SERGEANTS' MESS,
ROYAL AIR FORCE STATION,
DUNHOLME LODGE,
LINCOLN.

Saturday

Dear Alec,

It is some time since I last wrote and as I am spending the night in the Mess with nothing to do but listen to the wireless thought I would drop you a line.

I suppose you will know already that we are now on a Squadron, have been here a couple of weeks and are just beginning to settle down, at least we were until the other day when something happened. Another, Denis the Engineer and I had to fly the other night with different crews, and in the afternoon another told me that he had been put in the crew from our Flight, and I was to go with a crew from the other Flight but said that he

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would change over and let me go with the chaps from our Flight. I was easy but we changed over. Arthur didn't come back so that we have lost our Pilot.

Today we were given another Pilot, he is a Rhodesian and a Flying Officer and has done one of two trips, and am not sure if he isn't on his second tour which is a good thing if he is but haven't yet had much time to get acquainted so don't know much about him. At first we thought that we might have to go back to Ban. Unit, the rest of us intended to stick together, and that there might be a chance of our getting leave, but we didn't, so it looks as though we will have to wait until the end of January for our leave.

Sorry to hear that you wont be able to get home for Christmas, although I guess

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You will have bags of fun in the Mess and the dinner for Christmas, if it is anything like the one we have hosted up in the Mess, should recompense slightly the disadvantage of having to spend it in bomp.
We don't do very much here when the weather is too bad to do practice bombing, fighter affil. etc. (when no ops.) but we never have a day or even an afternoon off, which is rather cheesing, and has prevented us getting into Lincoln to do any shopping for Christmas. However Arthur and I managed to reach town the other night half an hour before the shops closed but could only find one or two things, and have yet to find something for Mary

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Roland Wortledge is at this place in fact he is in the same place and to start off with was looking after the kite that we were flying. but so far haven't seen much of him as he is on leave and has been for a week. I suppose we shall have a night out in Lincoln when he comes back that is of course if his wife will let him.

Well Alec I must sign off now as it is rather late and must write to Allen's people tonight so TTFN.

All the Best,

Mervyn.

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