[Transcription begins]

#31 Monday April 3, 1944

Dear Douglas:

Well this is the last time that this old typewriter will talk with you. I finish here on Wednesday so the rest of my letters will probably be written on our portable at home for a while, at least. This machine is not much good, it jumps badly and insists on spacing after every capital S. Your last two or three letters have come through within a week of being written which is very good time. Evidently you have been back in Hawaii as witnessed by the post-card, which incidently [sic] arrived on the same day but stamped air-mail! We are still having sharp cold weather. Bill came home last night so we took Daryl there this morning. She says, "Bye-bye" when anyone goes, "good" when she likes her food. We celebrated her first birthday with a cake and one candle, Marilyn and Bill bought her a stroller, I gave her a picture book and Dad, a silver spoon engraved with her name.

Saturday night we had our April Fool's party with the usual "Fresh Paint" sign and barriers at the front door and the rope leading to the cellarway. At the foot of the cellar stairs Dad had put an old bedspring covered with sailcloth and a maze of old furniture through which they had to wander. The crowd went to the Metcalf's by invitation and then when she handed out the bridge tally cards telling that the party really was at our house, the crowd wouldn't believe her and thought it was just another joke and refused to budge. It took her about half an hour to convince them and get them started over to Grand Avenue! Everyone seemed to have a good time.

Dad and I washed the dishes and straightened the house after they went home so we didn't get to bed until after two but we managed to get out to church just the same and were glad that we did for we had a fine Palm Sunday service with the choir singing the traditional "Palms" very beautifully. The enclosed clipping will of course be a surprise to you as it was to everyone up to that night. I think it is a good thing for everyone--a larger opportunity for Mr. Tomlin and yet he will not have to leave his home and associations which both he and Mrs. Tomlin have, as well as Hollier and Bonilyn. And I think that after fifteen years, it is wise for a church to have a change of pastors.

Mrs. Brown has just telephoned me that Roger intends to be married on his

next leave which probably will be in May. His fiancee seems to be very much his type, comes from a large family, is training to be a nurse and is a Baptist and everyone thinks she looks like the Browns!

We are now receiving our copies of "Life" which Marilyn and Bill gave us for Christmas but which didn't start to arrive until the middle of March. Do you ever see it or would you like us to keep the copies for you to glance over on your return home. Of course, they give a very good pictorial summary of the news. Glad you have Sherlock Holmes and wish you could pick up a harmonica.

Did I tell you that we saw "The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" [and] thought it hilariously funny? Now the editorial page of the Journal have [sic] had several letters condemning it as harmful to the morals of our youth so I wonder! But I guess you are mature enough now to take it (ahem) so see it and laugh if it comes you way.

Thanks for the thought behind the Easter card--wish you were to be with us on that day.
[Transcription ended] [Letter cut off at this point.]