and "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." The mayor—an official who is the equivalent of our Congressman—a Czech Army officer, and an Airman attached to the American Embassy spoke. Walter Lubojacky spoke on behalf of the family. Flowers were laid at the base of the monument by the officials and family, including, of course, a yellow rose. From this small village of Hridelec, approximately 400 people gathered in the cold and intermittent rain. From the very young to the very old, they turned out to honor those brave men who helped in their liberation.

Afterward, we drove to Lazne Belahrad to attend the dedication of a wing of their museum dedicated to the history and crew of this airplane. Milos had put together a large exhibition, a result of his many years of research. We saw much of the wreckage that had been hidden by the

villagers to keep the Nazis from gathering it for scrap. There were pictures, letters, and other memorabilia. The museum was packed with so many visitors that the family was invited to come back later to take pictures because the crowd made it almost impossible during the actual event.

After the museum visit, we were the guests of the Mayor for a dinner at a very fine restaurant. There were many toasts, much laughter, and some tears. The evening ended with a concert by a Czech swing band, held in the beautifully ornate music hall.

We had begun our tour of the Czech Republic on Saturday, May 7 with a visit to Prague, surely one of the most interesting cities in the world. Everywhere you look is art and beauty—Prague Castle, St. Vitus Cathedral, the Charles Bridge, and so much more. Then on Monday and Tuesday, we toured the countryside and enjoyed the different beauty we saw there. Colorful quaint villages nestled in the valleys of the mountains, containing neatly tended homes with their lace curtains and flower boxes. The fields were awash with acres of the yellow flowers of the rapeseed plant, reminiscent of the daffodil scene from Dr. Zhivago. The purpose of this leg of the trip was to visit the villages of the family's origins. We went to several churches and cemeteries looking for, and find-



LEFT PHOTO: From left to right: Walter Lubojacky, Everett Kaminsky, Misty Neal, Dawn Neal, Barbara Neal, Edna Kundel, Ann Mikeska, Clint Mikeska, Shawna Sandel, Cody Mikeska. Not pictured is Robert Franek.

RIGHT PHOTO: Czech soldiers stand at attention during the dedication ceremony honoring the crews of crashed English and American bombers during WWII.



ing, familiar names. Even the graves were beautiful—no artificial flowers there, but planted flower beds, dominated by colorful pansies. We attended a short organ recital at one of the most beautiful churches we have ever seen, with paintings on the ceilings and walls and very elaborate decoration. Pope John Paul II visited this church in 1985 and presented it with a very rare golden rose award.

A highlight for many was a visit to the Texas Museum in Lithnov. This interesting place is dedicated to the Czechs who settled in Texas, showing how they lived, and offering much genealogical information.

A very special treat was a private dinner and dance, featuring the Veselanka band, which has toured Texas several times. What fun to polka and waltz in the country where our grandparents danced, and to the same music many of us had heard all of our lives. Other features of our tour were a dinner cruise on the Vltava River, a water and light show accompanied by music, and a visit to the salt mines in Poland with a stop at the church built in honor of Pope John Paul II in Wadowice, his home town. We also toured a glass factory, a distillery and a brewery and were allowed to sample the products at the latter two.

And, we will not soon forget the trek up a steep hill to a rustic chalet restaurant where we were treated to their special rotisserie chicken, roasting before our eyes in an open fireplace. Again an evening filled with fun, music and good food. That is where we were made citizens of The Wallachian Kingdom and presented with authentic-looking passports by the jovial costumed proprietor. We ended with a quick tour of Vienna, which left us wanting more, and an

unexpected extra day in Paris due to a missed plane connection.

Fabrygel Tours, along with their European associates, Mobas Travels, did a yeoman's job in arranging this very extensive tour with very short notice.

—SPJST—

Kolache-Klobase Festival to feature three-band concert

This is the 15th year for the annual Czech Kolache-Klobase Festival scheduled for Saturday, June 11, 2005, at Riverside Hall in East Bernard, Texas. This event brings people together to enjoy good music, good food and to celebrate ethnic heritage and culture.

Beginning at 10:30 a.m. and continuing nonstop until 8:30 p.m., this year's festival again features a first-rate lineup of entertainers. This year's entertainers include Vrazel Polka Band, Bobby Jones Czech Band, Red Ravens, Chris Rybak, Texas Sound Czech Band and the Czechaholics. This year, for the first time, there will be three bands featured on the stage at one time so that dancers and listeners can enjoy a giant concert by three of the best polka bands in the state of Texas. Two sets of dancers are also on the program this year—the dancers and performers from East Bernard Dance and Tumbling and students from Keller Academy of Performing Arts.

Festival admission remains at \$6 per person with children age 12 and under free. The admission fee covers all entertainment and music provided by bands and entertainers in the hall

and outdoors in the pavilion.

Six massive water fans will cool the pavilion to provide a more comfortable setting for dancers and spectators. In addition, this year, a mesh canopy will cover a large area in front of the pavilion to protect festival visitors from the heat of the June sun. Arts and crafts booths will be located both inside and outside the hall. Crafts and goods of every kind will be available for sale. This is a good opportunity to shop for beautiful crystal and ethnic souvenirs from the Czech Republic as well as all types of hand-crafted items, jewelry and clothing. The cakewalk returns this year providing an opportunity to win a delicious cake to take home and enjoy.

This year, there will again be entertainment for the younger set. Kid games and activities will keep the youngsters occupied. They will also enjoy a performance at 1 p.m. by students from East Bernard Dance and Tumbling. East Bernard Dance and Tumbling is under the direction and choreography of Tina Dorotik. Czech-costumed students from the Keller Academy of Performing Arts of East Bernard will also perform some typical Czech folk dances at 4:30 p.m. The Academy is under the direction and choreography of Tanya Keller.

A home-cooked plate lunch will be served featuring sausage, barbecue chicken, sauerkraut, and other trimmings. The sausage and chicken will be prepared on site the morning of the festival assuring a fresh-cooked meal. Serving will begin at 11 a.m. Drive thru plates to go will again be offered from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Meal tickets are available at several local businesses. Advance meal tickets for drive thru plates are encouraged but not required. Festival admission will not be charged for drive thru plate customers. Of course, there will be hundreds of kolaches for sale throughout the day. As in prior years, hamburgers and sausage boats will be available in the afternoon.

A great list of prizes highlights the

Czech Cultural Calendar

Czech Films -

Last Wednesday of Each Month

Czech films—shown at the Czech Heritage Society Library, 4117 Willowband, Houston on the last Wednesday night of every month. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the films! If you have any questions, call the CHS Library (713) 349-0500; or (866) 293-22443.

June 5

Czech Heritage Day Fund Raiser—at the

Heritage Cultural Center, LaGrange for construction of the new Czech Heritage Library and Archives Museum.

July 21 - 23

Texas Czech Genealogical Society (TCGS) Conference: They Came - We Seek—at the Caldwell Civic and Visitor Center, 103 Highway 21W, Caldwell, Texas. Sessions for every level of genealogy; knowledgeable speakers; book room with research material; help with Czech transla-

**Texas Czech
Genealogical Society**

Website: tcgs.org

It is a yeoman's job in arranging this extensive tour with very short notice.

—SPJST—

Kolache-Klobase Festival to feature three-band concert

This is the 15th year for the annual Czech Kolache-Klobase Festival scheduled for Saturday, June 11, 2005, at Riverside Hall in East Bernard, Texas. This event brings people together to enjoy good music, good food and to celebrate ethnic heritage and culture.

Beginning at 10:30 a.m. and continuing nonstop until 8:30 p.m., this year's festival again features a first-class lineup of entertainers. This year's entertainers include Vrazel Polka Band, Bobby Jones Czech Band, Red Ravens, Chris Rybak, Texas Sound Czech Band and the Czecholics. This year, for the first time, there will be three bands featured on the stage at one time so that dancers and listeners can enjoy a live concert by three of the best polka bands in the state of Texas. Two sets of dancers are also on the program this year - the dancers and performers from East Bernard Dance and Tumbling and students from Keller Academy of Performing Arts. Festival admission remains at \$6 per person with children age 12 and under free. The admission fee covers entertainment and music provided by bands and entertainers in the hall

tators. In addition, this year a mesh canopy will cover a large area in front of the pavilion to protect festival visitors from the heat of the June sun. Arts and crafts booths will be located both inside and outside the hall. Crafts and goods of every kind will be available for sale. This is a good opportunity to shop for beautiful crystal and ethnic souvenirs from the Czech Republic as well as all types of hand-crafted items, jewelry and clothing. The cakewalk returns this year providing an opportunity to win a delicious cake to take home and enjoy.

This year, there will again be entertainment for the younger set. Kid games and activities will keep the youngsters occupied. They will also enjoy a performance at 1 p.m. by students from East Bernard Dance and Tumbling. East Bernard Dance and Tumbling is under the direction and choreography of Tina Dorotik. Czech-costumed students from the Keller Academy of Performing Arts of East Bernard will also perform some typical Czech folk dances at 4:30 p.m. The Academy is under the direction and choreography of Tanya Keller.

A home-cooked plate lunch will be served featuring sausage, barbecue chicken, sauerkraut, and other trimmings. The sausage and chicken will be prepared on site the morning of the festival assuring a fresh-cooked meal. Serving will begin at 11 a.m. Drive thru plates to go will again be offered from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Meal tickets are available at several local businesses. Advance meal tickets for drive thru plates are encouraged but not required. Festival admission will not be charged for drive thru plate customers. Of course, there will be hundreds of kolaches for sale throughout the day. As in prior years, hamburgers and sausage boats will be available in the afternoon.

A great list of prizes highlights the

from each KJT Society member and from various local businesses.

The Kolache-Klobase Festival, in its 15th year provides fun and entertainment for the entire family. The Festival Committee welcomes and encourages the wearing of Czech costumes to add a festive atmosphere and to further promote the preservation and celebration of ethnic heritage. The P.O.L.K. of A. are also urged to attend in their "red and whites" and to join in the spirit of fun and appreciation of the happy sounds of polka and waltz music. A flag tribute is scheduled at 3 p.m., followed by a grand march featuring the Czech and festive costumes on parade.

For information about game or arts and crafts booths, call (979) 335-4827. For general information and band schedules, call (979) 335-7907. Visit the festival website at www.kkfest.com for further information.

—SPJST—

8-Day Southern Caribbean Cruise

on the "Destiny" (Carnival Cruise Lines)

Leaving October 30

Cabins start at

\$486.38 per person

(Cruise only. Does not include airfare)

Deposit of \$250 due June 15

Seay Travel

Marilyn Milan-Seay

seaytravel@nc.rr.com

(877) 488-7329

Country Western Dances
Every Fourth Sunday

SPJST Lodge 88

Houston

1435 Beall

Houston, Texas 77008

June 26, 2005

Wild River Band

3 to 7 p.m.

\$7 tickets

Members, guests, friends,
and families invited.

\$1 draft beer

We are a non-smoking facility.
Outdoor smoking area available.

Calendar

Heritage Cultural Center, LaGrange for instruction of the new Czech Heritage Library and Archives Museum.

July 21 - 23

Texas Czech Genealogical Society (TCGS) Conference: They Came - We Took - at the Caldwell Civic and Visitor Center, 103 Highway 21W, Caldwell, Texas. Sessions for every level of genealogy; knowledgeable speakers; book room with research material; help with Czech translations; beautiful decorations; delicious meals; and outstanding entertainment. Fees vary for single day attendance to the three-day session and pre- and post-registration date of June 15. For pre- and post-registration deadline costs, payment, etc., contact Charlene Hurta, 1231 CR 1A, Angleton, Texas 77515; or (979) 3-0348; fhurta@brazosport.edu; or visit TCGS website www.tczgs.org.

—SPJST—

Texas Czech Genealogical Society

Website: tczgs.org

Promoting the study of the genealogy of the particular group of people known as "Texas Czechs"



For membership:
Sylvia Laznovsky
(972) 878-3091

~~The article is TAB source 3108~~

Cover Story

WWII Cold-Case Mystery Nears Closure

By Barbara Poythress Neal

~~bp_neal@earthlink.net~~ email: *Barb.Poy.Neal@gmail.com*
cellphone ~~348-629-3814~~ *435-655-1500*

As children, all of us visiting Grandma and Grandpa's house near Needville, in Fort Bend County, Texas, were well acquainted with their photo on the piano of my "Uncle Buddy" - Alfred Stanley Lubojacky. He was young and handsome, in the uniform of the U.S. Army Air Corps in World War II. My mom and all of Buddy's other siblings kept alive Buddy's story. He was the ball-turret gunner on a B-17 that was attacked by German fighters on Valentine's Day 1945. All the crewmembers had to parachute before the plane's fuel tanks exploded from flames on board.

Ironically, they parachuted near the northern edge of Czechoslovakia -- I say ironically, because all of Buddy's grandparents had come to Texas more than 50 years earlier from what became in the 1900s Czechoslovakia -- Jacob Franek and his wife Anna (parents of Buddy's mother, Louise Franek), and John and Frances Lubojacky (parents of Buddy's father, Joe).

Though the other crewmembers were taken as POWs, Buddy was never heard from again. We all learned that he was Missing In Action, and that he was wounded in the head according to what the other crew members had written to Buddy's parents after they got home. Until their deaths decades later, our grandparents held out the hope that Buddy (who had grown up speaking Czech) was alive, suffering from amnesia, in Czechoslovakia.

In the 1990s, while my husband and I (then both Supervisory Special Agents with the FBI) were stationed at FBI Headquarters in Washington, DC, I began working on family history and genealogy. I tried following up on the occasional clue that the family had gotten in letters from a Czech fellow who lived in California, and who was researching the downed US aircraft. My inability to speak Czech, and his lack of fluency in English, made for tough hurdles. When he and I communicated, he could not tell me where the various crewmembers had parachuted; he knew nothing about Buddy's whereabouts. From our own government's American Battle Monuments Commission, I learned that Buddy's name is listed among the MIAs at the Epinal American Cemetery in France, along with many other MIAs. I had to set aside the search for Buddy.

In the late 1999, after I had retired from the FBI, I read two of Tom Brokaw's books, "The Greatest Generation" and "The Greatest Generation Speaks - Letters and Reflections." That prompted me to try to track down Buddy's former crewmembers, starting from their 1945 addresses. Thanks to the internet, and many, many letters, I was able to find and talk with three of them, and with the son of another. I learned from them that most of the others were dead. It was great of them to share with me their recollections about serving with Buddy. From what they related about their last flight, it sound unlikely that Buddy survived. Two of them mentioned that they had gotten letters through the years from a couple of men in the Czech Republic who were researching their crew, and that these men knew exactly where their plane had crashed. However neither of these crewmembers were then able locate for me the names of these Czech men, or their letters, or the name of the specific village "somewhere in the northern part of Czechoslovakia" where their plane crashed.

My Mother, Ellen Lubojacky Poythress, the closest in age of Buddy's five sisters, died in September of 2002. Her death was closely followed by that of her sister Sylvia Galler. I flew to Texas for Aunt Sylvia's funeral in December 2002. It was at her visitation that I first learned of the Texas Czech Genealogical Society, though I was already a member of CGSI, the Czech Heritage Society of Texas, and the Moravian Heritage Society. Ruby Lubojacky, the wife of a first cousin of both Sylvia and my Mom, alerted me that a friend had shared with her the article that began on the cover of the June 2002 issue of Ceske Stopy. That article was a translated letter from Dr. Josef Simicek, asking for

information about Mom's brother Alfred Lubojacky. In early 2003, I got a copy of the article and I joined TCGS.

I began efforts to reach Dr. Simicek, who I realized did not speak English, since his letter had been written in Czech. I speak no Czech, and none of my relatives can now speak Czech. I hoped to learn whether his efforts to reach our family indicated that he or someone, with whom he was in touch in the Czech Republic, could identify the exact crash site. I also hoped someone there could let us know whether Alfred's remains had been found near the crash site.

In 2003, a gracious traveler to the Czech Republic contacted Dr. Simicek for me while he was there. In Nov 2003, he mailed me some info that Dr. Simicek sent home with him: a photocopy of a map and of the letter that Dr. Simicek had received (dated the 9th of Dec 2000, and written in Czech) from Milos Podzimek, "The Bombers' Fan Historian," who lives in the Czech Republic. Podzimek (back in Dec 2000) had apparently been trying to track down info on Alfred's family, and Dr. Simicek had corresponded with TCGS in 2002 in an effort to help him.

The map shows a dotted line, apparently representing the aircraft's final flight, in the northeastern Bohemia region, near the upper edge of Moravia, in the Czech Republic not far from the border with Poland.

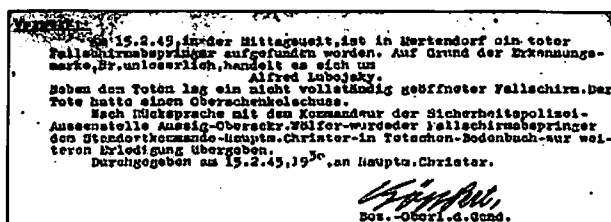
I tried emailing a wonderful researcher in the Czech Republic, who I had previously hired to locate ancestral records, and who I had just seen in October 2003 at the Houston CGSI Conference. I sent him a jpg file of Podzimek's letter, seeking to hire his services to translate the letter and to contact Podzimek and/or Dr. Simicek for me -- to find out more clearly where the plane went down, and if they knew anything about where Alfred ended up. Unfortunately the researcher was apparently swamped with requests, as I heard no response. (Also unfortunately it did not occur to me to try the TCGS for help in finding someone here who could translate the Podzimek letter.)

In the meantime, in January 2004, Cousin Ruby Lubojacky was able to get the Podzimek letter translated through a helpful acquaintance of hers. Podzimek's letter had only asked Dr. Simicek to help him get in touch with US relatives of Alfred's, without giving any specific info.

Late on Christmas Eve (2004) I was thrilled to get a brief email, in English, from Dr. Simicek, in which he sent holiday greetings and he copied an email from Milos Podzimek. The email from Podzimek said "Next year (May 8, 2005) monument will open on the spot, where Alfred Lubojacky's B-17 bomber crashed. We want invite relatives of flyer (Lubojacky) from USA."

By finally having Podzimek's email address, and seeing his ability to email in English, I at last was able to get in touch with him directly. I've learned a lot from our exchange since Christmas, and I've shared it with our family. We now know that Buddy's plane crashed near the town of Hridelec, north-east of Prague and not far from the spa town of Lazne Belohrad. It is there that on Sunday the 8th of May, there will be a dedication of a monument to the B-17, listing all nine members of their crew.

I then learned from Podzimek that he had obtained a brief German document that was created in February 1945, which prompted Podzimek to tell me that Alfred had died at that time. I asked how he knew the document really identified Alfred. He responded by emailing me a jpg file of the document.



I could see Alfred's name (though misspelled) in it, but I wanted to glean every possible bit of information from it. Thanks to my Aunt Alice Prosis, I learned that Dr. Wolfram Von-Maszewski, head of the Genealogy Section of the George Memorial Library in Rosenberg (Fort Bend County), Texas, is fluent in German and has done translations. I contacted him, and he furnished this translation, which leaves no doubt that my uncle died quickly, and that he died 60 years ago, on 14 February 1945:

"Remark: A dead parachutist was found in Mertendorf around noon on 15/2/45. According to the identification tag, the [service] number was illegible, he was Alfred Lubojaky. Next to the dead was the partially deployed parachute. The dead had shot wound in the upper thigh. After consultation with the commander of the security police, Chief Secretary Wölfer, at the branch in Aussig, the body of the parachutist was turned over to the local commander Captain Christer in Tetschen-Bedenbuch for further disposition. Notification passed to Captain Christer at 5:30 p. m. on 15/2/45.

_____ [signature] District First Lieutenant of the Gendarmerie"

Meanwhile, my Aunt Ann Mikeska and I had already begun making plans to attend the May 8th dedication of the monument. We knew we would need transportation from Prague, and I wanted any relatives going with us to have the opportunity of seeing our ancestral villages that I had seen in the Summer of 1998. Thus we knew we would need someone who could handle transportation and lodging arrangements, and who was familiar with facilitating trips there. Ann contacted Joann Fabrygel, who had planned the successful 1998 trip on which Ann went.

We leave on Thursday the 5th of May (with most of our extended family flying from Houston, and others of us flying from San Francisco and elsewhere). We will travel around the Czech Republic in a deluxe motor coach. Our trip will have an English-speaking Czech guide. We will stay four nights in Prague, and then four nights in Zlin (in Moravia). On our way to Zlin, we will visit Telc. While in Moravia, we hope to visit Dr. Simicek's Texas Museum at Lichnov, and we'll enjoy the Wallachian Open-Air Museum, where folks can see how Moravian ancestors lived before coming to Texas. We will visit our ancestral villages, Chlebovice and Hostalkova. Our trip will end with one day touring Vienna, from which we will fly back home on Sunday the 15th of May. We hope that one of the crewmembers and his wife will be able to go with us for this truly "once in a lifetime" trip. It is a wonderful opportunity, and a very reasonable one, too, since the \$2,050 price (double occupancy) covers all transportation, all lodging, and all meals. Anyone interested in joining us is welcome to call or email for more details. You can reach me in ~~California~~ Utah:

current contact info corrected Dec. 2008

435-655-1520 ~~Barb Neal~~ Barb Neal@gmail.com
Barbara Neal ~~310-629-9811~~, email ~~bp_neal@earthlink.net~~, or
Ann Mikeska in Richmond, Texas: 281-232-6545, email aandjmikeska@ev1.net

P. S. I have asked Milos Podzimek to help us locate Al's actual burial site, so our group can visit that site whether or not his name actually appears there. I have told him that perhaps newspapers in the likely areas of his burial might want to do a story about the American family coming in May. However if it is necessary, I'll be glad to pay for some advertisements or notices in the local newspapers of the correct areas, seeking any info that any residents may know or recall about burying this American flyer 60 years ago. From Podzimek's emails I understand that the German name "Mertendorf" is the village of the Czech name "Merboltice," and I know that "Tetschen" was the German name for "Decin," but I'm uncertain so far what the Czech name is for what the Germans called "Bedenbuch." So the work continues.

Alfred Lubojacky's Genealogy and Relatives with Military Service

By Barbara Poythress Neal

Albert "Buddy" Lubojacky (cover photo) was born on January 29th, 1924 on a farm in the Needville area of Fort Bend County, Texas. The family had moved to a different farm near Edna, Texas for a while later, which is why that address was used in the War Department records for contacting his parents when his B-17 went down.

All four of Albert's grandparents emigrated from Moravia.

Al's paternal side Al's father, Joe Louis Lubojacky, was born in 1895 in DeWitt County, Texas. His parents and four eldest siblings were all born in the village of Chlebovice in the Mistek District of what is now the Czech Republic; they all came to the US in 1892. His father was Jan/John Lubojacky (born 1861), and the maiden name of his mother (born 1858) was Frantiska/Frances Hlavacova. Joe had two additional siblings born in Texas.

In birth order, Joe and his siblings were:

1. Juliana/Julia (b.1885), married Anton Pospichal. They had 3 daughters (only one of whom I have a married name for, Krobot) and one son, Anton Jr. I haven't yet found anyone in the family who knows whether either/both of the Pospichals I found serving in WW II (Joseph A. & John F.) were sons of Anton Jr.

2. Frantiska/Frances (b.1886), married Frank Stasek. They had 2 daughters (only one of whom I have a married name for, Janz) and one son, Albert, but I know nothing further about their son Albert.

3. Karel/Charlie Jan/John (b.1889), married Mary Matus. Uncle Charlie changed the spelling of his surname from Lubojacky to Lubojasky ("s" instead of "c"). His four children, all sons, were Marvin, George, Justin C., and Charlie B. Lubojasky, in that birth order. It is logical to me that all 4 would have served in WW II, but the only info I've been able to locate is regarding the middle two sons:

- George Stanley Lubojasky (b.1916 probably at Blessing, TX; d.1998) is buried in the Houston National Cemetery but I am not clear on his service dates (no photo available to me)

- Justin C. Lubojasky (b.1920 probably at Blessing, TX; d.1999) was a B-17 pilot in WW II (He was a 1st Lt. before Fall 1942 & was Capt. in Feb 1945; so he obviously was in sometime before 1942 and probably longer than 1945).

4. Marie/Mary (b.1891), married Joe R. Zatopek. They had 3 daughters and 2 sons.

- grandson (son of Mary & Joe's daughter Bessie Zatopek, who married Edward Zacek) served: Bennie Arnold Zacek (b.1944 Needville, Fort Bend Co, TX; living) in US Air Force 1969-1973, leaving as Captain

- Mary & Joe's son Leonard Frank Zatopek (b. 1923 Needville, Fort Bend Co, TX; living) served in US Army in WW II, 1944-1946, leaving as rank P-5

- Czech American husband of Mary & Joe's daughter Josephine Zatopek: Lumir Charles Jan (b.1916 Frydek, TX; d.1974) served in US Army in WW II, 1941-1945, leaving as rank Tech 4 Sgt And son of Josephine & Lumir Jan served: Kenneth Ray Jan (b.1948 Wharton, TX; living) in US Coast Guard 1967-1971, leaving as 1st class Petty Officer.

5. Ludwig/Louis Joseph/Joe (b.1894), married Emillia/Emilia/Emily Uherek. They had 7 children, and numerous other descendants, including

- (1) son Raymond Louis Lubojacky (b.1916 Needville, TX; d.1993) served in US Army 1941-1945, leaving as a Sgt.

And the son of Ray served:

- Raymond Louis Lubojacky, Jr. (b.1947 Angleton, TX; living) served in the US Navy 1967-1971, leaving as EA-3.

(2) daughter of Louis & Emily, Elsie Lubojacky married Emil Kadera (both living; celebrated their 64th anniversary 2 months ago). Two of Elsie & Emil's sons served:

- Edwin Kadera (b. ___ TX; living) served US Army during the VietNam era.
- Robert Kadera (b. ___ TX; living) served in the US Army during the VietNam era and was wounded when shot down in a helicopter.

(3) daughter of Louis & Emily, Lillie Lubojacky married Louis Krampota (Louis Sr is deceased). Lillie & Louis' son

- Louis Krampota (b. ___ TX; living) served in the US Army 1969-1971, leaving as Sgt E-5.

(4) son of Louis & Emily, Edward Jim Lubojacky (b.1922 Needville, TX; d.2000) served in the US Army Air Corps during WW II, 1942-1946, leaving as a Sgt. He worked on planes and served in China, Burma, and India. Three photos attached: headshot; him with a plane (taken in either Burma or India); and the photo that includes him in uniform in the group of 5 that includes Raymond Louis Sr & Alfred & August.

And 3 of Edward Jim's grandchildren are currently serving - all are children of a daughter of Edward Jim Lubojacky & his wife Ruby Miller - their daughter Linda Lubojacky & her husband Leroy Mau, are currently serving in the military as follows:

- Robert Earl Mau (b.1981 Houston, TX; living) is a Private in the US Army currently in Iraq; he joined the Army in March 2004

- Randall Eugene Mau (b.1982 Houston, TX; living) is in the US Navy, currently stationed in Japan; joined in April 2002, rank OS3

- (his twin sister) Rachel Elaine Mau (b.1982 Houston, TX; living) is a Private in the US Army currently stationed in Missouri in training in preparation for going to Iraq; joined in October 2004; Private 1st class

(5) the Czech American husband of Louis & Emily's daughter Libby also served in WW II (thus husband of a cousin of Al Lubojacky): Henry Jez (b.1919; d.1981) in US Army 1944-1946, leaving as a Sgt.

And 2 of the children of Libby & Henry have served:

- Henry Jez, Jr. (b.1943 TX; living) served in US Air Force 1964-1968, leaving as Airman 1st class.

- Alfred James 'AJ' Jez (b.1947 TX; living) served in US Army 1968-1970, leaving as Sgt E-6.

(6) son of Louis & Emily, August Louis Lubojacky had son who served:

- James Lubojacky (b.1947 Angleton, TX; living) in US Army 1967-1968, leaving as Specialist E4 rank.

(7) daughter of Louis & Emily, Edna Lubojacky has a grandson who served:

- Shane Smith (b. ___ TX; living) in US Army 1999-2001, leaving as Private 1st class .

6. Joe Louis Lubojacky (b.1895) [father of Al & Roman; already covered those 2 children]. Other family members in Joe's line:

- the Czech American husband of a granddaughter of Joe & wife Louise (nee Franek), Linda Galler (daughter of Sylvia Lubojacky & her husband Robert Galler) served: Glenn Urbanek (b.1948 Wharton Co, TX; living) 1968-1970 in US Army in VietNam in Fire Direction Control.

And the son of Linda & Glenn Urbanek, who is currently in Iraq (cover photo):

- Travis Morgan Urbanek (b.1973 Richmond, Fort Bend Co, TX; living) serving in Bravo Company 4th Battalion 112th Armor of the Texas National Guard, currently in Iraq [NOTE: see the article in The Herald-Coaster (Texas) newspaper on 3 Jan 2005 about "B Company Ships Out" at www.herald-coaster.com in their archives; the article includes a neat photo of him with their youngest of 3 sons. When 9/11 happened, Travis had just joined the Army Natl Guard (at age 28) in Sep 2001 & was in basic training at Fort Sill, OK; he graduated from basic on 11/15/2001; graduated from OCS 9/13/03, commissioned 2nd Lt, US Army Natl Guard in 9/03 & gone to Officer Basic Course 11/15/03 - 4/1/04 @ Ft Knox, KY.]

- husband of the youngest daughter, Ann, of Joe & wife Louise (nee Franek) Lubojacky served: Jimmy Logie Mikeska (b.1937, Rosenberg, Fort Bend Co, TX; living) served in US Navy 1957-1961, 2nd Class Aviation Ordinance.

And one son of Ann & Jimmy served:

- Clinton Wade Mikeska (b.1967 Richmond, Fort Bend Co, TX; living) was in US Air Force in 1986 August to Oct, when was given a medical discharge due to failed vision test that had been overlooked on date of his physical exam.

7. Adolph Louis (b.1900), married Mary Urbanek. They had one daughter and 2 sons, including one who served:

- Robert Adolph (b.1925 Fairchild, Ft. Bend Co, TX; d.1993); served in the US Navy during WW II, 1944-1945, ending as Seaman 1st class.

Al's maternal side Al's mother, Louise Franek, was born in 1899; she and her brothers were born near Garwood in Colorado Co, TX. Their father, Jacob Franek was born 1853 in Ostrava & came to the US in 1882. Their mother, Anna Malina was born 1872 in Hostalkova; she came to the US in about 1882-1884 as a child with her younger brother and their mother. Jacob & Anna Franek had 8 children born from 1892-1911, including 2 sons who died quite young. Of Louise's 5 brothers who lived to adulthood, 2 were older & 3 were younger.

In birth order, these sons (all born near Garwood, in Colorado Co, TX) were:

- Arnold Lee Franek lived 1895-1982; US Army WW I; his cemetery marker indicates he was a Pvt; photo attached. Had no children.

- Albert Vojtech Franek lived 1897-1969; US Army WW I. (See cover photo and his sons below.)

- Charles Victor Franek lived 1903-1985; US Merchant Marines. Never married.

- Felix Leopold Franek lived 1906-1960; US Army WW II Pvt who was given a medical discharge prior to shipping out from the East coast for Europe due to 2 bouts of bacterial meningitis.

- Stephan N. Franek lived 1911-1983; TX National Guard but never served on active duty due to being a farmer with many children during WW II. See below re his sons.

Albert had 2 sons (both born near Needville):

- Alvin Roy Franek (lived 1921-1989) was a Lt in the US Army Air Corps, who flew in Europe & N Africa during WW II.

- Clarence died in May 1945 just 2 days after graduating as valedictorian of his high school class; his brother Roy was not able to come home for the funeral.

Steve had 7 children. All 3 of his sons served in the US Army.

- Gerald David Franek (b.1937; living) served 1960-1962 on active duty, leaving as a Sgt, and then was in the US Army Reserves

- Edwin Jacob Franek (b.1939; living) served 1960-1966, leaving as a Corporal E-4

- Theodore Eman Franek (b.1944; living) served mainly in Korea.

Gallery of Gallantry

Editor's Note – As an additional part of cover story on Czech Americans' Military Legacy, I solicited TCGS members' photos and service records of those in their families, including both living and deceased relatives, who served in the US Military.

Submitted by Barbara Neal:



Ludwig/Louis Joseph/Joe Lubojacky (b.1894), married Emillia/Emilia/Emily Uherek. They had 7 children, and numerous other descendants, including son Raymond Louis Lubojacky (right, b.1916 Needville, TX; d.1993) served in US Army 1941-1945, leaving as a Sgt. Photo below taken in 1940s has 5 young men squatting in front of a house, left to right:

- Raymond Louis Lubojacky [Sr] in uniform
- Alfred "Buddy" Lubojacky, not yet in uniform
- Charles Orsak, a cousin on maternal side, not in uniform
- August Lubojacky (who did not serve; he was b.1925 & is living)
- Edward Jim Lubojacky in uniform



And the son of Ray served:
- Raymond Louis Lubojacky, Jr. (b.1947 Angleton, TX; living) served in the US Navy 1967-1971, leaving as EA-3 (photo to the left)



Alfred Lubojacky in his bomber jacket (left)



Daughter of Louis & Emily, Elsie Lubojacky married Emil Kadera (both living; celebrated their 64th anniversary 2 months ago). Two of Elsie & Emil's sons served:

- Edwin Kadera (b. __ TX; living) served US Army during the VietNam era (center photo above)
- Robert Kadera (b. __ TX; living) served in the US Army during the VietNam era and was wounded when shot down in a helicopter (right photo above)



Second daughter of Louis & Emily, Lillie Lubojacky married Louis Krampota (Louis Sr is deceased). Lillie & Louis' son
- Louis Krampota (b. ___ TX; living) served in the US Army 1969-1971, leaving as Sgt E-5 (photo on left)

(4) son of Louis & Emily, Edward Jim Lubojacky (b. 1922 Needville, TX; d. 2000) served in the US Army Air Corps during WW II, 1942-1946, leaving as a Sgt. He worked on planes and served in China, Burma, and India. Photos: on the right, standing by his plane, and below right.



The photo below: 3 of Edw Jim's grandchildren who are currently serving - all are children of a daughter of Edw Jim Lubojacky & his wife Ruby Miller - their daughter Linda Lubojacky & her husband Leroy Mau, are currently serving in the military as follows:

- Robert Earl Mau (b. 1981 Houston, TX; living) is a Private in the US Army currently in Iraq; he joined the Army in March 2004
- Randall Eugene Mau (b. 1982 Houston, TX; living) is in the US Navy, currently stationed in Japan; joined in April 2002, rank OS3
- (his twin sister) Rachel Elaine Mau (b. 1982 Houston, TX; living) is a Private in the US Army currently stationed in Missouri in training in preparation for going to Iraq; joined in October 2004; Private 1st class



The Czech American husband of Louis & Emily's daughter Libby also served in WW II (thus husband of a cousin of Al Lubojacky):
- Henry Jez (b. 1919; d. 1981) in US Army 1944-1946, leaving as a Sgt. (photo below-left) And 2 of the children of Libby & Henry have served:

- Henry Jez, Jr. (b. 1943 TX; living) served in US Air Force 1964-1968, leaving as Airman 1st class (photo below-center)
- Alfred James Jez (b. 1947 TX; living) served in US Army 1968-1970, leaving as Sgt E-6 (photo below-right)





Al Lubojacky's maternal grandfather, Jacob Franek (seated) and his four boys, Steve, Felix, Arnold, Charlie, and Albert who all served. Photo below is Arnold Franek in his WW I uniform.



Felix Franek in WWI Uniform

< Charles Franek was in the US Merchant Marines

Albert Vojtech Franek with his two sons, Clarence and Alvin Roy >



The three sons of Stephan N. Franek, Gerald, Ted, and Edwin:





Robert Lubojacky – WWII



James Lubojacky



Reuben Stephen Flippo
son of Nina Franek Flippo



Glenn Urbanek – Viet Nam



Robert Bruce
Lincoln, Bruce Stewart son
of Eve Franek Stewart



Clint Mikeska



Jim Mikeska



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND
200 STOVALL STREET
ALEXANDRIA VA 22332-0480**

February 11, 2009

Casualty and Mortuary Affairs Operations Center
Past Conflict Repatriations Branch

Mr. Walter V. Lubojacky
347669 East 1030 Road
Meeker, Oklahoma 74855

Dear Mr. Lubojacky:

Enclosed is a document provided by the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office pertaining to your brother, Sergeant Alfred S. Lubojacky, which you requested.

This information is being sent to you in keeping with our policy of providing all information we obtain that relates to your loved one. If we can further assist you, please contact one of the Army case workers at 1-800-892-2490.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric S. Wolf".

