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Ferris School for Boys

BOX 230

Wilmington 99, Delaware

July 7, 1944

Dearest Lee:

Your letter to Shirley, telling us that you are leaving for Gulfport, Miss. today, came yesterday. I suppose you are glad that you did not have to waste too much time hanging around Tampa with nothing much to do and that you will be glad to get your hands on a B-17 once again. Your co-pilot sounds O.K. and I hope your entire crew measures up to your expectations. It will probably be plenty of hot in Mississippi, but you will be on the gulf and that ought to help some. At least you will have a chance to take a dip in the water once in a while. As soon as I get your new address I will forward your swimming trunks and the few other things which you left behind.

Tomorrow is Julia's birthday and I am getting the wings boxed today. The girls will take them over to rehearsal for Brandywiners tonight, for I believe Julia has started to go, working on some committee. Of course she is too late to get in the performance. The girls came home last night quite upset, for one of the Johnson boys who sings in our choir fell during rehearsal and broke his leg. He was supposed to be in a fight and Bernice was right along side of him, taking part in the fight I guess, when he fell. Naturally it threw a damper on the whole evening. An ambulance had to be called and because of the narrow, winding stairs, his leg had to be put in a splint before he could be moved.

Taylor Edler and Gaby brought Shirley home from rehearsal on Wednesday night. Gaby was returning to Brooklyn Navy Yard late that night but Taylor will be around for about a week. This will be his last furlough for they are shoving off overseas after his return. Billie Baird and Harry Connelly are both home this week, also, and as they were all anxious to play some ball while home I have arranged for them to play Ferris this evening.

Daddy and I haven't gotten in to see "Going My Way" yet. Both times we have tried there was standing room only; but it is being held over for a second week.

Ginger's family has not yet arrived. We awak every morning expecting to see and hear a dozen or so squealing pups, but so far everything is calm and peaceful. We have had a large box made, as before, filled with straw and it is in the garage, ~~but~~ for it is too hot up in the barn we thought.

The pictures were to have been ready yesterday but were not. By the time we have your next address they will be ready I am sure.

I can't understand how ants could have gotten into your box unless it had been broken open during its travels. So sorry.

Grandmother's tenants on the second floor moved out yesterday and the new ones are coming in tomorrow. We had tried to keep it all from her until everything was completed, but some neighbors called and told her. She was quite upset over it yesterday but I guess will be alright in a day or two. She thinks she wants to go home on Sunday and see if she can manage over there in her apartment. We have been watching the blackberry bushes all week, hoping enough berries would ripen for her to make us a pie before she left, but so far they are not ready.

Monday evening I did some weeding in the garden and on Tuesday my face and arms were covered with poison,- especially my face, which was red and swollen. I got to work on it right away and it is considerably better now,- in fact my face did not bother me much at all with itching,- it was mostly my eyes and arms. I don't believe there is any poison ivy in the garden but grandmother says there is "nightshade" which is also poisonous.

Well, we'll be awaiting your next letter, telling us more about your crew, your new set-up, etc. I guess you will still be too far away to include Wilmington in a 1,000 mile cross country, won't you?

With all my love.

Molter