Discharged Pilot of Bomber Resumes Studies at College

Capt. Ralph L. Minker, Jr., Veteran of 38 Missions, Takes Up Interrupted Studies at Dickinson; Several More Officers, Enlisted Men Released

Capt. Ralph L. Minker, Jr., who went on terminal leave at the separation center of the Greensboro, N.C. Army Air Base on Monday, arrived at the home of his parents, the Rev. and Mrs. Ralph L. Minker on Ferris Road early Tuesday morning and by 12:45 o’clock of the same day was en route to Caralisle, Pa., to take up his pre-war studies interrupted by World War II.

The former pilot of a B-17 Flying Fortress named the Blue Hen’s Chick is among the officers and enlisted personnel announced as released from the armed forces today.

38 Combat Missions

Captain Minker made 38 combat missions over Nazi Europe before the war ended. He did not receive a scratch in all his experience. He went overseas last October, serving with the 447th Bomb Group of the Third Bombardment Division of the Eighth Air Force. His plane was named in honor of the famous Delaware regiment of the Revolutionary War. His plane was sent home ahead of him. He returned home in September aboard the Queen Elizabeth.

Photo of West College, usually referred to as Old West, the oldest building on the Dickinson campus.

I feel the warmth of a wanderer returning from scenes of struggle, agony and death to the still cloistered halls of youth and peace.

And in the end, through the long ages of our quest for light, it will be found that truth is still mightier than the sword. For out of the welter of human carnage and human sorrow and human weal, the indestructible thing that will always live is a sound idea. General MacArthur