

[Transcription begins]

#34 Monday April 24, 1944

Dear Douglas: Another Monday and time for a talk with you. It is about four in the afternoon, the rain is falling heavily outside but as the furnace is still in commission, we are snug and warm inside. The grass is very green and the buds of the trees and lilacs are almost ready to burst and there are a few crocuses and yellow daffodils in our garden. Dad has just had some evergreen trees set along the back fence, about three feet tall--Shabeck's house in back is being made into many small apartments and we think it may be pleasanter for us when we use the yard if we have a little privacy. I keep a slip of paper on the kitchen window sill and jot down on it items that I think may be of interest to you as I think of them so let's see what the list is for today.

Everett and Leland were both home for the weekend, Everett having a friend with him and Milton Simmons was home from Iceland so there was plenty of military talk to be heard. Mrs. Jones had a hard time getting them started in plenty of time to catch the train for the return to camp and school and it was lucky they started when they did for Mr. Jones had a puncture just as they reached Post Office Square! But they made the train all right. Everett is a fine looking military man and likes his work very much. Leland went to Boston hoping to sign for internship at the Massachusetts General but thinks it is doubtful as Harvard seems to have a closed shop there. Their beautiful cousin, Carole, remember her? has finally married and is on her way to Georgia with her soldier. We went to Loews' this week with the Jones[es] to see "See Here, Private Hargrove." Good of its kind, but I enjoyed Ginger Rogers in "Lady in the Dark" much better--it is right up Dr. Lott's alley and I think you would like it.

Tonight the Hards are coming to supper and then we are going to an entertainment at the Masonic Lodge as it is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding. Marilyn went to Schmid's for Sun. dinner as Bill was home (Daryl is tapping the space bar) so I have a roast of beef for supper and a squash pie. Saturday night we went to the Ladies Night of a lodge in Lonsdale, our fourth year there and what a time we always have. The food is always well cooked and abundant and this year was no exception and the entertainment had the audience almost rolling in the aisle. Ed Metcalf started the evening off by tipping a whole platter of cut-up turker [sic] absolutely upside down.

Was his face red!

We have mailed you a harmonic [sic] by first class mail and do hope it reaches you. I have asked everybody where we could get one and Alice Jones said that she knew that Leland must have one around the house and sure enough, she found it and sent it over. It needed a little fixing so Dad put in a couple of rivets. It is in the key of C and I hope you have a good time with it. The only thing I can play on it is the first three measures of "Home, Sweet Home."

The postman has just brought your V-mail letter dated April 10<sup>th</sup>. I agree with you about that type of correspondence and still always, send them if you have the chance for it means just another bit of news from you. We imagine that you have been very busy in this big push, according to the radio everything has proceeded according to schedule and we hope and pray that it has not been too big a strain for you. You mention your good dinner on Easter Day but no service. Do you ever have any on board, I know that being a smaller ship must make some difference in things of that kind.

Daryl is practically walking, just lacks the confidence. Marilyn took her over to night school this past week and had a grand time showing her off to the teachers, particularly Stebbins and Ferguson who "hitchy-doo'd" to her much to the amusement of some of their passing pupils.

I am enjoying being home but think I work much longer hours than I did at the shop! But it is more fun. Today Marilyn and I have been making her a dress. She hopes to spend a week in Philadelphia with Mrs. Schmid in May, leaving Daryl with me, and is trying to get her things ready.

Dad is enjoying getting out in the yard again with rake and lawnmower. This letter will be a little shorter than usual but I will make it up to you by writing another one this week. Take as good care of yourself as you can and be patient, time goes faster than we realize and the Chinese proverb is always good to bear in mind--"This, too, will pass."

All our love and thoughts  
Mother

Bob Noyes telephoned yesterday for your address, is heading your way and wants the number of your DE so when he sees it, he will know you are on

board. [Transcription ended]