A/S Van Pelt, W.W. 29<sup>th</sup> C.T.D. aircrew, U. of C. Pm. A307 Cincinnati, 21, Ohio

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Miss Sally Loving 5847 N. Washington Blvd., Arlington, VA.

9/2/43 9:00 AM

Dear "Sally,"

Finally I have found time to write you and several other friends. The weather is too bad for flying so we have the morning off to do whatever we care to.

I received your last letter about four weeks ago. It really went traveling before it ended up here. From Miami Beach, they forwarded it to Clarion, Pa. (where I was originally supposed to go) and then back to Miami Beach. The third time they got the address right and I received it around the first of August. It deserved the "sight-seeing tour" because it was a swell letter and I enjoyed it very much.

Let's get one thing straight. No more of that "fussy homeroom teacher" stuff. That's not true because we always passed it off as "duty." Off of school hours we have really had some fine times other than those during school.

Well, the big thing that is happening to me now is that I have started flying. I have five and one-half hours of dual instruction up-to-date and so far as I am concerned there is nothing like it. I will have to admit that my first flight was quite a thrill and my mind wasn't on handling the controls.

The highest I have flown so far is 4000 ft. but from that height, the ground looks like a miniature world. You don't feel shaky at a height in an airplane as you do looking over the edge of the building because the plane feels solid under you. It's really swell, no stuff.

I leave the University for classification in about two weeks so I feel that finally I am getting started on my actual training.

In case you didn't know – Ralph Riley is an A/S at North Carolina State Teachers College and Jack Ring is an A/S at Wofford College, Spartanburg, S.C.

What do you think of my giving Janie a diamond? I'm sure you think that I picked out a swell girl. She has me "henpecked" but don't tell her that because up goes her blood pressure. Ha!

Best of luck till I see you again,

Just,

Me