Eric S. Wolf
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army
Chief, Past Conflict Repatriations
Branch

Enclosure

Excerpt from Oct-Dec 2007 KARTA Report

Martin Vesely, *Vojenské Dejiny Ustecka, Usti nad Labem 2003*

This book is about the air battles that took place over Usti nad Labem from May 1944 to April 1945. Excluding the month of May 1945, ground operations mainly occurred outside the Ustecko area.

Summary of highlighted text on page 164.

[...] [In February 1945] north west of the Milada mine near Chabarovice an American pilot landed with a parachute. Upon landing he was caught by two eye-witnesses of the event and a Luftwaffe senior airman basic who was passing by. The pilot was taken to the station in Chabařovice, where his documents and personal belongings were taken away from him. He was not armed. Detained, he did not say a word. After the incident had been reported by phone to the Sipo (Sicherheitpolizei – Security Police) unit in Usti nad Labem, the pilot was transported under the supervision of a Luftwaffe soldier and military policeman Burdeke to the present-day 15-17 Paryska Street in Usti nad Labem. (...) The archival report does not mention the name of the American pilot and, in spite of the fact that the USA Air Force lost one heavy four-engine B-17G bomber over Dresden, which fell down in the area of Hridelce near Lazne Belohrad na Jicinsku after an abortive attempt to cross the Soviet line, the caught paratrooper probably was not its crewman (as opposed to Sgt. Alfred Lubojacki, whose body was found near Vernerice na Decínsku on the same day).



Posádka poručíka Jacoba Bartla, jejíž B-17G od 834. squadrony 486. BG sestřelil dne 17. dubna 1945 ve 14.30 hodin při letu na Ústí nad Labem mostecký flak. Všichni její členové zahynuli...

pamětníků jasně nasvětlovala kontury pásu Krušných hor a až v Ústí nad Labem bylo citelné chvění půdy. Ojedinele dopadly pumy nedaleko Petrovic a Krásného Lesa. Exploze poškodily domy Marthy a Gertrud Wcelakových v Krásném Lese, jimž způsobily škody nejméně za 50.000,-RM. Ve 2.15 hodin pak dopadla těžká puma u Petrovic, aniž vybuchla. Byla označena tabulkou, okolí bylo uzavřeno a dne 1. března 1945 byla odpálena příslušníky wehrmachtu. Exploze byla natolik silná, že tlaková vlna rozbila v okruhu tří kilometrů na desítky okenních tabulek a vyrazila dveře. Přestože leží dolní část Petrovic v údolí a místo výbuchu bylo zakryto vyvýšeninou, ke škodám došlo i tam. Největší škodu utrpěly firmy C. Kühnel, August Wolf a syn, Rauchfuchs a synové a řezník Meinel, kterým výbuch vytloukl výlohy. Četníci neopomněli do hlášení zapsat, že odškodně neptipadá v úvahu.

V souvislosti se zničujícími nálety na Drážďany, které pokračovaly i následujícího dne, kdy se na hořící město zaměřila tentokrát americká 8. letecká armáda, došlo u Ústí nad Labem k události, která není do dnes zcela osvětlena.

Kolem čtvrt na dvě přistál padákem severozápadně od Zachty Milada II v blízkosti Chabařovic americký

letec. Bezprostředně po dopadu ho zajali dva přihlížející svědci a vrchní svobodník luftwaffe, jenž těmito místy zrovna projížděl. Poté byl letec odveden na místní stanici Schupo v Chabařovicích, kde byly zajištěny jeho doklady a další osobní věci. Ozbrojen nebyl. Zatčený nepromluvil ani slovo a byl po telefonickém ohlášení této události pobožce Sipo v Ústí nad Labem převezen zmíněným vrchním svobodníkem luftwaffe a četníkem Bürdekem do dnešní Pařížské ulice č.p. 15-17 v Ústí nad Labem. Tam poddůstojník luftwaffe ohlásil, že ve směru nad Krušnými horami viděl další čtyři padáky.

V archívním hlášení nebylo bohužel uvedeno jméno amerického letce, a přestože americké letectvo ztránilo nad Drážďanami jeden čtyřmotorový bombardér B-17G, který se po marném pokusu dosáhnout sovětských linií zřítíl u obce Hřídolec nedaleko Lázní Běláhrad na Jičínsku, k jeho posádce zřejmě nepatřil. Na rozdíl od seržanta Alfreda Lubojackého, jehož tělo bylo týž den nalezeno u Věrnetic na Děčínsku.

Na četnickou stanici v Ústí nad Labem ještě týž den odpoledne zatelefonoval poručík Hahmacher, příslušník stíhací eskadry 1. JG 301, s tím, že byl ve vzdušném souboji sestřelen a s velkým odstupem dopadl s padákem u obce Habartice.

My wording, by the way, for that "encouraged to bail out" phrase in my first letter, came from a letter that was written 22 July 1945 by Capt. Boylston B. Lewis to my grandmother. Since you are the Secretary/ Historian of the 306th Bombardment Group Association, and since both Capt. Lewis and my grandmother have long ago left this mortal plain, I will share with you his letter in full. My grandmother received it in 1945:

"22 July

Dear Mrs. Lubojacky:

I had hoped since returning to this country that my vacation would be made perfect by news of Alfred's return. I still feel he will come back, but since I have been informed of the safe return of my other missing crewman, Sgt. Frank McDonough, I want to tell you what I know of Alfred's becoming missing. He was in his firing position at the time repeated attacks were made on our formation. All during the attacks his guns were firing so I have no reason to believe he was hit. We received battle damage and attempted to make the Russians - closest friendly forces. Because of power failure there was no interphone and due to fire a messenger could not get through the bomb bay. We had talked about what we would do if these circumstances ever existed, and the boys in the back began bailing out, encouraged by signals from the Engineer through the flames in the bomb bay. The ship was not under attack at the time, but immediate danger of explosion existed. Two crew members reported seeing Sgt. Lubojacky jump from the main exit door, although I did not see this myself because my station is such that I could not. When I did leave the ship Alfred's guns were vertical, indicating the exit position of the turret. This was 30 minutes after the last enemy attack (time ship left formation).

"27 Topliff Street
Dorchester 22, Mass
August 4, 1945

Dear Mrs. Lubojacky,

We are very sorry to know that you have received no word of Alfred as yet.

I shall answer your two letters and hope you understand my delay. I shall also answer your questions and tell you all Frank knows about the attack.

The War Department did notify us by telegram that on May 16th, Frank was liberated and was hospitalized in the European Area. We were also notified by telegram when he arrived in So. Carolina and again when he arrived at the hospital here in Mass.

Yes, Mrs. Lubojacky Alfred was wounded during the attack. When Frank was hit he was knocked down and while he was laying on the floor he looked over toward Al's ball turret - the turret door was opened - he saw that Al was bleeding from the head -- his oxygen mask was off. Frank made an attempt to crawl over to him but could not make it. It was then that Sgt. McChesney came into the waist and put Frank's chute on him and got him out of the plane. Frank bailed out before Al and does not know what happened after that. Frank bailed out near a small town called Aussig in Czechoslovakia, which is about fifty miles from Dresden, it was in a hospital in this small town that Frank was liberated by Russians. Frank was wounded in both legs, he received a bad wound in the calf of right leg and a shattered shin bone of the left leg. He has suffered a nervous breakdown which the worse is over. He is at the Cushing General Hospital Framingham, Mass.

I hope this information will help you in determining Alfred's whereabouts. If there is any thing more we can do please let us know and we will do our best to help.

My dear Mrs. Lubojacky from what Frank has told us of your son's devotion to you and his fine character and good living I do trust you will hear from some source soon.

God give you courage in this distress. I close thinking of you I am
Frank's Mother
Esther McDonough"

Lubojaeky Family Letters

Dear Family

Most of the following letters were written by Alfred "Buddy" S. Lubojaeky between April 1942 and February 1945. They provide an unbelievable glimpse into family life during World War II. Some of them contain only references to anecdotes about kittens and cows but you will also meet many different family members and friends of the family. You will also gain a better understanding of how the war affected everyone and the great lengths that family members went through to keep in touch at a time when telephone, email, and text messaging weren't a viable option.

To help you maintain a point of reference, keep the following in mind. Buddy turned 18 years old in February 1942, just before these letters begin. Buddy was the son of Joseph Louis Lubojaeky and Louise Antonio Franek-Lubojaeky. He had two older sisters, Olga who married Ephram "EJ" or "Effie" Kaminsky and Sylvia who married Robert "Bob" Galler. He also had an older brother, Roman Edward "RE" Lubojaeky who married for his first wife, Desilu. He had three younger sisters, Ellen "Bab", Alice, and Anna Felice "Baby Doll" and a younger brother, Walter. Baby Doll was born April 12, 1942 and would have been only a few years old during this time period. Walter was born June 5, 1939 and would have been less than 6 years old during this time period.

For a time, Buddy lived with Olga and EJ Kaminsky, EJ's brother, Daniel and Anita (who was probably Daniel's wife). Olga and EJ had a son, Everett "Sonny".

The letters make reference to various other family and friends. Uncle Felix was Felix Franek. Aunt Vinska was the wife of Arnold Franek. Justin, Marvin, and George Lubojaeky are the sons of Charlie Lubojaeky, and would have been Buddy's cousins. Edward, and Ethel are believed

to have been cousins. Brother Lawrence was probably an officer in the SPJ&T fraternal lodge and sold life insurance for the lodge.

The original letters, as of July 2008, are in the possession of Anna Felice Lubojacky-Mikeska. The following digital images of those letters have been cleaned and restored to the extent possible. If an envelope contained writing on the reverse, that image is included also.

I hope that you enjoy this bit of family history as much as I have enjoyed reading and preserving it.

Sincerely,

Susan Louise Lubojacky-Murphy

July 20, 2008



Postcard

Postmarked APR 23, 1942
CHASE, MD.

From: Alfred Lubojacky
c/o E J Kaminski
Chase, Md.

To: Mrs. J. L. Lubojacky
Edna
Texas

Dear Mom. Thurs Eve.
Just to let you know
that I got here O.K. Tues.
Morning I missed my
train in N.O. so I had to
wait there all day till
8:30 p.m. when I left
N.O. I got to Baltimore
about 8:00 this morn.
and had to wait till
about 3:30 to catch
a train to Chase.
they weren't home
from work when I
got here, but came about
30 min. later. Every
body is O.K. here so
goodbye to all.
Buddy

Thurs Eve.
Dearest Mom.

Just to let you know
that I got here O.K. Tues.
morning I missed my
train in N.O. so I had to
wait there all day till
8:30 p.m. when I left
N.O. I got to Baltimore
about 8:00 this morn.
and had to wait till
about 3:30 to catch
a train to Chase.
they weren't home
from work when I
got here but came about
30 min. later. Every
body is O.K. here so
goodbye to all.

Buddy

April 26, 1942
Chase Md.

Dearest Mom

I guess you are wondering
how I'm gettin' along. Well
I'm O.K. as all the rest of
us are too. Olga was say-
ing some thing that Sonny
is going to have his tonsols
taken out pretty soon, and
I guess I will too before
very long. Cause when I
took my exam yesterday
I was O.K. except they
told me that my tonsols
were pretty bad. Olga had
off today and Dainal didn't
feel like working today
so he stayed at home and
Effie is working. They

April 26, 1942

Chase Md.

Dearest Mom

I guess you are wondering
how I'm gettin' along. Well
I'm O.K. as all the rest of
us are too. Olga was say-
ing some thing that Sonny
is going to have his tonsols
taken out pretty soon and
I guess I will too before
very long cause when I
took my exam yesterday
I was O.K. except they
told me that my tonsols
were pretty bad. Olga had
off today and Dainal didn't
feel like working today
so he stayed at home and
Effie is working. They

usually get home about
five o'clock. Roman was
here last nite but he had
to go back last nite too as
he is on guard duty today for not
shaving one day last week. He
was saying something that
he don't think he will be
transferred anywhere, as
all the other boys he came
here with are all gone now.

You'd better tell you
that I'm supposed to re-
port for work tomorrow
morning at 7:15. Gosh I'm
glad I got on that day
shift 'cause it will be
bad enough as it is. I
passed my physical exam
with flying colors and
was I glad too.

usually get home about
five o'clock. Roman was
here last nite but he had
to go back last nite too as
he is on guard duty today for not
shaving one day last week. He
was saying something that
he don't think he will be
transferred anywhere, as
all the other boys he came
here with are all gone now.

Yes, I better tell you
that I'm supposed to re-
port for work tomorrow
morning at 7:15. Gosh I'm
glad I got on that day
shift 'cause it will be
bad enough as it is. I
passed my physical exam
with flying colors and
was I glad too.

I supposed to be a painters
helper and here are the tools
they told me to get. Hello
Tools I believe for that kind
of work, 1 pr 8" scissors, 3
screw drivers, 6' flexible
steel tape, 1 ice pick, 1 pr.
pliers, 1 6oz ball pein hammer,
1 note book and tool box,
what do you think, Boy
was I glad I didn't have to go
to school here, of course if I
had I might have a different
job but this is O.K. I will
have to find some one to
ride with as I work at
a different plant and go to
work an hour before Olga
and about forty five minutes
before Effie and Danil.

I supposed to be a painters
helper and here are the tools
they told me to get. Hello
tools I believe for that kind
of work, 1 pr 8" scissors, 3
screw drivers, 6' flexible
steel tape, 1 ice pick, 1 pr.
pliers, 1 6oz ball pein hammer,
1 note book and tool box,
what do you think. Boy
was I glad I didn't have to go
to school here, of course if I
had I might have a different
job but this is O.K. I will
have to find some one to
ride with as I work at
a different plant and go to
work an hour before Olga
and about forty five minutes
before Effie and Danil.

but I guess I'll make out
some way, I hope. Well
I guess I will close as Effie
just got home from work
Your loving son
Buddy

P.S. I didn't tell you
I supposed to get 60¢
an hour

but I guess I'll make out
some way, I hope. Well
I guess I will close as Effie
just got home from work

Your loving son

Buddy

P.S. I didn't tell you

I supposed to get 60¢

an hour

Sunday Nite

Dearest Mom,

Buddy was writing home and asked me if I wanted to write too. So I decided to write a few lines.

How have you been lately? I hope fine or pretty good anyway. Has the blessed event been yet? I keep thinking about that I hope everything will be alright I mean no complications or anything like that.

How are crops at home? Please send us a ~~few~~ few cotton seed

Sunday Nite

Dearest Mom,

Buddy was writing home and asked me if I wanted to write too so I decided to write a few lines.

How have you been lately? I hope fine or pretty good anyway. Has the blessed event been yet? I keep thinking about that I hope everything will be alright I mean no complications or anything like that.

How are crops at home? Please send us a ~~few~~ few cotton seed

in an envelope the
next time you write.
We want to plant it
to show these dim
wits around here
what cotton looks
like.

Roman was here
last nite but he had
to go back, he didn't get
to stay over Sunday. I think
he is going to get Diada
down to South Texas
soon. He doesn't know
if he will stay here
or they will transfer
him someplace else
There isn't much
to write about here

in an envelope the
next time you write.
We want to plant it
to show these dim
wits around her
what cotton looks
like.

Roman was here
last nite but he had
to go back, he didn't get
to stay over Sunday. I think
he is going to get Desilu
down to South Texas
soon. He doesn't know
if he will stay here
or they will transfer
him someplace else

There isn't much
to write about here

P. S. we bought us a
used washing machine
last week. We haven't
used it yet but I think
it will be okay.

because I guess
Buddy has told
you about his job.
I think we will
have to have Sonny's
tonsils removed this
summer because he
is underweight and
the doctor says
that his tonsils are
the cause of that. We
will have his adenoids
taken out then too.
I guess that's all
for tonite because
I need to go to bed.
Tomorrow is another
working day. Love Olga

P. S. We bought us a
used washing machine
last week. We haven't
used it yet but I think
it will be okay.

because I guess
Buddy has told
you about his job.

I think we will
have to have Sonny's
tonsils removed this
Summer because he
is underweight and
the doctor says
that his tonsils are
the cause of that. We
will have his adenoids
taken out then too.
I guess that's all
for tonite because
I need to go to bed.
Tomorrow is another
working day.

Love Olga

Letter (Undated ~ May 15, 1942)

Dear mom,

Buddy is writing so I might as well write some too and get three cents worth in.

How are you feeling these days. Kinda weak yet huh? How is Anna Felicia doing. I bet she's a great big girl by now. How long did Sylvia stay with you? Did Grandma come over too.

I owe Sylvia a letter I guess she thinks I don't know her address any more or something but I am so busy when I get home

Dear Mom,

Buddy is writing so I might as well write some too and get three cents worth in.

How are you feeling these days. Kinda weak yet huh? How is Anna Felicia doing. I bet she's a great big girl by now. How long did Sylvia stay with you? Did Grandma come over too.

I owe Sylvia a letter I guess she thinks I don't know her address any more or something but I am so busy when I get home

until bed time that
I very seldom sit down
evening

Roman was down
over the week end,
but we had to work.
He borrowed some
money from us ^{3 or 4 weeks ago} to send
to Desilu to come to Edna
but she is at her folks
now and under a Doctors
care and he ^(Dr) advises
against the trip so I
dont know what she
will do. I am glad
she is at her folks and
not goodness knows
where.

I kinda think Buddy

until bed time that
I very seldom sit down
even.

Roman was down
over the week end,
but we had to work.
He borrowed some
money from us ^{2 weeks ago} to sent
to Desilu to come to Edna
but she is at her folks
now and under a Doctors
care and her ^(Dr) advises
against the trip so I
dont know what she
will do. I am glad
she is at her folks and
not goodness knows
where.

I kinda think Buddy

is getting home sick
a little. I wish you
all - Ellen & Katherine
and all the kids
would write to him
often. That ^{would} help him
get over it. He seems
to like his job right
well. Friday was his
first pay. He didn't get
very much but now
he will get more because
he will have more days
in. You see the Co. holds
a weeks wages back
and when you quit
you get it. We don't
have to buy bonds
if we don't want to

is getting home sick
a little. I wish you
all - Ellen & Katherine
and all the kids
would write to ^{him}
often. that ^{would} help him
get over it. He seems
to like his job right
well. Friday was his
first pay. He didn't get
very much but now
he will get more because
he will have more days
in. You see the Co. holds
a weeks wages back
and when you quit
you get it. We don't
have to buy bonds
if we don't want to

but can if we wish.
We haven't bought
any yet.

Last week we
registered for sugar.
This week we will
register for gasoline
rationing. I think that's
awful. They say that
so many tanker ships
have been sunk that
they are having trouble
in getting gasoline here
from Texas & Okla. and
they don't have enough
tank cars on the rail
road.

You must be wondering

but can if we wish.
We haven't bought
any yet.

Last week we
registered for sugar.
This week we will
register for gasoline
rationing. I think that's
awful. They say that
so many tanker ships
have been sunk that
they are having trouble
in getting gasoline here
from Texas & Okla. and
they don't have enough
tank cars on the rail
road.

You must be wondering

why my writing
looks so funny. I am
writing on my knee
sitting in bed, don't ask
why - because I don't know.

I had a letter from
Mary McCafferty today
and she says that
Bessie has another son.
I wonder if she was
awful sick or why ^{did} she
go to the Rosenberg
Hospital.

We bought us a
second hand washing
machine about 3
or 4 weeks ago. The
mens work clothes
used to come back so

why my writing
looks so funny. I am
writing on my knee
sitting in bed, don't ask
why - because I don't know.

I had a letter from
Mary McCafferty today
and she says that
Bessie has another son.
I wonder if she was
awful sick or why she ^{did}
go to the Rosenberg
Hospital.

We bought us a
second hand washing
machine about 3
or 4 weeks ago. The
mens work clothes
used to come back so

dirty from the laundry so we usually wash after we get home. Anita has the heater hot so it doesn't take so awful long. We are usually thru before dark.

Anita hasn't been so well lately. She gets her misery about every two weeks and she has no appetite and lost weight. She has taken some medicine from the dr. and is supposed to go back again. I don't know what is wrong. It could be

dirty from the laundry So we usually wash after we get home. Anita has the water hot so it doesn't take so awful long. We are usually thru before dark.

Anita hasn't been so well lately. She gets her misery about every two weeks and she has no appetite and lost weight. She has taken some medicine from the dr. and is supposed to go back again. I don't know what is wrong. It could be

something since the
baby came. They had
such a half witted
doctor then. She goes to
another one now.

I guess I will have
to quit for to nite
because I am getting
sleepy.

Love to all

Olga

write soon and lots

something since the
baby came. They had
such a half witted
doctor then. She goes to
another one now.

I guess I will have
to quit for tonite
because I am getting
sleepy.

Love to all

Olga

write soon and lots





*and a happy birthday
from all the rest too.*

BIRTHDAY
Hours of
Joy

Way back in dear old Keepsake Town
Where Memories are born,
May you spend birthday hours of joy
That start right with the dawn!

*Your loving
Son
Alfred*

(inside)

*and a happy birthday
from all the rest too.*

*Your loving
Son
Alfred*

(inside)

Dear Dad-

I guess your wondering
how I'm getting along here.
Well its O.K. here and all
of that but I found out there
is no place like home.

I'm supposed to be off
tomorrow but they asked
me to work so I guess I'll
work cause there ain't
very much else I could do
tomorrow. I guess you'll
got that card that I wrote
about that raise, I'm
gettin 70¢^{per hr.} now. Well I
think thats about all for this
time so tell everyone hellow
for me. by the way I'm
enclosing a little present
for you.

with love

Buddy

Dear Dad-

I guess your wondering
how I'm getting along here.
Well its O.K. here and all
of that but found out there
is no place like home.

I'm supposed to be off
tomorrow but they asked
me to work so I guess I'll
work cause there ain't
very much else I could do
tomorrow. I guess you'll
got that card that I wrote
about the raise I'm
gettin 70¢^{per hr.} now. Well I
think thats about all for this
time so tell everyone hellow
for me, by the way I'm
enclosing a little present
for you.

with love

Buddy



Letter

Postmarked AUG 11, 1942
CHASE, MD.

From: Alfred Lubojacky
c/o E. J. Kaminsky
Chase, Md.

To: Mrs. J. L. Lubojacky
Edna
Texas

P.O. Box 61

August 1, 1942
Chase Md.

Dearest folks

I just got your letter
about two hours ago and
decided to answer now.

There aint much to
write so don't get mad
if I run out of something
to say.

I'm glad to hear about
the good crops and here
is hoping that nothing
happens to it.

I would send home some
money now but Roman
was here last Sunday
and he borrowed \$50. to
make his trip home

August 1, 1942

Chase, Md.

Dearest folks.

I just got your letter
about two hours ago and
decided to answer now.

There aint much to
write so don't get mad
if I run out of something
to say.

I'm glad to hear about
good crops and here
is hoping that nothing
happens to it.

I would send home some
money now but Roman
was here last Sunday
and he borrowed \$50. to
make his trip home

so now I guess it will
be at least three more
weeks before I can send
any home.

But wait I haven't
told you the most
important thing yet that
happened to me. Our
leader told me yesterday
that I would have a
raise in my pay envelope
next Friday so that will
make me 75¢ an hour.

We just brought
Sonny back from the
hospital, he had his
tonsils taken out, but
he doesn't seem very sick
any more. They took

so now I guess it will
be at least three more
weeks before I can send
any home.

But wait I haven't
told you the most
important thing yet that
happened to me. Our
leader told me yesterday
that I would have a
raise in my pay envelope
next Friday so that will
make me 75¢ an hour.

We just brought
Sonny back from the
hospital he had his
tonsils taken out, but
he doesn't seem very sick
any more. They took

them out yesterday
morning about 9:30.

Well there just aint
any more to write so
I'll have to close.

with love
Buddy

Dear Mom;

I think I'll write a little
bit too. I thought Sonny
would be sicker than he
was when they took his
tonsils out but he looks
fine this morning. The
ether made him sicker
than the operation.

I'll write more next
time. I am tired today. I
stayed in the hosp. with Sonny
all nite.

them out yesterday
morning about 9:30.
Well there just aint
any more to write so
I'll have to close.

with love
Buddy

Dear Mom;

I think I'll write a little
bit too. I thought Sonny
would be sicker than he
was when they took his
tonsils out but he looks
fine this morning. The
ether made him sicker
than the operation.

I'll write more next
time. I am tired today. I
stayed in the hosp. with Sonny
all nite.

Letter (Undated ~ Aug 7, 1942)

Monday a.m.

Dearest Mom,

I guess you must think I've completely forgotten all of you. Well, I havent but I am so pressed for time that it seems as if I can't squeeze in an hour to write to anyone. We have been going swimming for an hour or so after work and then it seems I can't get everything done I would like. There is a neck of the bay about

Monday a.m.

Dearest Mom,

I guess you must think I've completely forgotten all of you. Well, I havent but I am so pressed for time that it seems as if I can't squeeze in an hour to write to anyone. We have been going swimming for an hour or so after work and then it seems I can't get everything done I would like. There is a neck of the bay about

a mile and a half
from here and ^{its a} grand
swimming place.

Do you have your
barn built? I don't
guess Daddy was in
no mood to wait
with it after he got the
money. I can imagine
what a rush he was
in.

How are the crops?
I hope they are very
promising! Effie's sister
wrote that the crops
around Rosenberg are
nice. I sure hope that
people make good crops
this year because

a mile and a half
from here and ^{its a} grand
swimming place.

Do you have your
barn built? I don't
guess Daddy was in
no mood to wait
with it after he got the
money. I can imagine
what a rush he was
in.

How are the crops?
I hope they are very
promising. Effie's sister
wrote that the crops
around Rosenberg are
nice. I sure hope that
people make good crops
this year because

Last year was such a
complete failure;
^{mom. wife.} Maryland must be good
for Buddy because he
has gained 8 pounds
since he came here. I
guess he has written
you about his raise.
I don't think it will
be very long until he
gets another one. I got
one too two weeks
ago.

Starting this week
Wed. I have to work
10 hrs a day 3 days a
week. (Mon. Wed. Thurs.)
I don't like it but

last year was such a
complete failure.

^{Mon. Nite.} Maryland must be good
for Buddy because he
has gained 8 pounds
since he came here. I
guess he has written
you about his raise.
I don't think it will
be very long until he
gets another one. I got
one too two weeks
ago.

Starting this week
Wed. I have to work
10 hrs a day 3 days a
week. (Mon. Wed. Thurs.)
I don't like it but

there ain't anything
I can do so I'll work
right with the rest of
them. What gripes me
Effie & Daniel & Buddy
don't have to work that
2 hrs overtime. I guess
they might start a
little later on but
so far they can come
home and loaf while
I have to sweat and
don't think that plant
aint hot. All the windows
are boarded up and
not much ventilation.
One day they put a
thermometer inside one
of the ships and it

there ain't anything
I can do so I'll work
right with the rest of
them. What gripes me
Effie & Daniel & Buddy
don't have to work that
2 hrs overtime. I guess
they might start a
little later on but
so far they can come
home and loaf while
I have to sweat and
don't think that plant
aint hot. All the windows
are boarded up and
not much ventilation.
One day they put a
thermometer inside one
of the ships and it

was only 111 degrees
in there. It aint
quite that hot where
I work but if its
that hot in Hell I
am starting being good
right now.

The boys went swimming
to nite and Buddy
scratched his ~~to~~ stomach.
He said he would
write too but his
stomach hurts.

Roman was here
Sat nite & Sunday. I
think he is getting fat
too. He says he is
going to N. Mex. in Aug.
Its going to be in Aug

was only 111 degrees
in there. It aint
quite that hot where
I work but if its
that hot in Hell I
am starting being good
right now.

The boys went swimming
to nite and Buddy
scratched his ~~to~~ stomach.
He said he would
write too but his
stomach hurts.

Roman was here
Sat nite & Sunday. I
think he is getting fat
too. He says he is
going to N. Mex. in Aug.
It's going to be in Aug

P.S. Effie has received his third questionnaire this last week. It was really an occupational questionnaire. He had to give full details of his work. The one before was a form to fill out about the wife working. It has me worried plenty but he is confident that they need airplanes more than they need him. The company helps the men fill them out and the co. send em off too. So he might not have to go. I hope not.

P.S. Effie has received his third questionnaire this last week. It was really an occupational questionnaire. He had to give full details of his work. The one before was a form to fill out about the wife working. It has me worried plenty but he is confident that they need airplanes more than they need him. The company helps the men fill them out and the co. send em off too. So he might not have to go. I hope not.

Oct. 18, 1942
Chase Md.

Dearest Sis -

How are you gettin' along
now pretty busy I guess?

Say, why in hell don't
you write or let me
know how everything is
gettin' along at home?

How is Daddy making
out with that sale on the
place or is that all blowed
over again? Did he ever
find a suitable bull
for me or not?

Well I gotta tell
you that I going to the
hospital on the 22nd of
the month to have my

Oct. 18, 1942
Chase Md.

Dearest Sis -

How are you gettin'
along

now pretty busy I guess?

Say, why in hell don't
you write or let me
know how everything is
gettin' along at home?

How is daddy making
out with that sale on the
place or is that all blowed
over again? Did he ever
find a suitable bull
for me or not?

Well I gotta tell
you that I going to the
hospital on the 22nd of
the month to have my

tonsilles taken out, it wont
cost me anything as my
insurance will take care
of that so to the hospital
I go. I dont know how
long I'll have to stay out
from work but I hope it
wont be long cause I pretty
sure we'll be home for
Thanksgiving so heres
hoping we will.

How is daddy gettin'
along with the plowing,
hope fine?

Say what is wrong no-
how I aint had any mail
for a month now.

tonsilles taken out, it wont
cost me anything as my
insurance will take care
of that so to the hospital
I go. I don't know how
long I'll have to stay out
from work but I hope it
wont be long cause I pretty
sure we'll be home for
Thanksgiving so heres
hoping we will.

How is daddy gettin'
along with the plowing,
hope fine?

Say what is wrong no-
how I aint had any mail
for a month now.

and its worrying me sick,
why the hell don't someone
write?

How is Katherine gettin
along I haven't heard from
her in five weeks is she
sick or whats wrong?

Well I don't know
anything else to write
about so I guess I
better close so tell
Walter and every
body hellow for me
as I remain your

loving bud

Buddy

and listen I better
hear from home
damny
quick
too.

and its worrying me sick,
why the hell don't someone
write?

How is Katherine gettin
along I haven't heard from
her in five weeks is she
sick or whats wrong?

Well I don't know
anything else to write
about so I guess I
better close so tell
Walter and every
body hellow for me
as I remain your

loving bud

Buddy

and listen I better
hear from home
damny
quick
too.

1943

No Letters



FORT SAM HOUSTON RECEPTION CENTER
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS

2-7-44

Dear Mom & All

Well I guess you wonder-
ing how I'm making out.
As for right now I'm OK
as far as I can tell.

We took three tests
this morning and this
afternoon we were inter-
viewed. So far I'm getting
along fine in my tests and
they said I would take some
more in a few days for the
Air Corps. Right now I need
my birth certificate and
three letters of recommenda-
tion, he said they could be

2-7-44

Dear Mom & All

Well I guess you wonder-
ing how I'm making out.
As for right now I'm OK
as far as I can tell.

We took three tests
this morning and this
afternoon we were inter-
viewed. So far I'm getting
along fine in my tests and
they said I would take some
more in a few days for the
Air Corps. Right now I need
my birth certificate and
three letters of recommenda-
tion, he said they could be



FORT SAM HOUSTON RECEPTION CENTER
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS

from anyone just so I have
three of them so please have
some made out and send
them as soon as possible.

We had a fine drizzle
this morning when we got
up but it quit about day-
lite, its still cloudy though.
Well thats 'bout all for
this time so answer soon

Your Son & Bro
Buddy

Tell Walter & Doll
hello for me.

from anyone just so I have
three of them so please have
some made out and send
them as soon as possible.

We had a fine drizzle
this morning when we got
up but it quit about day
lite, its still cloudy though.
Well thats 'bout all for
this time so answer soon

Your Son & Bro
Buddy

Tell Walter & Doll
hello for me.

I'm in the Air Corps now

2-9-44

Dearest Mom & All

Just a few lines to let you know that I took my Cadet Test today and passed it, I made 221 and 190 was a passing grade, so you can figure here in one slap happy soldier. They told me I would be shipped out some time next week so please send me those papers if you can. O yes, they said I would probably be sent to Shappard Field. Well that's all for now so answer soon. I remain your
Loving Son and Bro. Buddy

I'm in the Air Corps now—

2-9-44

Dearest Mom & All

Just a few lines to let you know that I took my Cadet test today and passed it, I made 221 and 190 was a passing grade, So you can figure here is one slap happy soldier. They told me I would be shipped out some time next week so please send me those papers if you can. O! yes. they said I would probably be sent to Shappard Field. Well that's all for now so answer soon. I remain your
Loving Son and Bro. Buddy

2-27-44

Dear Folks

I guess I better write
you all a wew lines. I
got your letter the other
day and my shoes yesterday
and sure was glad to get them
I was sorry to hear
about Aunt Vinsky's
accident.

You asked where
Sheppard Field is, well
its write between Witicha
Falls and the Okla. state line.

I fineally finished
processing yesterday
morning and yesterday
afternoon we moved

2 - 27 - 44

Dear Folks

I guess I better write
you all a wew lines. I
got your letter the other
day and my shoes yesterday
and sure was glad to get them.

I was sorry to hear
about Aunt Vinsky's
accident.

You asked where
Sheppard Field is, well
its write between Witicha
Falls and the Okla. state
line.

I fineally finished
processing yesterday
morning and yesterday
afternoon we moved

to a different barracks. We're
all set to start our basic
training tomorrow. I think
we'll have about twenty
eight days of it. We have
to take some classification
tests yet to find out which
part of the cadets we're best
fitted for, pilot, navigator,
gunner, radio man, or bom-
badeer. I guess I'll have to
close for now so, so long

Love
Buddy

to a different barracks. We're
all set to start our basic
training tomorrow. I think
we'll have about twenty
eight days of it. We have
to take some classification
tests yet to find out which
part of the cadets we're best
fitted for, pilot, navigator,
gunner, radio man, or bom-
badeer. I guess I'll have to
close for now so, so long

Love

Buddy



Letter Postmarked MAR 4, 1944
WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS

From: Pvt. A. S. Lubojacky 38561682
307th T G. Brks 267
Sheppard Field
Texas

To: Mrs. J. L. Lubojacky
Edna
Texas

Box 61



SHEPPARD FIELD
WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS

3-3-44

Dearest Mom & All:

I guess you've been looking for a letter from me for some time. Well I guess as you know I write to Katherine everyday so when a fella writes a couple of letters well thats about all the spare time a fellas has if he wants to have a little fun along with it.

They've kept me pretty busy for the past week although I haven't done a helluva lot, mostly listening to lectures and going to shows with a little exercize and a little drill. So you see after all I've been kept pretty busy. I finished my eighth day of basic today. I have twenty more days coming.

I don't know if I'll make the cadets or not, I can't know at least for another week. The other day I had an interview and classification. That was to classify me as to what I'd want if I was held out of Cadets.

3-3-44

Dearest Mom & All:

I guess you've been looking for a letter from me for some time. Well I guess as you know I write to Katherine everyday so when a fella writes a couple of letters well thats about all the spare time a fellas has if he wants to have a little fun along with it.

They've kept me pretty busy for the past week although I haven't done a helluva lot, mostly listening to lectures and going to shows with a little exercize and a little drill. So you see after all I've been kept pretty busy. I finished by eighth day of basic today. I have twenty more days coming.

I don't know if I'll make the cadets or not. I won't know at least for another week. The other day I had an interview and classification. That was to classify me as to what I'd want if I washed out of cadets.

They told me I could either take, radio, mechanics, armour, or gunnery. I told them I'd rather take mechanics, although I have to take gunnery after I finish mechanics. So you see there is no way to get out of gunnery.

How is everything at home? Has Daddy done anything in the field yet. If he hasn't I'll bet its really eating on him. How are the cows getting along.

By the way where is Bab now? I wrote to her a couple times and never did hear from her. Is she still in Wharton or has she gone to Galveston? If she has what is her address? Well I'll have to close for this time as the news are running kinda short. Tell Baby Doll and Walter hello for me.

Love
Buddy

P.S. I haven't got payed yet but hope to get it by the tenth. Has Bro. Lawrence brought my policy yet or not? Did you all ever get a G.I. check yet or not.

They told me I could either take radio, mechanics, armour, or gunnery. I told them I'd rather take mechanics, although I have to take gunner after I finish mechanics. So you see there is no way to get out of gunnery.

How is everything at home? Has daddy done anything in the field yet. If he hasn't I'll bet its really eating on him. How are the cows getting along.

By the way where is Bab now? I wrote to her a couple of times and never did hear from her. Is she still in Wharton or has she gone to Galveston? If she has what is her address? Well I'll have to close for this time as the news are running kinda short. Tell Baby Doll and Walter hello for me.

