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Ferris Industrial School of Delaware

BOX 230

Wilmington, Delaware

March 22, 1944

My dear Lee:-

Mother has already told you why Miss Ries did not meet you in Chicago. I was greatly disappointed when I discovered she has moved. It would have been pleasant to have had someone with whom to chat for a few hours. I hope, however, that you were able to enjoy the stop-over in some manner.

I will be interested to know if you got your reservation West of Chicago. I hope it was O.K., and that you had a reasonably comfortable trip. I wish I could have made it with you. Perhaps we'll do it together some day.

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You realize, I know, how much it meant to us to have you home. Thirteen months was an awful stretch of time -- and I never thought we could stand it. But we did, and we pulled for you and prayed for you every day. It was a wonderful day for us when you stepped off the train to be with us. We were pretty proud, of course, because you had done so well -- but we were just happy to have you regardless of the distinction you had achieved.

I don't know whether I congratulated you on receiving a commission. I wish I could have been at graduation. I was there in spirit. Just about the time you were receiving your wings I stepped out of the pulpit at Westminster, and said to Mr. Warren and Bruce -- "I wish I was in Pecos this minute. Lee is graduating." You did a fine job, and I am proud of you --

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prouder than I can say. I knew you could do it because you were just yourself -- and I'm happy to think you realized your goal.

I hope you enjoyed the minutes at home as much as we did. I'll know a little better how to plan a few parties the next time -- but I did the best I could. They were really fine basketball games weren't they? You can think of them for a while. And that family dinner! And Uncle Marion's waistline! Ginger's shyness before the camera! Our budding Minker debutantes! The time certainly did fly. I am so glad you didn't have to leave Sunday. The extra days just helped us to round out

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the visit properly.

We'll be thinking of you as you start your new phase of training. Good luck every minute!

As always --

Dad ~

P.S. I'll write you Sunday evening and tell you about the Bombers-Sphas game or games.