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May 2, 1943

Wilmington

Delaware

Dear Lee,

I hope that you will be able to read this letter after I finish, but I feel in the mood to type this afternoon. After a lovely, warm spring week, Saturday turned cold again on us and today is positively chilly. I do wish that it will get warm and stay that way.

Friday night we had our dance and I had a lovely time. The orchestra was the best one that I have ever heard, outside of name bands, of course. We had a six person one, composed of members of George Madden's larger orchestra. Have you ever heard George Madden play the piano? He certainly is good. He had a soldier in his band who played the trumpet. As he had an air corps insignia on his sleeve, we thought that he might be from the Air Base. He was good, too, and reminded me a little of Harry James' looks. We all wished that we had gotten him for the Prom last year, instead of the awful one we did get. I'm enclosing my program for you, I hope, if Ben remembers to bring it out with him.

Today, Polly and High Cody were in church. This is the first leave that High has had since he has been on a sub-chaser. Polly looked swell, and I guess that we shall see the baby sometime. She said that she was awfully sorry that she couldn't see you in Miami, but I guess that regulations are regulations.

The Prom this year is on the fourteenth of May, and is being held at the duPont Country Club. The Juniors are having George Madden there only with several more pieces and a vocalist. That should really be super.

Last week quite a few friends of ours went into the Army or Navy. Joe Toomey, Billy Baird, Gordon Lang, and Glade Brendle all went into the Navy and are stationed nearby, at Bainbridge Naval Training Station in Maryland. Clifton Medders went into the Army but no one knows where he is yet. We heard that Jim Buchanan was back in the states, but is quite bad off. He is said to have shrapnel wounds and some sort of tropical disease. Of course, this could be just lots of talk, which I certainly hope. I received a letter from Mr. Jarrett the other day and he has been promoted to a sergeant. That's pretty good, isn't it? He also said that he is going to get hitched legally soon, and that is good too.

Yesterday afternoon, the gang went to see "Air Force," and it turned out to be better than the usual airplane and war story. I had never known before that a bomb sight was so precious. Ruth told me that it was a secret weapon and had to be guarded well.

I don't have anything else to say, but there is quite a collection of clippings and stuff to go with this, so you have plenty to read for a while yet.

Lots of love,

Shirley Minker