Love
Buddy

P.S. I haven't got payed yet but hope to get it by the tenth. Has Bro. Lawrence brought my policy yet or not. Did you all ever get a G. I. check yet or not.

3-9-44

Dear Folks:

I got your letter a couple days ago which was more than appreciated.

No. I haven't been payed yet but expect to be by the fifteenth. That ten you sent was a life saver cause I didn't have but five pennies left. That ^{ten is} all I had coming from that fella so don't worry about it.

You asked if I had finished my tests. All but three boys in our flight started theirs yesterday; and damn it I had to be one of the three. I swept the streets till 10:00 and then went on K. P. I don't know what I'll do today.

Olga wrote and told me Uncle Felix was in the hospital but she didn't say what was wrong or how long he'll stay in there. I'm sure glad R. E. got some of his stripes back. I wrote to him a couple weeks ago but haven't heard

3-9-44

Dear Folks:

I got your letter a couple days ago which was more than appreciated.

No. I haven't been payed yet but expect to be by the fifteenth. That ten you sent was a life saver cause I didn't have but five pennies left. That ^{ten is} all I had coming from that fella so don't worry about it.

You asked if I had finished my tests. All but three boys in our flight started theirs yesterday; and damn it I had to be one of the three. I swept the streets till 10:00 and then went on K. P. I don't know what I'll do today.

Olga wrote and told me Uncle Felix was in the hospital but she didn't say what was wrong or how long he'll stay in there. I'm sure glad R. E. got some of his stripes back. I wrote to him a couple of weeks ago but haven't heard

from him as yet.

We've been taking P. T. every day and I want to tell you I was really sore for several days, but I'm kinda limbered up now. I had a slight cold till yesterday and washing them pots and pans really made it bad now.

I got a permanent pass to go off the field but haven't had time to go yet its for a 35 mile radius.

Our flight leader just came in and call off the boys that are going to take their physical today. I got left out again so I'll go on detail again.

About that police, I'm glad he brought it home and the double idemity, well I guess there isn't anything a fella can do about that.

Tell Walter I'd like to roll for daddy, but this year I won't be there so he'll have to do it for me. That's all the news now.
Love Buddy

from him as yet.

We've been taking P. T. every day and I want to tell you I was really sore for several days, but I'm kinda limbered up now. I had a slight cold till yesterday and washing them pots and pans really made it bad now.

I got a permanent pass to go off the field but haven't had time to go yet its for a 35 mile radius.

Our flight leader just came in and call off the boys that are going to take their physical today. I got left out again so I'll go on detail again.

About that police, I'm glad he brought it home and the double idemity, well I guess there isn't anything a fella can do about that.

Tell Walter I'd like to roll for daddy, but this year I won't be there so he'll have to do it for me. That's all the news now.

Love Buddy

3-10-44

Dear Folks:

I'll try to drop you a few lines as I don't have much of any thing else to do at the present.

First of all I'm enclosing a form for you'll to fill out. Its about this allotment business, they seem to have lost the other form and they said you'll wouldn't get any allotment till that is back so have it filled out and send it back as soon as possible. I think the best thing would be to take it to Hamblin and let him fill it out and both you mom & dad have to sign it before witnesses and he or she have to sign before both of you alls name. This has to be all in ink.

I haven't done much of any thing for the past three day. All my flight have been taking their tests the past three days. All but three of us and we've been on detail and probly we'll

3-10-44

Dear Folks:

I'll try to drop you a few lines as I don't have much of any thing else to do at the present.

First of all I'm enclosing a form for you'll to fill out. Its about this allotment business, they seem to have lost the other form and they said you'll wouldn't get any allotment till that is back so have it filled out and send it back as soon as possible. I think the best thing would be to take it to Hamblin and let him fill it out and both you mom & dad have to sign it before witnesses and he or she have to sign before both of you alls name. This has to be all in ink.

I haven't done much of any thing for the past three day. All my flight have been taking their tests the past three days. All but three of us and we've been on detail and probly we'll

have detail tomorrow again cause they have to finish their physical.

It seems as though this hospital business still has me messed up. I don't see why but I guess that's what it is cause the three of us boys that have been on detail have been in the hospital. You know the five days I spent in the hospital with my jaw.

I hear that about eleven of the boys in our flight have washed out of the cadets already. There are only 46 in this flight so you can figure about how tough it is, and I guess there will be some more after it's all over with.

You know it's a funny thing. You see in the magazines and you hear it a whole lot join the air corps and all that, but from what I can find out they have already quit taking cadets and about 75 cadet schools have closed down. So they must think they

have detail tomorrow again cause they have to finish their physical.

It seems as though this hospital business still has me messed up. I don't see why but I guess that's what it is cause the three of us boys that have been on detail have been in the hospital. You know the five days I spent in the hospital with my jaw.

I hear that about eleven of the boys in our flight have washed out of the cadets already. There are only 46 in this flight so you can figure about how tough it is, and I guess there will be some more after it's all over with.

You know It's a funny thing. You see in the magazines and you hear it a whole lot join the air corps and all that, but from what I can find out they have already quit taking cadets and about 75 cadet schools have closed down. So they must think they

have this thing pretty well in the bag
or something, if it isn't that, I can't figure
out what the hell it could be. I hear they
are going to close this place down about the
first of June, it may be just a lot of
stuff and it may be on the level, a fella just
can't tell.

How is everything at home? I guess
daddy is working like hell in the field
and all that, or has it rained there again?
Has Pete ever started on that well or
not?

O yes! I got a letter from Bab yester-
day and she wanted to know if it would
be O.K. if you all gave her that \$25. for
that cow. As far
as I'm concerned you all can give it to
her and that will finish paying for that cow.
I'm bout to run out of news so I'll have to
close for this time so answer soon. Tell
Walter and Baby Doll hellow for me.
Love
Buddy

have this thing pretty well in the bag
or something, if it isn't that, I can't figure
out what the hell it could be. I hear they
are going to close this place down about the
first of June, it may be just a lot of
stuff and it may be on the level, a fella just
can't tell.

How is everything at home? I guess
daddy is working like hell in the field
and all that, or has it rained there again?
Has Pete ever started on that well or
not?

O yes! I got a letter from Bab yester-
day and she wanted to know if it would
be O.K. if you all gave her that \$25. for
them (unreadable) of mine on that cow. As far
as I'm concerned you all can give it to
her and that will finish paying for that cow.
I'm bout to run out of news so I'll have to
close for this time so answer soon. Tell
Walter and Baby Doll hellow for me.

Love

Buddy

ARMY AIR FORCES



SHEPPARD FIELD, TEXAS

3-18-44

Dear Folks:

I guess you all have been expecting a letter from me for the past few days but I've been pretty busy and didn't have a chance to go to the group orderly room and when I did go over there the insurance clerk was out. So I finally caught him in today at noon so I asked him about those papers and he said for you to send ^{me} just ~~send~~ the paper that I sent and I guess the other papers back to where ever they came from.

I had a note the other day from the orderly room that I should turn in my three letters of recommendation and my birth certificate. They said I couldn't enter pre-flight till I had them turned in so I took them

3-18-44

Dear Folks:

I guess you all have been expecting a letter from me for the past few days but I've been pretty busy and didn't have a chance to go to the group orderly room and when I did go over there the insurance clerk was out. So I finally caught him in today at noon so I asked him about those papers and he said for you to send ^{me} just ~~send~~ the paper that I sent and I guess the other papers back to where ever they came from.

I had a note the other day from the orderly room that I should turn in my three letters of recommendation and my birth certificate. They said I couldn't enter pre-flight till I had them turned in so I took them

ARMY AIR FORCES



SHEPPARD FIELD, TEXAS

in this morning. I don't know yet if I made the cadets or not although I know I passed the physical and the psychiatrist interview but I don't know how I came out on the mental aptitude and the psychomotor but I hope I did make it all.

I had a letter from ~~St~~ Olga & one from Sylvia the other day. I had a letter from Bro. Lawrence today and sure was glad to hear from him. I'm going to try to answer his letter tonite.

I thought we'd all go on detail tomorrow but so far we haven't found ~~it~~ out yet, I hope we don't though.

As far as I know I'll be here about two more weeks more or less. I'll have to close for now so long. Love
Buddy

in this morning. I don't know yet if I made the cadets or not although I know I pass the physical and the psychiatrist interview but I don't know how I came out on the mental aptitude and the psychomotor but I hope I did make it o.k.

I had a letter from ~~of~~ Olga & one from Sylvia the other day, had a letter from Bro. Lawrence today and sure was glad to hear from him. I'm going to try to answer his letter tonite.

I thought we'd all go on detail tomorrow but so far we haven't found ~~it~~ out yet, I hope we don't though.

As far as I know I'll be here about two more weeks more or less. I'll have to close for now so by. Love

Buddy

ARMY AIR FORCES



SHEPPARD FIELD, TEXAS

3-25-44

Dear Folks:

I have a little news I guess you all would like to know. They finally told me this morning that I washed out of cadets so I'll go to mechanics A.M. School. I'll go to either of two places, Amerallo or Keeseler Field Mississippi. A captain told us that they are shipping most of the boys to Amerallo now so I guess that's about where I'll land up at. I'll go to school there for eighteen weeks, after I finish there I'll go to aerial gunnery for six weeks. After that what will happen, no one knows. I guess that's not such a bad deal after all cause they've practically completely

3-25-44

Dear Folks

I have a little news I guess you-all would like to know. They finally told me this morning that I washed out of cadets so I'll go to mechanics A. M. School. I'll go to either of two places, Amerallo or Keeseler Field Mississippi. A captain told us that they are shipping most of the boys to Amerallo now so I guess that's about where I'll land up at. I'll go to school there for eighteen weeks, after I finish there I'll go to aerial gunnery for six weeks. After that what will happen, no one knows. I guess that's not such a bad deal after all cause they've practically completely

ARMY AIR FORCES



SHEPPARD FIELD, TEXAS

cut the cadets out, and its a rough go
I have to move to another
barracks this evening so I'll have
to close for this time.

Love
Buddy

P.S. My address will remain
the same except the barracks
number which is 363

cut the cadets out and its a rough go
I have to move to another
barracks this evening so I'll have
to close for this time.

Love

Buddy

P. S. My address will remain
the same except the barracks
number which is 363



ARMY AIR CORPS

4-10-44 - Monday evening

Dear Folks:

I guess I should have my seat kicked for not writing sooner but I just didn't have time. Last Thursday afternoon we left camp and went on bivouac and came back Sunday at 12:30 and then we each got a shot in our arms and after that we had a lecture on water purification, got off about five o'clock. Then ~~so~~ I went to town to get my pictures and I sent them off right away. I sent two large pictures home as they made one more than I had ordered ~~so I sent it home too.~~ I ~~don't~~ ^{didn't} know who to send it to.

You asked if I hadn't shipped out well I haven't as yet but we are going to have a clothing check in just a short while so I'll be ready for shipment after that is over with. A person has to go on bivouac and fire on the range for

4-10-44 - Monday evening

Dear Folks:

I guess I should have my seat kicked for not writing sooner but I just didn't have time. Last Thursday afternoon we left camp and went on bivouac and came back Sunday at 12:30 and then we each got a shot in our arms and after that we had a lecture on water purification, got off about five o'clock. Then ~~we~~ I went to town to get my pictures and I sent them off right away. I sent two large pictures home as they made one more than I had ordered ~~so I sent it home too.~~ I ~~don't~~ ^{didn't} know who to send it to.

You asked if I hadn't shipped out well I haven't as yet but we are going to have a clothing check in just a short while so I'll be ready for shipment after that is over with. A person has to go on bivouac and fire on the range for



record. As I went on bivouac Thursday and fired on the range last Monday. I don't know if I told you all what I made on ~~my~~ ^{the} range. Well if I didn't, I made sharpshooter with the carbine, I made 169 and 175 is ~~expert~~ expert so I didn't miss that very much. With the 45 caliber colt pistol I didn't even qualify, I made 53.33 and I had to make 62. With the Thompson sub-machine gun we just shot it for familiarization.

O! yes you asked if I had ever got payed, yes I did, twice, the first time I drew \$9.00 and the recent time I got \$21.50. I figured it up and that's all I had coming, that is if you all got your part. I have to go on detail tonite, just found out. Well that's about all the news for this time.

With Love
Buddy
P.S. Even if I am ready for shipment that doesn't mean that I will ship soon. It's just when ever they have an opening in a school.

record. As I went on bivouac Thursday and fired on the range last Monday. I don't know if I told you all what I made on ~~my~~ ^{the} range. Well if I didn't, I made sharpshooter with the carbine. I made 169 and 175 is ~~expert~~ expert so I didn't miss that very much, with the 45 caliber colt pistol I didn't even qualify, I made 53.33 and I had to make 62. With the Thompson sub-machine gun we just shot it for familiarization.

O! yes you asked if I had ever got payed, yes I did, twice, the first time I drew \$10.00 and the recent time I got \$21.50. I figured it up and that's all I had coming, that is if you all got your part. I have to go on detail tonite, just found out. Well that's about all the news for this time.

With Love

Buddy

P. S. Even if I am ready for shipment that doesn't mean that I will ship soon. It's just when ever they have an opening in a school.



ARMY AIR CORPS

4-16-44 - Sunday evening

Dear Folks:

Well I'm still here and as well as ever. I haven't been notified as yet when I'll be leaving here but I hope it's soon.

I had a letter from Olga, Sylvia and Ethel yesterday and one from Roman today.

I was hoping that I'd have today off but I had to go to a lecture on malaria control at 9:30 and got out at 12:00. I've had all the afternoon off though. I went to the show and then walked up to the other end of the field to the PX there. I wanted to get some bars to hang on my sharpshooter metal but they were closed so I didn't get them.

How is farming now, has daddy finished planting or not? How are the cows, have any more of them had calves or not?

I think I'm going to try to get

4-16-44 - Sunday evening

Dear Folks:

Well I'm still here and as well as ever. I haven't been notified as yet when I'll be leaving here but I hope it's soon. I had a letter from Olga, Sylvia and Ethel yesterday and one from Roman today.

I was hoping that I'd have today off but I had to go to a lecture on malaria control at 9:30 and got out at 12:00. I've had all the afternoon off though. I went to the show and then walked up to the other end of the field to the PX there, I wanted to get some bars to hang on my sharpshooter metal but they were closed so I didn't get them.

How is farming now, has daddy finished planting or not? How are the cows, have any more of them had calves or not?

I think I'm going to try to get



on some permanent detail here till I
leave here cause I'm finished with my
basic cause I'm getting some lousy detail
every day anyway and we have a ten mile
hike coming up Wednesday and I want
to get out of that if I can. If I get
on permanent detail I won't have to go on
any hikes or start retreats or any thing
like that.

How is Baby Doll? Can she talk
well already or is she still holding back?
I'll have to close as the news are
getting rather short and I want to write
to Olga yet.

Love
Buddy

P.S. Tell Walter and ~~Bobby~~ Baby Doll
hello for me. I guess you got the pictures
already. I didn't have time to get any frames for
them, they had some at the studio but I
didn't like them very well.

on some permanent detail here till I
leave here cause I'm finished with my
basic cause I'm getting some lousy detail
every day anyway and we have a ten mile
hike coming up Wednesday and I want
to get out of that if I can. If I get
on permanent detail I won't have to go on
any ~~hikes~~ hikes or start retreats or any thing
like that.

How is Baby Doll? Can she talk
well already or is she still holding back?
I'll have to close as the news are
getting rather short and I want to write
to Olga yet.

Love

Buddy

P. S. Tell Walter and ~~Bobby~~ Baby Doll
hello for me. I guess you got the pictures
already. I didn't have time to get any frames for
them, they had some at the studio but I
didn't like them very well.

Dear Folks:

4-20-44
Thursday A.M.

Just a few lines to let you know that I'm leaving this hell hole sometime tomorrow morning. I'm going to Las Vegas Nevada to a gunnery school. as well as I can find out I'll be there about two months. I moved over to a different barracks yesterday morning and was processing all day. First we had physical inspection then after noon we had clothing check and after that we checked and brought our service record up to date. I don't think we'll do any thing today but lay around in the barracks. I can't think of anything else to write so I guess I'll have to close for now. I probably won't be able to write anymore till after I get there so
good bye.

Your loving Son & bro.

Buddy

4-20-44
Thursday A. M.

Dear Folks:

Just a few lines to let you know that I'm leaving this hell hole sometime tomorrow morning. I'm going to Las Vegas Nevada to a gunnery school, as well as I can find out I'll be there about two months. I moved over to a different barracks yesterday morning and was processing all day. First we had physical inspection then after noon we had clothing check and after that we checked and brought our service record up to date. I don't think we'll do any thing today but lay around in the barracks. I can't think of anything else to write so I guess I'll have to close for now. I probably won't be able to write anymore till after I get there so
good bye.

Your loving Son & bro.

Buddy



Letter Postmarked APR 25, 1944
LAS VEGAS, NEV.

From: Pvt. A. S. Lubojacky 38561682
L.V.A.A.F.
LVGS Student Pool
Las Vegas Nevada

To: Mrs. J. L. Lubojacky
Edna
Box 61 Texas

4-24-44
Monday afternoon

Dear Folks:

I guess you wondering how I made the trip. Well I'm still in the one piece and as well as ever, but not very happy. We arrived here to the field last nite about 8:30 and then had to stand in line for about two hours to get our bedding. This is a pretty nice field, it's right down in a valley and there are mountains all the way around us, some of them have snow on them.

As I said this is a gunnery school and I'll be here about seven to nine weeks. That is if nothing happens to me. This damn army anyway, they tell you one thing and turn right around and do the oppsite, as what they say here there is a very slim chance that I get to go to A.M. school whitch I wanted more than anything out of this whole outfit. So this is a B17 school that's what I'll be in as a gunner.

Well as the news are rather short today I'll have to close.

Love
Buddy

(over)

4-24-44
Monday afternoon

Dear Folks:

I guess your wondering how I made the trip. Well I'm still in ~~the~~ one piece and as well as ever, but not very happy. We arrived here to the field last nite about 8:30 and then had to stand in line for about two hours to get our bedding. This is a pretty nice field, it's right down in a valley and there are mountains all the way around us, some of them have snow on them.

As I said this is a gunnery school and I'll be here about seven to nine weeks. This is if nothing happens to me. This damn army anyway, they tell you one thing and turn right around do the oppsite, as what they say here there is a very slim chance that I get to go to A.M. school whitch I wanted more than anything out of this whole outfit. To this is a B17 school that's what I'll be in as a gunner.

Well as the news are rather short today I'll have to close.

Love
Buddy

(over)

The address whitch I put on ~~my~~ for a return
will not be perment. I'll be changed
in just about a week so if you don't have
some bad news or something like that I'd rather
you wouldn't write till after the change
of address.

O Yeah! You asked what detail means,
well it's just all sorts of odd jobs such
as guard, K.P., cleaning guns, mowing the
lawn or just anything ~~like~~ like that is a detail.

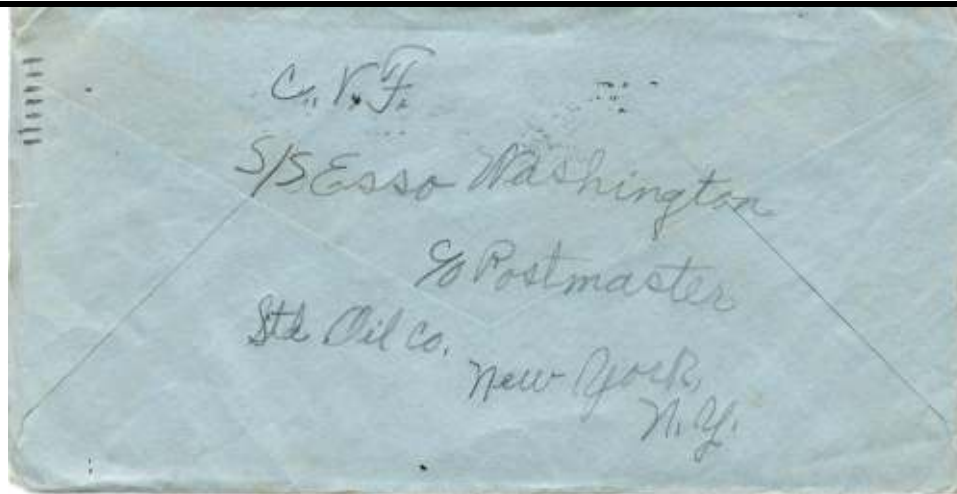
Love
Buddy

the address whitch I put on my for a return
will not be perment. I'll be changed
in just about a week so if you don't have
some bad news or something like that I'd rather
you wouldn't write till after the change
of address.

O Yeah! You asked what detail means,
well it's just all sorts of odd jobs such
as guard, K.P., cleaning guns, mowing the
lawn or just anything ~~like~~ like that is a detail.

Love

Buddy



c. r. F.
S/S Esso Washington
c/o Postmaster
Std Oil Co.
New York
N.Y.

4-28-44
Friday noon

Dear Folks:

I guess you all are wondering how I getting along, well, as far as myself I'm as well as could be expected. I haven't found out as yet when I'll start school, some of the boys that I came with up here were assigned to a squadron this morning. I'm not doing very much, I have to drill and take P.T. every morning and in the ~~afternoon~~ afternoon we're all subject to get on some detail. Like yesterday I helped haul some mattresses, beds and pillows to different barracks here on the field.

I had the surprise of my life yesterday evening. Me and a couple other boys had gone to the gym to lift some weights and take some exercise on our own. Were there about thirty minutes when all of a sudden Marvin walks up. Talk about a surprised man, I was. Come to find out he's staying in the barracks right next to ours. I came here Sunday
(over)

4-28-44
Friday noon

Dear Folks:

I guess you all are wondering how I getting along, well, as far as myself I'm as well as could be expected. I haven't found out as yet when I'll start school, some of the boys that I came with up here were assigned to a squadron this morning. I'm not doing very much. I have to drill and take P.T. every morning and in the ~~afternoon~~ afternoon we're all subject to get on some detail. Like yesterday I helped haul some mattresses, beds and pillows to different barracks here on the field.

I had the surprise of my life yesterday evening. Me and a couple other boys had gone to the gym to lift some weights and take some exercise on our own. Were there about thirty minutes when all of a sudden Marvin walks up. Talk about a surprised man, I was. Come to find out he's staying in the barracks right next to ours. I came here Sunday
(over)

nite and he said he came in Monday, so chances
are that we'll be in the same class.

I had a letter from Roman yesterday
and he said he was doing O.K. Well I'll
have to stop now for a little while cause I've
to go to chow and mail call, will finish
when I come back. Just came back from chow
so I'll have to sign off now as it's time
for us to fall out.

Love

Buddy

nite and he said he came in Monday, so chances
are that we'll be in the same class.

I had a letter from Roman yesterday
and he said he was doing O.K. Well I'll
have to stop now for a little while cause I've
to go to chow and mail call, we'll finish
when I come back. Just came back from chow
so I'll have to sign off now as it's time
for us to fall out.

Love

Buddy



Letter Postmarked MAY 1, 1944
LAS VEGAS, NEV.

From: Pvt. A. S. Lubojacky 38561682
LVAAF
LVGS Student Pool
Las Vegas Nevada

To: Mrs. J. L. Lubojacky
Edna

Box 61 Texas



Hochheim



A.A.F. FLEXIBLE GUNNERY SCHOOL

L.V.A.A.F.

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

4-30-44

Sunday noon

Dear Folks:

I'll try to drop you all a few lines as that's about all I have to do now. I didn't even get up for breakfast, just layed in bed till about 10:40, then I got up and cleaned up and went to dinner. I slept all yesterday afternoon.

I haven't done anything towards getting assigned to a squadron as yet but if my guess is right I should process about Tuesday, that is have a clothing and service record check.

Say Mom, as much as I hate to ask for anything but seems as though I'll have to. I wonder if you could send me about five dollars till we get payed. We were supposed to get payed today but since we had shipped up here we got red lined that is we won't get payed till maybe the tenth or it is possible that we won't get payed till just before

4-30-44

Sunday noon

Dear Folks:

I'll try to drop you all a few lines as that's about all I have to do now. I didn't even get up for breakfast, just layed in bed till about 10:40, then I got up and cleaned up and went to dinner. I slept all yesterday afternoon.

I haven't done anything towards getting assigned to a squadron as yet but if my guess is right I should process about Tuesday, that is have a clothing and service record check.

Say Mom, as much as I hate to ask for anything but seems as though I'll have to. I wonder if you could send me about five dollars till we get payed. We were supposed to get payed today but since we had shipped up here we got red lined, that is we won't get payed till maybe the tenth or it is possible that we won't get payed till just before



A.A.F. FLEXIBLE GUNNERY SCHOOL
L.V.A.A.F.
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

we leave this place, but they claim we'll be payed in full before we leave here.

I don't know if you all have heard or not but I was talking to Marvin yesterday and he said George got a discharge from the navy. He had been wounded in the leg and then was paralyzed for a short while that's why he got the discharge, he's working now in Corpus. Some three weeks ago Justin had completed his 40th bombing mission. When a person completes 50 missions he is to get to come back home, but he is expecting to have to stay there till after the French invasion is well along.

I was going through some of my things this morning and came across my birth certificate and some other papers that I don't think I'll need now for a while so I'm sending them home in a different envelope. It's this would be too heavy if I sent it all together.

we leave this place, but they claim we'll be payed in full before we leave here.

I don't know if you all have heard or not but I was talking to Marvin yesterday and he said George got a discharge from the navy. He had been wounded in the leg and then was paralyzed for a short while that's why he got the discharge, he's working now in Corpus. Some three weeks ago Justin had completed his 40th bombing mission. When a person completes 50 missions he is to get to come back home, but he is expecting to have to stay there till after the French invasion is well along.

I was going through some of my things this morning and came across my birth certificate and some other papers that I don't think I'll need now for a while so I'm sending them home in a different envelope. As this would be too heavy if I sent it all together.



A.A.F. FLEXIBLE GUNNERY SCHOOL
L.V.A.A.F.
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Say, I was just wondering how Deloris's calf is getting along or have you all sold it already? Has Pat ever had her calf or not? How are the rest of the cows? Has Pete M. ever dug that well or not? Did you all ever get that much needed rain?

I had a letter from Roman the other day and he says he's getting along O.K. I also had one from Olga a couple days ago.

I think I had better sign off for this time as I have to wash me some clothes cause we don't get our laundry done here till after we get assigned to a squadron.

With love

Buddy

P.S. Tell Walter he better not let the little kittens scratch him all up.

Say, I was just wondering how Deloris's calf is getting along or have you all sold it already? Has Pat ever had her calf or not? How are the rest of the cows? Has Pete M. ever dug that well or not? Did you all ever get that much needed rain?

I had a letter from Roman the other day and he says he's getting along O.K. I also had one from Olga a couple days ago.

I think I had better sign off for this time as I have to wash me some clothes cause we don't get our laundry done here till after we get assigned to a squadron.

With love

Buddy

P. S. Tell Walter he better not let the little kittens scratch him all up.

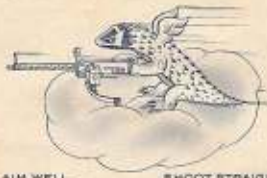


Letter

Postmarked MAY 9, 1944
LAS VEGAS, NEV.

From: Pvt. A. S. Lubjacky (*unreadable*)
LVAAF
LVGS Student Pool
Las Vegas Nevada

To: Mrs. J. L. Lubjacky
Edna
Box 61 Texas



AIM WELL SHOOT STRAIGHT
LAS VEGAS ARMY AIR FIELD
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

5-8-44
Mon. nite

Dear Folks:

Received your letter today at noon and sure was glad to hear from you. I got the money so don't worry about it.

You asked if I'd have to go overseas when I finish here, no I wont, as I'll be shipped to an overseas training unit or to a replacement training unit and that will last several months so don't worry yourself about it as they wont send a man

5-8-44

Mon. nite

Dear Folks:

Received your letter today at noon and sure was glad to hear from you. I got the money so don't worry about it.

You asked if I'd have to go overseas when I finish here, no I wont, as I'll be shipped to an overseas training unit or to a replacement training unit and that will last several months so don't worry yourself about it as they wont send a man



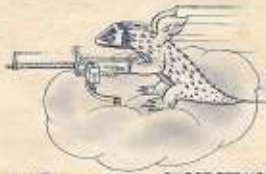
LAS VEGAS ARMY AIR FIELD
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

over unless he's well
trained. You mentioned something
about a fellow could take
the tests over, well you cant,
they give it to you once
and thats all. And as far
as the a.m. school is concerned
I still may get to get it
yet but thats a very
slim chance. As far as the
cadets are concerned, well
they're washing them out
right and left cause they
dont need them any more.
Even some that are over half
way with their school.

I was sorry to hear
about Rays and Edwards operations
I'm sure glad that that

over unless he's well
trained. You mentioned something
about a fellow could take
the tests over, well you cant,
they give it to you once
and thats all. And as far
as the a.m. school is concerned.
I still may get to go to it
yet but that's a very
slim chance. So far as the
cadets are concerned, well
they're washing them out
right and left cause they
don't need them any more.
Even some that are over half
way with their school.

I was sorry to hear
about Rays and Edwards operations
I'm sure glad that that



LAS VEGAS ARMY AIR FIELD
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

well is fineally made
and everything set up.
Yeah, Katherine wrote and
told me about my increase
in stock. I guess it was
a good thing you all
got but the ~~wink~~ wind
wasnt called for at all.

I dont know for sure
yet but I think were to
move into a squadron
sometime tomorrow. I hope
so anyway. This laying
around just wont get it
and I'm down right tired of
it. I guess I ~~is~~ better close
for this time as I want to write
to Kathy yet tonite.

Love
Buddy

well is fineally made
and everything set up.
Yeah, Katherine wrote and
told me about my increase
in stock. I guess it was
a good thing you all
got but the ~~wink~~ wind
wasn't called for at all.

I don't know for sure
yet but I think we're to
move into a squadron
sometime tomorrow. I hope
so anyway. This laying
around just wont get it
and I'm down right tired of
it. I guess I ~~is~~ better close
for this time as I want to write
to Kathy yet tonite.

Love

Buddy

(over)

I got payed this afternoon but
it was just partial pay. \$15. and
there is a rumor going around
that we won't get payed ~~no~~
again till just before we leave
so I'll pay you back as soon
as I can.

I got payed this afternoon but
it was just partial pay, \$15. and
there is a rumor going around
that we won't get payed ~~no~~
again till just before we leave
so I'll pay you back as soon
as I can.



Letter Postmarked MAY 11, 1944
LAS VEGAS, NEV.

From: (REMOVED)

To: Mrs. J L Lubojacky
Edna

Box 61 Texas



LAS VEGAS ARMY AIR FIELD
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

5-10-44

Wed noon

Dear Folks:

I guess I had better let you know that I was finally put into a squadron yesterday and am I glad. Although we won't start school till the 22nd. We're not doing much of anything this week. And next week we're supposed to process, that is, go through a pressure chamber to see if high altitudes wont bother us and lots of other stuff.

I went over to Head Quarters this morning and had them make out a will for me, they told me I could

5-10-44

Wed noon

Dear Folks:

I guess I had better let you know that I was finally put into a squadron yesterday and am I glad. Although we won't start school till the 22nd. We're not doing much of anything this week. And next week we're supposed to process, that is, go through a pressure chamber to see if high altitudes wont bother us and lots of other stuff.

I went over to Head Quarters this morning and had them make out a will for me, they told me I could



LAS VEGAS ARMY AIR FIELD
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Come back the last of this week or the first of next week and pick it up. I'm glad to get that over with so I don't have to worry about it anymore.

Marvin and I are still together and I hope we'll be able to stay together.

Well that's about all I have to ~~say~~ say this time so good bye and write soon.

Love
Buddy

P.S. Say Mom, if my swimming trunks are still there I wish you would send them to me if you think about it.

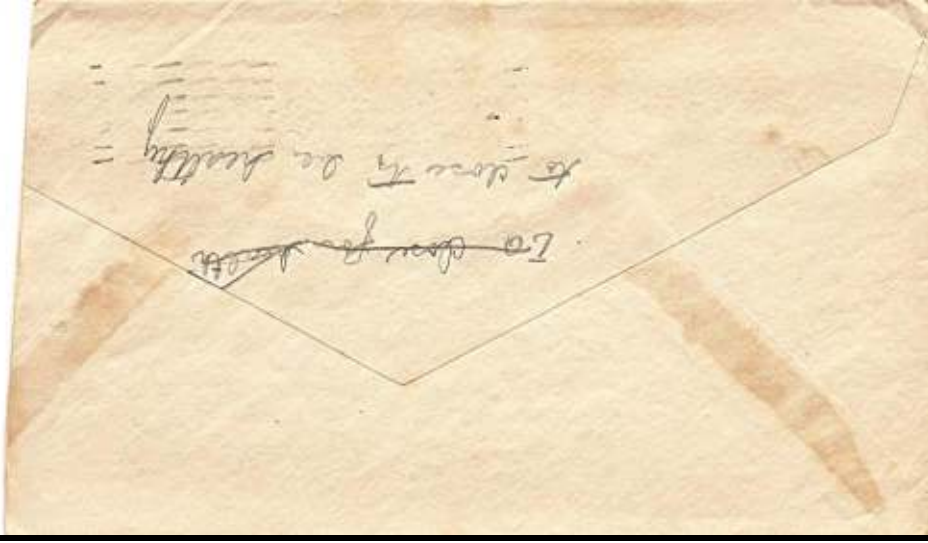
come back the last of this week or the first of next week and pick it up. I'm glad to get that over with so I don't have to worry about it anymore.

Marvin and I are still together and I hope we'll be able to stay together.

Well that ~~about~~ about all I have to ~~say~~ say this time so good bye and write soon.

Love
Buddy

P.S. Say Mom, if my swimming trunks are still here I wish you would send them to me if you think about it.



~~To close for health~~
to close to be healthy



UNITED STATES ARMY
AIR FORCES

5-16-44

Tues nite

Dear Folks.

I think I ~~g~~ drop you all a few lines tonite as I don't have much of anything else to do. Well yesterday we went through the pressure chamber. First we just went to 7,000 feet. Then we came back to normal and again we went to 30,000 feet it was just in a chamber to see if we could go to high altitudes. We went to 20,000 without oxygen masks, that was just to show us how a person feels when he doesn't get enough oxygen. Ordinarily the army states you should always use oxygen anywhere above

5-16-44

Tues nite

Dear Folks:

I think I ~~g~~ drop you all a few lines tonite as I don't have much of anything else to do. Well yesterday we went through the pressure chamber. First we just went to 7,000 feet. Then we came back to normal and again we went to 30,000 feet it was just in a chamber to see if we could go to high altitudes. We went to 20,000 without oxygen masks, that was just to show us how a person feels when he doesn't get enough oxygen. Ordinarily the army states you should always use oxygen anywhere above



UNITED STATES ARMY
AIR FORCES

ten thousand feet. At that
20,000 feet we were all sweating
and just about went to sleep
and I felt like I was about
ready to throw up, but as soon
as we took oxygen we really
revived all at once. Today we
went up to 38,000 feet but
we put on our oxygen masks
when we first went into the
chamber so I made it all OK
but they had to take two men
out at 34,000 feet cause one had
a toothache and one had the (Bends)
that is one of his legs started
aking him so they took him
out. A couple more men had
the bends but they weren't
so bad and one almost passed
out but they stayed in and
made it OK. I'm glad we're

ten thousand feet. At that
20,000 feet we were all sweating
and just about went to sleep
and I felt like I was about
ready to throw-up, but as soon
as we took oxygen we really
revived all at once. Today we
went up to 38,000 feet but
we put on our oxygen masks
when we first went into the
chamber so I made it all OK
but they had to take two men
out at 34,000 feet cause one had
a toothache and one had the (Bends)
that is one of his legs started
aking him so they took him
out. A couple more men had
the bends but they weren't
so bad and one almost passed
out but they stayed in and
made it OK. I'm glad we're



UNITED STATES ARMY
AIR FORCES

through with that part of
the physical test. Some men
couldn't take it so they washed
them out right away.

Say did you all ever get
any of that allotment or not?
I went in Monday to Post
Headquarters to see if they
had my will fixed out
but the girl working in
there said she'd been too busy
the past week so she told
me to come back in a week
or ten days. How is everything
at home fine & hope? I'm well
as could be expected. Well
that's about all the news for
tonite so I'd better close.

Love to all
Buddy

through with that part of
the physical test. Some men
couldn't take it so they washed
them out right away.

Say did you all ever get
any of that allotment or not?
I went in Monday to Post
Headquarters to see if they
had my will fixed out
but the girl working in
there said she'd been too busy
the past week so she told
me to come back in a week
or ten days. How is everything
at home fine I hope? I'm well
as could be expected. Well
that's about all the news for
tonite so I'd better close.

