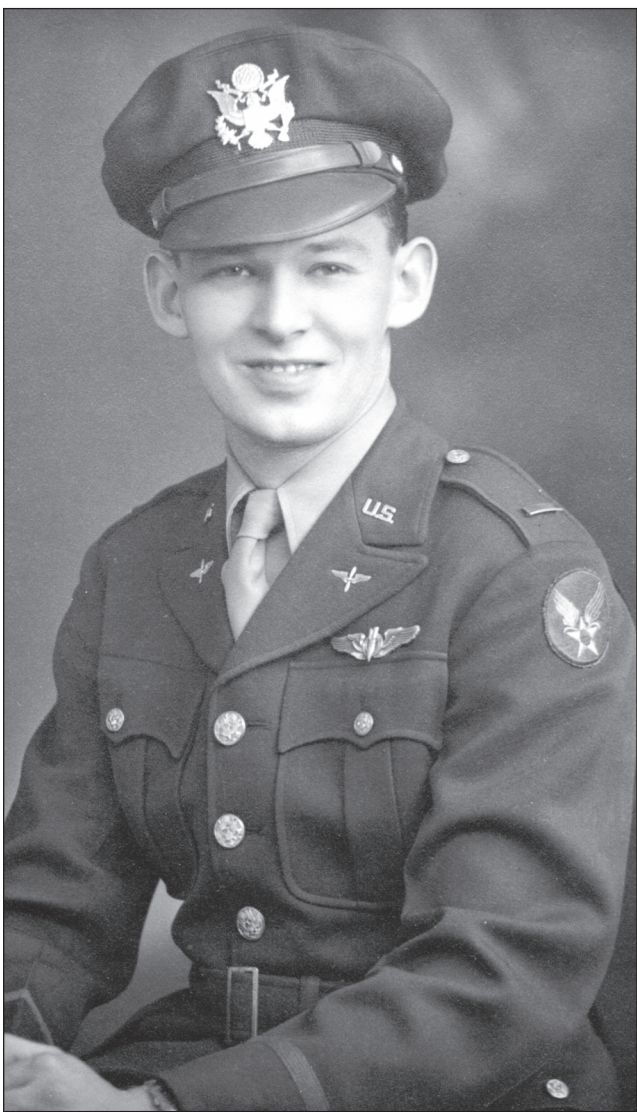


HISTORY & FOLKLORE

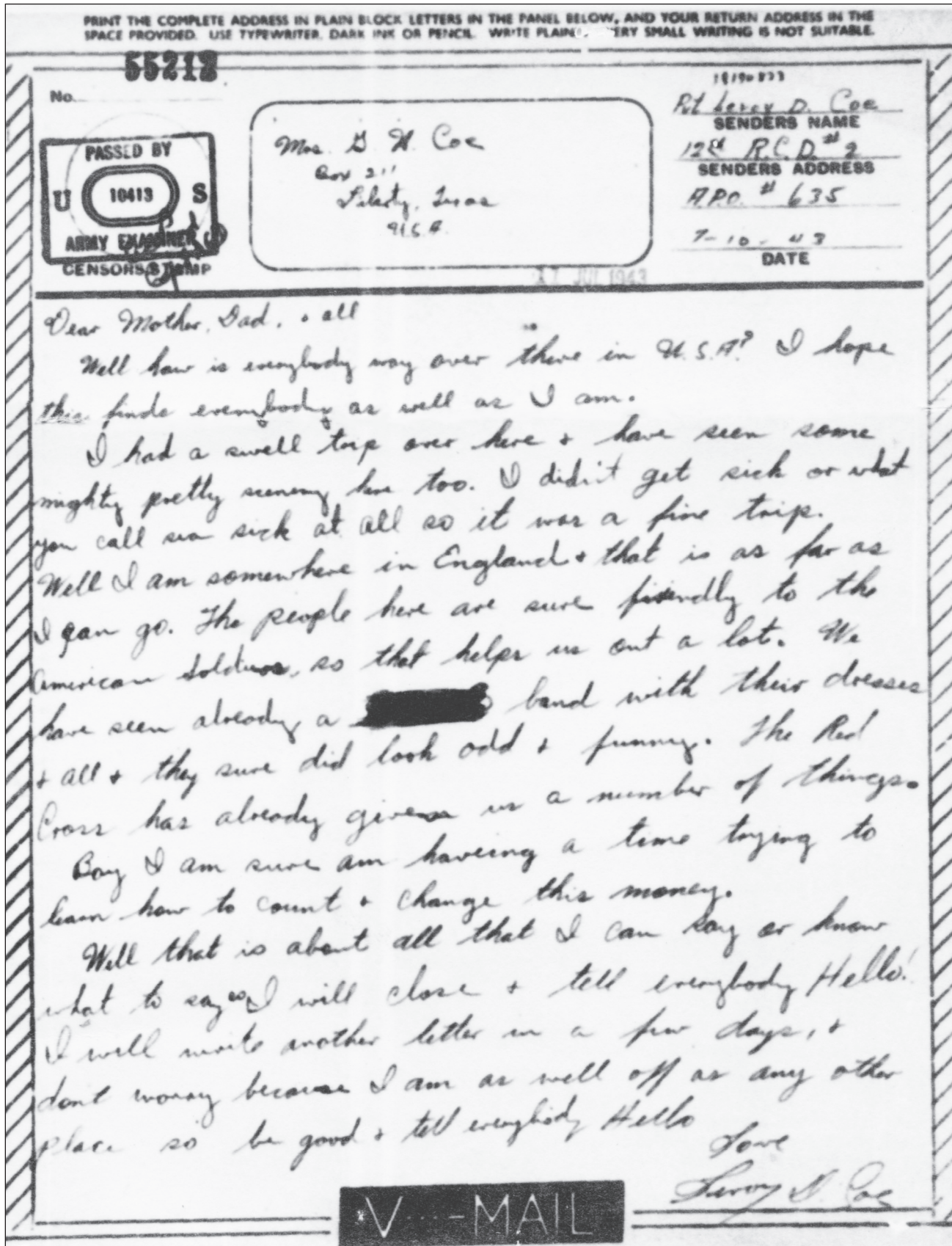
SAM HOUSTON CENTER SETX SERVICE MILITARY IMAGE SERIES

