

1

July 18, 1943

Sunday

Wilmington

Dear Lee -

How's everything? Your letters are scarcer than butter and that's going some. We understand though that you are very busy so we don't mind too much. Have you started your flying again, yet? My job is keeping me up on aviation. [sic] They're now going to start training pilots with gliders over there. I think it's the first school of its kind. Some fellows fly over from the Air Base in long, two seater silver ships. They call them PT's, I guess that means

2

pilot trainer, or does it. They have a large C-47 over there now being repaired. That's quite a big ship. There was a big Navy ship over there the other day with a group of WPB officials in it. All the big shots come over there.

Today in church they dedicated an honor roll plaque. It's a lovely plaque in the front vestibule. Your name was all wrong though. Guess what they had on it! R. Lee Minker Jr. I've never seen it printed that way before, have you? It'll be fixed up, though, so maybe by the time you get here it'll be fixed up.

Tonight the band from the Air Base is going to play for the boys. I don't know whether I'll go over or not, but I'll probably hear just as well sitting on the porch.

Yesterday Bernice and I heard Glenn Miller in person. No kidding! He's on with a soldier band on Saturday afternoon from 2:00 to 2:30. He really sounded swell and his big band had the same large group of saxophones in it. He must have the same arranger, or something. We were tickled to death just to hear his voice, though. What do you think of Frank Sinatra? Didn't I tell you last summer when I heard him that he was wonderful?

3

He's really in the big time now and sounds just as wonderful. Maybe you don't hear much about him but he's really going strong according to all the New York reports.

The Brandywiners are giving the "Gondoliers" this week on Thurs., Fri. and Sat. and next [week] also. The reason I couldn't be in it is lack of transportation. The pleasure driving ban is still in full force here, you know. We're going the

second Thursday night. They're having it at the Drama League this year. The Playhouse cost entirely too much, Mr. Wyatt said.

Well, paper's running out. I'll write soon, so do you if you have time.

Lots of love - Shirley