Love to all
Buddy



AIM WELL SHOOT STRAIGHT
LAS VEGAS ARMY AIR FIELD
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
5-21-44
Sun. nite

Dear Folks:

I guess I'll drop you all a few lines tonite as I don't know when I'll have time from now on. As you all know tomorrow we start school and I don't think we'll have so very much time to spare. I'm getting along fine and am as well as could be expected. I haven't done so very much this past week mostly going to lectures and things like that. We had a small test yesterday over the things we had covered. I made 76 from a possible score of 100, that is just about an average score.

I guess you all are pretty busy in the field now, chopping

5-21-44

Sun. nite

Dear Folks:

I guess I'll drop you all a few lines tonite as I don't know when I'll have time from now on. As you all know tomorrow we start school and I don't think we'll have so very much time to spare. I'm getting along fine and am as well as could be expected. I haven't done so very much this past week mostly going to lectures and things like that. We had a small test yesterday over the things we had covered. I made 76 from a possible score of 100, that is just about an average score.

I guess you all are pretty busy in the field now, chopping

and all that. Or has it been raining
there too much lately? Have you sent
my bathing suit or couldn't you find it?
I sure could have used it today. They
just cleaned out the swimming pool
here last week and they just refilled
it today.

Say Mom, do you know where Roy
is now or not? If you have his address
I wish you'd send it to me I think I'd
like to write to him sometime.

There was a fellow saying that he
over heard the officers talking in the
orderly room yesterday and he said that
they had said that we'd be going to
Tampa Florida from here. And the boys
here say there is just one other place
they could send us and that is to
Lincoln Nebraska. So I don't know how
much the truth there is to that.

I better sign off now as it's about
time for the lights to go out so good
nite.

Love
Buddy

P.S. How is Walter and Baby Doll? I guess
they're have a time with the kittens.
Have you all heard from RE lately?

and all that or has it been raining
there too much lately? Have you sent
my bathing suit or couldn't you find it?
I sure could have used it today. They
just cleaned out the swimming pool
here last week and they just refilled
it today.

Say Mom, do you know where Roy
is now or not? If you have his address
I wish you'd send it to me I think I'd
like to write to him sometime.

There was a fellow saying that he
over heard the officers talking in the
orderly room yesterday and he said that
they had said that we'd be going to
Tampa Florida from here. And the boys
here say there is just one other place
they could send us and that is to
Lincoln Nebraska. So I don't know how
much ~~to~~ truth there is to that.

I better sign off now as it's about
time for the lights to go out and so good
nite.

Love Buddy

P.S. how is Walter and Baby Doll? I guess
they're have a time with the kittens.
Have you all heard from RE lately?



A/M WELL SHOOT STRAIGHT
LAS VEGAS ARMY AIR FIELD
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

5-25-44
Thurs. nite

Dear Folks:

I received your letter today at noon and sure was glad to hear from home. I also had a card from Kathy telling me of her mis-hap, let me tell you that sure did shock me too. Also had a letter from Roman while ago and he seems to be getting along fine.

Say! I want you all to be a little more careful and don't be getting sick all at once. Tell daddy he better take care of himself too.

5-25-44
Thurs. nite

Dear Folks:

I received your letter today at noon and sure was glad to hear from home. I also had a card from Kathy telling me of her mis-hap, let me tell you that sure did shock me too. Also had a letter from Roman while ago and he seems to be getting along fine.

Say! I want you all to be a little more careful and don't be getting sick all at once. Tell daddy he better take care of himself too.

I sure hate to hear that its been raining there so much. We could use a little here, I've been here five weeks now and it hasn't rained here and I don't know how long it was before then that it rained.

I don't know just where Dinuba is but seems to me its about in the central part of the state. About a hundred or a hundred and fifty miles from here. I think I'll try to wind my way up there the weekend after next, that is if I can get a week end pass.

I haven't sent Roman any picture of myself as yet. They have a small outfit in one of the PXs here and I think Marvin and myself are going to have

(over)

I sure hate to hear that its been raining there so much. We could use a little here, I've been here five weeks now and it hasn't rained here and I don't know how long it was before then that it rained.

I don't know just where Dinuba is but seems to me its about in the central part of the state. About a hundred or a hundred and fifty miles from here. I think I'll try to wind my way up there the weekend after next, that is if I can get a week end pass.

I haven't sent Roman any picture of myself as yet. They have a small outfit in one of the PXs here and I think Marvin and myself are going to have

(over)

some pictures made together.

Look I sure am glad you all finally received that allotment. I'm glad too that you all bought those bonds. As far as that calf is concerned, just go ahead and sell it. Daddy knows what's best to do with it, when it's ready for market. The money, well I don't really need it here cause we're supposed to get payed next Wed. So you all can buy bonds for that too.

I'm doing fine in school so far. We had a test yesterday on the names of the parts in the 50 caliber machine gun and I made 82 on it. Today we had a test on sighting and every thing that goes with that. I made 95 on that test.

some pictures made together.

Gosh I sure am glad you all finally received that allotment. I'm glad too that you all bought those bonds. As far as that calf is concerned, just go ahead and sell it. Daddy knows what's best to do with it, when it's ready for market. The money, well I don't really need it here cause we're supposed to get payed next Wed. So you all can buy bonds for that too.

I'm doing fine in school so far. We had a test yesterday ~~and~~ on the names of the parts in the 50 caliber machine gun and I made 82 on it. Today we had a test on sighting and every thing that goes with that. I made 95 on that test.

tomorrow we have a final
test on sighting so I'm hoping
that I make good on that too.
We will also have a test on the
functions of the gun.

I had a letter from Bab Monday
and one again yesterday. She said
they were finally sworn into the
Cadet Nurse. I sure am proud
of her too.

Well that's about all the
news for this time so I'll
have to close. I want to write
Roman a few lines yet tonite.

Love to all
Buddy

P.S. I'm sure glad you like
that record.
I'll every one
hellow
for
me.

tomorrow we have a final
test on sighting so I'm hoping
that I make good on that too.
We will also have a test on the
functions of the gun.

I had a letter from Bab Monday
and one again yesterday. She said
they were finally sworn into the
Cadet Nurses. I sure am proud
of her too.

Well that's about all the
news for this time so I'll
have to close. I want to write
Roman a few lines yet tonite.

Love to all

Buddy

P.S. I'm sure glad you like
that record.
Tell every one
hellow
for
me.



Letter Postmarked JUN 5, 1944
LAS VEGAS, NEV.

From: Pvt A S Lubojacky 38561682
Stu Sq #3 CI 44-27
LVAAF
Las Vegas Nevada

To: Mrs J L Lubojacky
Edna
Box 61 Texas



557
359
1.98
857



LAS VEGAS ARMY AIR FIELD
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

4 June 44
LVAAF
Sun. eve.

Dear Folks:

Will try to write you a few lines now as I haven't much of anything else to do. I just finished writing to Kathy so will write while I'm in the mood. There hasn't been very much special happening here in the past week.

I took my final test on detail stripping the fifty caliber machine gun. There are some 88 or 90 parts in it which we had to remove and put @ back blind folded. It took me only 10 1/2 minutes, pretty good huh. Ten minutes is a grade of a hundred so the Sgt. gave me the benefit of the

4 June 44
LVAAF
Sun. eve.

Dear Folks

Will try to write you a few lines now as I haven't much of anything else to do. I just finished writing to Kathy so will write while I'm in the mood. There hasn't been very much special happening here in the past week.

I took my final test on detail stripping the fifty caliber machine gun. There are some 88 or 90 parts in it which we had to remove and put @ back blind folded. It took me only 10 1/2 minutes, pretty good huh. Ten minutes is a grade of a hundred so the Sgt. gave me the benefit of the

half minute. We also started operating the lower ball turret. They have a bunch of them mounted on scaffolds here so we could learn to operate them smoothly. It sure is a lot of fun in operating those turrets. Friday we went out on the firing range and using a shotgun on the back of a pick-up truck we each shot about thirty two shells at some round disks by the side of the road. Then we went to a different range and shot twenty five more shells at some clay birds that were moving about sixty M.P.H. out of the twenty five I shot down eighteen birds. While I was at home I wondered why we couldn't get any shotgun shells but now I know. Tomorrow or Tuesday we go

half minute. We also started operating the lower ball turret. They have a bunch of them mounted on scaffolds here so we could learn to operate them smoothly. It sure is a lot of fun in operating those turrets. Friday we went out on the firing range and using a shot gun on the back of a pick-up truck we each shot about thirty two shells at some round disks by the side of the road. Then we went to a different range and shot twenty five more shells at some clay birds that were moveing about sixty M.P.H. out of the twenty five I shot down eighteen birds. While I was at home I wondered why we couldn't get any shotgun shells but now I know. Tomorrow or Tuesday we go

out there again and shoot 75 more rounds each, about 550 men in a squadron each shooting that much, and that goes on ~~each~~ seven days a week, well, you can see how much they use here.

Say Mom. I didn't ever ask you about that allotment that you received. Was that \$111.00 for the three months they were behind or do you know? I was just wondering. How is farming now? Is it still raining so much or not?

O! Yeah! I bought myself a wrist watch last nite in town. I gave twenty bucks for it. That Las Vegas is the out gamblingest place I ever saw. Its really wide open. I better close now so write soon.

Love to all
Buddy

out there again and shoot 75 more rounds each, about 550 men in a squadron each shooting that much and that goes on ~~each~~ seven days a week, well, you can see how much they use here.

Say Mom. I didn't ever ask you about that allotment that you received. Was that \$111.00 for the three months they were behind or do you know? I was just wandering.

How is farming now? Is it still raining so much or not?

O! Yeah! I bought myself a wrist watch last nite in town. I gave twenty bucks for it. That Las Vegas is the out gamblingest place I ever saw. Its really wide open. I better close now so write soon.

Love to all
Buddy



Letter Postmarked JUN 7, 1944
LAS VEGAS NEV.

From: Pvt A S Lubojacky 38561682
Stu Sq #3 CI 44-27
LVAAF
Las Vegas Nevada

To: Mrs J L Lubojacky
Edna
Box 61 Texas



6 June 44
LVAAF
Tues. nite.

Dear Folks:

I'm going to try to answer your letter received yesterday. There isn't very much news this time so it'll probably be pretty short.

Yes. I did receive those swimming trunks and sure was glad to get them.

I did really want to go to Calif last week end but the Post Commander here says that no students will

at any time be more than fifty miles from camp so you see I couldn't make it up there. R. E. said he wanted me to go up there but as I said they wouldn't let me.

Sylvia I said that Bob is working in the oil field, I'm sure

6 June 44
LVAAF
Tues. nite.

Dear Folks:

I'm going to try to answer your letter received yesterday. There isn't very much new this time so it'll probably be pretty short.

Yes. I did receive those swimming trunks and sure was glad to get them.

I did really want to go to Calif last week end but the Post Commander here says that no students will at any time be more than fifty miles from camp so you see I couldn't make it up there. R. E. said he wanted me to go up there but as I said they wouldn't let me.

Sylvia I said that Bob is working in the oil field, I'm sure

glad for them.

I've been kept pretty busy lately. Studying the lower ball turret and learnin to operate it smoothly. Then too I've been going out on the firing range learning to shoot from a moving base at a moving target. I've been doing a little above average out there.

This coming Sunday we're going to boulder dam. We each donated \$1.10 toward the trip. The whole squadron is going over in busses - "convoy" We're going just for fun.

That's about all for this time so I'll have to say, "good nite"

Love
Buddy

glad for them.

I've been kept pretty busy lately. Studying the lower ball turret and learnin to operate it smoothly. Then too I've been going out on the firing range learning to shoot from a moving base at a moving target. I've been doing a little above average out there.

This coming Sunday we're going to boulder dam. We each donated \$1.10 toward the trip. The whole squadron is going over in busses - "convoy" We're going just for fun.

That's about all for this time so I'll have to say, "good nite"

Love

Buddy



A. S. LUBOJACKY
A.S.N. 2891482
Aerial Gunner

2 July 44
LVAAF
Sun. eve.



Dearest Folks,

I'm going to drop you a few lines now while I'm thinking about it. Well we fineally graduated yesterday and I want to tell you that I'm sure glad of that. We had our graduation excersizes yesterday afternoon. We got our diplomas and wings and tomorrow about ~~50~~ 150 of us are going on K.P. We were to leave here tomorrow but thats all off now. There is a rumor that we'll leave Thursday so I don't know whether to believe that or not. I'm almost afraid to. I want to tell you I did accomplish something here and that is I got Pfc. out of

2 July 44

LVAAF

Sun. eve.

Dearest Folks:

I'm going to drop you a few lines now while I'm thinking about it. Well we fineally graduated yesterday and I want to tell you that I'm sure glad of that. We had our graduation excersizes yesterday afternoon. We got our diplomas and wings and tomorrow about ~~50~~ 150 of us are going on K.P. We were to leave here tomorrow but thats all off now. There is a rumor that we'll leave Thursday so I don't know whether to believe that or not. I'm almost afraid to. I want to tell you I did accomplish something here and that is I got Pfc. out of



A. S. LUBOJACKY
A.S.N. 28561682
Aerial Gunner



this deal. We were all expecting that but weren't for sure till yesterday when we received our diplomas we all had Pfc. We are to get at least another stripe at our next base.

How is every thing at home now - a - days? Has it been raining there very much? How are all the cows getting along. Say mom what did daddy ever do with that money from that calf he sold for me?

Well I just can't think of anything else to write so I'll have to close for this time and go to chow. I'm getting along fine now so don't worry.

Love,
Buddy

this deal. We were all expecting that but weren't for sure till yesterday when we received our diplomas we all had Pfc. We are to get at least another stripe at our next base.

How is every thing at home now - a - days? Has it been raining there very much? How are all the cows getting along. Say mom what did daddy ever do with the money from that calf he sold for me?

Well I just can't think of anything else to write so I'll have to close for this time and go to chow. I'm getting along fine now so don't worry.

Love

Buddy



A. S. LUBOJACKY
A.S.N. 28561682
Aerial Gunner

12 July 44
LVAAF
Wed. 7:45 PM



Dear Folks:

I've been wanting to write to you all for about four or five days now but just never could get myself down to writing till now. Marvin asked me to come here to the day room with him to write some letters so I thought I'd better write home.

Well we haven't found out anything yet as to when we are shipping from here. We really haven't been doing anything but laying around in

12 July 44
LVAAF
Wed. 7:45 P.M.

Dear Folks:

I've been wanting to write to you all for about four or five days now but just never could get myself down to writing till now. Marvin asked me to come here to the day room with him to write some letters so I thought I'd better write home.

Well we haven't found out anything yet as to when we are shipping from here. We really haven't been doing anything but laying around in



A. S. LUBOJACKY
A.S.N. 28561682
Aerial Gunner



the barracks till this
morning about forty of us went
out on the firing range for a
while and dug a few holes. I
really didn't ~~dig~~ dig any, just
went around measuring them.
There are a lot of rumors going
around as to when we will leave
but none of them seem to amount
to anything. After all, seems like
that's all this army is built
up of "Rumors." Especially at a time
when something is about to happen.
O yeah! I guess you all will
have received the package by the
time this gets there. I really didn't
have any place here to keep that

the barracks till this
morning about forty of us went
out on the firing range for a
while and dug a few holes. I
really didn't ~~dig~~ dig any, just
went around measuring them.
There are a lot of rumors going
around as to when we will leave
but none of them seem to amount
to anything. After all, seems like
that's all this army is built
up of "Rumors." Especially at a time
when something is about to happen.

O yeah! I guess you all will
have received the package by the
time this gets there. I really didn't
have any place here to keep that



A. S. LUBOJACKY
A.S.N. 28261682
Aerial Gunner



picture & diploma so I
thought it better if I sent
it home. I'm standing on the back row
a little to the right of the center.
Marvin is standing on my left.

I sure would have liked to be
at home for this coming Sunday
but I know that's all out of question.
So I'll just give Daddy the best
of wishes on his birthday and wish
him a lot of more to come. So, Happy
birthday daddy!

By the way mom, if you ever
get worried about me which I sure
hope you don't, but in case you do,
ask Kathy about me cause as you
already probably know I write to her
(over)

picture & diploma so I
thought it better if I sent
it home. I'm standing on the back row
a little to the right of center.
Marvin is standing on my left.

I sure would have liked to be
at home for this coming Sunday
but I know that's all out of question.
So I'll just give Daddy the best
of wishes on his birthday and wish
him a lot of more to come. So, Happy
birthday daddy!

By the way mom, if you ever
get worried about me which I sure
hope you don't, but in case you do.
Ask Kathy about me cause as you
already probably know I write to her
(over)

every day so she knows pretty well
how I am and what I do each day.
So far I think I have missed writing
to her about four or five days. That's
when I was out on bivouac and then
on my way up here. Maybe you
think I'm crazy or something but I
really love her. I miss her more than
anything else in this army. She sent
me a cake the other day, I received it
Monday and it sure was good after all
this G F chow.

The last letter I had from Roman
was written on the 23rd of May and
at that time he said he was fine
although he too didn't have anything to
do. I also had a letter from Bob L.
Mon. He's in San Diego Calif. Said he
was fine. I'd better stop here now
and drop him a few lines tonite.

Love Buddy

every day so she knows pretty well
how I am and what I do each day.
So far I think I have missed writing
to her about four or five days. That's
when I was out on bivouac and then
on my way up here. Maybe you
think I'm crazy or something but I
really love her. I miss her more than
anything else in this army. She sent
me a cake the other day, I received it
Monday and it sure was good after all
this G F chow.

The last letter I had from Roman
was written on the 23rd of May and
at that time he said he was fine
although he too didn't have anything to
do. I also had a letter from Bob L.
Mon. He's in San Diego Calif. Said he
was fine. I'd better stop here now
and drop him a few lines tonite.

Love Buddy



Letter Postmarked AUG 6, 1944
 TAMPA, FLA.

From: Pfc A S Lubojacky 38561682
3rd AFRD 6th Det
Plant Pack
Tampa 6 Florida

To: Mrs J. L. Lubojacky
 Edna
Box 61 Texas



A. S. LUBOJACKY
A.S.N. 28561682
Aerial Gunner

6 August 44
3rd AFRD
Sun. 10:38 AM



Dear Folks:

I guess you all have been looking for a note from me for the passed few days but I just couldn't get down to writing eventhough I have written Kathy several letters.

Well I got here all in one peace all though I was a day early so I just stayed in town till about 7:30 Thursday when I came out here to camp. This is just a fair grounds. I don't like the camp very much but the town is alot better than Vegas. There is about two hundred thousand population here, nice town. This camp is almost in town, just about ten blocks to the main street, and we get a pass to go in every nite so thats not bad at all. So far I've had a clothing check and I think that

6 August 44
3rd AFRD
Sun. 10:38 AM.

Dear Folks:

I guess you all have been looking for a note from me for the passed few days but I just couldn't get down to writing eventhough I have written Kathy several letters.

Well I got here all in one peace all though I was a day early so I just stayed in town till about 7:00 Thursday when I came out here to camp. This is just a fair grounds. I don't like the camp very much but the town is a lot better than Vegas. There is about two hundred thousand population here, nice town. This camp is almost in town, just about ten blocks to the main street, and we get a pass to go in every nite so thats not bad at all. So far I've had a clothing check and I think that



A. S. LUBOJACKY
A.S.N. 28561982
Aerial Gunner



I'll process tomorrow. We don't know just how long we'll be here yet. And they say that we'll be sent to one of four fields, three of ~~th~~ which are here in Florida and one which is in Mississippi. All of the boys that have gone through here have been assigned to B17's Flying Fortress and not B24 Liberators. So I'm hoping that I'll get put on the Fortress too as I never did like the 24's a whole lot.

Well I'm kinda hungry so I'm going to sign of now. I can't think of anything else to write either.

Love
Buddy

P.S. I wish you would send me Uncle Felix's address. I wanted to get it while I was at home and forgot all about it.

I'll process tomorrow. We don't know just how long we'll be here yet. And they say that we'll be sent to one of four fields, three of ~~th~~ which are here in Florida and one which is in Mississippi. All of the boys that have gone through here have been assigned to B17's Flying Fortress and not B24 Liberators. So I'm hoping that I'll get put on the Fortress too as I never did like the 24's a whole lot.

Well I'm kinda hungry so I'm going to sign of now. I can't think of anything else to write either.

Love
Buddy

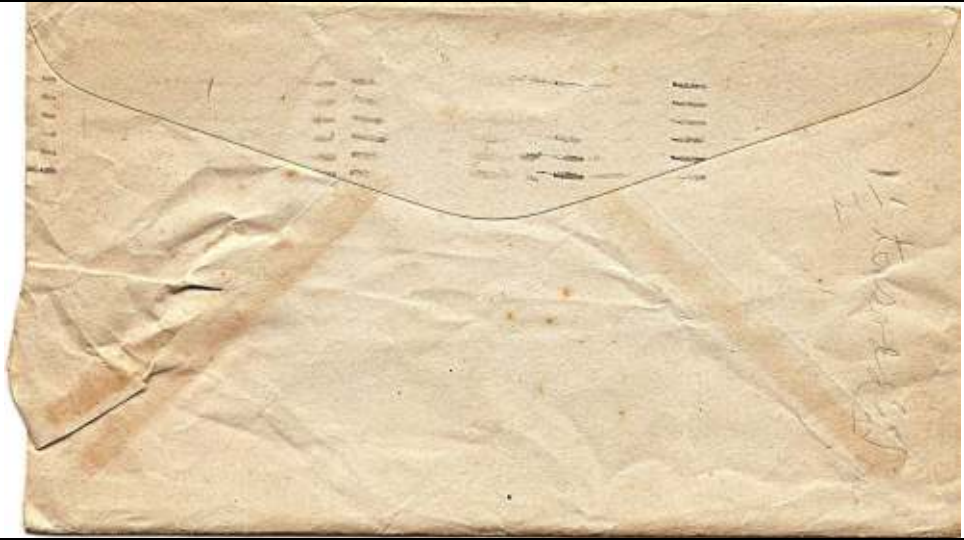
P.S. I wish you would send me Uncle Felix's address. I wanted to get it while I was at home and forgot all about it.



Letter Postmarked (*unreadable*) 1944
 TAMPA, FLA.

From: Pfc A S Lubojacky 38561682
 Sq S 327 AAF Base Unit
 AAB Drew Field
 Florida

To: Mrs Joseph L Lubojacky
 Edna
Box 61 Texas



1 1/2 tsedd 1/2 T



A. S. LUBOJACKY
A.S.N. 38561682
Aerial Gunner

17 August 44
Thurs. 6:46 P.M.



Dear Folks:

I guess you all have been wondering why I haven't written. Well I guess the main reason was cause I didn't have much of anything to write about. Well we moved from Plant park this morning we left about 9:00 and arrived here at Drew Field about 9:45. This place is only about a twenty five ~~not~~ minute drive from Tampa so you see we didn't move very far. This place is supposed to be one of the biggest training bases in the states, and I do believe it. Well I did get the position I wanted so bad. That is the lower ball. But I don't like what I got with it

17 August 44

Thurs. 6:46 P.M.

Dear Folks:

I guess you all have been wondering why I haven't written. Well I guess the main reason was cause I didn't have much of anything to write about. Well we moved from Plant Park this morning we left about 9:00 and arrived here at Drew Field about 9:45. This place is only about a twenty five ~~not~~ minute drive from Tampa so you see we didn't move very far. This place is supposed to be one of the biggest training bases in the states, and I do believe it. Well I did get the position I wanted so bad. That is the lower ball. But I don't like what I got with it



A. S. LUBOJACKY
A.S.N. 38561682
Aerial Gunner



so much but in this outfit
a person can't be too choosie.

you see I'm an assistant radio man and I
don't know a thing about radio but I guess
I can learn. I'm really glad I got that ball.
we'll be processing the first three days.
That is we'll have another dental check and
a lot of that stuff and have some more flying
clothes issued to us. After that they say
we'll have about twelve days of ground
school before we start flying. They say
we'll be here about eleven weeks. I don't
know if that excludes this processing
and ground school or not. And they also said
that after we start flying we'll fly six
hours one day and skip one day and in between
times we'll go to ground school. And we
work five days and have one day off instead

so much but in this outfit

a person can't be too choosie.

you see I'm an assistant radio man and I

don't know a thing about radio but I guess

I can learn. I'm really glad I got that ball.

We'll be processing the first three days.

That's we'll have another dental check and

a lot of that stuff and have some more flying

clothes issued to us. After that they say

we'll have about twelve days of ground

school before we start flying. They say

we'll be here about eleven weeks. I don't

know if that excludes this processing

and ground school or not. And they also said

that after we start flying we'll fly six

hours one day and skip one day and in between

times we'll go to ground school. And we

work five days and have one day off instead



A. S. LUBOJACKY
A.S.N. 28561682
Aerial Gunner



of having each Sunday off.
On this day off is about the only
time we'll have a chance to go to town. I
really think we have a good crew. Both the
pilot and the co-pilot seem to be pretty good
guys. We have one T/Sgt. in our crew that has
been overseas before. He sleeps right above me.

Well we might as well face the fact.
After we finish here we'll be going over
to practice what they've taught us here in the
states. But there aint much to worry about
cause at the rate they're going over there now,
there wont be much left for us. That is I
dont think we'll have much opposition.

I like this place pretty good. We have only one
story barracks, thats one thing I like. One thing I
dont like and that is we have to go about fifty

of having each Sunday off.

On this day off is about the only
time we'll have a chance to go to town. I
really think we have a good crew. Both the
pilot and the co-pilot seem to be pretty good
guys. We have one T/Sgt. in our crew that has
been overseas before. He sleeps right above me.

Well we might as well face the fact.

After we finish here we'll be going over
to practice what they've taught us here in the
states. But there aint much to worry about
cause at the rate they're going over there now,
there wont be much left for us. That is I
dont think we'll have much opposition.

I like this place pretty good. We have only one
story barracks, thats one thing I like. One thing I
dont like and that is we have to go about fifty



A. S. LUBOJACKY
A.S.N. 38861682
Aerial Gunner



yards to the latrine, that is to
shave, shower and all that.

There is a slim chance for me to get to come home
before we go over and I sure hope we do although
I'm not banking on it very much.

I think I told you all that I'm being put
on a B17 instead of a B24 and I'm sure glad of
that too.

Well I recon I've rambled around enough
so I'd better sign off now and find a place to
mail this.

Lots of love to all

Buddy
L

yard to the latrine, that is to
shave, shower and all that.

There is a slim chance for us to get to come home
before we go over and I sure hope we do although
I'm not banking on it very much.

I think I told you all that I'm being put
on a B17 instead of a B24 and I'm sure glad of
that too.

Well I recon I've rambled around enough
so I'd better sign off now and find a place to
mail this.

Lots of love to all

Buddy



A. S. LUBOJACKY
A.S.N. 28561682
Aerial Gunner

24 August:
Thurs: 7:30 P.M.



Dearest Folks:

I received your letter a couple days ago so I thought I'd better answer it now while I have a little idal time. You said it was still dry there, well I wish I could send you all some of the rain we're getting down here. It rains here at least every other day, generally not very much. Yesterday we got about inch and half. Bout the biggest rain we've had so far.

Say, that was bad luck for Justin. I had two letters from Marvin Sunday be he never said a word about it. So I don't know if he knew or not, I guess he did.
(over)

24 August:
Thurs: 7:30 P.M.

Dearest Folks:

I received your letter a couple days ago so I thought I'd better answer it now while I have a little idal time. You said it was still dry there, well I wish I could send you all some of the rain we're getting down here. It rains here at least every other day, generally not very much. Yesterday we got about inch and half. 'Bout the biggest rain we've had so far.

Say, that was bad luck for Justin. I had two letters from Marvin Sunday be he never said a word about it. So I don't know if he knew or not. I guess he did
(over)

I'm running short of paper so I've to write on both sides.

When was the last time you all heard from Roman? I had one letter waiting for me when I got to Plant Park from him and that was the last one. Wish uncle Charlie could have had time to stop over to see him. I'm pretty well caught up with my correspondance now just waiting to get some answers. I haven't heard from Kathy but once since I've moved and that was forwarded here from the Park.

I thank a lot for getting that bond for me. If things turn out rite I should be getting a pretty big pay before long. You see I'm expecting to make Col. before very long, that'll be \$76. plus 50% flying pay, well that wont be so bad. We're supposed to fly tomorrow afternoon just so we can draw flying pay for this

I'm running short of paper so I've to write on both sides.

When was the last time you all heard from Roman? I had one letter waiting for me when I got to Plant Park from him and that was the last one. Wish uncle Charlie could have had time to stop over to see him. I'm pretty well caught up with my correspondance now just waiting to get some answers. I haven't heard from Kathy but once since I've moved and that was forwarded here from the Park.

Thanks a lot for getting that bond for me. If things turn out rite I should be getting a pretty big pay before long. You see I'm expecting to make Cpl. before very long, that'll be \$76. plus 50% flying pay, well that wont be so bad. We're supposed to fly tomorrow afternoon just so we can draw flying pay for this



A. S. LUBOJACKY
A.S.N. 38501682
Aerial Gunner



month. We're to fly from
12:00 till 8:00 P.M. I think
we'll fly about six hours as it will take
a little while to get ready and all that.

So far we've been reviewing mostly
what we learned in Las Vegas. Took two
or three tests. Had one test on a turret
this morning and I missed only two questions.

I found out today they teach us to
recognize only German planes so you
know what that means. We'll go to either

of these places England, France or Italy.
Of course they could change that and teach
us Jap planes but so far all crews have
gone to one of these three places. So our
chance stand pretty good for us to go
there too. If we do I don't think there'll

(over)

month. We're to fly from
12:00 till 8:00 P.M. I think
we'll fly about six hours as it will take
a little while to get ready and all that.
So far we've been reviewing mostly
what we learned in Las Vegas. Took two
or three tests. Had one test on a turret
this morning and I missed only two questions.

I found out today they teach us to
recognize only German planes so you
know what that means. We'll go to either
of three places England, France or Italy.
Of course they could change that and teach
us Jap planes but so far all crews have
gone to one of these places. So our
chance stand pretty good for us to go
there too. If we do I don't think there'll
(over)

be much danger. As when we get there every thing should be pretty well in controll so we'll probably fly patrol over France and Germany. We'll go to ground school all next week and then after that we'll fly regular.

I think I told you about getting part of my overseas shots last Sat. and I'll have to get the rest of them (two or three) either tomorrow or Saturday. I'll probably wait till Sat. cause I don't want them to bother me tomorrow during flight.

One more thing, I believe we all stand a pretty good chance of coming home about the first of Nov. That's about the time we should finish up, here.

Well its getting late so I'd better close for this time. Hoping to hear from you all soon.

Love
Buddy

be much danger. As when we get there every thing should be pretty well in controll so we'll probably fly patrol over France and Germany. We'll go to ground school all next week and then after that we'll fly regular.

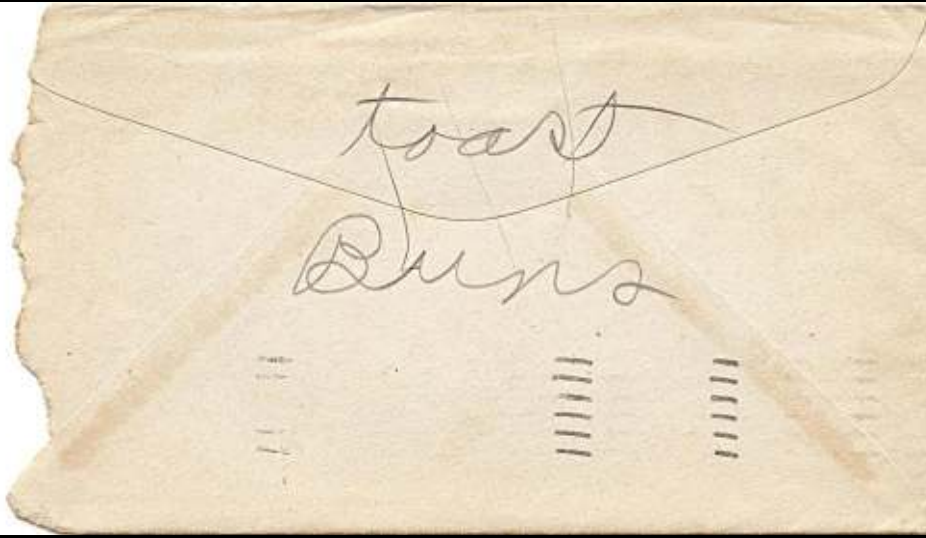
I think I told you about getting part of my overseas shots last Sat. and I'll have to get the rest of them (two or three) either tomorrow or Saturday. I'll probably wait till Sat. cause I don't want them to bother me tomorrow during flight.

One more thing, I believe we all stand a pretty good chance of coming home about the first of Nov. That's about the time we should finish up, here.

Well its getting late so I'd better close for this time. Hoping to hear from you all soon.

Love

Buddy



TOAST
BUNS



U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES

Dear Folks:

I received your letter at noon and was certainly more than glad to hear from home. I wrote to Katherine at noon so I really didn't have time to write any more. Sure am glad Roman is OK. I had one letter from him waiting when I arrived in Plant Park and haven't heard from him since. I was beginning to worry a bit.

You asked if I didn't learn about that radio if I'd be set back or loose that ball. Well to be frank I don't think there'll be a heck of a whole lot I'll have to learn about radio, at least I haven't been told. So I don't think there is much chance of me loosing my position.

(over)

30 August 44
Drew Field
Wed. 4:53 P.M.

30 August 44
Drew Field
Wed. 4:53 P.M.

Dear Folks:

I received your letter at noon and was certainly more than glad to hear from home. I wrote to Katherine at noon so I really didn't have time to write any more. Sure am glad Roman is OK. I had one letter from him waiting when I arrived in Plant Park and haven't heard from him since. I was beginning to worry a bit.

You asked if I didn't learn about that radio if I'd be set back or loose that ball. Well to be frank I don't think there'll be a heck of a whole lot I'll have to learn bout radio, at least I haven't been told. So I don't think there is much chance of me loosing my position

(over)

I sure am glad that you all
fineally got some rain, eventhough it
wasnt all you all needed. I'm also
glad to hear the expected encrease in
my stock. If I remember right.
When I was at home both of those
heafers of mine up at Cordeal were
springing pretty heavy but I guess
it'll be awhile for them yet.

Yes. I did receive those letters from
Marvin. In fact one had \$5. in it whitch
he owed me.

About that letter from R.E. Well
I've decided I'm ready to come home if
we could fix it up so I could come home
for good. As far as this damn army is
concerned, well I've had enough of it long
time ago. I don't know how we'd start
this, I guess you all would have to
go to a doctor first an get some sort

I sure am glad that you all
fineally got some rain, eventhough it
wasn't all you all needed. I'm also
glad to hear that expected encrease in
my stock. If I remember right.

When I was at home both of those
heafers of mine up at Cordeal were
springing pretty heavy but I guess
it'll be awhile for them yet.

Yes. I did receive those letters from
Marvin. In fact one had \$5. in it whitch
he owed me.

About that letter from R.E. Well
I've decided I'm ready to come home if
we could fix it up so I could come home
for good. As far as that damn army is
concerned, well I've had enough of it long
time ago. I don't know how we'd start
this, I guess you all would have to
go to a doctor first an get some sort



U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES

statement that both of you all were under doctors care and were unable to care for the plane alone. I'm going to talk to my pilot and see if he can give me a little advice along that line, or maybe he can tell me the right place to go. Although I don't know when I'll have time to discuss it with him. We finished our twelve days of ground school today and are to join the rest of the crew tomorrow or the next day so I should be seeing quite a lot of him now.

This course here, as well as I can find out won't be so rough. A big portion of it will be layed aside for flying and I guess the rest of it will be

(over)

statement that both of you all were under doctors care and were unable to care for the plane alone. I'm going to talk to my pilot and see if he can give me a little advice along that line, or maybe he can tell me the right place to go. Although I don't know when I'll have time to discuss it with him. We finished our twelve days of ground school today and are to join the rest of the crew tomorrow or the next day so I should be seeing quite a lot of him now.

This course here, as well as I can find out won't be so rough. A big portion of it will be layed aside for flying and I guess the rest of it will be

(over)

mostly reviewing and a lot of brushing up
on what we covered in ~~so~~ Vegas

I also had a letter from Olga today
and one from Ethel yesterday. So I
think I'll have to close and answer Olga's
letter, so till the next time.

Love to all

Buddy

P.S. Our Pilot (skipper) said we fly
tomorrow but I don't think we will as
we just got passes till tomorrow nite
12 P.M. I guess I'll just stay in camp.
Don't feel like going out.

mostly reviewing and a lot of brushing up
on what we covered in ~~so~~ Vegas.

I also had a letter from Olga today
and one from Ethel yesterday. So I
think I'll have to close and answer Olga's
letter, so till the next time.

