My darling,

We had quite a lot of excitement around here yesterday. About two o’clock I began dressing for the afternoon. While I was combing my curly locks, Chauncey says I heard a very strange noise outside. It sounded like an automobile or a motorcyle, but I knew that it couldn’t be either one, for they are not allowed to run on Sundays any more. It kept getting louder and louder, and finally an idea broke into my head, that it might be an airplane. I rushed to the front window, looked upon the air, and sure enough, there was a beautiful plane right over head, doing all kinds of fancy stunts. By that time enormous crowds had gathered in the streets. After a few minutes it disappeared.

When I had finished dressing, I went down on the veranda to watch for Maudie and her mother. All the time that there I heard drums beating...
and streams of music that sounded like a
band. When the Howard came at four o'clock
I said to Maude, “Something is going on near
here. I'd certainly like to know”. Before I
could finish, we heard the airplane again. We
rushed out into the street, and asked some boys
if they knew where it came from. They told us
that there were two of them performing in
Branch Brook Park. Well, we rushed up to
the Delavan woods to the park, and there we
rebek a wonderful sight. There were hundreds
of soldiers marching up and down, a band was
playing “Over There”, and the two airplanes were
flying gracefully over the treecops. There were
thousands of people watching it all, and indeed
it was most impressive. We found out that
it was the New Jersey State Militia Reserve,
that three thousand five hundred men were in
line. We stayed there for a couple of hours and it
surely was interesting. The band played all
the popular war songs. Everyone was singing
and talking to one another. It was great fun. We re-
Tuned six times for tea. Mrs. Dowden & Maud sent you their very best remembrances.
This afternoon I am going to leave here right after luncheon. I shall do some shopping down town and then ride up to mother's home fairly. Tonight Doris and I are going to the movies to see Annette Kellerman in her new picture 'The Queen of the Sea.' Here's where I get the pointers for my swim across the pond.
As much as I hate it, I'll have to stop now.

Sincerely,

[Signature]