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Box 230

Wilmington, Delaware

October 24, 1943

My dear Lee:-

We've just finished dinner -- one that you would have probably done very well with -- roast beef, sweet potatoes, cauliflower, peas, ice cream and cake. Bernice was [not] feeling up to par and there were just Grandmother, mother and myself in the batters' boxes, i.e., at the plate. You haven't spoken much about the mess hall and meals at Phoenix from which I have gathered that that end of the arrangements is alright. I hope so.

Mother has given you the story of our trip to Williamsport - and of our riding along the street and meeting Shirley and three of her girl friends on their way from church, completely surprising her.

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You could have heard her yell for a mile. She is nicely located, [and] I believe it has been a good choice for her. It will give her a definite training which she can utilize as soon as she finishes school or in helping her while she goes on with training in the same field or music. I was so glad to see her so happy. She has a couple of snappy looking dresses, coats and sweaters that really she looks perfect in.

I stopped to see Mr. Hering a little while ago-- between church and dinner. A friend of his from the last war - Corcoran - stopped in last week enroute to Washington from Phoenix. He has been out there in some training capacity. He had such a sort time there that I didn't get a

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chance to meet him. I may meet him later. Mr. Hering sent his best to you. Their girls are developing into fine hockey players, by the way.

The Bombers are assembling talent but there is a real scarcity as you would sense. Hoeffler is in the Coast Guard and while the newspaper announces that he has signed up, he certainly will not be free to be on hand regularly. I'll keep you posted. I find I don't have as much interest [in] the games now, however, and I don't think I will have until the mess is cleaned up, and we are ready to live again. I hope the clippings help you to follow the athletic doings -- and if there's anything more along that line you want, let me know.

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We'll be thinking of you this week while you prepare for and take your check [ride]. You're doing a great job, kid, and I am prouder of you than I can tell you. I was hoping you might get some kind of leave between this training period and the next. Do you see any chance of it?

Be yourself, and here's to you!

As ever Dad~

P.S. Mother informs me she is mailing you some cookies to-morrow.