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V-Mail

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

709th Sq., 447th Bom. Grp.

APO 559

Postmaster New York, N.Y.

From: Mrs. R. L. Minker

Box 230, Wilm. 99, Del.

March 16, 1945

Dearest Lee:

This morning is so warm and springlike that we have windows open. I do hope it is this nice tomorrow so I can trim the rosebushes.

I feel as if a great weight is off my shoulders this morning, for the income tax returns are in. Daddy's is always such a job to make. I discovered that we have to make an estimated return for 1945. This is how I estimated yours, although I hope it will prove incorrect as far as overseas is concerned:

Salary-1st lieut \$2000 Overseas 200 Flight \_\_\_1000\_\_\_ \$3200. Exemption \$1500. This figures out to \$237.00 tax which seems an awful lot, and 1/4 is due with return; so we paid \$59.00 for the first quarter of 1945. Of course if you overpay during 1945 that will show up when your return for 1945 is filed next March and you will get a refund or the difference will be credited to your next year's tax. So these two items made a big hole in the 2 \$100 checks which I had on hand. The rest will be banked. Your entire tax for 1944 is now paid and \$59 on 1945.

I believe Uncle Marion and his family will be up for the weekend if the good weather continues. Daddy has engaged tickets for the game in Philadelphia tomorrow night. Of course you remember this time last year when you were here and the whole family went to the Ben Franklin for dinner and then to the game. The Phils started practice here yesterday.

Bernice has a heavy schedule today. They will practice for Pirates of Penzance from 1-5. At 5 she is due for young people's choir at Grace; at 7 adult choir practice. I think she'll be quite sung out by the time she gets home tonight.

Please write us another letter saying you would like some candy, cookies, etc. I am trying to get one off today but there is so little one can send in one box. Your letter must be shown at the post office before we are allowed to send anything. Grandmother Minker would like a letter to the same effect.

You have never come in contact with chaplain Irving Carpenter, I take it. I believe he is supposed to be in the European theater somewhere. Have you had a chance to see "Going My Way"? I see by the morning paper that it won the academy award. I know you would like it.

Love from all of us, Mother