

SHIRLEY E MINKER

Sunday afternoon  
April 16, 1944

Dear Lee,

I guess you're just about  
giving me up for lost! I'm really  
a stinker about letters anymore!  
So much has happened since I  
last wrote to you that I hardly  
know where to begin! I don't know  
whether Bernie told you, but  
Fred and all the rest of his  
squadron are out of the Air Corps!  
They got all the way out to Santa  
Ana and had taken all except  
their psychiatric tent. Then they  
stopped all the tents and told  
them they couldn't see them.  
Fred sent me the form-letter  
that General Arnold sent them  
and now he is just sitting  
around out there until they de-  
cide what to do with them! He

was very disappointed and angry at first, but soon  
he's in much better spirits. He did want to  
fly so very badly that I know it really hurt  
to be checked - out for no fault of his own!  
I guess there are about three or four thousand  
cadets at Santa Ana in the very same position.  
I can't see how the Air Corps was ever  
permitted to become so over-crowded in the  
first place! What do you think?

By your description of your plane, you must  
be having some time with her. I imagine it's  
quite a change from the other planes but I'm  
sure you'll be able to handle her after a  
little practice. I would love to see you flying  
on of those big ships sometime. We don't see  
very many planes up here, but when I'm home  
you know we see lots of big ones!

I had a very quiet vacation at home over  
Easter but it was very nice! Mother and I  
went to see "The Song of Bernadette" on Saturday  
night and though we enjoyed it very much we  
couldn't see why it got as many Academy  
awards as it did! "For Whom the Bell Tolls" is  
finally coming to Williamsport this week and I  
hope I can find time to see it!

When I was home, I was intending to work  
on my English term paper. Of course, I didn't  
do anything on it and consequently, most of us  
spent all our spare time down at the library  
this week! We're having play rehearsals every  
night and Song Day rehearsals in most of our  
spare time, so we are really being kept

ready. Next week is test week  
too. We only have five more weeks  
of school though, so I guess I  
shall manage to pull through  
until then. I don't know what  
I'm going to do this summer yet.  
In fact, I don't know whether  
I want to continue on with  
my present course now. I'm  
missing so much music that  
I hate to think of it. I really  
don't know what to do!

I've got to go over and  
practice for a recital I'm in  
on Tuesday. I'll try to keep  
my letters coming more often now.  
Let me hear all about the fun  
you are having. See you sometime!

Lots of love -  
Shirley

75. I saw Bill Sharpley and  
Chuck Fessert when I was home.  
I saw them walking down Market  
Street, but didn't get a chance  
to talk to them. Both look as  
same as ever. Had nice long talks  
with Bill Grenier, but I guess Brian  
told you that. Bye! - Shirley