

[Transcription begins]
British War Relief Society, Inc.
Rhode Island Committee
38 Exchange Place - PROVIDENCE
Tel. GA. 2176

#12 Monday 12-5-43

Dear Douglas:

I am writing under difficulties this morning for some strange reason I can't light any of the lights in the shop and can't seem to locate the janitor, so temporarily I am in darkness, so mistakes may be many. I am enclosing newspaper clippings, the one containing Hollier's article seems to be a whole page about different service people and possibly you may know some of them, hence the reason for the whole page. Hollier has left for Norfolk, accompanied by Ruth, little Paul and the dog, by machine.

We had great fun interpreting your letter to George Jones about the purchase of long underwear. At first he just told us that you had mentioned buying it, so as I wrote you in my previous letter, Dad and I tried to figure out where you could be going to need it. But later after reading the letter we think that you simply meant that the Navy did just the opposite from the expected and that you are and will be where it is too warm for your purchases!

Do you want me to send the Reader's Digest? It is no trouble if you want it, on the other hand, if you already have seen it, it is no pleasure to receive stale magazines.

Yesterday the Hards, including Cliff, but not Sr. (perhaps I'd better start over and say Mrs. Hard, Barbara and Cliff) called. I understood Mrs. Hard to say that Sr. is now a Commander, receiving the pay but as his papers have not yet come through, not the stripes. He is temporarily in Washington but is to be on the Selective Service Board in Providence.

Every year the Church of Transfiguration of which the Schmids are members, have a Christmas sale and a doll is dressed to be sold on chances. This year it was a completely dressed baby doll, coat, etc. and a beautifully outfitted crib. Grandma Kilheffer took three chances, Marilyn took three,

but Mrs. Schmid had only ten cents so she took one and wrote Daryl's name on it and that won the doll! We'll let her see it on Christmas day and then pack it away until she is several years older. We haven't heard from Bill for several days but think he is at Quincy for the de-commissioning of his boat.

Dad has had a load of fertilizer dumped in the back yard and has had plenty of backache spreading it all over the lawns and gardens much to Marilyn's disgust and uptilted nose and Chips unbounded joy. When the load was first dumped Dad said that Chip looked as though [sic] he said, "My, what prehistoric animal could have passed through my yard!"

It doesn't seem possible that a year has gone by since we went to New York, to see you graduate. What a hectic day that was, what with picking up your uniform, luncheon appointments, catching trains and all the baggage to handle.

Do you ever have any opportunity to hear radio programs and how is the record situation working out?

Dad is having another session of that terrible eruption on his hands, ending abruptly at the wrist, and his feet up to the ankle. What it is and why he should have a re-occurrence is a mystery but Dr. Bowen seems to recognize it and is not worried. The last attack was a year ago in the summer time and lasted about three weeks so probably by the time you receive this letter he will be practically over it.

Daryl has another tooth, making four, two upper and two lower. She is getting so cunning that you would love her. She wears little white shoes and is very proud of them. She will put her arms around your neck and pull your face down to hers when you ask her to "love you."

Gordon Hurt's mother called me up last night to get Hard's address not knowing that they were back in town. He is in Sicily on one of the ships which carry the invasion barges.

Do you remember helping to get our divan out of the house so we could have it mended? We still haven't it back, scarcity of mending cane is the excuse.

My lights have just flashed on, so it behooves me to get to work.

All our love and prayers for your safety and peace of mind.

Mother [Transcription ends]