

**1**

United States Army Air Forces

Tuesday evening

July 18, 1944

Dear Shirley,

After flying period today I went to the post office and received your wonderful exhaustive letter of the fourteenth and Dad's of the sixteenth. I then proceeded to the mess hall to eat and to read.

I am glad you like your job so much. If you remain in Wilmington to study music under Mr. Wyatt in the fall it should be a position worth continuing. But I wonder if the influence of other teachers and new friends at college might not be more desirable.

It was too bad that Ginger had to loose [sic] so many of her family. I bet the remaining two pups are cute.

**2**

Do they look like Ginger? What have you named them? Have you had them registered? What will you do with them?

I certainly was shocked to read of the severe penalty meted out to Dorman. I hope that he can be reinstated, for the fight that he has should be encouraged and I can't think of anyone with more of a love for the game, more of a knowledge of the game or more qualified and desirous to teach the game to young players. With the possible exceptions of Charley Berry and Cy Perkins nobody rates as high in my opinion as a baseball manager as does "Dutchy" Dorman. He has the same qualities that made me like Coach LeCrane and Coach Kahler so much by the way. (Dad wrote that he was enclosing a letter on the Dorman case which he had written to

**3**

"Judge" Bramham. He didn't.)

I just finished writing to Dick Rhoads. He is also at Gulfport and I am looking forward to seeing him once in a while. Did you get Guy White's address when you talked to him; has anyone been able to find J. Bright's? I received a very nice letter from Mr. Boykin yesterday.

Yesterday was my official day off so I logged a lot of sack time; we meet a schedule seven days and then have the eighth day off. Today I was back at the

old grind again; I was on the flight line from 7:30 till 19:30. From now on we will alternate a day of

**4**

flying and a day of ground school. Since all except surprise spot checks have been passed the pressure seems lighter but it will stiffen for they now will be set on increasing our endurance and smoothness. The other day when I was up for my first solo ride here and for the first time with my whole crew my number three engine went out on me and I had to make an emergency landing. It had me sweating but I brought the ship in three point and I think that the extra effort was worth it for now the crew has confidence in me. I am afraid that I will have to get rid of Roman Micalacean, tail gunner and assistant armorer on my crew, because of a decidedly poor attitude. Everything else is fine.

**5**

If I don't watch out, I will become as long winded as you so I had better close now. Besides, the bugs are biting.

Love,

Lee