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

Monday morning
#3 10-11-43

Dear Douglas:

I see by my diary that you were home for the week-end a year ago at this time and then the day after was Columbus Day and Mrs. Jones hunted you up at Columbia and saw you drill. Saturday was the warmest October 9th on record and then the next day was the coldest! Dad put storm windows on the front room because it was such a nice warm day to work out-of-doors and by the next day he was glad that he had!

In the afternoon he went down to Goddard Park with the Metcalfes and supper around the fireplace but as Bill's leave is not up until Tuesday morning and as they had a chance to go away for the week-end to Dr. Hubbard's (not Hubby's) camp in South County, I stayed at home with Daryl. I took her for a nice long walk in the afternoon, stopping at The Stangs to show her off.

You asked me to let you know if there were any casualties among your friends and now I must tell you of the first blow among our intimate friends. The Goodchilds received a telegram Saturday afternoon that Howard is "missing in a plane crash." We know that he had been on active service only about three weeks on a small carrier and we presume that the action must have been over the water and from the wording of the telegram that his death is pretty certain but we always cling to hope and of course his mother and father are praying that he will be picked up. Mr. Tomlin called us as soon as he had heard of it and Dad and Mr. Dick went over immediately that evening to extend our sympathy. I had to stay home with Daryl.

Your last letter was addressed to Marilyn but I know that she is willing for me to open it when she is not at home for we can hardly wait to get the latest

news from you. We hope that you enjoyed your day on shore and wonder whether you were alone or could find someone to travel around with and see the sights. Your menus sound appetizing and you can stand putting on a little weight. But I am afraid that you will put it on and then lose it all when the seas are rough!

This week we are busy getting your Christmas package together. You understand that we are very much limited to size and weight but each article has been selected carefully, hoping that it is something that you can use and it brims all our love and thoughts for you on Christmas Day. We will not mail it until next week, but it must go before the first of November.

The enclosed clipping on correspondence courses for service men I came across in the Cranston Herald. Didn't you have some member of your crew who was interested in this? Probably you know all about it but perhaps it will be of interest to you.

Tonight Dad has a lecture at the CYMBC, some speaker who is a big-shot at the plant which made the bombs which Doolittle used over Japan. I cannot go as it is the annual meeting of the Hall Library and I think you know that I am a life-time trustee along with Wendell Brown, George Jones, Mrs. Knowlton, etc. (in good company, as you can see).

Tomorrow I have the day off and hope to get started on Fall Housecleaning. Our washing machine has broken a shaft and they tell us cheerily that it will take from two to three weeks to get the necessary parts so that in the meantime towels and sheets are collecting at a rapid rate.

Marilyn had a letter this week from Roslyn asking that you be sure and look her up if you are over in the fair city of Los Angeles and saying that her baby, Don, is about the size of Daryl although three months younger.

Lloyd Cooper just dropped into the shop with a bundle of tin foil for our collection. Wants to be remembered to you.

Keep the letters coming even if you think you have no news, and eat a lot.

Love from us all,
Mother
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