Come celebrate Southeast Texans' service to the nation as part of the Sam Houston Center's America250 events commemorating the country's 250th birthday. The event takes place Saturday, June 27, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Events will include historical exhibits and tours, activities for children, refreshments and special entertainment. *More photos of these special Southeast Texans will come in the following weeks up through Tues., June 30.*



James Clarence Chambers, United States Army Air Force, 1942-1946. James C. Chambers Collection, 1999.237. SHC, TSLAC.

James Clarence Chambers was a graduate of Liberty High School in Texas and Texas A&I University, now Texas A&M University - Kingsville. During World War II, Chambers served with the Eighth Air Force, 306th Bombardment Group stationed in England where he flew a B-17 "Flying Fortress." He was promoted to first lieutenant after completing 35 missions and flying over 300 combat hours in just a five-month span. Chambers received the Distinguished Flying Cross and an Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters. In 1946, he was discharged from the military but returned to active duty a year later. Chambers died in March 1956 while stationed at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois. His body was cremated, and a memorial service was held at First Methodist Church in Liberty. Learn more about the Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center's collections at www.tsl.texas.gov/shc.



V-mail from Leroy D. Coe to his family, United States Army Air Force, July 10, 1943. Leroy D. Coe Collection of World War II Letters and Other Materials, 1996.992. SHC, TSLAC.

Leroy Denman Coe, a native of Liberty, Texas, enlisted on November 3, 1942, serving in the United States Army Air Force in World War II. He attained the rank of staff sergeant and served as an airplane and engine mechanic with the 652nd Bomb Squadron, 25th Bomb Group, Eighth Air Force. Coe took part in the Northern France, Ardennes-Alsace, Rhineland, and Central Europe campaigns of the European Theater. On November 15, 1945, Coe was discharged from the military and returned to Liberty, where he was employed by the Texas Gulf Sulphur Company as a maintenance foreman. He died on April 21, 1999, and was laid to rest in Fairlawn Cemetery. Learn more about the Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center's collections at www.tsl.texas.gov/shc.

Transcription of letter:
Dear Mother, Dad, & all.

Well how is everybody way over there in USA? I hope this finds everybody as well as I am. I had a swell trip over here & have seen some mighty pretty scenery here too. I didn't get sick or what you call sea sick at all so it was a fine trip. Well I am somewhere in England & that is as far as I can go. The people here are sure friendly to the American soldiers, so that helps us out a lot. We have seen already a [redacted] land with their dresses & all & they sure did look odd & funny. The Red Cross has already given us a number of things. Boy I am sure am having a time trying to learn how to count & change the money. Well that is about all that I can say or know what to say so I will close & tell everybody Hello. I will write another letter in a few days & don't worry because I am as well off as any other place so be good & tell everybody Hello Love
Leroy D. Coe



From Illustrated Press of Liberty County, Thursday, July 11, 1963 -
A new buffet at Reid's Restaurant in Liberty is now available to Sunday noon diners. Serving (l-r) are Byron Norman, Mildred Ray, Sandra Sills and Shirley Coleman. Owners are Mr. and Mrs. Albert Reid.

View online at
libertygazette.com

The OLD OIL FIELD of HUMBLE and its Operation

The Old Oil Field of Humble and Its Operation is a pictorial history of the oil field in Humble, Texas, which was active from 1905 to the 1940s. With photos, narratives and drawings, Dr. Braddick describes the equipment and how it was used, how wells were drilled and oil field operations. Readers interested in Texas history, engineering and oil field equipment will have a glimpse into the past that made Humble the city it is today.

Dr. A. G. Braddick
D.C., D.C.C.C.

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