Love to all

Buddy

P. S. Our Pilot (skipper) said we fly
tomorrow but I don't think we will as
we just got passes till tomorrow nite
12 P.M. I guess I'll just stay in camp.
Don't feel like going out.





Location Drew Field Florida
Monday, 11 Sept. 44

Dearest Folks:

I haven't heard from you all for a few days now so I thought I'd drop you a few lines now while I have a little time.

I've been pretty busy lately and when I'd get a little time off I'd generally hit the (fort sack.) Some days they keep us going for eighteen or even twenty hours, a couple days like that and they generally give us a half day off. We've been doing a lot of flying too. Yesterday we were up for about 6 hours and fifteen minutes.

Drew Field Florida
Monday, 11 Sept. 44

Dearest Folks:

I haven't heard from you all for a few days now so I thought I'd drop you a few lines now while I have a little time.

I've been pretty busy lately and when I'd get a little time off I'd generally hit the (fort sack.) Some days they keep us going for eighteen or even twenty hours, a couple days like that and they generally give us a half day off. We've been doing a lot of flying too. Yesterday we were up for about 6 hours and fifteen minutes.



Location _____

We fly tomorrow afternoon and
again Wednesday nite.

Say! How are you all getting along
with getting those letters together.
If you all haven't got them together
yet I kinda wish you'd burry it up
a bit, as time sure is slipping by.
I was kinda figuring up a little
today and the way I figured it up I'll
be here about seven more weeks and
thats not very long if you ask me.
And it'll probably take three or four
week or more for them to get everything
straightened out. So if you all have every-
thing

We fly tomorrow afternoon and
again Wednesday nite.

Say! how are you all getting along
with getting those letters together.
If you all haven't got them together
yet I kinda wish you'd burry it up
a bit, as time sure is slipping by.
I was kinda figuring up a little
today and the way I figured it up I'll
be here about seven more weeks and
thats not very long if you ask me.
And it'll probably take three or four
week or more for them to get everything
straightened out. So if you all have every-
thing



Location _____

together I wish you'd send it on.
I had a letter from Kathy and
Bab today. Bab seems to be getting
along OK except she said she has a
cold for about six days now. And then
she feels pretty low cause she hasn't
heard from her George for about five
weeks now. He's gone overseas. I'm
going to have to close now as I want
to answer Bab's letter.

Love
Buddy
PS Tell everyone hellow for me
and tell them I am well.
Kiss Walter and Baby Doll
for me too.

together I wish you'd send it on.

I had a letter from Kathy and
Bab today. Bab seems to be getting
along OK except she said she has a
cold for about six days now. And then
she feels pretty low cause she hasn't
heard from her George for about five
weeks now. He's gone overseas. I'm
going to have to close now as I want
to answer Babs letter.

Love

Buddy
PS Tell everyone hellow for me
~~me~~ and tell them I am well.
Kiss Walter and Baby Doll
for me too.



Letter

Postmarked SEP 21, 1944
DREW FIELD, FLA.

To: Mr & Mrs J L Lubojacky
Edna
Texas

Box 61



Pfc A S Lubojacky 38561682
Sq S 327 BU Crew 9-43
Drew Field; Box 61
Florida

Drew Field Florida
Thurs. Sept. 21, 1944



Dear Folks:

I received your letter and letters yesterday in the afternoon mail call and certainly was glad to hear from you. I didn't have a chance to take those letters over yesterday but I'll have time tonite.

I'm certainly glad you all got that corn and maize in. So Delores has a (god damn calf.) No dood cow, got bull talf. I sure hope you have good luck with your new chicks.

We have PT at 10:30 and ground school this afternoon and have to get up

KEEP SMILIN' KEEP SMILIN' KEEP SMILIN'

Drew Field Florida
Thurs. Sept. 21, 1944

Dear Folks:

I received your letter and letters yesterday in the afternoon mail call and certainly was glad to hear from you. I didn't have a chance to take those letters over yesterday but I'll have time tonite.

I'm certainly glad you all got that corn and maize in. So Delores has a (god damn calf.) No dood cow, got bull talf. I sure hope you have good luck with your new chicks.

We have PT at 10:30 and ground school this afternoon and have to get up

at 3:00 tomorrow morning to fly. We had a cross country flight nite before last. We flew to Augusta Georgia then to Montgomery Alabama and back to Drew. About a 1000 miles, took us 7 hours and 15 minutes, I slept most of the time. We averaged 175 miles per hour. Cruising right along huh!

I had a letter from Edward L some time ago and he said Ray is in England and he himself was taking his overseas shots. So I don't know how he came out with them.

Yesterday was our day off. I didn't get to bed till 7:00 in the morning as we'd flown all nite. I slept till 12:00.

Ray! What in the world is wrong with Sylvia and Bob?

at 3:00 tomorrow morning to fly. We had a cross country flight nite before last. We flew to Augusta Georgia then to Montgomery Alabama and back to Drew. About a 1000 miles, took us 7 hours and 15 minutes, I slept most of the time. We averaged 175 miles per hour. Cruising right along huh!

I had a letter from Edward L some time ago and he said Ray is in England and he himself was taking his overseas shots. So I don't know how he came out with them.

Yesterday was our day off. I didn't get to bed till 7:00 in the morning as we'd flown all nite. I slept till 12:00.

Say! What in the world is wrong with Sylvia and Bob?

I haven't heard from them since I
came down here. Or are they just too
busy gathering their crop and mowing?

How is Alice making out in school.
I really can't think of anything to
write now so I guess I'll be
closing.

Love to All

Buddy

PS My leg is getting along pretty
good although it's still pretty sore.

I haven't heard from them since I
came down here. Or are they just too
busy gathering their crop and mowing?

How is Alice making out in school.
I really can't think of anything to
write now so I guess I'll be
closing.

Love to All

Buddy

PS My leg is getting along pretty
good although it's still pretty sore.

Drew Field Florida
Friday Sept. 29, 1944

Dear Folks:

I guess you all are wondering what happened to me that I haven't written. Well to tell the truth I haven't felt like writing. I just wrote to Kathy so I thought I drop you all a few lines.

As for me its the same thing over and over flying and ground school.

I guess you all are wondering how my discharge is making out? Well I finally had to go to the orderly room with it all. A couple Sgts. looked at the

Drew Field Florida

Friday Sept. 29, 1944

Dear Folks:

I guess you all are wondering what happened to me that I haven't written. Well to tell the truth I haven't felt like writing. I just wrote to Kathy so I thought I drop you all a few lines.

As for me its the same thing over and over flying and ground school.

I guess you all are wondering how my discharge is making out? Well I finally had to go to the orderly room with it all. A couple Sgts. looked at the

letters I had. Then one of them
looked up a paragraph in a book
they had there and said I would
have to write another letter
to our commanding officer. I
did and one of the Sgts. typed it
out for me. I went in and signed
it yesterday and they told me to
keep close watch on the bulletin
board as they said they may post
a bulletin up for me to see
Major Gibson (our C.O.) They said
it would be up either today or
tomorrow. They said ~~he~~ he may
want to see me before he approves
it, and then again he may not.
I guess ~~some~~ some more
authorities will have to

letters I had. Then one of them
looked up a paragraph in a book
they had there and said I would
have to write another letter
to our commanding officer. So I
did and one of the Sgts. typed it
out for me. I went in and signed
it yesterday and they told me to
keep close watch on the bulletin
board as they said they may post
~~a~~ a bulletin up for me to see
Major Gibson (our C.O.) They said
it would be up either today or
tomorrow. They said ~~he~~ he may
want to see me before he approves
it, and then again he may not.
I guess ~~some~~ some more
authorities will have to

approve it before it goes through.
Some of the boys here say the
red cross has the fineall say, so
I don't know wheather to ~~to~~ ~~to~~
that or not. Out side ~~un~~
I haven't found out a thing.

Well it'll soon be time to
fallout so I'll be signing
off for this time and go mail
this.

Love to All
Alfred
↙

approve it before it goes through.
Some of the boys here say the
red cross has the fineall say, so
I don't know wheather to (unreadable)
that or not. Out side (unreadable)
I haven't found out a thing.

Well it'll soon be time to
fallout so I'll be signing
off for this time and go mail
this.

Love to All
Alfred

↙



Letter Postmarked *(unreadable)*
DR(ew Fie)LD

From: Cpl A S Lubojacky 38561682
Sq S 327 BU
Drew Field, Box 61
Florida

To: Mr & Mrs Joseph L Lubojacky
Edna
Box 61 Texas



Drew Field Florida
Tues. ~~Sept~~ Oct 3, 1944

Dear Folks:

I received your letter this morning and certainly was glad to hear from you. I just finished writing to Katherine so I thought I'd write to you all and several other letters I have to answer.

First of all I have some great news for you all. This morning they posted a bulletin up on the bulletin board that all of us gunners made Cpl. the first of the month. So that means more denaro for me. I'll now have a base pay of \$66.00 + \$33.00 flying pay so that won't be so bad. I'll draw three dollars more than a S/Sgt. Not bad huh!

Well since you asked about that door falling off the ball for me I'll tell you about it.



Drew Field Florida
Tues. ~~Sept~~ Oct 3, 1944

Dear Folks:

I received your letter this morning and certainly was glad to hear from you. I just finished writing to Katherine so I thought I'd write to you all and several other letters I have to answer.

First of all I have some great news for you all. This morning they posted a bulletin up on the bulletin board that all of us gunners made Cpl. the first of the month. So that means more denaro for me. I'll now have a base pay of \$66.00 + \$33.00 flying pay so that won't be so bad. I'll draw three dollars more than a S/Sgt. Not bad huh!

Well since you asked about that door falling off the ball for me I'll tell you about it.

They ^{was} it all happened we were going up to 20,000 feet. I got into the ball soon after we took off so when we got to 10,000 our pilot told us to put on our oxygen masks. My helmet and mask were in the waist so I ran the turret door on the inside of the ship to get my stuff. Then I got back into the ball and tried to put my helmet and mask on. The mask needed some adjusting so I wasn't having any luck. So I ~~st~~ stood up in the ball with the door opened on the ~~inside~~ inside. By the time I got all set ^{we} were at 13,000. I sat down in the ball and fastened the ~~s~~ safety belt, closed the door but didn't latch it. So of course when I elevated the guns the



They ^{was} it all happened we were going up to 20,000 feet. I got into the ball soon after we took off so when we got to 10,000 our pilot told us to put on our oxygen masks. My helmet and mask were in the waist so I ran the turret door on the inside ~~of~~ of the ship to get my stuff. Then I got back into the ball and tried to put my helmet and mask on. The mask needed some adjusting so I wasn't having any luck. So I ~~st~~ stood up in the ball with the door opened on the ~~inside~~ inside. By the time I got all set ^{we} were at 13,000. I sat down in the ball and fastened the ~~s~~ safety belt, closed the door but didn't latch it. So of course when I elevated the guns the

door went on the outside of the ship. Just as the door came completely outside the slip stream (wind) caught the door and blew it open. I felt a gust of wind come in on my back so I looked over my shoulder and saw the door was gone. I didn't know whether the door came completely off or not, so the first thought that struck my mind was to reach out and close it, then I decided I'd better not stick my paw out there so I ran the door about half way inside and stopped, still didn't know whether the door was still hanging there or not. Then I decided that if it wasn't off the power of the turret would shear it off so I ran the turret door the rest of the way in side and got out. We were flying formation so the ship in our formation



door went on the outside of the ship. Just as the door came completely outside the slip stream (wind) caught the door and blew it open. I felt a gust of wind come in on my back so I looked over my shoulder and saw the door was gone. I didn't know whether the door came completely off or not, so the first thought that struck my mind was to reach out and close it, then I decided I'd better not stick my paw out there so I ran the door about half way inside and stopped, still didn't know whether the door was still hanging there or not. Then I decided that if it wasn't off the power of the turret would shear it off so I ran the turret door the rest of the way in side and got out. We were flying formation so the ship in our formation



Called up our pilot and told him a man
fell out of the ball. Co-pilot said the pilot
changed about nine different colors and started
sweating. Pilot sent the engineer back to see
just what happened. I was out of the ball
by the time the engineer got back there
so I went up and told the pilots just
what happened. Our pilot said the first
thing that struck his mind was that he
didn't know my home address cause he
felt certain that I'd fell out. So thats
the story on that.

I haven't heard a thing about those
letters for about the past week. I thought
I'd wait a couple more days and if nothing
turned up I'd go to the orderly room and
ask about it.



I haven't heard from
Sylvia since I've been

called up our pilot and told him a man
fell out of the ball. Co-pilot said the pilot
changed about nine different colors and started
sweating. Pilot sent the engineer back to see
just what happened. I was out of the ball
by the time the engineer got back there
so I went up and told the pilots just
what happened. Our pilot said the first
thing that struck his mind was that he
didn't know my home address cause he
felt certain that I'd fell out. So thats
the story on that.

I haven't heard a thing about those
letters for about the past week. I thought
I'd wait a couple more days and if nothing
turned up I'd go to the orderly room and
ask about it.

I haven't heard from
Sylvia since I've been



here but since she lost my address I'll
excuse her for this time. I haven't heard
from Roman in about a month so I don't
~~do~~ know how he's making out.

Well there aint much more to write
about so I'll have to close for this
time.

Love to all

Buddy

A large, stylized handwritten flourish or signature mark, possibly representing the name "Buddy".



here but since she lost my address I'll
excuse her for this time. I haven't heard
from Roman in about a month so I don't
~~do~~ know how he's making out.

Well there aint much more to write
about so I'll have to close for this
time.

Love to all

Buddy

A large, stylized handwritten flourish or signature mark, identical to the one on the left page.



Location Drew Field Florida
Mon. Oct. 16, 1944

Dear Folks:

Just received your letter a short while ago so I'll try to answer it now.

I had to get up this morning at 3:00 in order to fly this morning. We took off at 6:40 and landed at 12:50 and were kept pretty busy all afternoon so I'm pretty tired tonite.

I sure am glad you'all got that last bale out and daddy is well on with his plowing, I sure had wish I could be there to help him. I'm really glad you'all you all fineally leased the place. Although seems to me they should have paid more but if they wouldn't come across, well I guess there just wasn't anything else

Drew Field Florida
Mon. Oct 16, 1944

Dear Folks:

Just received your letter a short while ago so I'll try to answer it now.

I had to get up this morning at 3:00 in order to fly this morning. We took off at 6:40 and landed at 12:50 and were kept pretty busy all afternoon so I'm pretty tired tonite.

I sure am glad you'all got that last bale out and daddy is well on with his plowing, I sure ~~had~~ wish I could be there to help him. I'm really glad ~~you'all~~ you all fineally leased the place. Although seems to me they should have paid more but if they wouldn't come across, well I guess there just wasn't anything else



Location _____

to do.

I'm glad you all heard from Roman lately as its been six weeks or better since I've heard from him and I was getting a little worried, but I guess he's O.K.

I haven't heard any thing about my discharge in the last couple days, just what I wrote in my last letter.

I guess I'd better close now as I have to ~~go to~~ get up tomorrow at 6:30 again to go to the firing range.

Wishing you all the best of health & luck.

Love
Buddy

to do.

I'm glad you all heard from Roman lately as its been six weeks or better since I've heard from him and I was getting a little worried, but I guess he's O.K.

I haven't heard any thing about my discharge in the last couple days, just what I wrote in my last letter.

I guess I'd better close now as I have to ~~go to~~ get up tomorrow at 6:30 again to go to the fireing range.

Wishing you all the best of health & luck.

Love

Buddy

Drew Field, Florida
Mon. Oct. 30, 1944

Dear Folks:

Just a few short lines to let you know that I'm leaving for home eather the first or the second. If I leave the first I should be at home the evening of second and if I leave the second I should be home the third. I can't give you the exact time as I don't know whitch bus I'll catch here. It'll take me about 36 hours to get to Houston from here, so if I can't make a good connection in Houston I'll just hitch hike in. So

Drew Field, Florida
Mon. Oct 30, 1944

Dear Folks:

Just a few short lines to let you know that I'm leaving for home eather the first or the second. If I leave the first I should be at home the evening of second and if I leave the second I should be home the third. I can't give you the exact time as I don't know whitch bus I'll catch here. It'll take me about 36 hours to get to Houston from here, so if I can't make a good connection in Houston I'll just hitch hike in. So

don't look for me at any ~~specific~~
specific time.

I want to drop Bab a wire
so she can try to get Sunday
off. I also want to write to Olga
and Sylvia. So I'll be closing
for this time.

I had a letter from Roman a
few days ago it was written
30 Sept. Said he's O.K.

I'm fine too except for a
head cold I caught at high
altitude.

Love to all
Buddy

don't look for me at any ~~specific~~
specific time.

I want to drop Bab a wire
so she can try to get Sunday
off. I also want to write to Olga
and Sylvia. So I'll be closing
for this time.

I had a letter from Roman a
few days ago it was written
30 Sept. Said he's O.K.

I'm fine too except for a
head cold I caught at high
altitude.

Love to all
Buddy

U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES

Drew Field, Florida
Nov. 14, 1944

Dear Folks:

I'm sorry I didn't get to write to you all yesterday, but I just couldn't find time to write, they had us on the go all day.

I came in two hours late Mon. morning. I got in at 2:00 AM but they never said anything to me about it. There were four other fellows with me, we met along the way.

We've been processing and first one thing and then another yesterday and today so we'll be leaving here shortly.

Well my discharge didn't go through. I found out yesterday and today I read the letter they received in the orderly room of the disapproval.



Drew Field, Florida
Nov. 14, 1944

Dear Folks:

I'm sorry I didn't get to write to you all yesterday, but I just couldn't find time to write, they had us on the go all day.

I came in two hours late Mon. Morning. I got in at 2:00 AM but they never said anything to me about it. There were four other fellows with me, we met along the way.

We've been processing and first one thing and then another yesterday and today so we'll be leaving here shortly.

Well my discharge didn't go through. I found out yesterday and today I read the letter they received in the orderly room of the disapproval.

U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES

I had just stated that I'm worth more
in than I am out. One of the Sgts. that
were helping me with it said that
if I'd tried while I was in basic or
just anytime before I got on a combat
crew it probably would have passed.
But beings things are like they are it
just didn't go through.

I made the trip up here OK
except for the two hours late and right
now I'm as well as can be expected. I
have to go to supply and draw some cloth-
ing so I'll be signing off for this time.

Love Buddy

P.S. I had a class E allotment made out
yesterday to where they'll deposit \$20.00 per
month for me in the bank. It starts Dec 1.



It just stated that I'm worth more
in than I am out. One of the Sgts. that
were helping me with it said that
if I'd tried while I was in basic or
just anytime before I got on a combat
crew it probably would have passed.
But beings things are like they are it
just didn't go through.

I made the trip up here OK
except for the two hours late and right
now I'm as well as can be expected. I
have to go to supply and draw some cloth-
ing so I'll be signing off for this time.

Love
Buddy

P.S. I had a class E allotment made out
yesterday to where they'll deposit \$20.00 per
month for me in the bank. It starts Dec 1.



Hunter Field, Ga.
Nov. 16, 1944

Dear Folks:

Don't be surprised when I tell you all that I've been moved again. Well I have and am here at Hunter Field Georgia which is right outside of Savana on the east coast of the state. We arrived here at about 3:30 PM today and I must say that we were quiet weary and dirty, but other wise in good health. We were on the ^{rail} road about 20 hours so you can figure out how we felt.

We'll draw some more clothing here and outside of that we wont do a thing but eat, sleep and wait for shipment.



They told us we'd be here from two days to three weeks so your

Hunter Field, Ga.
Nov. 16, 1944

Dear Folks:

Don't be surprised when I tell you all that I've been moved again. Well I have and am here at Hunter Field Georgia which is right outside of Savana on the east coast of the state. We arrived here at about 3:30 PM today and I must say that we were quiet weary and dirty, but other wise in good health. We were on the ^{rail} road about 20 hours so you can figure out how we felt.

We'll draw some more clothing here and outside of that we wont do a thing but eat, sleep and wait for shipment.

They told us we'd be here from two days to three weeks so your

guess is as good as mine.

Say daddy, I wish you'd talk to Frank Dollery and ask him if he got that pasture he had spotted. and ask him if he'd take my cows in.

I'll pay him if he wants me to. You see if you're going to move it'll be that much easier on you all if you wont have to move my stuff to Rosenberg and you probably wouldn't have enough pasture for them no-how. And if by accident you all got some rain since

I left, John said if he got some rain he may take them in. And about that bull, well I guess you'll want to take him with you and if you don't

want him just leave him with the rest.



guess is as good as mine.

Say daddy, I wish you'd talk to Frank Dollery and ask him if he got that pasture he had spotted. and ask him if he'd take my cows in. I'll pay him if he wants me to. You see if you're going to move it'll be that much easier on you all if you wont have to move my stuff to Rosenberg and you probably wouldn't have enough pasture for them no-how. And if by accident you all got some rain since I left, John said if he got some rain he may take them in. And about that bull, well I guess you'll want to take him

with you and if you don't

want him just leave

him with the rest



of my stuff. But what ever you do, make damn sure they're all well branded.

Well I'm going to have to sign off for now as news are rather short and I have a couple buddies I want to see as they're leaving in the morning. They came here about the second.

Love
Buddy

P.S. Those five head I have up at Cordeal. John is going to take care of them for me as if they were his own.



of my stuff. But what ever you do, make damn sure they're all well branded.

Well I'm going to have to sign off for now as news are rather short and I have a couple buddies I want to see as they're leaving in the morning. They came here about the second.

Love

Buddy

P.S. Those five head I have up at Cordeal. John is going to take care of them for me as if they were his own.



U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES

Hunter Field, Ga
Nov. 23, 1944

Dear Folks:

I received your much welcomed letter today. So I'll try to answer it now if the boys here will keep quiet so that I can.

Gosh you all should have seen the Thanksgiving dinner we had today. Yes! We had turkey with all the trimming and I mean it was really swell.

I think I told you all before, that we don't have a thing in the world to do here. We always stay in bed till 10:00 or 11:00, we don't even have to sweep under our bunks or make them up when we get up. The chow is really swell here.

Whatever daddy thinks is best to do with those cows is O.K. with me just let me know where they are

Hunter Field, Ga
Nov. 23, 1944

Dear Folks:

I received your much welcomed letter today. So I'll try to answer it now if the boys here will keep quiet so that I can.

Gosh you all should have seen the Thanksgiving dinner we had today. Yes! We had turkey with all the trimming and I mean it was really swell.

I think I told you all before, that we don't have a thing in the world to do here. We always stay in bed till 10:00 or 11:00, we don't even have to sweep under our bunks or make them up when we get up. The chow is really swell here.

What ever daddy thinks is best to do with those cows is O.K. with me just let me know where they are



U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES

and be sure they're all branded good.

The news are rather short here
at the present time so I'll be signing
off for this time.

Don't worry about me as I'll be O.K.

Love to all

Buddy

and be sure they're all branded good.

The news are rather short here
at the present time so I'll be signing
off for this time.

Don't worry about me as I'll be O.K.

Love to all

Buddy

Somewhere in England
Dec. 1, 1944

Dearest Folks:

Just a short little note to let you all know that I've arrived here safely and very much to my surprise I'm very well.

What little I've seen of this neck of the woods is much the way I always had it pictured.

Did Bab get her vacation? Is she at home now or by some great need of her help, was it all called off? I guess if she did get her vacation you're in the hospital now, right mom?

How are you all getting along with the moving? I guess its

Somewhere in England
Dec. 1, 1944

Dearest Folks:

Just a short little note to let you all know that I've arrived here safely and very much to my surprise I'm very well.

What little I've seen of this neck of the woods is much the way I always had it pictured.

Did Bab get her vacation? Is she at home now or by some great need of her help, was it all called off? I guess if she did get her vacation you're in the hospital now, right mom?

How are you all getting along with the moving? I guess its

pretty rough with mom in the
Hospital.

The news are rather scarce
here at the present time so I'll
have to sign off for this time.

I'm well and fine as I stated
before but I can't say that I'm
very happy.

Hoping this finds you all well
and fine and mom get well soon.

Write when you can.

Love to all

Buddy

pretty rough with mom in the
Hospital.

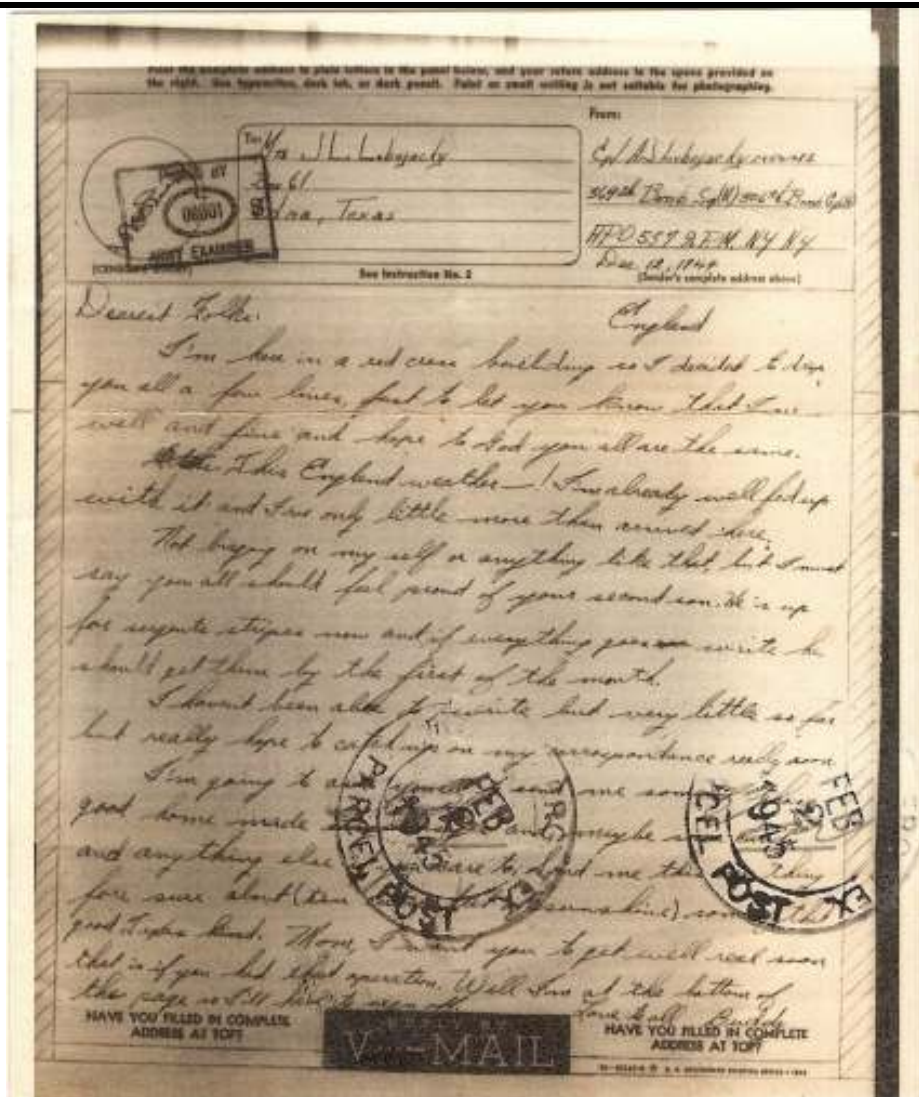
The news are rather scarce
here at the present time so I'll
have to sign off for this time.

I'm well and fine as I stated
before but I can't say that I'm
very happy.

Hoping this finds you all well
and fine and mom get well soon.
Write when you can.

Love to all

Buddy



V-MAIL Letter

Dated Dec 12, 1944

To: Mrs. J L Lubojacky
Box 61
Edna

From: Cpl A S Lubojacky 38561682
369th Bomb Sq (H) 306th Bomb Gp (H)
APO 557 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.

Dearest Folks:

England

I'm here in a red cross building so I decided to drop you all a few lines, just to let you know that I am well and fine and hope to God you all are the same.

~~The~~ This England weather ____! I'm already well fed up with it and I've only little more than arrived here.

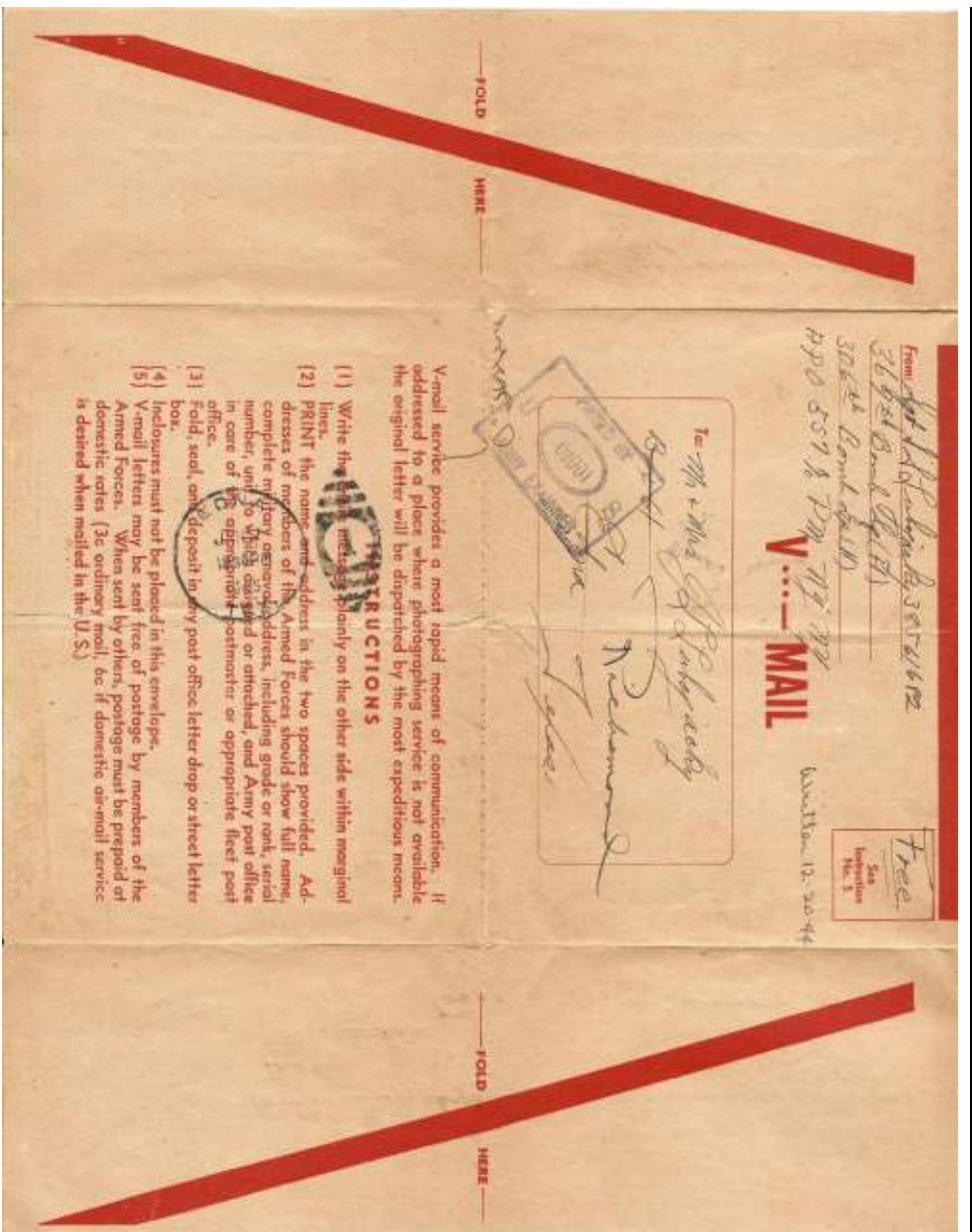
Not bragging on my self or anything like that, but I must say you all should feel proud of your second son. He's up for sergeants stripes now and if everything goes ~~we~~ write he should get them by the first of the month.

I haven't been able to write but very little so far but really hope to catch up on my correspondance really soon.

I'm going to ask you all to send me some of those good home made (unreadable) and maybe some candy and anything else if you care to. Send me this one thing for sure about (ten (unreadable) sunshine? some of that good Texas kind. Mom, I want you to get well real soon that is if you had that operation. Well I'm at the bottom of the page so I'll have to sign off. Love to all Buddy

From: Sgt A S Lubojacky 38561682
369th Bomb Sq (H)
306th Bomb Gp (H)
APO 557 c/o PM NY NY

To: Mr & Mrs J L Lubojacky
~~Box 61~~ Richmond
~~Edna~~ Texas



Print the complete address in plain letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided on the right. Use typewriter, dark ink, or dark pencil. Faint or small writing is not suitable for photographing.

To: Mrs & Mrs J L Lubojacky
Box 61
Edna
Texas

From: Sgt A S Lubojacky 38561682
369th Bomb Sq (H)
306th Bomb Gp (H)
APO 557 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.

England
Wed. Dec. 20, 1944

Dear Folks:

Maybe you all will be a little surprised to be getting this much mail from me in so short a time as I don't think I have ever written home this often before. But as things are, I have some great news for you all. I found out just this afternoon that I made Sgt ~~me~~ effective the fifteenth of this month. I must say that I was a little surprised myself as I didn't expect it to come through till the first of Jan. Not bragging or anything but I must say that you all should be proud of your number two son I am anyway. As yet we haven't received any mail but hope to in the very near future. I'm well and hope this finds you all the same.

Love to all Buddy

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?

REPLY BY
V...-MAIL

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?

V-MAIL Letter

Dated Dec 20, 1944

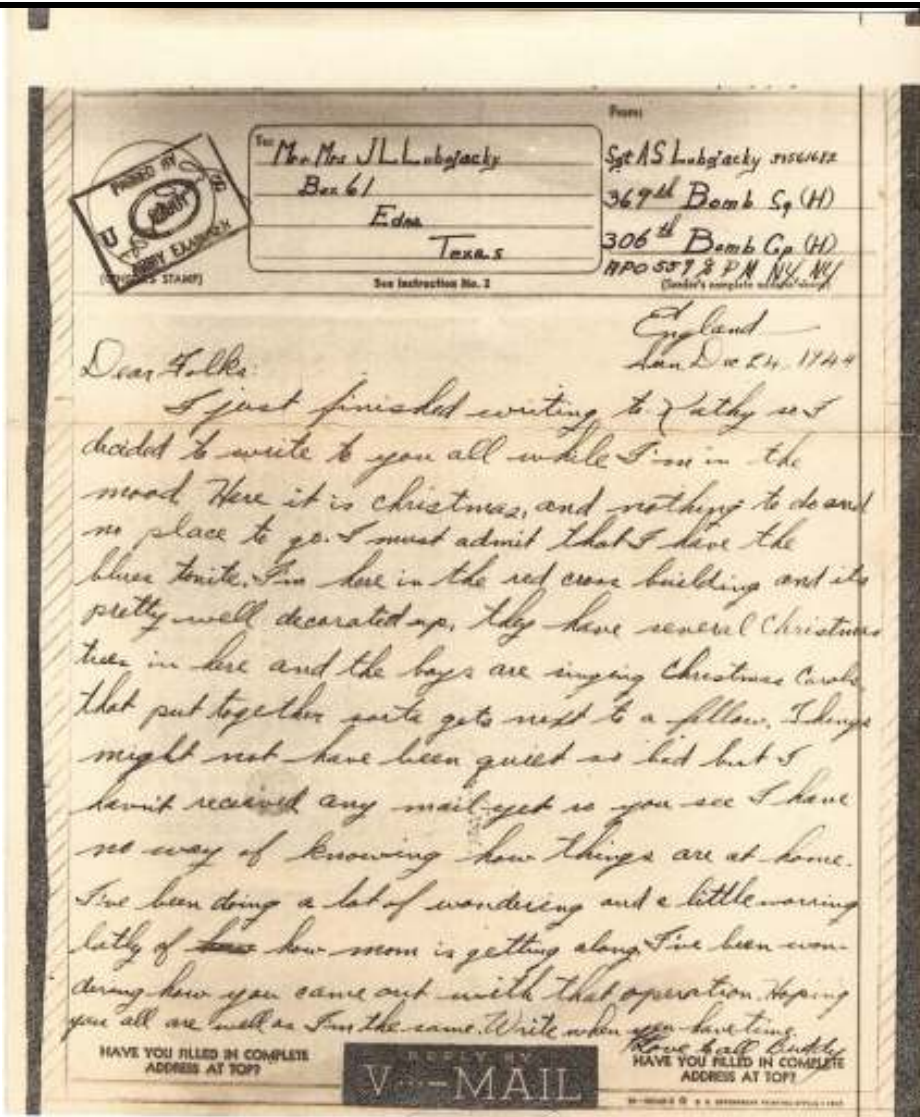
To: Mr & Mrs J L Lubojacky
Box 61
Edna
Texas

From: Sgt A S Lubojacky 38561682
369th Bomb Sq (H)
306th Bomb Gp (H)
APO 557 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.
England
Wed. Dec. 20, 1944

Dearest Folks:

Maybe you all will be a little surprised to be getting this much mail from me in so short a time as I don't think I have ever written home this often before. But as things are, I have some great news for you all. I found out just this afternoon that I made Sgt ~~me~~ effective the fifteenth of this month. I must say that I was a little surprised myself as I didn't expect it to come through till the first of Jan. Not bragging or anything but I must say that you all should be proud of your number two son. I am anyway. As yet we haven't received any mail but hope to in the very near future. I'm well and hope this finds you all the same.

