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Saturday

July 3, 1943

Wilmington, Delaware

Dear Lee:

It [sic] was wonderful to receive those two letters from you last week. We were so glad that you had finally gotten shipped somewhere. Mother and I wrote you during the week in which you were waiting to be shipped. Did you get them? If not, you probably will as they had Please Forward on the front. Ruth wrote to you on this past Monday, so I know you didn't get that. You'll probably get it in a couple of weeks.

Do you really like Santa Ana? It sounds like an awfully big place. How are your tests com-

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ing along? I imagine you're worried but I know you'll pass with flying colors. Have you seen Jim Ham to talk to since you have been there? He must be an awfully nice fellow.

Did you know that Allen is overseas? I got a V-mail letter from him. Henry di Donato is over somewhere too. Lots of the boys from Bainbridge have been home lately - Gordon Lang, Billy Baird, Glade Brendle, Joe Toomey, and Normon [sic] O'Neal. Jim Bonner is supposed to come home from Parris Island sometime next week, I think. They all look so nice but so different, somehow.

Ben seems to like Andover a lot. He says the classes are awfully hard and they certainly pile on the homework. I guess any place would be hard after A.I. That's what I'm afraid of.

I haven't done anything yet about college. I think now that I'll take up medical secretarial work. That would be interesting, I think.

The other night our gang all got together and had dinner. Then we all went to see "Stage Door Canteen." It's a wonderful movie and you could see it several times before you see everything. Are you close enough to go to the Hollywood Canteen? I [sic] would be wonderful if you were.

What is the country like out there? Are near the coast to go swimming? Have you seen any oranges growing on the trees? Has it rained yet? Good old California sunshine, huh? Do you think that you will stay there after your two weeks of classification?

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We have had two very hot weeks here. Last Sunday was terrible. And we had an air-raid about two-thirty in all that blazing heat. It rained Sunday night and got colder Monday and rained some more on Tuesday. It now is very cool and disappointing for Fourth of July weekend. Are you going to have a parade or review or something at the Air Base? Lots of the boys in my class are going next Monday.

Well, I'll write soon. If you have a few minutes just drop us a line.

Lots of luck and love -

Shirley