Pvt. John K Shelton, Jr. 708th T.G. 73rd T.W. 29th sqd. Room 424 A.A.F.T.T.C. Atlantic City, N.J.

Atlantic City Jun 6 12 PM 1943 N.J.

Miss Sally Loving 825 No. Fillmore St. Arlington Virginia

5817 No. Wash. Blvd. Apt. 91

June 6, 1943

Dear Miss Loving,

I've been waiting until I get somewhat settled before I wrote to you, but I now realize that I'll never be settled. I've been here at Atlantic City for three weeks and I still don't know what I'm to do. I am supposed to take 8 weeks home, but I can be shipped out at any time to any-place in the worlds. I am classified as a draftsman, however I'm going to try for the ASTP (college program). Competition will be very keen for most of the fellos here are older than I & have had more education; nevertheless, I'm going to try my best for the college program.

Army life is very beneficial to the body, but I was unfortunate enough to get in the group of older married men. This fort makes is rather hard on me, for I have no friends here. I was surprised to find out how tough the work is. We drill & march 25 miles a day. Just last year I complained about having to walk ¾ mile to Clarendon. I'm use to the drilling part but the terrific hear adds to the discomfortness. It is over 100° on the drill field. We are fed salt pellets to restore lost salt. My face is burnt a crimson red. One out of ten pass out on an extremely hot day. As you know, I never did dirty work before, but when I get back to the hotel now I am black from dirt. This life is really different from my former.

I believe I forgot to tell you that I'm, of course, in the Air Corps. I am staying at the Hotel Shelburne overlooking the ocean at the world's amusements center, Atlantic City, N.J. This is about all I know, for we are still in the dark about many things. I can't say that I like it for I'd much rather be home, but there is a job to do and I'm going to learn to like it, regardless of my present views.

Jack Horlon is in the Air Corps at Miami Beach, along with Fred Rawlinson & Jack Pearson. Sam is still in San Antonio.

Well, I'd better close now. I'll let you know as soon as I find out anything definite. Drop me a line when you find time.

Love,

Jake