

459 Summer St.
Arlington Mass.

July 25, 1943

Dearest Aunt Flo and Uncle Jack;

I have been trying to get this letter off ever since Jean returned home. It was so good to get news of you first hand and I feel that I have had a visit with you. Jean says things are just the same and it was like an oasis in the desert to reach you and have that time there, the war seemed so far away and she was refreshed and strengthened. It does me good to think of you all like that when everything else seems to be tottering over our heads. Buddy has been sworn in the Air Corps and leaves in two weeks. We tried to think of a way that he could have a visit there before he went but couldn't figure it out. It would have been wonderful for him, and he longed to do that. They give such short notice when they get their orders and he didn't dare to take the chance even for a flying visit. Minnie writes that it will be a wonderful experience for him, but I am sorry that I don't see that way. Of course they undoubtedly gain in some respects but it is a job that must be done and the sooner the better and that is the way they look at it. Buddy says nothing they can hand him will phase him except that he may get air sick, if he is fortunate not to be afflicted that way he will be a pilot. I can't say that he has any wild enthusiasm about going and he says very little about it except that since there is a war and it must be fought he would rather do it from the air than any other way and then ceases to discuss it, he knows he will be homesick but he says there will be lots of them the same way. He is going to send you his address and if you can send him a few lines out of your busy moments it would do him a lot of good.

Virginia, Orville and RuthAnn were up last Monday Tues and Wednesday, yes, drove their car up, the gas was a mystery that I didn't ~~investigate~~ enquire into but they had coupons enough and of course we were delighted to see them. I have never seen Virginia look so good and she seems to be more relaxed then she has been for a long time. Orville was on his vacation but they couldn't ~~stay~~ stay because they had left the dog all alone, with a veteriarn, but he wasn't happy so they had to hurry back. RuthAnn has a job and Virginia is working odd hours for the telephone company. She is planning on taking a short trip down this fall and if I can possibly get the money together I will try and come too. The very thoughts of it makes me feel a little less tired and discouraged. The news of Mussolini is heartening but the Japs are going to be a tougher proposition, I know.

Jean is working in the personnel office of Harvard University and loves the work. It is fine experience for her as she interviews people all day and the variety of the work gives her just the experience she needs. Michael was out sick for two weeks and doesn't seem to feel very good yet but is back at work. We have just had the worst sort of summer weather the hot sticky kind that really takes every bit of ambition out of you. There is nothing that I want more than a long talk with you Aunt Flo, I find ^{you} myself stopping my work and thinking how nice it would be. Jean, says ^{you} positively look younger than when she was there before. I laughed over your trials with the Red Cross and the way you cut the grass. Buddy says that would be worth a trip down in itself.

Uncle Jack, Jeanssays you still love me, are you sure? as much as ever? How is the campaign going? I am awfully thrilled about you running for the legislature again.

Best love to you both ^{as you}
from us all ^{as soon as you get this}

Rhyda