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VMail

From Mrs. R. L. Minker

Box 230

Wilmington 99, Del.

April 23, 1945

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

709th Sq., 447th Bom. Grp.

APO 559

Postmaster New York, N.Y.

Dearest Lee:

We returned from our trip to Raleigh, N.C. last night about 8:30, a little bit weary but having had a nice trip. Daddy and I left here shortly after noon on Friday and drove to a little below Petersburg (Daisy's home town) where we put up in a camp over night. The drive Saturday was very delightful, for in southern Virginia and North Carolina of course the flowers are in full bloom - peonies, roses, honeysuckle, etc. It is mostly flat country and one wonders how human beings can exist in some of the log cabins we saw; but then I guess you know more about that than I do. A friend of daddy's, whom he has come to know through the annual Superintendents' conferences, is commissioner in charge of institutions for delinquent children for the State of North Carolina. We had lunch and a nice visit in Raleigh with him on Saturday, before getting our boy. We spent Saturday night in Richmond and yesterday morning went to a very fine Methodist church there, having spent the night in the home of an Episcopal minister. Richmond is overrun with service men and women over the weekends and we could not find any place in a hotel. Many of the lovely big homes in the city are now open to tourists.

Shirley called last night. She is planning to bring "the gang" home this weekend, but as yet she does not know just how many can come. Beginning today she will spend a certain number of hours in a doctor's office each day.

Your envelope, stamped April 17, came this morning, containing the small picture of yourself, \$50 money order, some money from Japan, Scotland, etc. We hope a letter comes tomorrow.

Grandmother Minker was out over the weekend, and they had Aunt Florence out yesterday for dinner. I guess they got along alright without me. Before grandmother left for home this afternoon she made us a lemon pie which I am anxious to bite into at dinner time.

You must have at least 5 oak leaf clusters by now. Is that right? Have you and Irving Carpenter had a gabfest yet? Love to you, dear, and lots of it.

Mother