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Monday, June 14, 1943.

Dear Lee:

Maybe you will be surprised to learn that your mother is a "working lady" now. Miss Horner, you know, left last week to become a WAVE which left daddy high and dry as far as a secretary is concerned, so for a while at least I am trying to hold down the job. Of course there are some things she did which I cannot do, but maybe we can struggle along somehow until the proper person is found. I reported to work a little after 8 this morning. When I went over home for lunch you should have seen your two sisters. You might have thought they had lost every friend they have in the world. They seem to think it is terrible for me not to be around the house every minute they are, but I guess they will get used to it.

I saw Julia yesterday and congratulated [her] on her winning the scholarship, etc. She was wearing your gardenias. Shirley was thrilled to death with hers. They surely were lovely. I am not sure whether she wrote you before or after she got them.

Yesterday was a terribly hot day here and we certainly did pity those folks who had to attend the Wilmington High and P.S. commencement and baccalaureate services combined. We had a severe thunder storm late in the afternoon but it did not begin to cool off until around midnight. At 8 o'clock daddy had a committee meeting at the Phipps' to arrange for a service flag or some appropriate reminder of the boys from our church who are in the service. He is chairman of the committee.

Yesterday was Youth Day at church. Dr. Veh, who spoke four years ago and whom you may remember, was the speaker. The young people's and junior choirs sang. Daddy did not attend the service, for he had a defense meeting at 12, a flag raising at Colonial Heights at 2, one at Marshallton at 3. When he came in for his dinner he was soaked through and looked as though he had been in a fight.

Shirley has not found anything to do yet. Bernice is working on Saturday at Crosby & Hill's.

I sent you off a box of cookies, candy, etc. on Saturday in hopes it will reach you in time for your birthday. It did not seem much to send for your birthday. Daddy intended to get a letter off but I don't believe he has found the time yet. Daisy said she was going to write you yesterday. Of course you know without my telling you that we wish you the happiest possible birthday and hope next year you will be able to celebrate it at home.

In today's mail we received an invitation to Mr. Jarrett's wedding in Phoenixville, Pa. this coming Saturday. He seems so much like a kid to me in

so many ways I cannot think of his getting married.

I do hope that the rain has let up by now and that you are able to get in some training in the way of flying every day. Do you think you will be shipping off somewhere else this week, or must you get in a certain number of hours of flying before you leave there?

Lots of love from all of us.

Mother