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Shirley E. Minker

Sunday afternoon

April 16, 1944

Dear Lee,

I guess you've just about given me up for lost! I'm really a stinker about letters any more! So much has happened since I last wrote to you that I hardly know where to begin! I don't know whether Bernice 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 test. Then they stopped all the tests and told them they couldn't use them. Fred sent me the form- letter that General Arnold sent them and now he is just sitting around out there until they decide what to do with them! He

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was very disappointed and angry at first, but now he's in much better spirits! He did want to fly so very badly that I know it really hurt to be chucked-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 one 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 May Day rehearsals in most of our spare time, so we are really being kept

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busy. 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