



A. C. C. Pvt. Ralph L. Minker, Jr. U. S. ARMY
901 ^(T.G.) TECHNICAL SCHOOL SQUADRON [Sp.] FLIGHT No. D
Squadron 10 A. A. F. T. T. C.

Basic Training Center No. 9
Miami Beach, Florida

[April 4, 1943]

Sunday evening

Dear Mother,

I wish you wouldn't worry so much about me mother. There is no real need for it really for if anything happens to me the army will let you know about it. As for no news; there is an army rule against writing home during your last week of a specific stage of your training until you have definitely been settled in your next stage. (I hope this gets through!) Also the mails are not as regular as they used to be for various reasons as for instance in your Friday airmail letter you say Dad sent me an airmail Wednesday. I got yours today (and your Wednesday letter) but haven't got Dad's yet. I sent home a letter Wednesday night so...

I was touched with a severe grippe for a few days and in throwing off the temperature I had some internal hemorrhages which showed up as purple

spots. Florence Hyde's rumour of the measles. They took me to the hospital for observation on spinal meningitis and released me when they found nothing wrong.

As for shipping. Roughly one half of 629 shipped out today and roughly one half will go out tomorrow. But — not because of the hospital experience either about six, including me were lost in the shuffle and must see Lieutenant Dwyer tomorrow to get straightened out. The last few days the ACC's have almost completely gone from Miami Beach and are being replaced by jeeps.

As I haven't been answering letters pending my hoped for change of address I haven't got many lately.

I'm glad to hear that the garden is starting up again. By the way I jotted some notes in the Burpee catalog that you might find handy. I wish you could come down here though and see the luxurious shrubs. They're really beautiful. The lack of flowers though must be because of the sandy soil.

Yesterday it rained all day, the first time, like a typical Delaware day and this morning for the first time the air had a fresh sweet smelling cool tang to it and not the tropical trade wind and heavy air.

How was Ethel Barrymore in "The Corn Was Green"? All the past weeks we have had movies downstairs at 7:00 P.M. and cake and ice cream afterwards. all in

14 all this past week, has been very nice for all our ^{easy} training is over and were just sitting, waiting and hoping.
How is 5 kirley's sinus?

Congratulations to you and Dad on your twentieth wedding anniversary and may you have many more of them.

I was on the beach all afternoon. It sure was a fine day for it.

I'm sorry to see Harrisburg go out of the league for they usually had a pretty good team.

I'll let you know how things settle so don't worry.

Love,
Lee