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Sunday noon

February 6, 1944

Dear Mother,

I hope that all of you at home will excuse me for not writing more often but it seems as if there is never any time, never a moment of my own. The ample amount of work seems to make the days fly by though. Although today is Sunday a regular full day schedule is being followed: Revielle [sic] at 0800; breakfast at 0805; ground school at 0850; physical training at 1150; lunch at 1300; flight line from 1345 till 1820; supper at 1830; night flight line from 1900 till 0030. I hope this will help to explain why I will not be able to call you this month.

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But it won't be long before I will be home to see you all again. Class 44-B graduates in the morning of February 8, ... Class 44-C should graduate in the morning of March 12. So apply the evening train schedule for March 12 to your plans. It seems that as soon as the graduation ceremonies finish furloughs may be begun but that the army records show that the furlough begins March 13, ... an extra day is gained for the furlough. It also seems that several boys are getting the jump on the crowds and in time on Dallas by attempting to get reservations on an airliner at Big Springs on the thirteenth. It only costs \$28.00 to fly from Big Springs to Louisville, Kentucky [sic], by the way.

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I am certainly happy to hear that Shirley is making out so well in her college studies and that she likes Williamsport so much. I am afraid that after this spring Williamsport and most other colleges will be almost entirely female for the army is not going to replace graduating ASTP students and the Air Forces and V-12 students are being called up, although V-12 dental and medical students may continue their studies. The new program as far as the Air Forces are concerned calls for elimination of CTD and pre-flight training. When called a boy will report to one of six stations for Aviation Cadet Candidates. Immediately upon reporting the boy will suffer the complete though relaxed mental, physical and psychological examinations. Then if he passes

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he will get six weeks Basic Military Training. Then the cadet will begin his specialized training, slightly lengthened and intensified. Thus cadet training

will become more efficient, uniform and practical. What will Dickinson do? Maybe Dad can hire a professor or two for work at the school.

There really isn't much new news from here on graduation, furlough, commission, uniform, etc.

I have twenty hours of co-pilot and twenty hours of pilot flying time to my credit now in every phase of flying. Yesterday I flew a 500 foot cross country - 220 miles at 500 foot [sic] above the ground. Low navigation is quite different: you don't see an object until you are on it and then it whizzes by; radar cannot detect a low flying plane.

You know that I am always thinking of you.

Love,

Lee