

7-12-1944

Letter, James T. Carlisle to T. A. House, July 12, 1944

James T. Carlisle

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Service Club
ARMY AIR FIELD
Lincoln, Nebraska

Tuesday afternoon

Dear folks,

I am sitting at the same place I was a few weeks ago writing this letter. It seems like a dream or something being at Pueblo. I don't believe I have ever had such a good time as I did while there. I hated to leave.

It is no use keeping what we are going to do a secret from you anyway. You probably have a good idea anyway. This is a P. O. E. here and we will be overseas in a few days. I knew how everything was going to be when I was at home, but I didn't want to say anything. Now get this, I am going to put

(over)

my new address here at Lincoln, inside
this letter, but I am going to put my
old address on the outside. I don't
know, but they might send these
letters if we have our new addresses on
them. we are not supposed to write
anything about what we are going to do.

we have got new planes waiting
here for us and we will take off
from here at night and fly across.
It is much better than going across on
a ship and quicker. I don't know
where we are going, but I think we
are going to ~~London~~ England. They told
us today in a lecture that we would
probably be over Berlin soon. we will
have better living conditions if we go
there rather than the South Pacific.
I don't know how long we will
stay here, probably three or four days.



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It is going to be about as hard to crawl in that plane leaving here as it was to leave home the last time. I am coming back someday though. I somehow feel sure of that. we will probably be gone for a year. I am telling you all such as this now for I might not have a chance later on. I will not be able to tell you where I am at or what I am doing. Don't be surprised if you get a telegram or something in a week or two stating that "I have arrived safely overseas". I have the utmost trust and confidence in our pilot and he will bring us through all right.

(ours)

I will be raised to sergeant in a few days and I will be making over a \$150 a month. I am going to send quite a bit home. I would like to try to go to school again when I get back.

I don't mind going over one bit.

I am sort of looking forward to it as an adventure. I am ready and willing to do my part.

I have never been treated so nice as I have in the past few days. The civilians in Pueblo were willing to buy anything for us. We stopped in a town yesterday and got all we wanted to eat free. Above that, it is nice being ~~around~~ around officers all the time. We are treated decent everywhere now even in the camp and that makes you feel much better. The Air Corps has a higher standard anyway. I am proud to be



able to wear the wings I have got and be a part of a crew. I have never told you much about our crew. It is the best bunch of fellows I have ever run up on. I will start off with the pilot. He is from New York. He is a big husky fellow weighing nearly 200 lbs. He is a quite type, drinks very little, and believes in saving his money. He never speaks unkind to any member of the crew and he knows how to handle men. The Commanding Officer at Pueblo told me when I first got there that he had as much confidence in him as any other pilot there. Our plane always lead the formations and it takes a good pilot to do that. we call him Bill. (over)

Our Co-pilot is from Ohio. He is a very likeable fellow and is popular with the crew. He told me the other night that he had rather for anybody not to salute him, just call him Freddie, which is his name. He is also a pretty good pilot. Our navigator is from ~~Ohio~~ Alabama. He works harder and sticks to his job better than any other member of the crew. On the cross-country run we made through South Dakota and Iowa he would hit the different towns we were supposed to go over center. He is a lot of fun and we call him Robert. Our bombardier is from Penn. He thinks more of his bars than the other three officers, but he is O.K. We can not drop the bombs on the target as well as he should, but he will soon catch on. We call his Sands.

now I will get to the six enlisted men gunner. First our engineer who is



a Staff Sergeant. He is the monkey of the crew and we have a lot of fun out of him. we call him Joe and he is from Kentucky. Our radio operator is from Nebraska and we call him Shearer. He knows his business and is a good boy. He and Joe, the engineer, are the two waist gunners. Joe was in cadets and ~~stated~~ lacked only a short time getting his bars and he was washed out. He knows how to pilot the plane. Hanes, our nose gunner and also ~~Armed~~ gunner is from the state of Washington. He likes to stay by himself quite a bit. Sells, our tail gunner, is from Miami, Florida. He is also another monkey always saying (ours) /

something funny. He lacked two weeks
getting his bars as a bombardier. He can
drop bombs as well as the bombardier
we have got. Furry, the upper turret
gunner, is from Georgia. He is the
pick of the hold crew for me. we are
together all the time. He is really a
fine, good looking boy. He is assistant
engineer and he knows his stuff. He
also knows how to fly the plane.

As you know I am the lower ball gunner.

As you see we have got a pretty well
trained crew and that is what counts.

I will close for this time, but
will write more as soon as I can.

Send me an air mail letter as soon as
you get this & I will probably hear
from you before I leave here.

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Service Club
ARMY AIR FIELD
Lincoln, Nebraska

Don't send any money or anything
for I might not get it. Don't
worry any about me for I am going
to make it all right.

Love,
James

I be address to write me.

Cpl. James J. Carlisle (14201433)

Section "K"

273 A.A.F. Base unit (SB)

L. A. A. F.

Lincoln, Nebraska

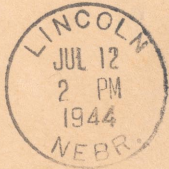
Cpl. James J. Carlisle

Prov. Sqd. "D"

L. O. O. F.

Lincoln, Nebraska

Free



FOR TRY

Mr. J. R. House

Houston

Mississippi