Love to all Buddy



V-MAIL Letter

Dated Dec 24, 1944

To: Mr & Mrs J L Lubojacky
 Box 61
 Edna
 Texas

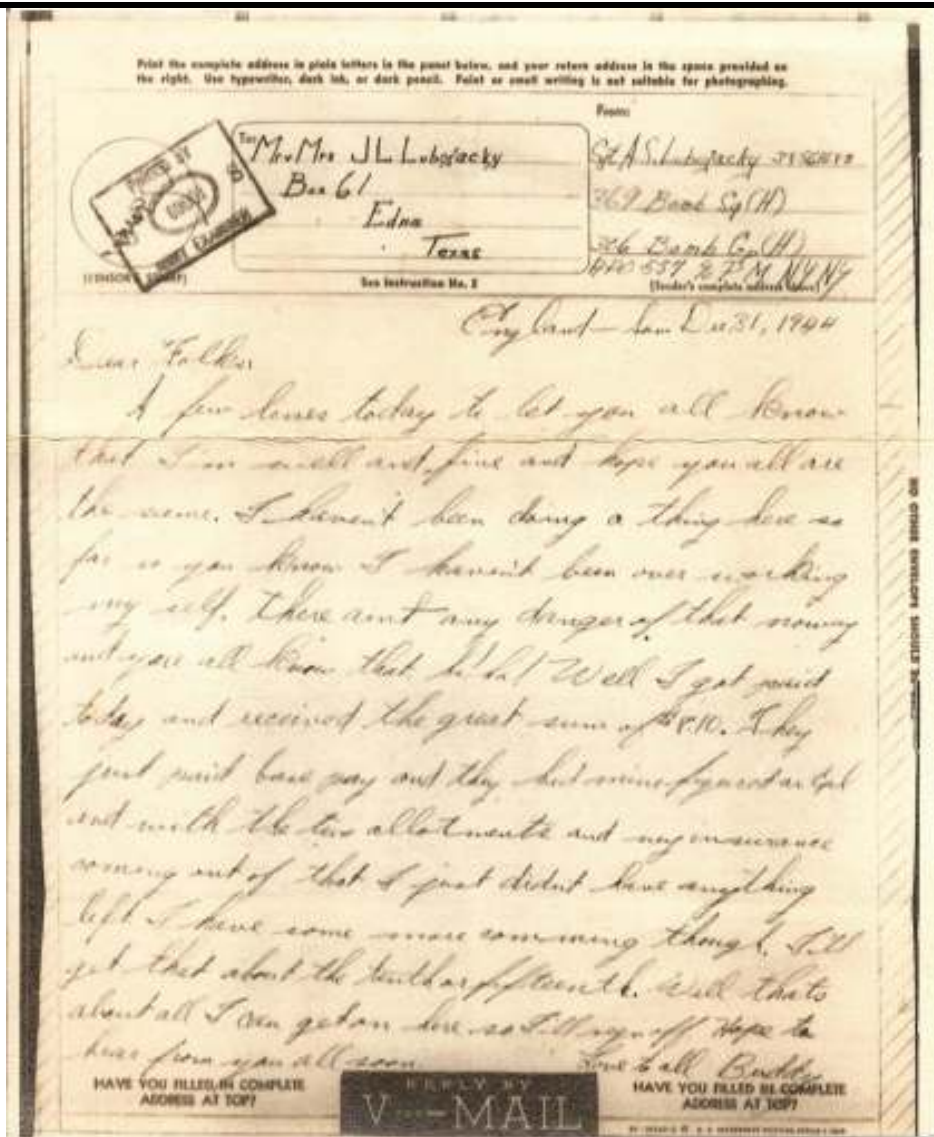
From: Sgt A S Lubojacky 38561682
 369th Bomb Sq (H)
 306th Bomb Gp (H)
 APO 557 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.

England _____
 Sun. Dec. 24, 1944

Dearest Folks:

I just finished writing to Kathy so I decided to write to you all while I'm in the mood. Here it is Christmas, and nothing to do and no place to go. I must admit that I have the blues tonite. I'm here in the red cross building and its pretty well decorated up, they have several Christmas trees in here and the boys are singing Christmas Carols, that put together sorta gets next to a fellow. Things might not have been quiet so bad but I haven't received any mail yet so you see I have no way of knowing how things are at home. I've been doing a lot of wondering and a little worrying lately of ~~how~~ how mom is getting along. I've been wondering how you came out with that operation. Hoping you all are well as I'm the same. Write when you have time.

Love to all Buddy



V-MAIL Letter

Dated Dec 31, 1944

To: Mr & Mrs J L Lubojacky
Box 61
Edna
Texas

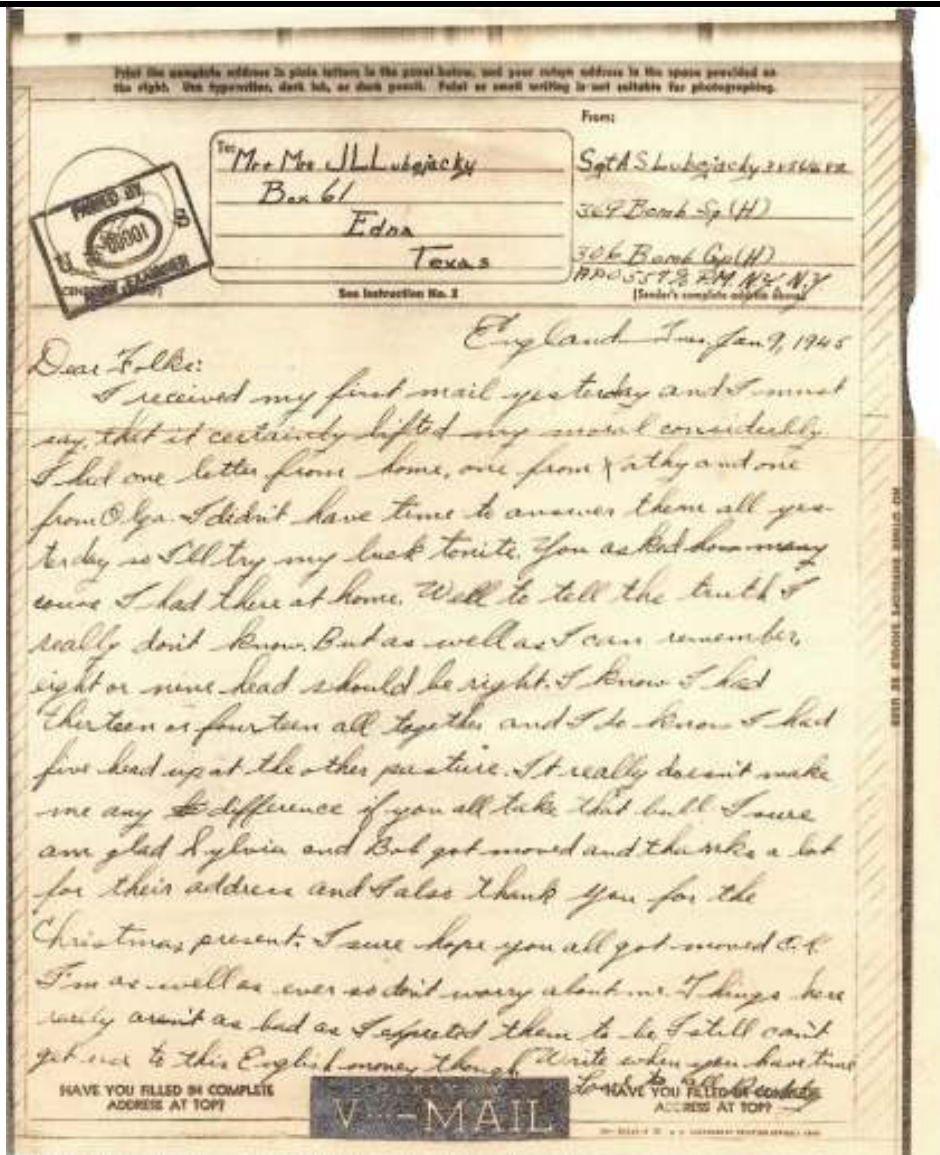
From: Sgt A S Lubojacky 38561682
369th Bomb Sq (H)
306th Bomb Gp (H)
APO 557 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.

England _____ Sun. Dec. 31, 1944

Dear Folks:

A few lines today to let you all know that I'm well and fine and hope you all are the same. I haven't been doing a thing here so far so you know I haven't been over working my self, there aint any danger of that noway and you all know that, ha! ha! Well I got paid today and received the great sum of \$8.10. They just paid base pay and they had mine figured as Cpl and with the two allotments and my insurance coming out of that I just didn't have anything left. I have some more coming though. I'll get that about the tenth or fifteenth. Well thats about all I can get on here so I'll sign off. Hope to hear from you all soon.

Love to all
Buddy



V-MAIL Letter

Dated Jan. 8, 1945

To: Mr & Mrs J L Lubojacky
 Box 61
 Edna
 Texas

From: Sgt A S Lubojacky 38561682
 369th Bomb Sq (H)
 306th Bomb Gp (H)
 APO 557 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.

England__ Tues. Jan. 9, 1945

Dear Folks:

I received my first mail yesterday and I must say that it certainly lifted my moral considerbly. I had one letter from home, one from Kathy and one from Olga. I didn't have time to answer them all yesterday so I'll try my luck tonite. You asked how many cows I had there at home. Well to tell the truth I really don't know. But as well as I can remember, eight or nine head should be right. I know I had thirteen or fourteen all together and I do know I had five head up at the other pasture. It really doesn't make me any difference if you all take that bull. I sure am glad Sylvia and Bob got moved and thanks a lot for their address and I also thank you for the Christmas present. I sure hope you all got moved O.K. I'm as well as ever so don't worry about me. Things here really aren't as bad as I expected them to be I still can't get use to this English money though. Write when you have time

Love to all Buddy

V-MAIL Letter

Dated Jan. 13, 1945

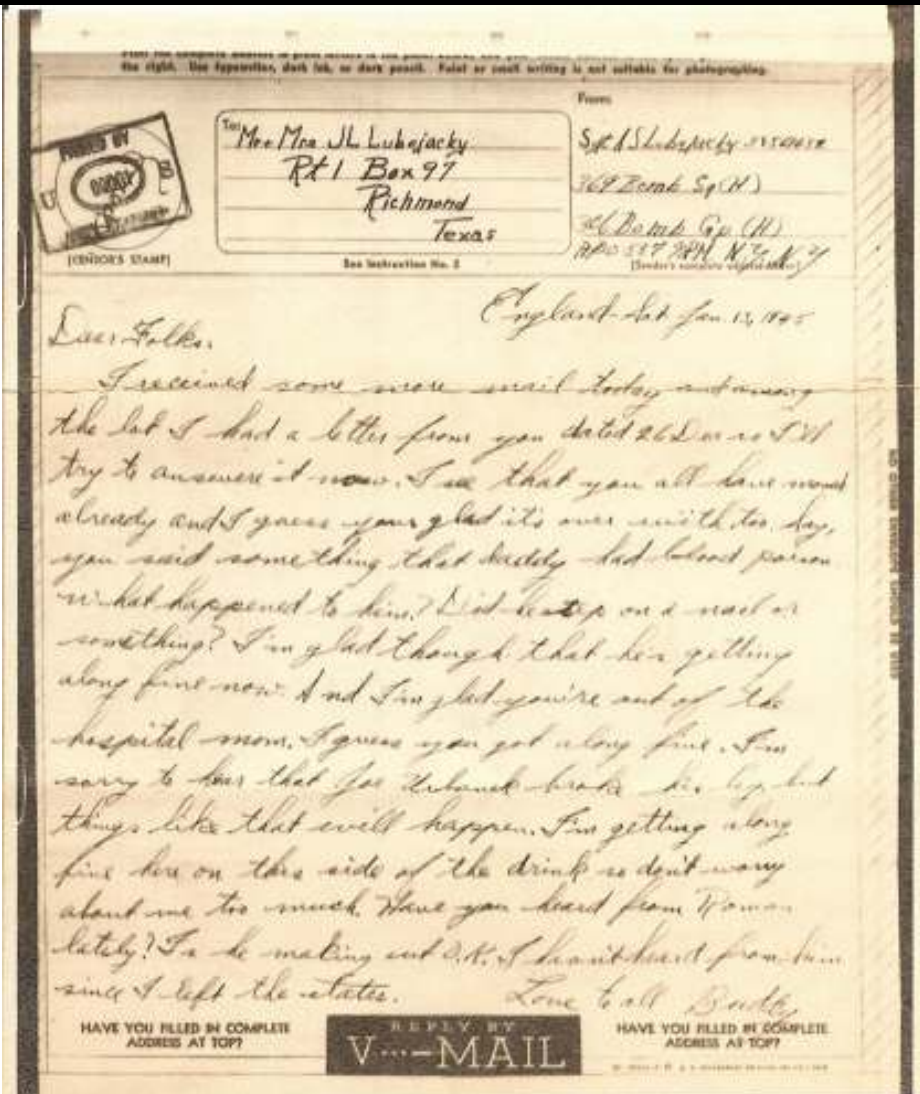
To: Mr & Mrs J L Lubojacky
Rt 1 Box 97
Richmond
Texas

From: Sgt A S Lubojacky 38561682
369th Bomb Sq (H)
306th Bomb Gp (H)
APO 557 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.

England__ Sat. Jan. 13, 1945

Dear Folks:

I received some more mail today and among the lot I had a letter from you dated 26 Dec so I'll try to answer it now. I see that you all have moved already and I guess your glad it's over with too. Say, you said something that daddy had blood poison What happened to him? Did he step on a nail or something? I'm glad though that he's getting along fine now. And I'm glad you're out of the hospital mom. I guess you got along fine. I'm sorry to hear that Joe Urbanek broke his leg but things like that will happen. I'm getting along fine here on this side of the drink so don't worry about me too much. Have you heard from Roman lately? Is he making out O.K. I havn't heard from him since I left the states. Love to all Buddy



England—

Tues. Jan. 16, 1945

Dear Folks:

I received your letter yesterday marked Jan 2 and I certainly was glad to hear from you too. I would have answered last nite but it was late when I came in and I was so tired I could hardly keep my eyes open so I hit the sack.

I sure am glad Uncle Felix got stationed that close to home, just so he gets to stay there for a while.

Yeah! I got those five dollars about a week ago. I think I told you before that I got it but just

England---

Tues. Jan. 16, 1945

Dear Folks:

I received your letter yesterday marked Jan 2 and I certainly was glad to hear from you too. I would have answered last nite but it was late when I came in and I was so tired I could hardly keep my eyes open so I hit the sack.

I sure am glad Uncle Felix got stationed that close to home, just so he gets to stay there for a while.

Yeah! I got those five dollars about a week ago. I think I told you before that I got it but just

in case I didn't ~~say~~ I said in
here again that I did get it.

Say have you heard from Roman
lately? I havin't heard from him
since before I left the states so
I've been wondering how he's
getting along.

Well the news are rather short
today so I'll have to sign off for
this time. I'm well so don't worry
about me too much.

Love to all

Buddy

P.S. Tell everyone hello for me.

in case I didn't ~~say~~ I said in
here again that I did get it.

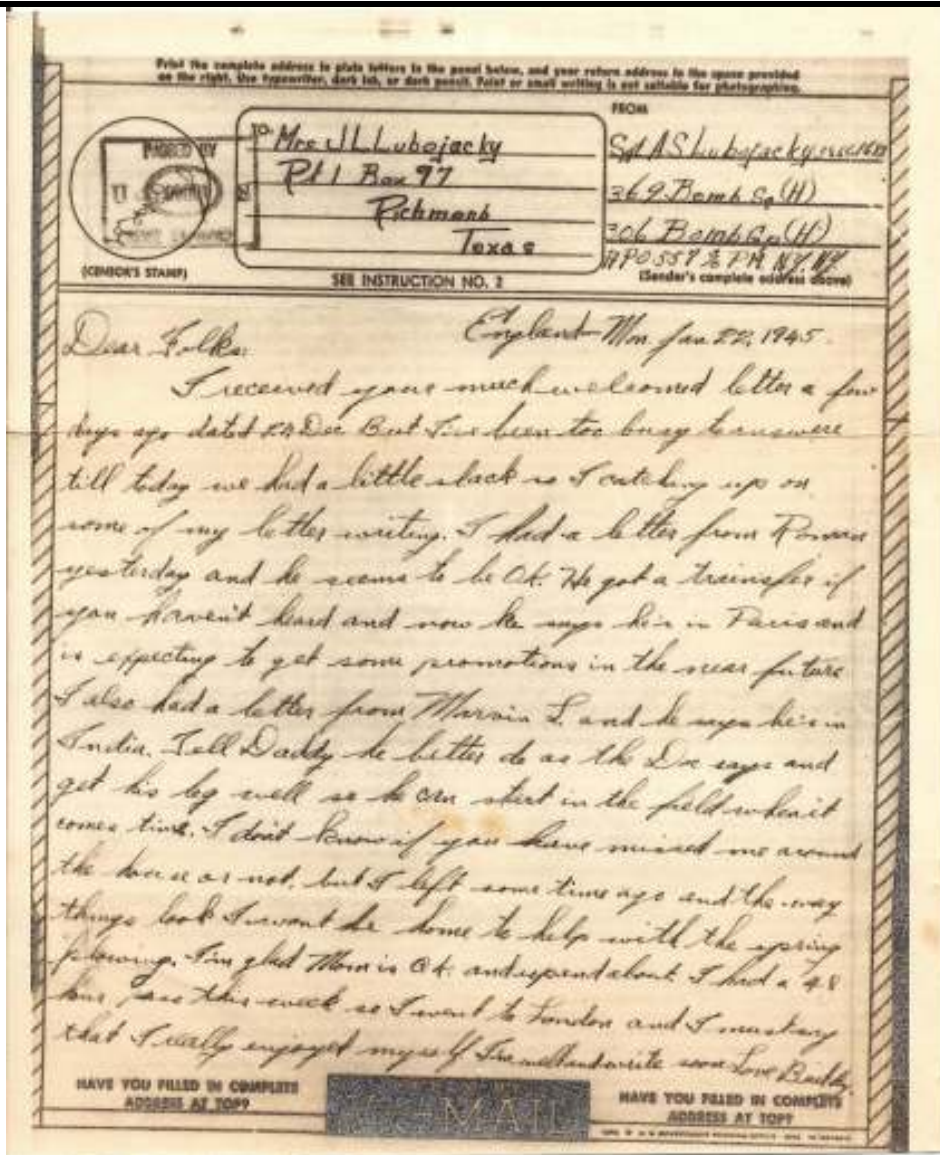
Say have you heard from Roman
lately? I haven't heard from him
since before I left the states so
I've been wondering how he's
getting along.

Well the news are rather short
today so I'll have to sign off for
this time. I'm well so don't worry
about me too much.

Love to all

Buddy

P.S. Tell everyone hello for me.



V-MAIL Letter

Dated Jan. 22, 1945

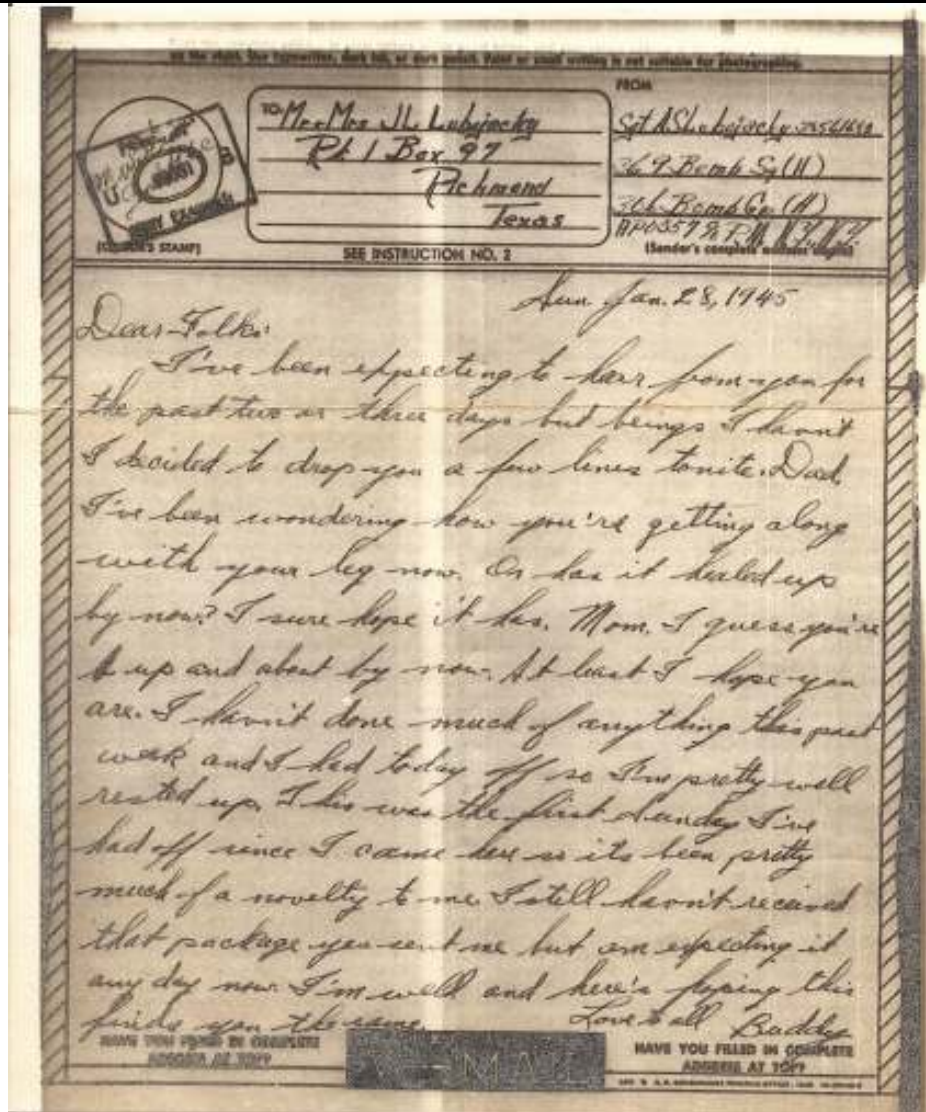
To: Mrs J L Lubojacky
 Rt 1 Box 97
 Richmond
 Texas

From: Sgt A S Lubojacky 38561682
 369th Bomb Sq (H)
 306th Bomb Gp (H)
 APO 557 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.

England--Mon. Jan. 22, 1945

Dear Folks:

I received your much welcomed letter a few days ago dated 24 Dec. But I've been too busy to answer till today we had a little slack so I catching up on some of letter writing. I had a letter from Roman yesterday and he seems to be O.K. He got a transfer if you haven't heard and now he says he's in Paris and is expecting to get some promotions in the near future. I also had a letter from Marvin L. and he says he's in India. Tell Daddy he better do as the Doc says and get his leg well so he can start in the field when it comes time. I don't know if you have missed me around the house or not, but I left some time ago and the way things look I won't be home to help with the spring plowing. I'm glad Mom is O.K. and up and about. I had a 48 hour pass this week so I went to London and I must say that I really enjoyed myself. I'm well and write soon. Love Buddy.



V-MAIL Letter

Dated Jan. 28, 1945

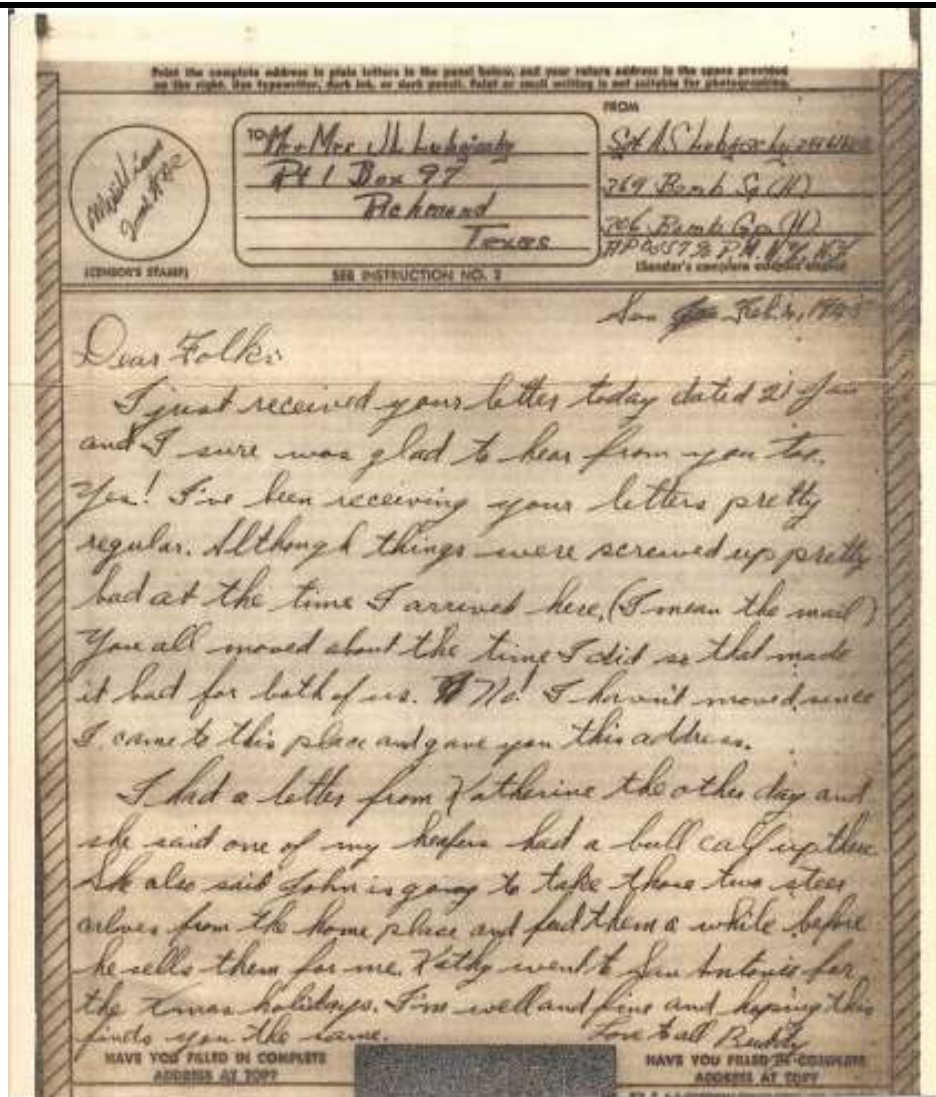
To: Mr & Mrs J L Lubojacky
Rt 1 Box 97
Richmond
Texas

From: Sgt A S Lubojacky 38561682
369th Bomb Sq (H)
306th Bomb Gp (H)
APO 557 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.

Sun. Jan. 28, 1945

Dear Folks:

I've been expecting to hear from you for the past two or three days but bein'g I haven't I decided to drop you a few lines tonite. Dad, I've been wondering how you're getting along with your leg now. Or has it healed up by now? I sure hope it has. Mom, I guess you're up and about by now. At least I hope you are. I haven't done much of anything this past week and I had today off so I'm pretty well rested up. This was the first Sunday I've had off since I came here so its been pretty much of a novelty to me. I still haven't received that package you sent me but am expecting it any day now. I'm well and here's hoping this finds you the same. Love to all Buddy



V-MAIL Letter

Dated Feb. 4, 1945

To: Mr & Mrs J L Lubojacky
Rt 1 Box 97
Richmond
Texas

From: Sgt A S Lubojacky 38561682
369th Bomb Sq (H)
306th Bomb Gp (H)
APO 557 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.

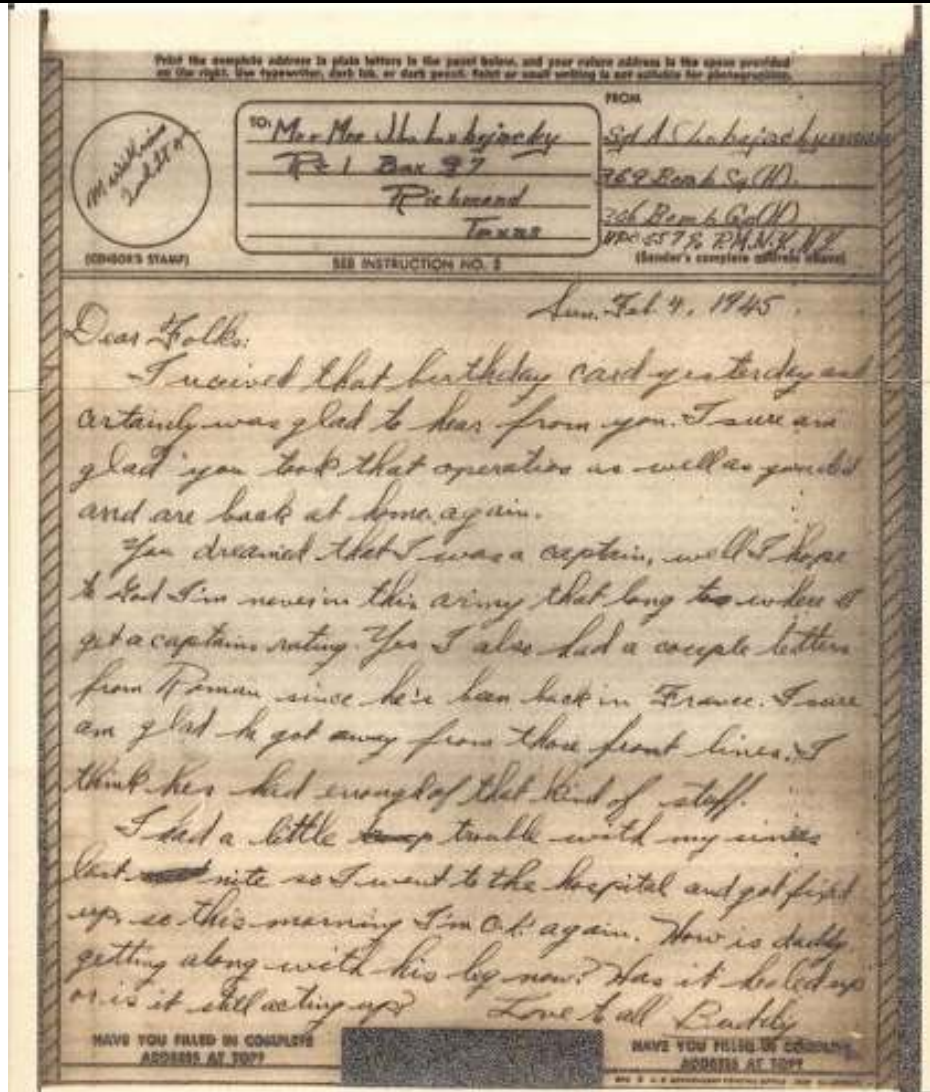
Sun. ~~Jan.~~ Feb. 4, 1945

Dear Folks:

I just received your letter today dated 21 Jan and I sure was glad to hear from you too. Yes! I've been receiving your letters pretty regular. Although things were screwed up pretty bad at the time I arrived her. (I mean the mail) You all moved about the time I did so that made it bad for both of us. ~~No!~~ I haven't moved since I came to this place and gave you this address.

I had a letter from Katherine the other day and she said one of my heafers had a bull calf up there. She also said John is going to take those two steer calves from the home place and feed them a while before he sells them for me. Kathy went to San Antonio for the Xmas holidays. I'm well and fine and hoping this finds you the same.

Love to all Buddy



V-MAIL Letter

Dated Feb 4, 1945

To: Mr & Mrs J L Lubojacky
Rt 1 Box 97
Richmond
Texas

From: Sgt A S Lubojacky 38561682
369th Bomb Sq (H)
306th Bomb Gp (H)
APO 557 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.

Sun. Feb. 4, 1945

Dear Folks:

I received that birthday card yesterday and certainly was glad to hear from you. I sure am glad you took that operation as well as you did and are back at home again.

You dreamed that I was a captain, well I hope to God I'm never in this army that long to where I get a captain's rating. Yes I also had a couple letters from Roman since he's been back in France. I sure am glad he got away from those front lines. I think he's had enough of that kind of stuff.

I had a little ~~troupe~~ trouble with my sinus last ~~nite~~ nite so I went to the hospital and got fixed up, so this morning I'm O.K. again. How is daddy getting along with his leg now? Has it healed up or is it still acting up? Love to all Buddy

Print the complete address in plain letters in the space below, and your return address, in the space provided on the right. Use typewriter, dark ink, or dark pencil. Fold or smudge writing is not suitable for photographing.

TO: Mrs J L Lubojacky
Rt 1 Box 97
Richmond
Texas

FROM: Sgt A S Lubojacky 38561682
369th Bomb Sq (H)
306th Bomb Gp (H)
APO 557 c/o P.M. N.Y.

(CENSOR STAMP) SEE INSTRUCTION NO. 3 (Sender's complete address below)

England Feb 5, 1945

Dear Folks:

I received your letter today dated 11 Jan and was quite surprised to find out that you all didn't know where I am. Just to set you straight on that I am the same place Roman was after he first left the states. You are right in your thoughts I came here the way you said you thought I did. I can't say how long it took me to get here but I'll tell you when I get home.

I haven't been doing a whole lot lately. Although I was busy this morning but again this afternoon I was off. So you see its not to bad over on this side. Tell Walter he better get all the joy he can now pumping water cause it'll soon get old. Tell him he better be careful and not drive the tractor in the ditch. Love to all
Buddy

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP? **V-MAIL** HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?

V-MAIL Letter

Dated Feb. 5, 1945

To: Mrs J L Lubojacky
Rt 1 Box 97
Richmond
Texas

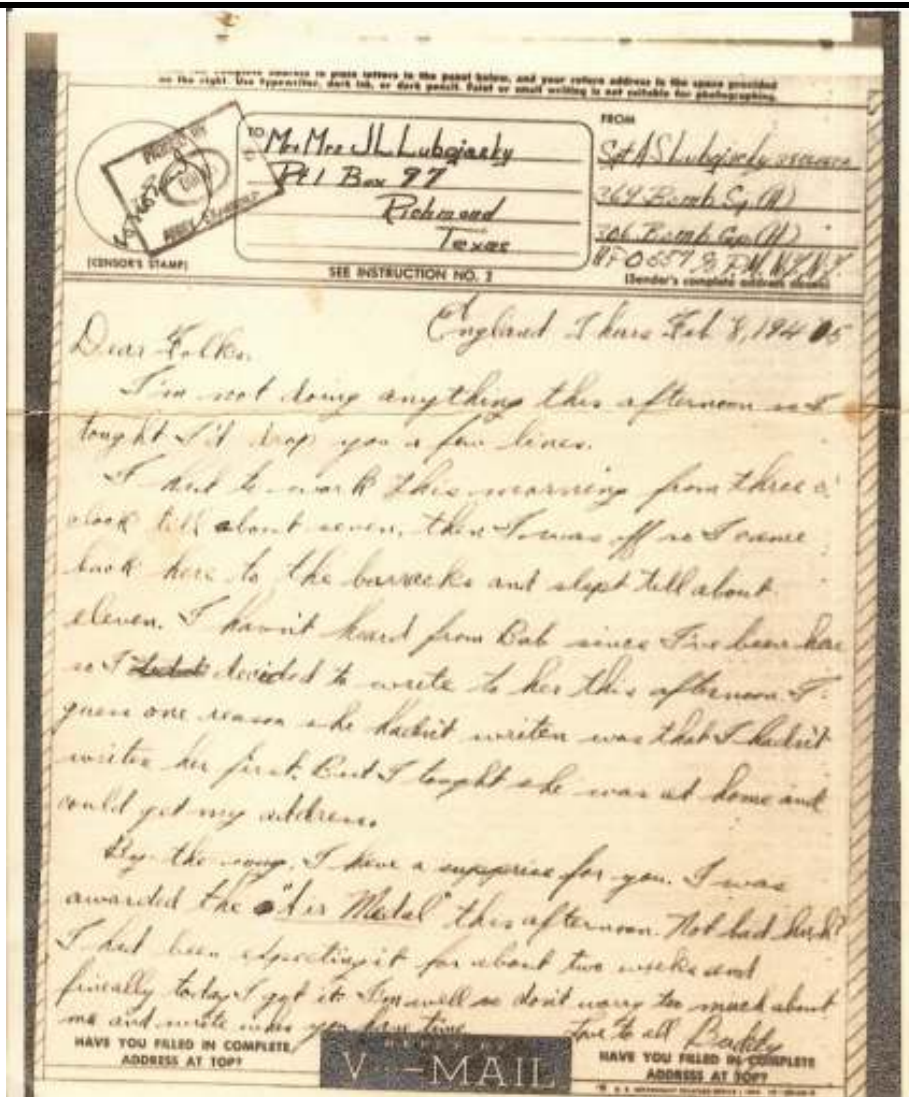
From: Sgt A S Lubojacky 38561682
369th Bomb Sq (H)
306th Bomb Gp (H)
APO 557 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.

