

[Transcription begins]

#49 August 7, 1944 - Monday

Dear Douglas - I have been banished to the kitchen for Dad is having a one man committee [meeting] with Dr. Gants for the CYMBC in the living room. Bing is stretched out on the table beside me and Chip is busily scratching fleas in his basket under the stove. As you will see by one of the enclosed clippings, we have been having some weather, the humidity has been terrific but true to form, the change was complete and tonight we have all windows closed & are wearing sweaters!

Life has been rather quiet so there will [be] little news in this letter. I met Mrs. Noyes on the street last Wednesday & she told me of a very pleasant time Mary & Tommie had in Washington, so the boy must be in fairly good condition--Mary has been away from her job with an attack of cat fever and said she was just coming down with it when Tommie arrived & wanted her to go to the top of the Washington Monument, so in spite of her ill feelings she made the effort & really enjoyed it. I expect by now Tommie is in Maine with his mother & father & should be back in Providence by the end of this week.

Bill has been sent to--of all places--Rockland, Maine! Is skipper on a ship hauling material for the Coast Guard. He is none too pleased at not being sent to the West Coast but likes his new job & will ask again for the transfer later. Marilyn of course will still be with us but may go up for a visit with him later on. Daryl is dressed mostly in sun suits these days [indecipherable] "nothing much in front & less than 'alf of that behind." She has a funny little rolling walk & the huge bow on the back of her suit twitches from side to side.

Owens' house down river caught on fire this week but not much damage and plenty of excitement & fire teams from Lakewood & Conimicut. Donald Kern expects to be at Pearl Harbour.

Mrs. Hard telephoned me today that she had been able to buy some shirt buttons & I will send them on to you as soon as I receive them. She has not had any more recent letter from Roger, Junior, than I have had from you. Your letters are very apt to come along together--I guess he has seen plenty of action & I know you have been very busy. I am still putting pins in my map in the [indecipherable]

Do you see the Naval Institute Proceedings or do you want us to send you your copies or do you want us to keep them for you to read at your leisure when you return? I am keeping all our copies of Life--sometime on a rainy day you may enjoy crawling into the storage & pulling them out.

Young Harvey Whipple has returned from his sojourn as bus boy, soda clerk, dish washer, et cetera. [Indecipherable] has had a week at Yawgoog<sup>1</sup> & had a wonderful time.

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<sup>1</sup> Yawgoog Scout Reservation in Rockville, Rhode Island, is the fourth oldest continuously running Boy Scout Camp in the United States; it has been operated by the Narragansett Council of Boy Scouts since 1916.

Dick spent the last week end in New York, visiting Betty Haddleton, who is there modeling for a wholesale fur company. His arm seems to be knitting beautifully.

Swordfish is in our midst as well as succotash & sweet corn. The borers have disappeared almost entirely--do you remember how disagreeable it used to be to find a beautiful ear, only to discover the horrid worm at the end? The Japanese beetles are still a terrible pest, Dad takes his little bucket of kerosene every night & fills it almost full.

I find this letter quite difficult to write for I can hear Dad & Dr. Gants & it interrupts my train of thought, so I think I'll sign off & let you spend the rest of the time reading the enclosed clippings.

Take as good care of yourself as you can, don't get discouraged for the time is slipping faster than we realize & already your ship has been commissioned almost a year.

Ever so much love

Mother [Transcription ended]