Dear Bernice,

There were not enough planes in flying status during the early morning flying period for all the combat crews in Section III. As a result the six crews high on time (141, 156, 157, 160, 164, 168) were excused from the line early after two hours of standing by and practicing emergency procedures such as bailouts, water ditchings and gun stripplings.

We continually practice emergency procedures, stressing speed and smoothness, just as we constantly practice formation, instrument and transition flying.

At present my crew is almost finished minimum requirements; we need three more bombing flights, three more gunnery flights and four more transition flights. Several requirements may be checked off in one flight but then we may have to try several times to bomb if clouds cover the targets. The crew now has 130 flying
hours.

Congratulations on winning the scholarship to Tower Hill School for this school term. You ought to have more experienced and capable teachers than the public schools have in wartime. It's up to you to get all you can out of the experience. What do you plan to do after you graduate from high school in June, 1945? One warning—don't become a private school and playgirl.

I certainly wish that I could see the pups. It seems like ages since things were prancing around and gnawing anything and everything. I suppose the house needs refurbishing entirely by now.

The Blue Rocks seem to be headed for the Interstate League pennant despite yet another new manager. I hope that they can win the playoffs. By the way, are any sports beside boxing and wrestling scheduled for the fall?

How are you keeping up the garden?

How is Walt?

I received a letter from Mike Zographone yesterday. He is still a radio cadet, AAF, stationed at Yale.

Love, Lee