England, Feb. 5, 1945

Dear Folks:

I received your letter today dated 11 Jan and was quiet suprised to find out that you all didn't know where I am. Just to set you straight on that ___ I am the same place Roman was after he first left the sates. You are right in your thoughts. I came here the way you said you tought I did. I can't say how long it took me to get here but I'll tell you when I get home.

I haven't been doing a whole lot lately. Although I was busy this morning but again this afternoon I was off. So you see its not to bad over on this side. Tell Walter he better get all the joy he can now pumping water cause it'll soon get old. Tell him he better be careful and not drive the tractor in the ditch. Love to all
Buddy



V-MAIL Letter

Dated Feb. 8, 1945

To: Mr & Mrs J L Lubojacky
Rt 1 Box 97
Richmond
Texas

From: Sgt A S Lubojacky 38561682
369th Bomb Sq (H)
306th Bomb Gp (H)
APO 557 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.

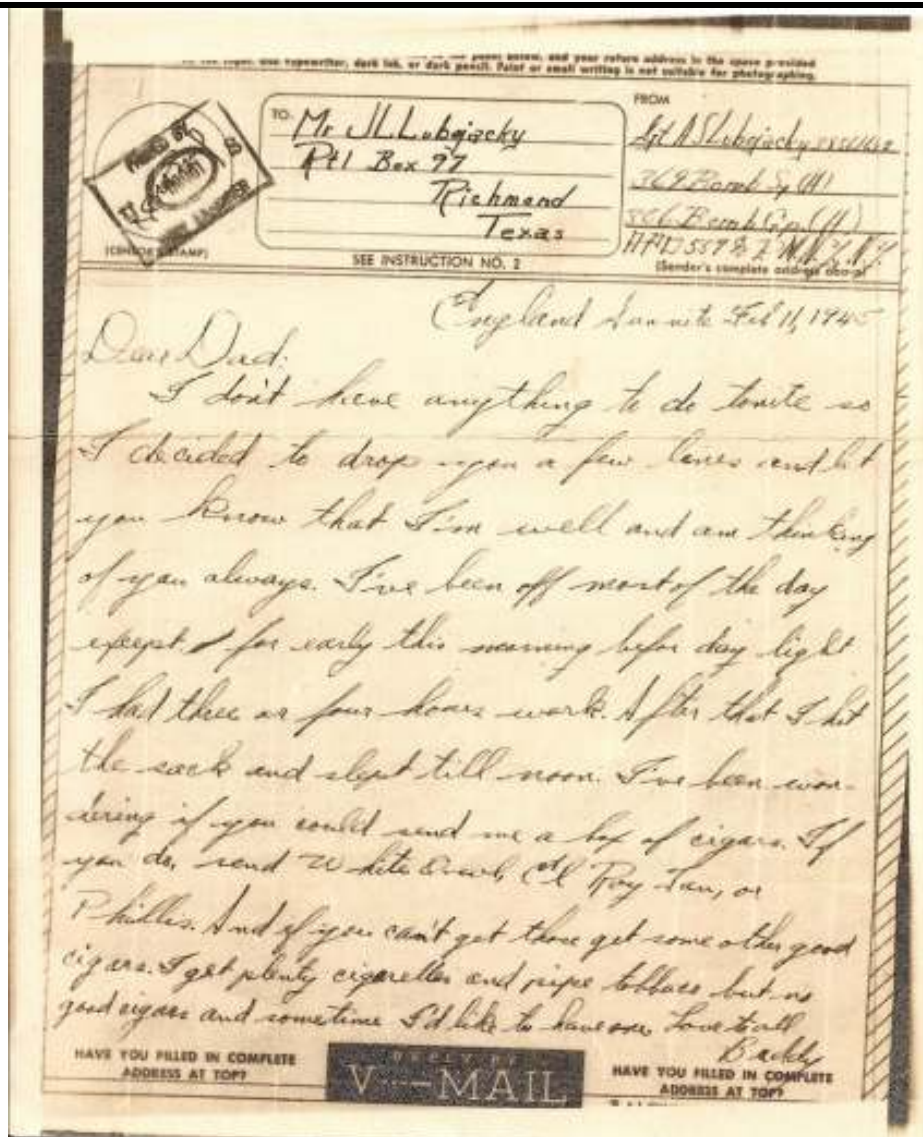
England Thurs Feb. 8, 1945

Dear Folks:

I'm not doing anything this afternoon so I thought I'd drop you a few lines.

I had to work this morning from three o'clock till about seven, then I was off so I came back here to the barracks and slept till about eleven. I haven't heard from Bab since I've been here so I ~~decided~~ decided to write to her this afternoon. I guess one reason she hadn't written was that I hadn't written her first. But I thought she was at home and could get my address.

By the way, I have a surprise for you. I was awarded the "Air Medal" this afternoon. Not bad huh? I had been expecting it for about two weeks and finally today I got it. I'm well so don't worry too much about me and write when you have time. Love to all Buddy



V-MAIL Letter

Dated Feb. 11, 1945

To: Mr J L Lubojacky
Rt 1 Box 97
Richmond
Texas

From: Sgt A S Lubojacky 38561682
369th Bomb Sq (H)
306th Bomb Gp (H)
APO 557 c/o P.M. N.Y. N.Y.

England Sun nite Feb 11, 1945

Dear Dad:

I don't have anything to do tonite so I decided to drop you a few lines and let you know that I'm well and am thinking of you always. I've been off most of the day except for early this morning before day light I had three or four hours work. After that I hit the sack and slept till noon. I've been wondering if you could send me a box of cigars. If you do, send White Owl, El Roy Jan, or Phillis. And if you can't get those get some other good cigars. I get plenty cigarettes and pipe tobacco but no good cigars and sometimes I'd like to have one. Love to all
Buddy

England Feb. 11, 1945

Dear Sis & All:

I received your birthday card a few days ago but just haven't had a chance to thank you for it. I really was glad to hear from you.

I sure am glad you like your new home and are among a lot of your friends.

I'll bet you can't guess where I spent my twenty first birthday. Naw, that's wrong. I was ~~away~~ over enemy country. And it wasn't at all the way I had always thought of spending my twenty first.

I can just imagine what

England Feb. 11, 1945

Dear Sis & All:

I received your birthday card a few days ago but just haven't had a chance to thank you for it. I really was glad to hear from you.

I sure am glad you like your new home and are among a lot of your friends.

I'll bet you can't guess where I spent my twenty first birthday? Naw, that's wrong. I was ~~over~~ over enemy country. And it wasn't at all the way I had always thought of spending my twenty first.

I can just imagine what

12.75 for 17 pullets
 15.21 cotton pickers paid
 25.00 bags
 17.40 trip with cows

 70.36
 Posts & wire

427 80
 985.15

 1412.95
 69 95

 1482.90

Back side of previous page.

12.75 for 17 pullets
 15.21 cotton pickers paid
 25.00 bags
 17.40 trip with cows

 70.36

Posts & wire

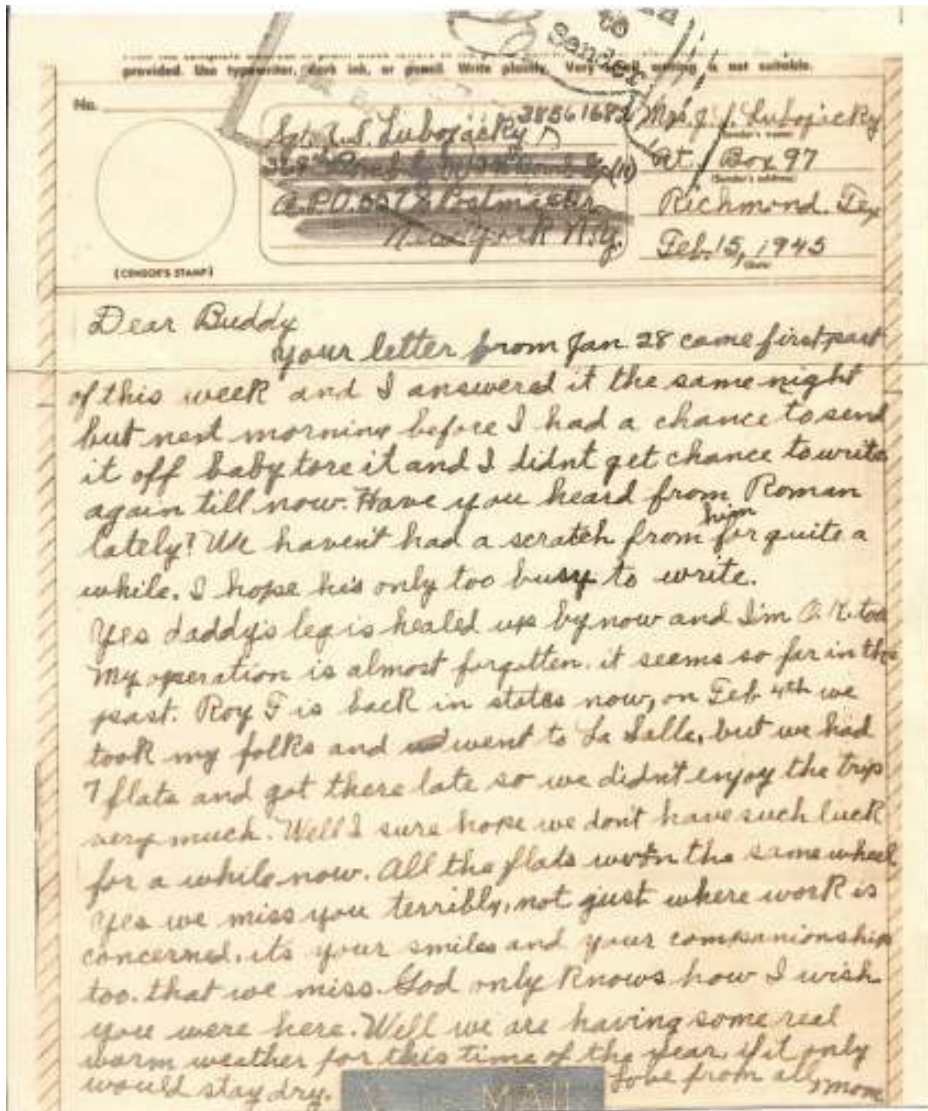
427 80
 985.15

 1412.95
 69 95

 1482.90
 22.00 Robert owes Dad

2nd page of letter is missing





V-MAIL Letter

Dated Feb. 15, 1945

To: Sgt A S Lubojacky 38561682
369th Bomb Sq (H) 306th Bomb Gp (H)
APO 557 c/o Postmaster
New York N.Y.

From: Mrs. J. L. Lubojacky
Rt 1 Box 97
Richmond, Tex

Feb. 15, 1945

Dear Buddy

Your letter from Jan. 28 came first part of this week and I answered it the same night but next morning before I had a chance to send it off baby tore it and I didn't get chance to write again till now. Have you heard from Roman lately? We haven't had a scratch from ^{him} for quite a while. I hope he's only too busy to write. Yes daddy's leg is healed up by now and I'm O.K. too. My operation is almost forgotten, it seems so far in the past. Roy F is back in states now, on Feb 4th we took my folks and ~~we~~ went to La Salle, but we had 7 flats and got there late so we didn't enjoy the trip very much. Well I sure hope we don't have such luck for a while now. All the flats were on the same wheel. Yes we miss you terribly, not just where work is concerned, it's your smiles and your companionship too. that we miss. God only know how I wish you were here. Well we are having some real warm weather for this time of the year, if it only would stay dry. Love from all, mom.

27 Tapliff Street.
Dorchester 22, Mass.
May 15, 1945.

Dear Mr. Lubojacky,

My son Frank L. McDonough
was with your son as a
member of the crew, at the
time their plane was report-
ed missing over Dresden,
Germany.

I have received no more
news from the War Depart-
ment up to this date. I have
received a letter from Mr.
Omer Sicard stating that his
son was a prisoner and
has now been liberated.

If I should hear from
my son or receive any
further news I shall

27 Tapliff Street
Dorchester 22, Mass
May 15, 1945

Dear Mr. Lubojacky

My son Frank L. McDonough
was with your son as a
member of the crew, at the
time their plane was report-
ed missing over Dresden,
Germany.

I have received no more
news from the War Depart-
ment up to this date. I have
received a letter from Mr.
Omer Sicard stating that his
son was a prisoner and
has now been liberated.
If I should hear from
my son or receive any
further news I shall

write you again.

I feel by our deep sorrow
we are bound together as
were the crew themselves
Trusting our prayers and
courage shall be rewarded
by good news of our loved
ones soon.

Sincerely
Esther McDonough.

write you again.

I feel by our deep sorrow
we are bound together as
were the crew themselves
Trusting our prayers and
courage shall be rewarded
by good news of our loved
ones soon.

Sincerely
Esther McDonough

Edna, Texas
May 27, 1945

Dear Mrs. Lubojacky,
I received your letter Friday and was going to send those other letters back yesterday, but we didn't go to town until later and after I got the groceries I thought about the letters so I went to mail them and the postoffice was closed.

I was very happy to receive what little news it was and am sure you were too. I want to write to all of those people just

Edna, Texas
May 27, 1945

Dear Mrs. Lubojacky,

I received your letter Friday and was going to send those other letters back yesterday, but we didn't go to town until late and after I got the groceries I thought about the letters so I went to mail them and the postoffice was closed.

I was very happy to receive what little news it was and am sure you were too. I want to write to all of those people just

as soon as I can.

How are you ^{all} getting along. I haven't been feeling any to good for the past couple days. Mom washed some yesterday and went to pick up a tub with a little water in it and hurt her back. It till hurts her a little.

We have got the well drilled yet but hope to have it by the first or second week in June.

Is Alice out of school yet. I'm not, I have to go one-half day tomorrow

as soon as I can.

How are you ^{all} getting along. I haven't been feeling any to good for the past couple days.

Mom washed some yesterday and went to pick up a tub with a little water in it and hurt her back. It till hurts her a little.

We have got the well drilled yet but hope to have it by the first or second week in June.

Is Alice out of school yet, I'm not, I have to go one-half day tomorrow

and half day Tuesday and
half day Wednesday. I have
~~so much work to do when~~
school is out. I don't know
what to do first. Charlie
wants me to help chop his
corn. Mom and Dad
wants me to do this
and that.

Howard is still in
Oklahoma City and
thinks he will get to
come home in July.
If he does his girl
from Chicago is coming
when he comes. If he
can't come in July she
said she would come
just the same. But she
(over)

and half day Tuesday and
half day Wednesday. I have
so much work to do when
school is out. I don't know
what to do first. Charlie
wants me to help chop his
corn. Mom and Dad
want me to do this
and that.

Howard is still in
Oklahoma City and
thinks he will get to
come home in July.
If he does his girl
from Chicago is coming
when he comes. If he
can't come in July she
said she would come
just the same. But she
(over)

did want to come down
when Howard was here.

I hope you will soon
be hearing from Alfred
that he's O.K. and com-
ing home soon.

Sure thank you for
sending me those letters.
Jerry didn't send them
back right away

Can't think of any-
thing else to say so
write and come when
you can

Love to all
Katherine

P.S. How is Olga and
all the rest.

did want to come down
when Howard was here.
I hope you will soon
be hearing from Alfred
that he's O.K. and com-
ing home soon.

Sure thank you for
sending me those letters.
Sorry didn't send them
back right away

Can't think of any-
thing else to say so
write and come when
you can

Love to all

Katherine

P.S. How is Olga and
all the rest

Too Late To Try

Too late, too late for you to try
Too late, too late for you to change my mind
I'm leaving I'm leaving right away
And this is how I'll say good-bye
I'll take you riding in a car.
Then I'll tell you why I'm leaving.
You know I love you as no other
But I'll come back to you some day
So good-bye good luck and don't forget me
For I may be a long time gone.
When at night or day you may be greaving
Just remember these last two lines
I'll come back to you darling
Then we'll change your name to
mine.

Too Late To Try

Too late, too late for you to try
Too late, too late for you to change my mind
I'm leaving I'm leaving right away
And this is how I'll say good-bye
I'll take you riding in a car.
Then I'll tell you why I'm leaving.
You know I love you as no other
But I'll come back to you some day
So good-bye good luck and don't forget me
For I may be a long time gone.
When at nite or day you may be greaving
Just remember these last two lines
I'll come back to you darling
Then we'll change your name to
mine.

Dr. Williams,

Again I want to thank you for digging out the photo I had wanted. Caroline's father was in the group shot.

I had offered to send you some information regarding my uncle Alfred Lubojacky. I have burned it to a CD and will mail it later today. I want to tell you what you will have on this CD.

1 - A large PDF file of family letters, mainly from Alfred Lubojacky during the war. These have been scanned and a transcription placed next to each page. This was done by my cousin Susan Murphy, the daughter of Walter Lubojacky.

2 - A Word document prepared by me. This is mainly a transcription by me of various letters recieved by my grandparents, Alfred Lubojacky's parents. It starts with the notification of his being missing in action. Following this are many letters from other crew members and their family as my grandmother was desperately trying to get more information. To the end of this I added some contemporary communications regarding Alfred that came when the family finally found out what had happened to him.

3 - Another Word document titled "Fire In Clouds". This is an English translation of the story of the plane which was written by a Czech individual to be used in the museum in the little town near where his plane came down. This is obviously translated by someone who speaks English as a second language. Even though it uses broken English in places I kind of like it; it adds to the realism of the story to me. I understand that Walter Lubojacky has a version of this with the English cleaned up.

I don't know who you have been getting information from but would suggest that if you havent talked with my sister Barbara Neal that you do so. She is the family historian/geneologist who finally found out what happened to Alfred Lubojacky. She traveled along with other family members to the Czech Republic for the dedication of the monument to the crew of that plane a few years ago. Her contact information is:

Barbara Neal
Home (435) 645-0726
Cell ((435) 655-1500
P.O. Box 682530
Park City, Utah 84068-2530
email: barbpoy.neal@gmail.com

I hope this is all helpful to you.

Karl Poythress, CPA
2100 Providence Park, Suite 100
Birmingham, AL 35242
Phone: (205) 995-2720 ext 103
Fax: (205) 995-2721

black flares that looked like cannonballs. Somehow, Aunt Niece, Stephen's ever-watchful mom, knew about our naughty deed before we walked the two blocks home to his house. It was tough to get away with anything with Aunt Niece around.

For some reason, Daddy, who also seemed to have an eagle eye for any stunts we might want to pull — probably because he pulled so many, himself — loved to call Stephen "Steppenfetchit." I don't know if they did, but I certainly wouldn't blame Aunt Niece and Uncle Bob for having several not-so-complimentary nicknames for a certain spoiled rotten niece of theirs who hung around all the time — namely me.

Stephen and I loved to play Army, run his trains and slide down the banister at Grandma Ward's house after being told not to time and time again. We even broke our front teeth at nearly the same time, but the forbidden banister had nothing to do with either incident.

Now we are parents of our own respective flocks, and the little boy I grew up with is the most wonderful husband and father imaginable. Though we don't see each other that often anymore, the love is still there. It has to be — it's impossible not to love Stephen.

In 1999, our lives paralleled again when we were both diagnosed with cancer. We spoke to each other via telephone from our hospital beds, but I was soon home and on the mend while Stephen continues to battle the insidious disease. I feel guilty that someone like him is so sick and someone like me had it so easy.

His humble, happy, Christian attitude is indescribable, and just the smallest dose of his own special brand of medicine — of which he seems oblivious — is enough to put a smile on your face that will last all day.

When I assured Stephen that I had placed him and his precious family on every prayer list I knew of, his grateful response was, "If all this is used just to enhance someone's prayer life, then to God be the glory."

It is just that kind of attitude that prompts his brother and sisters to say they need a "Steve fix," which means they are going to the hospital to get cheered up.

Would that we all had Stephen's kind of love in our hearts to share with others — that special brand of sunshine that enlightens people's lives and cheers their hearts with a simple smile that could blot out the sun.

Would that we all led lives that made people want a "fix" of us.

Would that we were all Stephen Davises.

B.J. Pollock can be reached via email at bj@herald-coaster.com



Prosise, Galler at MIA event

The Lubojackys' quest to

By BETTY HUMPHREY

Louise Lubojacky of Rosenberg went to her grave in 1990 with the belief that her son might still be alive. He had been reported missing in action in World War II over Dresden, Germany on Feb. 14, 1945. His dad, Joe Lubojacky, had hoped that same hope, and had left their son in his will when he died in 1970.

Through the years, Louise Lubojacky had written to the government to see if there was any further word about her son.

For 56 years, Army Air Force Sgt. Alfred Stanley "Al" Lubojacky was missing in action, and, by government decree, was officially declared dead a year and a day after the MIA designation.

Now, after all this time, his family knows what his fate must have been on that Valentine's Day — it was the last day of his life.



Wreath for courthouse marker

His parents were notified on March 3, 1945 in a Western Union Telegram from Adjutant Gen. J.A. Ulio of Washington, D.C., that Al was missing over Germany. His brother, Sgt. Roman Lubojacky, also was in the Army, and had been in the Normandy invasion.

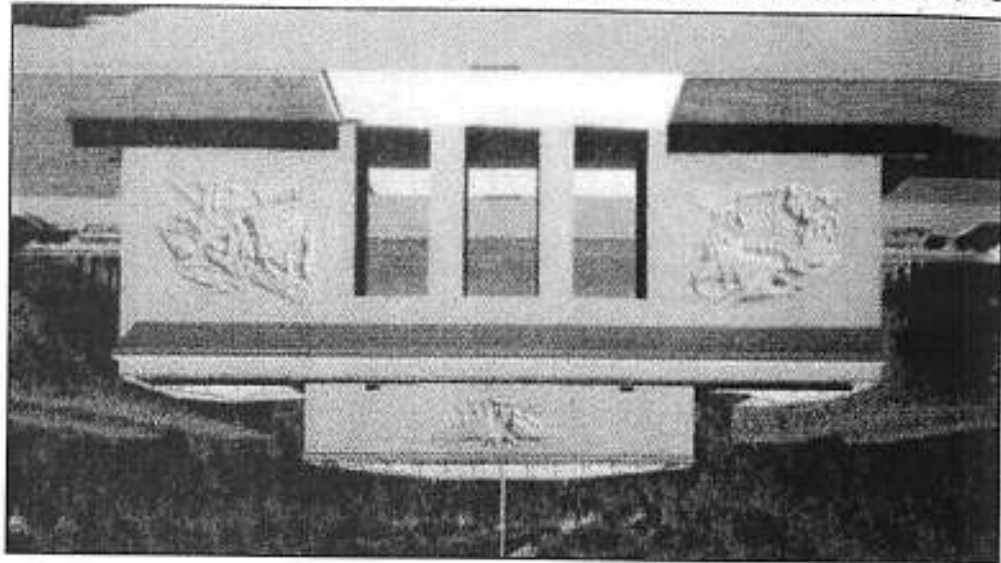
Of the plane's crew, Al was the only one who remained listed as MIA; the rest became prisoners of war within a short time of bailing out of their bullet-ridden plane, which also was on fire. They had been on a bombing mission over Dresden.

The story is now told, thanks to Barbara Poythress Neal of Pacific Palisades, Calif., who had heard tales of her Uncle Buddy during her childhood and on frequent visits to Texas. His Army picture was in a prominent spot on the piano at her grandparents' home. She knew what a special place Buddy had in her Granny Louise's heart.

Almost five years ago, Neal flew to Texas to attend a Lubojacky family reunion when a service was held to honor the memory of her grandparents and to acknowledge a marker placed for her uncle at the empty gravesite adjacent to their headstone in Greenlawn Memorial Park Cemetery in Rosenberg. It was the 50th anniversary of his death as declared by the government.

Already interested in genealogy, when Neal retired from the Federal Bureau of Investigation a couple of years ago, she began doing research and was able to locate some of the members of her Uncle Buddy's flight crew. She made contact and talked with them about their experiences during that time. Neal also talked with children of the original crew, and they shared memories their fathers had related. Early this month, e-mail messages of what Neal learned went to all the relatives who are hooked up to computers. Tears flowed freely and the documents were shared among the family.

Neal's information was used a few days



See LUBOJACKY, page 4

later for a candlelight POW/MIA (prisoner of war/missing in action) remembrance program for Sgt. Lubojacky held at the post home of Milton Brenner Post 3903, Veterans of Foreign Wars and LAVFW in Rosenberg, on Feb. 5. Al Lubojacky's sisters, Sylvia Galler and Alice Prossie, are longtime members of the LAVFW.

At the service, the POW/MIA banner was spotlighted and below were a lithograph of the American Cemetery in Epinal, France, where Lubojacky's name is etched on the marble memorial wall, his picture in uniform and votive candles. Afterwards his sisters were presented long-stemmed red roses in memory of their war hero.

Al was born to Joseph and Louise Lubojacky on Jan. 29, 1924 and grew up in Elementary School through 1936, and then relocating with his family to Edna. He spent much time back in Fort Bend County since most of the relatives lived and continue to

live in the vicinity of Fairchilds.

Al attended school in Edna through 1941, later going north to work in a defense plant in Maryland with his sister and her husband. That's where he was residing when he got his draft notice, came back home to Texas, enlisted and went into the Army. His parents had moved back to Fairchilds and bought a farm.

He applied for the Army Air Corps (now the Air Force), was accepted and training began first in Las Vegas with basic, Shepard Field in Wichita Falls and then at Drew Field, near Tampa, Fla. He graduated in the spring of 1944.

After training in Florida, the whole crew flew to Atlanta and was only there a few days over Thanksgiving before the next assignment. While the crew had surmised they were heading to the Pacific, they opened their secret orders aboard the aircraft and found that they were going to

Find MIA lasted 56 years

His Purple Heart/Air Medals, wings



President Franklin D. Roosevelt

future generations of Americans must pay grateful tribute."



Native Tom



Every now and then, little efficiency hit me at work: clean out drawers, consolidate countless notes I have written myself, transfer phone numbers, scrap pieces of paper to my etc. (No doubt the family will have these episodes strike home once in a while, but it's luck.)

When these moods sneak up on me, I'm often able to write a couple columns at one sitting, put me a week ahead of schedule and me with quite a sense of relief. It was the case a couple of weeks ago.

But then I went to visit Stephen Davis in Houston. Rather than leaving his house in tears, as I had expected on my journey there, I left feeling good and not worrying so much. And I knew I had to trash the old. I had written and share his spirit with my readers.

To know Stephen Davis is to know him, and I am very proud to be both cousin and friend.

Being the same age, we grew up together; and me being very tomboy, we played together. We even got in trouble together. I like the time on our way back to kindergarten when we extir-

LUBOJACKY: Niece led search to find out what happened



Lubojacky family gathered

The Lubojacky family gathered for a picture outside their farm house. From left, seated, are Joe and Louise Lubojacky with Walter, Ann, and Alice; back row, Roman, Olga, Sylvia, Ellen and Alfred.

Continued from page 1

Bangor, Maine, a staging area for Europe.

On the way to Europe, there was a short stop in Goosebay, Labrador, before the crew flew on to Wales and were transported by train to Thurleigh. Al and the rest of the crew became a close-knit group. They became part of the 306th Bombardment Group. Throughout World War II, the bomb group was stationed at Thurleigh, in Bedfordshire, England, with about 3,000 men stationed there at any one time.

Each combat crew had eight or nine men, down from 10 earlier when enemy fighters had been more numerous. Figures show that the 306th had some 700 men killed in action in WWII and a similar number who became prisoners of war.

The original flight crew that had trained together in 1944 in America and flew to the United Kingdom in late 1944 lost two of the members when the pilot and navigator went down while on a mission as replacements with another crew. That changed the dynamics somewhat.

Al was the ball-turret gunner. Others on the B-17 that day were

weeks earlier, Al and the others had been awarded the Air Medal by command of Brigadier General Turner "for meritorious achievement while participating in sustained bomber combat operations over Germany and German occupied countries. The courage, coolness and skill displayed by these officers and enlisted men upon these occasions reflect great credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States."

The crews flew in fair weather and foul. Greek Nahmias had commented to Neal that the weather was so terrible that they could not see the other planes in their formation, and often the wingtips of the next plane beside them in formation would be bumping their plane's wingtips. The planes were not allowed radio traffic in enemy territory to try to keep the enemy radar from spotting them so readily.

The B-17 was described as a very "open" plane, with openings in the waist area for the guns, and the way the bomb bay was set up.

The 13th mission for the crew was to Dresden on Feb. 14. It was on that mission that they were hit. When another plane dropped out of the formation on the way to Dresden, their plane became the last in line, and very vulnerable.

plane."

Nahmias, who had taken shrapnel in his arm and torso, also thought Al Lubojacky had gotten out. But, in talking with Sicard's son, Neal learned more.

Chris Sicard told Neal his father said the pilot who flew the day their flight was shot down had been an instructor on another type of plane, the B-24, and he was not familiar with the character of flight of the B-17.

Their lead plane had been hit, and some confusion resulted. This confusion caused half the planes in the formation to drop their bombs, but half didn't, so they had to go back around again to drop them. Their pilot told them to hold off on dropping their bombs, but his father went ahead and dropped them anyway.

He told his son he had done so because he knew they would have died having so much explosive power on board when hit by enemy fire. Since the plane was going back, the enemy fire intensified.

The plane was badly hit, with fire in the bomb bay, which is also the fuel transfer location. His father told him that with fire there, the fuel would also ignite.

In talking with Whitelaw, the copilot, Neal was told the only way he and the pilot had to maneuver the aircraft was using the throttle to make it go more to the left or more to the right, and the trim tabs to use to keep the nose of the aircraft up.

Even so, they were determined to fly east to reach Russia, the nearest Allied territory. He said they flew in this manner for about 35 minutes before it was obvious that they absolutely had to bail out, because the aircraft was going to go down.

About 20 minutes into that 35-minute flying time, Whitelaw said, "I got out of my seat and tried to get back in the bomb bay. I saw Lubojacky lying on his right side, covered with blood from his head, on down much of his body, and I could see he was pulling himself

up head first toward the tail of the aircraft. He must have held his parachute on because he couldn't leave without it, and he couldn't leave without

He said the flames engulfed the area toward him, causing him to have to retreat back in front of the aircraft again. He didn't go back there, because it was only a six-inch window across the open bomb bay. It was wide open to the outside. I didn't even have my shirt on.

"I couldn't see any when I saw him, and figured the others must have jumped. I couldn't find Lubojacky was just getting up waist, and then I realized the electrical power to the turret back around to the tail could get out, he would have to hand-crank it around. It would've taken a while.

"When the flames melted later, I looked again but he was no longer there, and I had already bailed out. It was minutes after I had seen him when we all had to bail out.

Finally the condition of the aircraft caused the remaining crew members to have to bail out.

Sicard told his son that the plane blew up before they could get to the ground, just after his parachute deployed. He landed just south of the Czech border from where he was taken. Whitelaw and Standley bailed out only half a mile apart together. They were helped by a local fellow, but were caught at Jicin.

They finally ended up in Nuremberg, where they spent the rest of their time in captivity during the war, they were sent to march down to where the P. Army liberated them.

Nahmias was caught by Germans and turned over to the SS, who he told Neal, and tortured him for days. He was never treated for his injuries the whole time



Davis-G

another crew. That changed the dynamics somewhat.

Al was the ball-turret gunner. Others on the B-17 that day were the pilot, B.B. Lewis; copilot and top gunner, Bob Whitelaw; navigator and nose gunner, Lester A. Harrison; radio, Field McChesney; engineer, Jim Standlee; bombardier, Raymond Joseph Sicard; tail gunner, Lee "Greek" Nahmias; and waist gunner and armorer, Frank McDonough.

McChesney shared a brief story with Neal "to give an example of what a carefree and fun guy Al was."

One night, several of the crewmates were sitting in the mess hall when Al came in laughing. He explained that he had ridden his bike over, in the enforced total darkness of the base, to join the rest of his buddies. It was so dark he couldn't see where he was going. A couple of officers encountered along the way fell in the ditch alongside the road, to avoid getting hit by Al's bike.

"We asked him if he stopped to help them up," McChesney said. "And he said 'No, I was laughing too hard.'"

Records his family have reveal that Al's crew was on his 13th mission on that fateful day. About two

When another plane dropped out of the formation on the way to Dresden, their plane became the last in line, and very vulnerable, Nahmias remembered.

Since all the planes had not dropped their bombs, a colonel aboard another plane directed their formation to go around again. "If we hadn't gone around again, we would not have been hit..." Nahmias said.

McChesney told Neal that they "had to come back over the target a second time, which made us even more vulnerable. Our formation was attacked by FW-190s, German fighter planes. I was in the radio room. Damage by the FW-190s knocked out our internal electrical system and intercom, so the pilot and copilot couldn't get information to or from the crew, and later couldn't give the bail-out order over the intercom.

"I went into the waist (area of the plane). I saw that (McDonough) had been hit in the leg. He pulled up his mask momentarily and said, 'Get a splint.' I went back to the radio room. I opened the door and saw all the flames in the bomb bay, and I knew then that we were going down. I got Frank's chute and got it on him, and got him out of the

Family album photos



Al and his guitar



Al as a baby



Al with sister, mother



Ft. Bend County's ONLY Co



In
of
ad
thi
•Ma
•Mo
•Pre
Fu
•Fan
Pla

to find out what happened to uncle in World War II

is, who had taken shrapnel to his arm and torso, also told me. Al Lubojacky had gotten into a fight with Sicard's crew, but Sicard learned more.

Sicard told Neal his father was the pilot who flew the day it was shot down and had been instructor on another type of plane, the B-24, and he was not the character of flight 7.

The plane had been hit, and confusion resulted. This caused half the planes in the formation to drop their bombs, but they didn't, so they had to go back and drop them. Sicard told them to hold off on dropping their bombs, but his plane went ahead and dropped its bombs.

His son he had done so well, he knew they would have to use so much explosive on board when hit by enemy fire. The plane was going down, and enemy fire intensified.

He was badly hit, with a bomb bay, which is also the transfer location. His father told him that with fire there, it would also ignite.

Talking with Whitelaw, the pilot was told the only way the pilot had to maneuver the aircraft was using the throttle to go more to the left or right, and the trim tabs to keep the nose of the aircraft level.

They were determined to reach Russia, the Allied territory. He said in this manner for about a week before it was obvious they had to bail out, and the aircraft was going to crash.

Minutes into that 35-minute time, Whitelaw said, he left my seat and tried to get to the bomb bay. I saw him lying on his right side, with blood from his head, neck, and chest, and I saw he was pulling himself

up head first toward the waist door of the aircraft. He must have had his parachute on because he wasn't holding it, and he would've known he couldn't leave without it."

He said the flames engulfed the area toward him, causing Whitelaw to have to retreat back to the front of the aircraft again. "I couldn't go back there, because there was only a six-inch wide beam across the open bomb bay and it was wide open to the outside, and I didn't even have my shoes on yet."

"I couldn't see anyone else when I saw him, and figured Greek and the others must have already jumped. I couldn't figure why Lubojacky was just getting to the waist, and then I realized that without electrical power to roll the ball turret back around to where he could get out, he would have had to hand-crank it around, which would've taken a while."

"When the flames moved again later, I looked again but he was no longer there, and must have already bailed out. It was about 15 minutes after I had seen Lubojacky when we all had to bail out."

Finally the condition of the aircraft caused the remaining five crew members to have to jump.

Sicard told his son that he saw the plane blow up before it hit the ground, just after his parachute deployed. He landed just over the Czech border from Germany, where he was taken prisoner. Whitelaw and Standlee had landed only half a mile apart and got together. They were helped at first by a local fellow, but were finally caught at Jicin.

They finally ended up in Nuremberg, where they spent most of their time in captivity. Late in the war, they were sent on a forced march down to where Patton's 3rd Army liberated them.

Nahmias was caught by the Germans and turned over to the SS, who he told Neal, questioned and tortured him for days on end. He was never treated for his injuries the whole time he was a

prisoner. He said that on one occasion when he was being moved across the country, he saw for a couple of minutes a couple of his fellow crew members as they were being transported or in a prison camp.

Sicard said that his father was very reserved, and very much kept his feelings to himself. The only time his son ever saw him cry was when he learned of the passing of his good friend from the crew, Lester Harrison.

