

(Transcription begins)
British War Relief Society, Inc.
Rhode Island Committee
38 Exchange Place – PROVIDENCE
Tel. GA. 2176

Monday morning 12-21-42

Dear Douglas:

Did you pick a winter! The enclosed clipping will give you some idea. Dad could not start the car this morning (he has just received his B card) so after two busses had passed us because of being loaded to capacity, we managed to get to work. My shop is so cold that I have put on a furlined overcoat that has been left here to send to England but I shall continue to make use of it until the box is ready to go! Of course we keep comfortable at home, although over the week-end we lived in the kitchen as it was impossible to feel comfortable in the rest of the house even although (*sic*) we had plenty of coke and the furnace responded nobly.

Saturday noon Marilyn and I started for Vineyard Haven, only to reach New Bedford and find that we had been misinformed at the bus station about bus service to Woods Hole where we expected to get the boat. There just wasn't any so we had to turn around and come back!

Although we didn't see him, Tommie was home over the week-end and had an opportunity to go coasting and skiing and to the White Gift Service at night, leaving for Newport right after that. Some of the Ensigns assigned to Newport have already left for the Iceland Patrol but he is still on the Net-Tender.

Hollier has a son, Paul Hollier, born last week and Abby Hewes has a daughter, Carol.

We had several caustic letters and one cartoon in our paper about Bing Crosby boop-a-dooping for a "White Christmas" (have you heard that latest song of his from "Holiday Inn?"), so I clipped them all out and sent them to him.

I do hope your Christmas box reaches you by Christmas Day. We shall be thinking of you and wish we could have sent you much more but of course we were limited by what you could have. We may have our presents the night before as Marilyn is going to the Island with Dr. and Mrs. Hunt Christmas morning and will have dinner there at night with them, the six of the crew and Elaine Kershaw with whom she is going to live. We are going to Aunt Marion's for dinner. As yet we have bought no tree but hope to get a smaller one than usual and put it at the left of the doorway between the living room and dining room, beside the desk. We will take the rocking chair upstairs

temporarily. I will write you a list of what we receive. So far, I czn't (*sic*) think of a thing to give Dad. I have tried to get him a certain golf stick which he mentioned but so far have failed. But I'll find something for him.

So far, we have received just the one letter written the day after you arrived and we are looking forward eagerly to the next one for it will tell us a little more of what you are teaching. By the way, who are the two men with whom you are living, we can look them up in the SideBoy (Buoy?) and know a little more about them.

I have made Chip a new dark green plaid coat, fastened around the middle with a belt and on the side with a buckle, very sporting looking. Neither animal stay (*sic*) out more than a minute or two (*sic*) this kind of weather!

I think you have one more shirt and collar here, do you want to keep it here in case you come home anytime (I'm not trying to be funny) but I thought sometime when you return you might be separated from your baggage and this would be a change of linen for you.

My fingers absolutely refuse to work any longer. We all hope that you have a very pleasant and unusual Christmas and you know that you will be in our thoughts many, many times during the day.

Love from
Mother (Transcription ends)