



NAVAL AIR STATION
JACKSONVILLE

May 22, 1942

Chairman Bryant Service Club.

I'm sorry in being so late acknowledging the cigarettes you sent to me but they have a bad habit down here of keeping us busy just about all the time. Things have speeded up since this war started & they are rushing us right through.

I am through ground school and in my advanced squadron as well as Ben Scuda who has gone to Miami for his advanced training in fighters. If everything goes the way it should from now on I should receive my commission around the first of July.

I could write forever telling you about the south & this base & what I think about them so I'll try to hit a few high spots just in case you are interested. There are six swimming pools on the base & three movie houses, tennis courts, horse back riding, golf driving range, archery range, bowling alleys and a cadet club where cadets can bring guests to drink & dance. That's the sports & social angle.

A cadet goes through three squadrons before he enters his final one in which he will receive instruction in the work he will actually do on active duty. Ground school is a pretty stiff course especially the navigation subjects. There are cadets washing out every week either for failure

in ground school or for flying. Roy Smith had some tough
luck but I hope he will like his work in the Army.
There are about 1500 cadets here & many more enlisted men
& marines in a boot camp here also. The base here is so
large we travel around in buses from one place to another.

As for the south well you can love it, possibly it
would be nice to spend a week or so down here but
for a home I'll take the good old north. The heat here
takes all the pep right out of you.

Well that isn't very much but you'll have a faint
I hear what its like down here.

Its very nice of the Bryant Service Club to send
things to its men in the service & I'm sure they will
all appreciate it. Bryant should be proud of Al Stanswood
& his encounter with the Gaps.

Once again I want to thank you for the cigarettes
I sure do appreciate it.

I have been promoted to a 1st Lieutenant & I am
now in a new room in the same building.

Bldg 710 Room 143

Remember me to the old gang.

Sincerely

Bob Marshall