McChesney told Neal that McDonough was terribly wounded and had always been concerned that he had caused the loss of the plane, fearing he should have been able to prevent it by shooting the German plane that attacked them; he was thus terribly concerned that he had caused Al's death.

McChesney also said, "Even at V-E (Victory Europe) Day, my folks didn't know that I was alive. Before V-E Day, Al's brother Roman wrote to my father, encour-

aging him, saying 'They'll show up. Be of good cheer!' and he was right — we did show up, all except Al. After I made it back, I wrote either to Roman or to Al's mother (can't now remember which). All of us who made it back stayed in touch with one another for a couple of years, until about 1947."

Neal also chronicled, "In later years, I began hearing from Czech fans of the B-17s. I learned from them that the plane's tail section and one of the engines were on display in a small Czech town, the name of which I can't readily remember."

Al Lubojacky remains alive in the memories of his family members. In addition to sisters Prosisie and Galler, there are Olga Kaminsky of Sealy, Ann Mikeska of Richmond, Ellen Poythress of Birmingham, Ala.; and a brother, Walter Lubojacky of Meeker, Okla., and many, many nieces and nephews.



B-17's initial crew

The crew that initially flew together included, from left, back row, Alfred S. Lubojacky, Leon "Greek" Nahmias, Frank McDonough, James Standlee and Hardin McChesney; front row, Joseph Sicard, Louis Wilson, Bob Whitelaw and Kenneth Streun. Pilot Streun and Navigator Wilson went down with a plane on which they were on a mission prior to the fateful Feb. 14, 1945 mission for the rest of this crew with B.B. Lewis as pilot and Lester Harrison as navigator.

Davis-Greenlawn Funeral Home



DEFENSE PRISONER OF WAR/MISSING PERSONNEL OFFICE
2900 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-2900

26 January 2009
D-09/000017

MEMORANDUM FOR U.S. ARMY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND (AHRC-PER)

SUBJECT: Next of Kin Notification Pertaining to Sergeant Alfred S. Lubojacky (WWII)

The attached Next of Kin Notification and supporting documents relating to Sergeant Alfred S. Lubojacky have been fully coordinated by DPMO's policy and analytic directorates, and have been signed off by the DASD for release to the appropriate next of kin. This information will be shared with the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) and we will update the family if there are any further developments.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Hockin".

Brian M. Hockin
Lieutenant, U. S. Navy
Defense Casualty Liaison Officer

Attachments:
As stated



WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

12333

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

IMPORTANT: This Report will be compiled in triplicate by each Army Air Forces organization within 48 hours of the time an air crew member is officially reported missing.

1. ORGANIZATION: Location, by Name AAF Station
Group 306th; Squadron 360th; Reconnaissance
2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure Thurligh, Eng. Course as prescribed
Target or Intended Destination Dresden; Type of Mission Heavy Bomb
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
8/10 - 9/10 clouds with light haze
4. GIVE: (a) Day 14 Month Feb Year 45; Time 1233; and Location Near Dresden
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted (); Last contacted by radio (); Forced down (); Seen to Crash (); or Information not Available ()
5. AIRCRAFT WAS LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF: (Check only one) Enemy aircraft (); Enemy anti-aircraft (); Other Circumstances as Follows: _____
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, model and Series B-17-G; AAF Serial Number 42-97185 ✓
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if Any none
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1820-97; AAF Serial Number (a) SW-013005; (b) 43-59408; (c) SW-019921; (d) SW-017244
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number);
* (a) HS-416764; (b) ES-674552; (c) F-635212; (d) F-649089;
(e) F-647163; (f) F-635375; (g) F-635370; (h) F-635086;
(i) F-646955; (j) F-635087; (k) _____; (l) _____;
(m) _____; (n) _____; (o) _____; (p) _____
10. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty
or (b) Non Battle Casualty _____
11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 9; Passengers 0; Total 9
(Starting with Pilot, furnish the following particulars: If more than 11 persons were aboard aircraft, list similar particulars on separate sheet and attach original to this form.)

Crew Position	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Current Status
1. Pilot-Pilot	<u>RMC Lewis, Royston B.</u>	<u>Capt</u>	<u>0-24515</u>	<u>MIA</u>
2. Pilot-Co-Pilot	<u>Whitelaw, Robert S.</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>0-782432</u>	<u>MIA</u>
3. Nav-Navigator	<u>Harrison, Lester A.</u>	<u>1st Lt</u>	<u>0-769039</u>	<u>MIA</u>
4. Bomb - Nose Gunner	<u>MSicard, Joseph R.</u>	<u>R/O</u>	<u>T-129559</u>	<u>MIA</u>
5. Ser Eng-Top Tur Gun.	<u>Standlee, James T. Jr.</u>	<u>T/Sgt</u>	<u>17023812</u>	<u>MIA</u>
6. Radio Opr - Radio Opr.	<u>McChesney, Hardin F. Jr.</u>	<u>Sgt</u>	<u>15315015</u>	<u>MIA</u>
7. Arm Gun-Ball Tur Gun.	<u>Inbojacky, Alfred S.</u>	<u>Sgt</u>	<u>38561682</u>	<u>MIA</u>
8. Arm Gun-Waist Gun.	<u>McDonough, Frank L.</u>	<u>Sgt</u>	<u>31420284</u>	<u>MIA</u>
9. Arm Gun-Tail Gun.	<u>Nahmias, Leon</u>	<u>Sgt</u>	<u>42076275</u>	<u>MIA</u>
10.				
11.				

12. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT, AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME:

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Contacted		
			by Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash Landing
1. <u>HATHAWAY, CARL B.</u>	<u>1st Lt</u>	<u>0-766685</u>		<u>X</u>	
2.					
3.					

December 10, 2008

Next of Kin Notification

Sergeant Alfred S. Lubojacky, United States Army Air Forces (USAAF)

Analysts from the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office's (DPMO) Joint Commission Support Directorate are conducting research on the case of Sergeant Alfred S. Lubojacky, 38561682, 369th Bombardment Squadron, 306th Bombardment Group, 8th Air Force, whose B-17G (42-97185) bomber crashed near Hridelec, former Czechoslovakia, on February 14, 1945. Recently, DPMO has received two documents that indicate that Lubojacky did not survive his loss incident and his body was discovered in the vicinity of Merboltice, former Czechoslovakia.

According to U.S. records, Lubojacky's B-17G was attacked by enemy fighters shortly after dropping its bombs over the target in Dresden, Germany. The bomb bay and number three engine were set on fire, and the plane's inter-communications system was damaged. As a result, the crew members in the forward section of the plane could not communicate with those in the rear. The co-pilot stated that he was "positive" Lubojacky bailed out of the aircraft. The co-pilot last saw Lubojacky through the flames in the bomb bay. Lubojacky was lying on his back near the waist door, securing his parachute to his body, and he appeared to have been injured in the abdominal area. The co-pilot stated that Lubojacky smiled and waved at him before reaching for the red emergency release handle on the waist door. The flames in the bomb bay intensified forcing the co-pilot back, and when he looked into the bomb bay again, Lubojacky was gone. The co-pilot believed the aircraft crashed about 50 miles east-northeast of Prague. Two other crew members also provided accounts consistent with the co-pilot's version of the circumstances leading up to Lubojacky's disappearance. Lubojacky is the only unaccounted for member of the nine-man crew, as the eight captured crew members were eventually returned to U.S. military control after the war.

An investigation conducted by the American Graves Registration Service (AGRS) in 1947 determined that Lubojacky's aircraft crashed near the small village of Rideletz (now Hridelec). The police and local farmers reported that the Germans had removed all of the wreckage and that to their knowledge no bodies had been found in or around it. The AGRS team searched cemetery and town hall records in both Rideletz and Bad Belohrad for information concerning Lubojacky, but the results were negative. Local residents in both towns knew of the plane that crashed in the area and of five airmen who bailed out of it but knew nothing about Lubojacky. In 1949, AGRS requested permission to re-enter Czechoslovakia to continue investigations into the losses of 17 U.S. service members, including

Lubojacky. However, that request was denied by the Czechoslovakian Government, which tasked its Ministry of National Defense to conduct these investigations on behalf of AGRS. The investigation into Lubojacky's loss produced negative results. On November 18, 1952, Lubojacky's name was removed from the deferred search roster and his status reverted to non-recoverable.

In April 2008, DPMO received new information from the KARTA Center Foundation, a Polish non-governmental research organization, regarding Lubojacky's case. In its research report for the period of October-December 2007, KARTA reported that it discovered a book written by Mr. Martin Vesely titled *Vojenske Dejiny Ustecka (Military History Usti)*, in which Vesely makes a reference to Lubojacky (Attachment 1). While describing the loss of a heavy bomber over Dresden, Vesely states that "the caught paratrooper probably was not its crew man as opposed to Sgt Alfred Lubojacki [sic], whose body was found near Vernerice na Decinsku on the same day." This information refers to the town of Vernerice, located in the Decin District, and is the first known mention of Lubojacky's whereabouts after he bailed out of his aircraft. DPMO is working through KARTA to acquire the source of Vesely's information.

In July 2008, DPMO investigators traveled to the Czech Republic and met with Mr. Milos Podzimek, a local historian and member of the Ornamental Society of Army History. Podzimek has researched Lubojacky's case for 18 years, publishing a pamphlet on Lubojacky and his crew called *Ohen v Oblacich (Fire in the Clouds)*. He stated that the case has been difficult to research, because U.S. records and testimony from survivors of Lubojacky's crew give only the location where the plane crashed and not where Lubojacky was last seen. However, the historian stated that he was able to find a German police document, which contains information related to Lubojacky's loss case (Attachment 2). The document states that an airman's body and unopened parachute were found near Merboltice in February 1945. Merboltice is less than 10 kilometers from Vernerice, the location mentioned in Vesely's book. The body had a gunshot wound in one leg and an identification tag bearing the name Lubojacky, though the service number was illegible. The document supposedly was forwarded to the German military headquarters in Decin, but no mention is made concerning the disposition of the remains.

This notification reflects ongoing investigation and not final analysis. Research and analysis continue on this case.

Attachments:

1. Page 164 from Martin Vesely's book titled *Vojenske Dejiny Ustecka (Military History Usti)* with summary from Oct-Dec 2007 KARTA report.
2. German police document provided by Mr. Milos Podzimek with translation.

TO: COMAIRDIV ONE
ATTN: A-2

FROM: 306 COMBOMGR

14-2-44 raid lib
3-2-45
SECRET BT

Nr. 13

Requested data on A/C suspected of landing in Russian held territory

since January 1, 1945.

- 231530A
F. 377-D
1. 306th Bomb Group
 2. 369th Bomb Squadron
 3. B.B. Lewis, Capt. A.C.
 4. A/C 185-J
 5. Suspected
 6. Additional information:

Our A/C 185-J, pilot B.^{B.} Lewis, Capt., A.C., left formation shortly after fighter attack 1233 hours, Chemnitz-Dresden area. 1 chute ~~reported~~ reported may not have been from Lewis' A/C. Pilot Hathaway, A/C 914-B says Lewis did 180° turn and headed east. Date of mission 14/2/45, to Dresden. ~~Group #306, Squadron #369th.~~
~~Could only be~~ suspected of going to Russia. ~~This is only possible case of A/C~~
~~going to Russia.~~ 9 men, including pilot, were in A/C 185-J on this mission.

JOHN A. BAIRNSFATHER,
Group S-2

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS 1ST AIR DIVISION
Office of the Director of Intelligence
APO 557

D-M-8

IMMEDIATE INTERPRETATION REPORT NO. 232, 0530 hours, 15 February, 1945.

This report covers strike attack photography of the 91st, 92nd, 303rd, 305th, 306th, 351st, 379th, 381st, 384th, 398th, 401st and 457th Bombardment Groups taken during the mission of 14 February, 1945 to TARGETS IN GERMANY AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA,

D R E S D E N , G E R M A N Y

The target was the city of DRESDEN, the historical capital of SAXONY, and an industrial center of considerable importance. It is one of the finest residential cities in GERMANY with a population of 650,000.

Due to cloud cover of 7/10 to 10/10 density combined with smoke from fires started by the attack of the R.A.F. on the night of 13/14 February, most of the bombs dropped on this target could not be plotted and only a few bomb strikes could be pin-pointed.

Of the 27 concentrations dropped on this target, 11 could be plotted. However, portions of these were partially obscured.

Three concentrations of general purpose bombs could be seen bursting in the DRESDEN-FRIEDRICHSTADT MARSHALLING YARD AREA. A few bomb bursts could be pin-pointed in the forwarding sidings area. However, the main weight of bombs appears to have fallen across the central portion of the marshalling yard and into an industrial area immediately adjacent to the northern edge of the yard.

Two, possibly three concentrations of bombs could be seen in the LOBTAU MARSHALLING YARD AREA, 1 mile S.E. of the DRESDEN FRIEDRICHSTADT YARDS in the central portion of the city. Hits could not be pin-pointed, however, two explosions were seen. Immediately adjacent to both the eastern and western sides of the yard are built-up industrial areas. There is a high probability that severe damage will result in these areas.

Three heavy concentrations of general purpose bombs fell into the RACKNITZ DISTRICT, 1 1/2 miles S.E. of the center of the city. This area is a compact residential area (40% to 70%) built-up. Fires could be seen burning in this area late in the attack and severe damage can be expected.

Two concentrations of bombs could be plotted in the LEUTENITZ-COTTA DISTRICT, 1 1/2 miles N. W. of the center of the city. These areas are residential (40% to 70%) built-up and damage should be severe.

At least one concentration of general purpose bombs could be seen bursting in the ZSCHERTNITZ DISTRICT. This area is suburban (10% to 40%) built-up. Damage should be moderate.

Target markers and bombs area photography indicate that the majority of bombs dropped fell into heavily built-up areas of the city. Damage to the city should be severe.

R E S T R I C T E D

Kendleton case: It's about the

By STEPHEN PALKOT

The trial against former Kendleton Police Commissioner Sam Jimmie Mann continued on Tuesday with opening arguments.

"It's a case about theft — theft of cash that was supposed to go to the bank accounts of the city of Kendleton," said U.S. Attorney Michael Wynne.

Mann stands accused of a federal indictment containing 52 counts, all stemming from a period in the late

'90s when he served as the Kendleton police commissioner.

Mann is being tried in the U.S. District Court of Judge Ewing Werlein, where a jury of 12 will determine his guilt or innocence.

Wynne accused Mann in opening arguments of illegally enriching himself with money collected from traffic warrants and federal grant money designated for hiring new police officers. Much of that traffic collections money, said Wynne, was to go to the state, leaving Kendleton in debt.

Defense attorney Tom Berg, however, called his client "stern and honest" and turned the attention toward co-defendant and former police captain Gerald Davis, calling Davis an "embezzler" and a "self-serving liar."

"He's made a deal with the government to save his hide and testify against Sam Mann," said Berg.

Davis, who was to face the jury with Mann, pleaded guilty on Thursday to one count of conspiracy in exchange for all other charges being dropped.

The Kendleton Police Department, said Wynne, operated what was commonly known as a "speed trap" in the stretch of U.S. 59 within city limits, and the police department handled traffic warrant collections under a unique setup.

Wynne said warrants were issued if a traffic offender did not appear in municipal court, and the money collected by officers would be turned over to the Kendleton Police Department.

Davis served as chief of the war-

rants division, and Wynne and Mann conspired to fill half of the warrant monies and "cover it through bookkeeping."

Officers would collect from violators, despite regulations against the practice.

Wynne said Davis sought to collect equal non-cash and cash pay

See KENDLETON

Searching for closure

Family continues quest to find remains of missing airman

(In February 2001, The Herald-Coaster in a Life & Times article reported the Lubojacky family's quest to find information about the fate of Army Air Force Sgt. Alfred Stanly Lubojacky, who went missing in action Valentine's Day, 1945 after a plane battle over Dresden, Germany. That January was the year they got some closure after 56 years of wondering. His niece, Barbara Neal of California, had contacted Lubojacky's fellow crew members and relatives and shared her findings with the family.)

By BETTY HUMPHREY

Almost 10 years ago, members of the

Lubojacky family stood by a marker bearing the name of Sgt. Alfred S. Lubojacky of the United States Army Air Force at a service during a family reunion at Davis-Greenlawn Cemetery in Rosenberg. The ceremony at the Graveside of his parents, Joe and Louise Lubojacky, honored the memory of the son, known as "Buddy," lost during an air battle after the B-17 was attacked over Dresden, Germany in World War II on Feb. 14, 1945.

On May 8, 2005, in the 60th year since Lubojacky was listed as MIA, some of those same relatives will stand at a memorial site near the village of Hridelec in the Czech Republic marking the spot where the empty B-17 plane, on which Buddy was the ball-

turret gunner, finally crashed that same day.

Just as at the empty grave in Rosenberg, he is not there. But where do his remains lie? Research continues in the Czech Republic on that question.

Other members of the crew were Leon "Greek" Nahmias, tail-gunner; Frank McDonough, armorer; James Standlee, engineer; Hardin "Field" McChesney, radio operator; Joseph Sicard, bombardier; Bob Whitelaw, copilot; Louis Wilson, navigator; and Kenneth Streun, pilot. Several of these men's remembrances or those from their families were chronicled from research by Lubojacky's niece, Barbara

See LUBOJACKY, page 3



Sgt. Alfred S. Lubojacky



Sugar Land Council prepares for development of Imperial property

By STEPHEN PALKOT

Tuesday, and said Imperial Sugar

Esch advised the city

LUBOJACKY: Family will travel to Europe for eve

Continued from page 1

Neal, now of California, in the 2001 story. The page was headlined "One family, one search, one hero."

While all the other guys successfully parachuted out, one at a time even with grave wounds, they all lived and were captured by the Nazis. Only two are alive now: McChesney, who now lives in Bowling Green, Ky., and Lee Nahmias, who resides in Flushing, N.Y. Neal has been in contact with both recently.

Of the group that stood at the marker in Rosenberg to honor their parents and uncle, only four of Buddy's siblings remain: Olga Kaminsky of Sealy, Alice Prosisie and Ann Mikeska of Rosenberg, and Walt Lubojacky of Oklahoma. In 2002, both Ellen Poythress of Alabama and Sylvia Galler of Rosenberg passed away.

After the 2001 information, Neal had kept on with the research and the email messages to any who would respond. In 2002, at the funeral of her Aunt Sylvia Galler in Rosenberg, she learned from Ruby Lubojacky that an article in a Czech genealogy publication was seeking to reach the family members of Alfred Lubojacky. The article in the Texas Czech Genealogical Society written by Dr. Josef Simicek (in Czech) had been translated into English and put into the June 2002 "Ceske Stopy - Czech Footprints," seeking information on behalf of others. This turned out to be Milos Podzimek of the Czech Republic, known as "The Bombers Fan," who first tried to track down the Lubojacky family in December 2000. It was in 2003 that Neal finally had an intermediary whose friend was going to Lichnov, near Novy Jicin, to deliver Neal's requests for information to Dr. Simicek. The traveler brought back information and a Czech letter Simicek had received Dec. 9, 2000 from Podzimek.

This past Christmas, Neal learned new information from the tragedy, this time directly from Podzimek, a man interested in the history of World War II, especially the air war. As a member of the Ornamental Society of Army History (OSAH), Podzimek told Neal he concentrates on the fates of airmen crew of the aircrafts which crashed "in our area," in what was



The crew that initially flew together included, from left, back row, Alfred S. Luboja "Greek" Nahmias, Frank McDonough, James Standlee and Hardin McChesney; front row Sicard, Louis Wilson, Bob Whitelaw and Kenneth Streun.

and that he had been in contact with Sicard, McChesney, and Whitelaw some years ago. He said he sent them letters this year, but had no reply.

He also sent a picture of the museum that is being built inside a bunker, a structure from the "Czechoslovak Frontier Defenses 1935-1938," close to the town of Hronov.

Most of those sites will be visited in early May by family members and others from Fort Bend County.

Neal knew that she and other family members would definitely want to be there for the dedication of the monument. And she knew that it would be

a logical opportunity for her family members who had never done so, to be able to see the towns and villages in Moravia that the family's Franek and Lubojacky ancestors left in the 1800s to come to Texas. Neal very much wanted to share this dedication ceremony with the family.

However, having traveled in the Czech Republic once before, she knew that arranging the logistics of how they could all get to Hridilec from Prague, would be difficult. How



this time directly from Podzimek, a man interested in the history of World War II, especially the air war. As a member of the Ornamental Society of Army History (OSAH), Podzimek told Neal he concentrates on the fates of airmen crew of the aircrafts which crashed "in our area," in what was Czechoslovakia and in Poland and Germany. "The story of B-17 crew, there was Alfred, I study and search for 15 years ago!" he wrote.

Included in what Podzimek had recently found was the German officer's report, which was translated for Neal by W.M. Von-Maszewski, head of the genealogy department at George Memorial Library in Richmond. Her aunt, Alice Prosisie, had suggested she contact him.

From the German report Podzimek had found, Neal was shocked to learn that Buddy's body was found by the Nazi police with a partly opened parachute on Feb. 15, 1945 and with a wound to the thigh. The "parachutist indeed was identified. His tag showed his name, but the ID number was damaged and not readable.

"It makes me so sad to think that was known then, and the information was never relayed to the family," Neal said.

On Jan. 1, Podzimek sent her several maps by email, the first with a red arrow pointing to the village of Hridelec, close to the spa town of Lazne Belohrad. That's where the monument is being placed at the site 30 kilometers north of the county seat of Hradec Kralove, 100 km east northeast of Prague.

On another map, the red arrow points out the village of Merboltice, where the Nazi police found "Buddy's" body. That location is 20 km east of Usti on the Elbe River in Northern Bohemia. The left end of the arrow points to the village of Hor. Zalezly, where the plane's McDonough, who was wounded, landed by parachute.

Neal's correspondent told her that in his search, he got many of the materials (documents regarding the aircraft and its crew) from the USA,

1800s to come to Texas. Neal very much wanted to share this dedication ceremony with the family.

However, having traveled in the Czech Republic once before, she knew that arranging the logistics of how they could all get to Hridelec from Prague, would be difficult. How to get them to the areas of Moravia that she wanted them to see — all this would be impossible for her to plan from California. She knew that unless it was all planned "seamlessly," that it would not be a trip that relatives and crew could even attempt.

She felt she needed someone familiar with arranging such travel details in the Czech Republic, and knew that Fort Bend County would have more people experienced there (and able to speak and write the language), than available where she lives.

In talks with her aunt, Ann Mikeska she learned that Jerry and Joann Fabrygel of Needville had handled all the arrangements for Mikeska's 1998 visit to the Czech Republic. Neal said, "So, the choice was logical to ask them to help with the logistics of being able to honor one of Fort Bend County's sons, and to arrange time to see the villages of his, and all the family's, ancestors."

So far, family members going on the trip, which leaves May 5 for Prague and returns on May 15 from Vienna, Austria through Paris, are: Ann and Jim Mikeska of Rosenberg, daughter, Shawna Sandel, sons Clint and Cody and their wives; Walt and Betty Lubojacky of Oklahoma; Charles and Barbara Neal of California, Edna Kundel; Everett and Connie Kaminsky of Houston; and, hopefully, the Neals two daughters and a son-in-law.

Others who expect to go are Guy and Betty Humphrey and crew member of the B-17, Field McChesney of Bowling Green, Ky. and his wife.



EXPRESS TAX CENTER

NOW OPEN IN WHARTON, BAY CITY, AND ROSENBERG!

- Fast Tax Refund Anticipation Loans In As Little As 24 Hours!!!
- Now Offering Same Day Loans (Some Restrictions Apply)
- Free Refund Estimation! • Electronic Filing
- Now Three Locations To Serve You Better!

Good News!!

Express Refund Loans Are Back!!! This Year Most People Will Qualify To Receive All Of Their Refund Proceeds Including All Of The Earned Income Credit In As Little As 24 Hours with a Refund Anticipation Loan!! More Good News! The Earned Income Credit Has Increased Greatly And You May Qualify For As Much As \$1,500 In Earned Income Credit Tax Refund.

THE TRIBUTE

A World War II flight crew had a lasting effect on one Czech Republic village and families throughout the United States.



BY BETTY HUMPHREY
AND B.J. POLLOCK

On May 8, Czech Liberation Day, the family of the late Army Air Force Sgt. Alfred Stanley "Buddy" Lubojacky and a few friends gathered with about 400 others at the village of Hřidelec in the Czech Republic to honor Lubojacky and eight others whose plane went down on that spot on Valentine's Day, 1945, following a plane battle over Dresden, Germany during World War II.

Dresden was destroyed by a firestorm after Allied bombing raids that day, but a Fort Bend County family was devastated that day as well when Lubojacky paid the ultimate price.

More than half a century later, at a

crew members. In 2002, Neal learned that Milos Podzimek of the Czech Republic was seeking to contact Lubojacky's family. Affectionately known as "The Bombers' Fan," Podzimek, a member of the Ornamental Society of Army History, specializes in the fates of the airplane crews that crashed near Hřidelec and in Poland and Germany.

In late 2004, Podzimek provided Neal with a German officer's report, which was translated for her by George Memorial Library's head of genealogy, W.M. Von-Maszewski. It was then that Lubojacky's family learned his body and partly opened parachute were found Feb. 15, 1945, and he suffered a wound to the thigh.

His fellow crew members (tail gunner Leon "Greek" Nahmias, armorer



The resemblance is startling as Clint and Cody Mitchell share a striking facial trait of their uncle, Alfred "Buddy" Lubojacky in the exhibit at the Belhorad, which currently houses the exhibit.

people had
lication. The
reted Czech
of Náchod
nthems."

Navigator Louis
h Streun, Joseph
itelaw) all suc-
rom the plane as
— some despite
nds — and were
soldiers. Only
es in Kentucky,



edication of the
anniversary of
t are Sgt. Scott
cky.

and Nahmias, who resides in New York, still survive.

In addition, only four of Lubojacky's siblings remain: Ann Mikeska and Alice Prosisie of Rosenberg, Olga Kaminsky of Sealy and Walt Lubojacky of Oklahoma.

Nearly three weeks ago, family members stood at the crash site, where a monument was erected with the names of the crew of the B-17G bomber #42-97185, for a memorial service. The monument recognizes Lubojacky as being of Czech heritage, and also as the only crew member who did not survive parachuting from the burning bomber.

Lubojacky's family members attending the ceremony were Mikeska and her husband, Jim; their daughter, Shawna Sandel; their sons and daughters-in-law, Clint and Suzanne and Cody and Lindsey Mikeska; Walt and Betty Lubojacky; Neal and her husband, Charles; their daughters, Dawn and Bronwyn; nephew Everett Kaminsky and his wife, Connie; and Lubojacky's cousins, Edna Lubojacky Kundel and Robert Franek. Whitelaw's grandson and granddaughter-in-law, James and Tina Whitelaw, and family friends Guy and Betty Humphrey of Rosenberg were also in attendance.

Part of the 369th Bombardment Squadron (H) of the 306th Bombardment Group, U.S. 8th Air Force, Lubojacky's bomber was attacked by the Luftwaffe. Fire broke out in the bomb bay and in one engine, and several crew members were seriously injured. The plane turned east, hoping to make it to Russia, the near-

est Allied territory, but over northern Bohemia, in what is now the Czech Republic, the crew was forced to parachute out before the plane exploded, crashing in Hridelec, near the spa town of Lazne Belohrad, about 65 miles east northeast of Prague.

Lubojacky, the ball turret gunner, was a Czech American whose maternal and paternal grandparents had emigrated to Texas in the late 1800s from Moravia. For decades, his family held out hope he had survived the crash, had amnesia and was living in the Czech Republic.

Continued on page 4



A wreath 'from the American people' was laid by MSSgt. Scott Reuter, attached to the U.S. embassy in Prague. The Czech people and Lubojacky family members also presented flowers.

— Sound Off —

Last week, we told readers the Texas Legislature is toying with the idea of allowing slot machines in the state of Texas by placing the issue on the November ballot. We asked them if they were for the proposal, or against it. Of our readers who responded, 66.2 percent said slot machines should be allowed, while 33.8 percent were against slot machines in Texas.

This week's question: In an Associated Press-Ipsos poll, 66 percent of people questioned say they would travel to Europe this summer if they could

afford the cost and time. We want to know where you plan to go this summer.

Will your travel/vacation plans be:

- Houston area
- Texas
- United States
- Mexico
- Europe
- Cruise
- Other International

Vote online at www.herald-coaster.com and send additional comments via e-mail at newsroom@herald-coaster.com. Please include a daytime telephone number.

SEE INSIDE

Modern Living

People have the right to be stupid. We have the right to snicker at some of their antics.

Marriage Minute

Happy couples know hurtful words cannot be taken back, so they often don't say anything.

Diabetes Dialogue

Use easy-to-follow tips for downsizing portions at breakfast, lunch, dinner and especially snack time.

look
ened
A
her
se
L
W
tello
who
penn
He
week
mont
been
are
valid
Ernes
Im
when
soud
phone
perio
the
re
I ca
I peo
weeks
with
Am
they
of a
thing,
money
promi
We



Adan
Pan

THE TRIBUTE: A town re

Continued from page 1

"While it is sad that it took 60 years for our family to learn his fate, we were all relieved to finally know what had happened to our Buddy," said Neal. "Podzimek is still seeking any remaining memories anyone in the vicinity of Merboltice may have, to help us learn where he is buried."

On Liberation Day each year, Czechs celebrate being freed by the Allies in World War II. This year marked the 60th anniversary — a perfect day to honor Lubojacky and his crew mates.

"All of us were amazed ... to find about 400 people had come to the field outside the village for the dedication," said Neal, adding the ceremony had been arranged by Podzimek and the mayor of Lazne Belohrad. "The tall monument was guarded by the green-bereted Czech Honor Guard. A small band, the Swing Sextet of Nachod town, played the Czech and American national anthems, along with Dixieland and jazz tunes."

"It was a much bigger deal than I anticipated," Mikeska said of the dedication ceremony. "It was almost overwhelming, the number of people that came out. Most of them walked. The response was overwhelming to me, I didn't have any idea what kind of monument they were going to put up. It was bigger than I expected."

Flowers were placed at the monument by Lubojacky's family members and by others. Among them was an arrangement emblazoned with a banner that read, "From the American People." It was placed by U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Scott Reuter, who is assigned to the U.S. Embassy in Prague.

Speakers for the ceremony included the mayor of Lazne Belohrad, the family's Czech guide, who Neal said was described as "a member of the Czech Parliament or House of Representatives," the director of

than young men of any time would have done. I am sorry we will not be able to make the trek to the Czech Republic next month. It is such a nice and friendly thing that the people there are doing. I hope those who attend will let them know that our absence does not mean we are any less appreciative."

"It was an emotional ceremony during which even the sky cried. The weather shifted from cold wind to rain, sleet, and hail — then to sun," said Neal. "As the last photos were taken, it began to rain again as we left."

"The memorial itself was sad, but it made me proud that they went to the extent they did," Mikeska said of the local people, "and I think they were proud that so many of us showed up."

Shortly after the ceremony, an elderly woman approached Lubojacky's family and gave them a small piece of white silk fabric approximately 10 inches square, which she said was a remnant from a parachute found at or near the crash site.

"She said that the people in the nearby village of Hridelec had made shirts and blouses from the parachute, and she had kept this small piece of the fabric for 60 years," Mikeska recalled. "Her grandson had asked her to give the silk fabric to him after she told him what it was; however, she didn't think it would have as much meaning to him as it had to her and the other people of the village who had experienced the heartaches and problems during World War II."

Following the ceremony, many traveled to nearby Lazne Belohrad for the K.V. Rais Museum's opening of Podzimek's in-depth, month-long exhibit about the plane's flight and its crew. Included are fragments found at the crash site and diagrams of the location within the plane of each displayed fragment that had been gathered from the snowy field in February, 1945. The People of the village gathered the remains

After the dinner, the family and their friends were treated to a private tour of the museum.

"I was amazed at how much information and how many artifacts he had gathered over the years," Mikeska said of Podzimek.

Among the items on display were photographs of and information about each crew member, including a large portrait of Lubojacky. Just below it was the hatch to the lower ball turret where he sat as a gunner, and a letter from an elderly Czech woman, who stated that the plane crashed near her home when she was a young girl.

"Soon after the plane crash, German men came and began picking up pieces of the plane for scrap metal," said Mikeska. The hatch to the ball turret was covered with snow, and the Germans did not see it. The young girl found it after the men had gone, and she put it under her skirt and took it home on her bicycle. She kept it hidden in her home for almost 60 years. The letter stated that she has been living in a 'home for old people' during the last four years and she wanted to give the metal hatch to someone who would appreciate the historical value of it."

Walt Lubojacky described the dedication ceremony and the trip as a whole as "overwhelming, emotionally," and said local villagers requested autographs from Lubojacky family members.

"It was quite an emotional day. It really was," he said of May 8. "When I first got off our tour bus and was introduced to Milos Podzimek, I lost it right then — and I don't think I ever regained my composure. It was quite an emotional thing to see the person who had done all the research to make all this possible. He's the one



speech was translated into English for the crowd, and the speeches given in Czech were summarized later for the Lubojacky family and friends by their tour guide, Lenka Sovadina.

In his speech, Walt Lubojacky thanked the family's hosts, the event planners, the Czech people, those who helped Allied troops at risk to their own lives, and Podzimek for his years of research that resulted in the family finally knowing how their hero died in service to his country.

Walt Lubojacky also relayed a message from Nahmias and McChesney, quoting from a letter written in April by McChesney: "I, too, am grateful that new generations remember what we did so many years ago. It was no more

lived nearby," said Neal. "They told us of seeing the crash, and of their families' attempts to help the last crew members who parachuted near their village."

The Lubojacky family and friends, their Czech tour guides and bus driver, and Podzimek and his son, Milos, were honored by about 50 individuals at a formal dinner given by the town of Lazne Belohrad. Afterward, they moved to the town hall, where they were entertained by the swing band at a concert in their honor.

"They played mostly American tunes that were popular during World War II," said Mikeska. "They treated us like royalty."



Mayor Ing. Pavel Subr of Lazne Belohrad speaks at the dedication as Czech Army official Milos Podzimek, Ann Mikeska and SMSgt. Scott Reuter look on.



By the memorial are, kneeling, Walt Lubojacky, standing from left, Ann Mikeska, Barbara Neal, Podzimek, Edna Kundel, Everett Kaminsky and Reuter.



*Informing
the benefit
planning
things*

- M
- Pre-arrang
- Mo
- Family P

Davi
Funeral Ch

281
3900 B.F. Te
Hwy 59 South at FM

members

who should have been treated like royalty and asked for his autograph."

"During the ceremony and immediately afterward, I got teary-eyed," Mikeska said as tears flowed again at the memory. "It just made me so proud for them to do all that for all of us. Our family just kind of kept his memory alive just by talking about him from time to time," she said of her brother. "It's hard to explain what all this means to us. It just kind of made his memory more vivid. And the friendliness of the people there and their hospitality — well, it was just all overwhelming."



Czech Army guards at the memorial.



At the dedication of the memorial to crewmen of the USAF B-17 bomber that went down in Czechoslovakia Feb. 14, 1945, taking the life of Sgt. Alfred S. "Buddy" Lubojacky, the ball turret gunner on the plane, were relatives and Milos Podzimek, who had sought relatives of the deceased for the last 15 years. From left, front are Betty Lubojacky of Meeker, Okla.; Jim Whitelaw of Atlanta, Ga., grandson of crewman, Bob Whitelaw, who died last November; Shawna Sandel of The Woodlands; Cody and Lindsey Mikeska; back row, Podzimek; USAF Sgt. Scott Reuter, attached to the U.S. Embassy in Prague; Robert Franek of Aledo; Walter Lubojacky, brother of Sgt. Lubojacky; Dawn Neal; Jimmy and Ann Mikeska of Richmond (sister of Sgt. Lubojacky); Bronwyn Neal; Barbara Pothyress Neal of Pleasanton, Calif.; and Suzanne and Clint Mikeska of Rosenberg. Not shown are family members Everett and Connie Kaminsky and Edna Kundel of Houston, and Charles Neal of California.

Ft. Bend

Vermerk:

Am 15.2.45, in der Mittagszeit, ist in Mertendorf ein toter Fallschirmabspringer aufgefunden worden. Auf Grund der Erkennungs-
marke, Nr. unleserlich, handelt es sich um

Alfred Lubojaky.

Neben dem Toten lag ein nicht vollständig geöffneter Fallschirm. Der Tote hatte einen Oberschenkelgeschoss.

Nach Rücksprache mit dem Kommandeur der Sicherheitspolizei-
ausenstelle Aussig-Obersek. Wölfer-wurde der Fallschirmabspringer
dem Standortkommando-Hauptm. Christer-in Tetschen-Bodenbach-zur wei-
teren Erledigung übergeben.

Durchgegeben am 15.2.45, 19³⁰, an Hauptm. Christer.



Bez. -Oberl. d. Gend.