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Friday afternoon

April 28, 1944

Dear Lee: --

How's the flyin' business coming along way out there? I heard of several people being scalped by big planes out in New Mexico. You couldn't be up to your old tricks, could you Looney?

Gee, it's a beautiful day here! The sky is so clear and blue and I think maybe it might be a nice week-end. It has rained here from last Friday until Wednesday. Here's hopin' anyhow!

Last week-end I went home with Mimi and two other Sophs. She lives in Roaring Spring which is about thirty miles from Altoona. It was all entirely new country to me. We had a wonderful time because we had been having tests all week and it was beginning to show on all of us. Roaring Spring is a typical small town, about the size of Crisfield, I

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should think. It's surrounded by mountains but I guess they wouldn't seem very high after those you've seen out there! I sang in the church on Sunday morning. Mimi's father is a minister and everywhere I went Mimi would ask me to sing. I sang the "Lord's Prayer" in church and quite enjoyed doing it! Mimi's father and mother were wonderful to us, and fed us all the time. That's why we liked them so much, maybe!

This week has been very hectic rushing from one rehearsal to another. We also had to write a theme in Bible. Next week-end is really going to be a big occasion here. I'll give you an outline of what is supposed to happen:

Friday night - Play - "Nine Girls"

Saturday morning - School or exhibition for guests

Noon - All out-of-town people at our dorm for lunch

2:00 - May Day

4:00 - Tea at our dorm

We have to act as hostesses over here

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and be in May Day. In short, be in about fifty places at once. I guess you know that Bernice is coming up next Friday afternoon to be here for the whole week-end! I do hope the weather is nice!

Honestly Lee, this Air Corps situation is really getting awful. There are only two squadrons left here now and one of them was supposed to have left three weeks ago. They only have a few hours of P.T. and drill and then just sit around. Fred is doing the very same thing out in California. He says they don't have a darn thing to do and they seem to have no plans made for them at all. Girls that write to the other fellows all over the country say that the same thing is true everywhere. I wish they hadn't gotten into such a mess, because think of all the time, money, and men they are wasting. Do you know anything about this or isn't it happening in the ranks of the officers? Today the boys here played tennis

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and baseball all morning and they talk about the tough Army life!

The movie "See Here, Private Hargrove" is here this week-end. I want to see it because if it's anything like the book it should really be wonderful! Did I tell you that I finally got to see "For Whom the Bell Tolls." It was only here three days and we had to squeeze it in between tests. I think it was every bit as wonderful as they said it was! Ingrid Bergman with that short hair-cut and no make-up looks like a million dollars. She is really a wonderful actress and Gary Cooper did well, too!

We got our English term papers back today. Was I surprised when I pulled an "A." I told you that it had been assigned since right after Christmas and I didn't start on it until four days before it had to be handed in. I really don't deserve it, I guess but I was certainly glad to get it.

We only have three more weeks of school left, Lee. It doesn't seem possible that I've almost finished my

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freshman year in college. It has really flown by very swiftly. Bernice is all agog about her Junior Prom now. I can remember when you had yours and Bernice was still too young to go to dances! It really makes you feel old when you think that it was four years ago, doesn't it?

I'm just back from shorthand class now and I have to run to a music lesson in a few minutes. I got a letter from Fred and he was moved last Sunday to Camp Robert, California. And he's in the infantry! He's not at all crazy about it but there's nothing he can do.

Well, let me hear how you are getting along out there, Lee! I know you're busy so don't worry because mother sends me all the news. I hear you're supposed to be through there on May 6. Where to then, huh? Bye now, Looey

Love,

Shirley