

FOLDER 10: Ralph L. "Lee" Minker, Jr., June- August 1945

Rattlesden Army Air Forces Airbase and Lancashire Reception Center, England

Date	Writer	Recipient	Place
Cablegram June 11 1945	Lee Minker	Parents	Rattlesden AAFB Eng.
Excited to tell them he will be home by July 4 th .			

Date	Writer	Recipient	Place
Saturday evening June 16, 1945	Lee Minker	Edna Minker	Rattlesden AAFB Eng.
Hopes his parents will be proud of him as he celebrates 21 st birthday. Plans for coming home have changed.			

Date	Writer	Recipient	Place
Sunday evening June 24, 1945	Lee Minker	Bernice Minker	Rattlesden AAFB Eng.
Congratulations on Bernice's high school graduation and acceptance to college. Still waiting on news of shipping home, reports on movies, Julia's [Taylor] birthday.			

Date	Writer	Recipient	Place
Tuesday evening June 26, 1945	Lee Minker	Edna Minker	Rattlesden AAFB Eng.
Lee is clearly bored and frustrated with waiting for orders to return home. Discusses the English general election and voting requirements in detail. Enjoying their birthday package.			

Date	Writer	Recipient	Place
Tuesday evening July 3 1945	Lee Minker	Edna Minker	Rattlesden AAFB Eng.
Still waiting for orders, flying echelon of 447 th Bomb Group left. Receipt for \$230. Asks how money is invested, fellow from DE arrived, leaving for a pass to London.			
Names: Sergeant Clyde Wolfe Jr from Richardson Park DE.			

Date	Writer	Recipient	Place
Friday evening July 6 1945	Lee Minker	Shirley Minker	Rattlesden AAFB Eng.
No news on shipping home. Reports on his trip to London: saw Churchill booed, British movie <i>The Way to the Stars</i> , a play, <i>Rigoletto</i> and <i>Yeomen of the Guard</i> . Hard to keep busy, reading Plato. Queries his sister about her summer activities.			

Date	Writer	Recipient	Place
Monday evening July 16 1945	Lee Minker	Edna Minker	Rattlesden AAFB Eng.
Still no word on shipping home. Will ship some stuff home. Visited the 94 th Bomb Group [Bury St. Edmonds], got in some flying time. Report on books he is reading.			

Date	Writer	Recipient	Place
Friday evening July 20 1945	Lee Minker	Edna Minker	Rattlesden AAFB Eng.
Last letter from Rattlesden, going to Redeployment Center at Chorley. Would like the rest of the family to see England. Critique of plays and movies he saw while on pass. Wistful ...home before too long.			

Shipped to redeployment center in Lancashire on July 22, 1945.

Date	Writer	Recipient	Place
July 28 1945 V-Mail	Lee Minker	Edna Minker	Lancashire Reception Center Eng.
Arrived Monday for processing, nothing to do but play ball and go to the movies. Belongings are packed.			

Date	Writer	Recipient	Place
August 7 1945 V-Mail	Lee Minker	Edna Minker	Lancashire Reception Center Eng.
Still waiting. Sends temporary address. Saw <i>Winged Victory</i> , accurate but too melodramatic.			

Date	Writer	Recipient	Place
August 17 1945 V-Mail	Lee Minker	Edna Minker	Lancashire Reception Center Eng.
Celebrating news of peace at war's end! Excited tone about "probable" dates for shipment home. Looking toward the future. Tells family not to write anymore.			

Date	Writer	Recipient	Place
August 25 1945 V-Mail	Lee Minker	Edna & Ralph Minker	Lancashire Reception Center Eng.
Pure excitement at the news: "I am coming home!!!" Will arrive on the <i>Queen Elizabeth</i> , will take a few days to get to Wilmington via Camp Dix [New Jersey].			