[Transcription begins]

British War Relief Society, Inc.

Rhode Island Committee

38 Exchange Place - PROVIDENCE

Tel. GA. 2176

#17 Monday 1-10-44

Dear Douglas:

What a pleasant surprise--a letter from you tucked in the door when I arrived at the shop this morning. Our mail service is certainly excellent for it was dated the 3rd and must have been delivered to the shop on Saturday the 8th. And I am glad that our mail apparently gets thru as quickly. It is too bad that your watch and razor have bothered you so. Better buy new ones if you ever get the opportunity and mail the broken ones (insured) to Dad and we will have them repaired an sent back to be kept as "spares." (A telephone call just now from Aunt Marion to tell me that she has just had a nice letter from you about her Christmas candy.)

Grandma is pleased with her Benchley and letter from you which she has just received as Saturday she came to spend the week end with us. We had the Henriksons and Metcalfs for Bean Supper. Dad set up one card table with Ta-bowl on it and another one with a Christmas Jig Saw puzzle and the minute they arrived they started in with one or the other and then a game of "Sorry" was started, so that we had a little different evening than the ordinary bridge game. (Have you learned to play cribbage yet? Marilyn plays very often with Mrs. Schmid and is teaching Dad.[)]

Sunday afternoon the Fischers dropped in, as did several of Marilyn's friends and what with the cards [sic] tables still up, baby pen and toys in the middle of the floor, we looked like a very social and busy family. Daryl is just beginning to creep and in another few days I know she will get over the floor as fast as the crabs you saw when in Miami. She had several new dresses for Christmas and looks lovely in any color she puts on, particularly yellow.

I met Mrs. Potter in the store Saturday and of course the whole conversation was of Pixie. "He can't understand why I bring home Codfish instead of Haddock, because he much prefers Haddock, but I was able to get him some

steak this week so that helped! He doesn't like this time of year and sits looking out the window with such a glum expression--I wish you would drop in and see him sometime, I think it might cheer him up!"

I'm glad that you see movies occasionally--I saw "Ball of Fire" and liked it. How is the reading material, have you been able to find enough books in your library and do you have any opportunity to read? Wish I might see you in your new grays. Roger Sr. suggests that you tell me the name of the tailor in New York who made your first uniforms, then if you should ever need any sent to you, he probably has your measurements and could make them up for you fairly quickly. I was glad to receive the ship's newspaper and will put it with your letters so that you may have a copy to keep.

Roger Hard, Jr. telephoned me last week--is back from his trial run, and expects to be off shortly. It is nice that he and Sue could have a little time together. Gordon Hurt has been in town, was at the invasion of Salerno and is now in JG. Roger thinks that you must be at Pearl Harbour [sic].

Do the other officers receive packages from home now that Christmas is over? If so, what can you receive, for I would love to send you something if I only knew what you would like to have and if it can be done. Don't forget to answer that question. Also you ask me to send you addresses, but you must send me a list of what ones you want, for I don't know.

I wish I might see you in your shorts and helmet, you must have a beautiful tan. It seems as though you must be soaking up enough sunshine and heat to last you the rest of your life! Aunt Marion says that Earl Nason is on a destroyer and perhaps at the same location as you. Rus Brower has been home after visiting many interesting localities.

Be sure to let me know if there is anything you would like to have me send you, buttons, face cloths, toothpaste, candy, books, magazines, how about the Cranston Herald or Providence Journal? You can have a subscription to either, I think the Herald sends their paper free to anyone that wants it.

We all send our love, and Dad will be pleased when I bring home this letter tonight.

Lovingly,
Mother

Jack Tobin [?] was home for Christmas. [Transcription ends]