



Cape Town.

7/2/41.

~~45 AIR SCHOOL.~~~~PHOTOGRAHYS.~~~~SECOND SECTION.~~

My darling Dad,

At the present moment we are in Cape Town awaiting posting. There was a slight hitch somewhere, we were supposed to go somewhere but it all fell through so we are here for the moment. I have reconsidered <sup>it</sup> as an airman as I couldn't manage the navigation. I am now really happy sitting at a desk and working out a lot of stuff. You know my nature was never one which allowed of sitting down working out things at great length. As a matter of fact if we go home I am going to apply for re-enlistment as a pilot, failing which I shall be quite happy as an airman especially in view of the fact that I like shooting as much. The only disadvantage is that one has to go back to 2/6 a day. However it is only for a short time & once you finish the course you get good pay again.

Everyone thinks I should make a very good gunner. My navigation instructions last words to me were "Please shoot down the first moths will be for me." Thanks for the money it has come in very useful in view of the fact that I am now getting 2/6 a day. I sent you a present a wallet made from ostrich skin. They are quite valuable I thought it would be a good convenience as Ostrich skin is famous for ostrich. I hope you like it. I have bought

one for Oliver. For Mum I bought a leather key holder with a map of South Africa stamped on it, some quite expensive with stockings which should come in useful.

Now don't be worried if at any time you don't hear from me. You will know I have post or somewhere. I shall cable as soon as I arrive at any particular destination giving you the address.

I have taken any number of photographs lately mostly landscape while the train was moving. I have also taken a number here in Cape Town some of them are really good. Actually I had 56 snaps developed, and I still have several prints to be done. It costs a lot of money but it is worth it as it is a permanent record of my stay in this country. Also it is interesting for you & Mum. I hope you like the world lot I sent you. I shall send you some more very shortly as soon as I have had some more developed.

We are having a smashing time here for the first time we are really having a fling. Mind you despite pretty indiscretions we have always been very happy. My friend at Tregay, Agnes who came here on the second cruise has also renounced as an airgunner. Several Chaps have renounced. At the moment we are at Wimborne Military Camp. There is a fine camp here, there all the work is done voluntarily by women. They are damn decent and work terrifically hard. One of them has been a real brick visited us to any number of very nice girls all damn pretty too. We have swum twice at a swimming pool in a private house given to several parties. The other night 2 lots of us went to a party. It was a wedding anniversary celebration. The husband



45 Air School,

Oudtshoorn,

South Africa.

is up with. we had a real party, champagne etc. I thoroughly enjoyed it. we went to a place called the blue moon where there is dancing till about 2 o'clock. You talk your own tricks. It was the first time for six months that I got anywhere nearly picked. With you it doesn't matter how much I drink I can still always behave myself. It was my job to cheer the girl up as she was feeling somewhat blue. ~~I did not~~ Let.

A few nights ago we went to a house that dinner. Half the party then went to the blue moon. I stayed behind and danced at home so to speak. Thoroughly enjoyed it. There was a very nice girl there called Shirley. She is rather good but this will she is D.K. I am seeing her to-day at 5.30. Both Shirley and sister - the latter is one of the nicest sweetest girls I have ever met. - do secretarial work on their father's farm. Shirley is picking me up in her car & I am going to watch her do her work. We are then going back at a service road a few miles out. The beauty is lovely there. After that she is taking me home to supper. Now her of us will then dance. I hope all this sort of stuff doesn't bore you Dad and it is quite along now. Anyday you will be glad to know

I am really enjoying myself.

Nearly every day here has been jolly decent to us.  
The day after we arrived here a couple of us ~~went~~<sup>ran</sup> up a girl  
we met at Dalt River she took us home to dinner, we  
dined all round I took some snaps of the studio  
theatrical etc. weather wasnt raining & the blue moon.  
Another night a gentleman stopped in the street in his car, took  
us to a place called the Delmonico's gave us some drinks  
then something to eat. It was darn decent if he is.

Last night we had a quiet party at a lady's house.  
No police just a nice quiet evening at home. They gave  
us a good dinner lots of beer & were awfully drunk  
altogether.

~~We~~ have no conception what the scenery is  
like here. It is a revelation as you will see from the  
photographs I shall send in a day or so. There are still  
a few places - I should like to photograph. Places of  
interest both historic Social. My camera is doing fine  
now.

It was a pity my self getting through the Navigation course  
but I said right at the beginning that I was just temporarily  
engaged for the job. It is no good if you are but really happy  
at. I like the idea of air gunning. You will be hearing about  
me shortly in that respect!

No more today. Look after yourself. God bless you.

Always love from

Yours loving son

Dave.