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December 11, 1944

Dearest Lee:

Two weeks from today is Christmas! At present it looks as if I shall never be ready but I guess I will make it somehow.

Daddy and the Governor went to see the Bombers play yesterday. Daddy can tell you more about it. We got a laugh out of the British description of the football game.

By the way, we have ordered the N.Y. Times Overseas Weekly sent you. It may be some few weeks before it gets started, but I hope it won't be too long for them to get the subscription on its way.

Would you remember a boy by the name of Mason Robertson who lived in the Gardens when we were at Silverbrook and went to Lore School with Shirley? Yesterday morning before leaving for church I had a phone call from a person who said he was Mason Robertson, now in the Navy, in Wilmington and would like to come out to see us. So I invited him to dinner and we picked him up after church, from Gilles St. where he was visited [visiting] the family of John Lee. He turned out to be a good-looking, fine chap and we enjoyed having him. We brought down the old scrapbooks with Shirley's and Emmy's pictures taken at Lore and he said that was how he remembered them. His father worked on the Evening Journal, asst. editor. They left Wilmington in 1933 and have lived several places since. Mason graduated from Easton, Pa. H.S. His family now lives in Savannah, Ga. He has one brother in the Marines and one in the Air Corps. He is now stationed at Villa Nova in the Navy V-12 program, taking pre-med course. He wants to get home for Christmas but is not sure whether he is going to be able to; so I invited him to have Christmas dinner with us in case he cannot get home. I would like to have some service man away from home to spend Christmas with us, but I hesitate on asking one whom we know nothing about.

I talked to Mrs. Taylor on Friday about what to get for Julia and she gave me some suggestions which I will try to carry through.

The boys here at the school are putting on a play "When Johnny Comes Marching Home" Thursday of this week. Next Thursday we will have the Annual Christmas dinner for staff, boys and invited guests, followed by Christmas parties in the cottages. On Friday the boys will begin to leave for passes over Christmas.

I don't have to tell you that numerous people in church ask for you every Sunday. You boys in the service are always remembered by daddy in the pastoral prayer, and last Sunday at Communion Service we had one table for those of you who, but for the war, would have been taking communion with us.

All my love.

Mother