

1

To Lieut. Ralph L. Minker, Jr. 0-770722

APO 16635 AJ-7

Postmaster New York, N.Y.

From

Mrs. Ralph L. Minker

Box 230

Wilmington 99, Del.

Oct. 10, 1944

Dearest Lee,

Let me know whether typing can be read after it is photographed for if it can I will type my letters, enabling me to get more on a page. Shirley called Sunday evening and we gave her your address. She is planning to come home this weekend for a music lesson, as she will be busy with a Mardi-Gras October 20, and a formal reception for the President October 27. I want to try to have Julia and May for dinner Sunday if I can. I was talking to Julia last night. Tonight I plan to make your fruitcake. Last night I made cookies. The box ought to be ready by Thursday, thus enabling us to get in under the dead line. There's so little we can send. We'll have to make up for it later. I deposited \$150 yesterday so that you now have \$906. & a few cents, counting interest. Did you know that Wendell Wilkie died on Sunday? Many differed with him but I think he was on the right track in a good many things. With all my love.

Mother

2

[On V-mail flap]

Mrs. R.L. Minker, Box 230 Wilmington 99, Del.

Lt. Ralph L. Minker, Jr. 0-770722 APO 16635 AJ-7 Postmaster New York, N.Y.

3

Thursday, Oct. 19, 1944

Dearest Lee:-

We received your cable on Tuesday,- Oct 17. Of course we did not know the date or from which base it was sent, but it was good to know that you are well and safe. Now we shall await your first letter. We called Julia and told her, of course. She and May are busy getting ready to leave for Oberlin next week.

I have a meeting in Dover today so am leaving on the 10:53 bus. Mr. Hamm is off for the rest of the week and it really is not a good time for me to be going, but it is in connection with the crusade which the Methodist church is launching next year,- post war plans, etc., and I feel I must go to represent the women of the Wilmington district.

Howell Wilkins will arrive today for the rest of the weekend, as there is a Founders' Day program at Drew today and he will not have to stay. This morning's mail brought an announcement of the marriage of Dr. Robert C. Rainie and Dora Merino, in Lewiston, Maine, on October 7. It doesn't seem too long since "Bobbie" was just a small chap running around in Concord.

We are having delightful weather now and I hope the days wherever you are are just as beautiful. Is your new co-pilot working out alright and do you get a replacement for the gunner you said you lost? Great gains are seemingly being made against the Japs in the Pacific. I guess the going is a little bit tougher in Europe. Yesterday I saw Mrs. Warren in town. She says that Jack is in the Pacific and that Tom had just left for overseas but she was not sure where. Her house is terribly lonesome of course with only Bruce home. She was asking for you. Jim Goldey is at Ft. Knox, Ky., and Bob in the Navy at Princeton.

Grandmother Minker left for Baltimore yesterday to spend a week or so with Uncle Marion's family.

I notice by the paper that the Blue Bombers and Sphas are getting lined up for the basketball season. I think several new teams will be in the league this year.

There is no school today or tomorrow, on account of Teacher's meeting, so practically all the boys here are out in the cornfields today. Tower Hill, however, has school, and I believe Bernice expects to get in a hockey game between Tower and Friends.

This is a busy week for Shirley, with exams and a Mardi Gras. I am trying to make her an evening dress by "remote control" for the formal President's reception to be held on the 27th. Daddy and I got an invitation but guess it will not be possible for us to attend.

Did Watkins from Wilmington go over with your bunch? Would a Wilmington newspaper have any chance whatever of keeping up with you if we should send it?

We tried to get some pictures of the pup on Sunday. If they

4

are any good I'll send them to you; but the way he wiggles I am not too hopeful.

Bernice is anxious to know if you named your plane and if so what do you call "her"?

Well I must stop now. I am experimenting with the airmail letter to see if it gets thru better than the V-mail. Let me know.

With all my love.

Mother