

[Transcription begins]

#56 September 25, 1944

Dear Douglas - Snappy cold weather right now--we don't want to start the furnace just yet & are comfortable most of the day but the mornings & evenings are shivery! Tonight Dad has gone to some supper meeting at the Round Top Church & Marilyn has gone next door to call on Ingrid Pine & Chip is all covered up in his basket and Bing is curled up in the big chair. Daryl & I called on Pixie, the handsome brute, this week. He was not too frightened of her, and of course, knew me.

I see by my diary that a year ago at this time you were home from your Bermuda Shake-down & two years ago I went on to New York & saw you drill at Columbia.

Dad went to Coles on Saturday & did a lot of painting on the cottage & then came home & cut & raked the rest of the lawn. I stayed home & put the kitchen & bathroom curtains on the stretchers. It was a gorgeous Fall day & I enjoyed being out in the sun. Then Sunday we went down there for the day & took the Buffums with us. We walked all over the grounds talking with the various people about the hurricane, etc. I am enclosing some more clippings which I meant to enclose in my last week's letter but had mislaid. Also a very interesting one about Tommie. He is studying hard again and also getting some work on the water again. He writes it is pretty warm there.

I wish we had been in church Sunday for there were quite a few of the boys there--Leland & Everett, the latter flying to the coast today, there to receive his assignment & a fine looking officer he is, Herbert Lucker, Austin (?) Aker.

Dick Whipple has once more been definitely rejected & today left for Georgetown University for--he hopes--a two year course heading him for diplomatic service.

We heard Bob Hope on the radio last night mentioning putting on his show at New Guinea, that with the description of the long garments worn by the natives, the outrigger canoes, makes us feel that you have been & perhaps still are in that vicinity. It looks a long way off on the map, but distances have grown very short in the last five years. We know that wherever you are, you must be kept very busy & I hope for your sake you get a leave but we are glad you keep well.

Did you ever receive the music & pitch pipe I sent you? It was male quartette work & I thot the pitch pipe might come in handy.

Marilyn had a fine time in Rockland but saw Uncle [indecipherable] and Helen only once as they were on a visit to Portland.

Norman Holmes stopped at the shop on the way from S. Carolina to his home. He looks fine, likes the work (infantry engineering) & had been home the week before. Polly-next-door tells us that the grove where they held the Band Concert for Old Home Day is all down, all the Pines between the mill & Jesse's are down & that Betty Shaw's house had

the roof ripped right off! Alice Jones told of a strange thing at Edgewater Beach--whereby nights it was time for dead low tide, the water was lapping at their garage doors, something she had never seen in the highest tide down there! But in this part of New England we were very fortunate, it was all most interesting but not too terrifying.

Dad is much interested in the political campaign this year--things look good for the Republicans in Cranston but I'm not so sure about nationally & yet it doesn't seem possible that we'll have to have the same situation for another four years.

Bob Stang is home for a few days before getting his final instructions. I hope he can find a minute to run in & see us.

We see quite a lot of Barbara Fleck--her husband Jimmy Keek is across--and they have a darling 3 mos. old baby girl, "Bonnilyn."

It's a good opportunity for me to turn in early tonight & let you spend the rest of the time reading the clippings. Your last letter was date [sic] Sept. 11 & we received it the nineteenth so we feel quite up to date. Yes, I feel that you are getting a wonderful addition to your "book larning" in your handling of men, something which will be invaluable to you in later years.

Ever so much love from us all

Mother [Transcription ended]