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Thursday June 10, 1943

Dear Douglas:

I shall send this to the SCTC at Miami although I am not sure just how long you expect to be there but I know it will be forwarded if necessary.

Saturday night we had our first supper in the yard. The oriental poppies, all shade of iris and the huge yellow day lillies are in bloom and the beauty of the garden is at its height. Bill and Marilyn had gone sailing so I had the care of Daryl but she behaved beautifully and furnished quite a bit of interest . We had the Hards and Mr. Dick and Anne. Mrs. Hard brought a kettle full of home cooked baked beans which added to the feas t.

Monday was my fiftieth birthday and our 24th wedding anniversary. Marilyn surprised me with a beautifully decorated cake which she had made and Dad gave me some beautiful green earrings. Mrs. Buffum gave us a lovely party in the evening, three table s of bridge in play with the Metcalfes, Henriksons, Hards and Browns. She had made us a beautiful wedding cake with a small bride and groom under an arbor and wedding bell topping it and the guests brought presents, including a pound of coffee. Next year we will celebrate our silver anniversary and it is my hope that we will all be together for that occasion.

Last night Mrs. Noyes asked for your address for Bob expects to be in your neighborhood (Miami) some time next month but I told her to wait until I knew how long you were to be in that city. She tells me that Arthur Aker is married and has an apartment in Miami.

Tommie is now doing diving! His shift is from eight in the evening but his letter seems to indicate that he is finding it most interesting although at first it tired him terribly. He expects to be in New York about a month. Timmie was sworn in yesterday into the S-V-7-S which I think means shipyard V-7 Specialist. His eyes presented quite a problem and for a while I guess he

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was pretty jittery as to his status. But he is all set now. He is working at Rheems shipyard for this month and making wonderful money. The first of July he goes back to Webb and will graduate.

Russell Brower has just left on a destroyer. Bob Stang is in Alabama. Larry Millard called on us last week. He looks fine in khaki, it some how seems to fit in with his hair and curly eyelashes. His outfit is a surveying one and he is now situated at Fort DuPont in New Jersey. He is able to get to washington and is quite busy taking care of the addresses in his little note book! Leland is home on three weeks vacation so they have gone to their summer home for that time.

Dad has just paid ten weeks on your church pledge taking the money from your checking account.

We have just heard of an ammy Captain who is interested in renting the Coles cottage so we may open it after all. Under the gasoline ban we are allowed to make only one trip to our summer home and that to close it if it had been opened but I think that we will be allowed to go down and get it ready if he really wants it. That would take care of the rent and in the Fall when we closed it again, the Metcalfes and Buffums said they would go down and help us so we could make a houseparty out of it. I do miss the Sunday morning breakfasts on the open porch and sitting there with the awnings half down reading the funnies and occasionally looking up at the lovely view, with the sailboats so white and the water so blue. I don't want to sell it for it will always be a restful place to go if only for a few days.

Let me know as soon as you can again your address for I don't want Bob Noyes to miss seeing you if he has the chance.

Lovingly

Mother