

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

Jan. 11, 1943
Monday morning

Dear Douglas:

The Government has taken my shop typewriter and I am using a "Royal" which formerly belonged to a Howard Johnson which has had to close because of the ban on pleasure driving and as I am not used to it, this letter may be full of mistakes.

We evidently are going to have a severe winter but we keep very comfortable at home, with Dad and I away all day, we can keep the house about 65 except for the kitchen, and as the sun comes in there it is always warm for the cat and dog, then at night we trip up the thermosat (*sic*) as soon as we get in and by the time we are ready to sit down, the rooms are comfortable. Marilyn's room we keep shut except over the week-end. We are still able to use the car to get back and forth to work, but Saturday night we attended a birthday party for Tom Buffum, Senior, and walked down and back.

Tommie was able to be home again for the week end. He is stationed on about the same type of boat as Bill with three other officers, too many according to Tommie and they patrol at night off Newport but always in sight of shore lights. He says he hears thru Wesley that you enjoy Florida but is curious to know where she gets the information!

Have I written you that Norman and Connie have a new son, born December 30th, and named Jesse Allen Holmes, the second.

I went to church yesterday morning. It is surprising how large a choir they manage to have. Seven boys, Dick Johnson, being the only one of the men I recognized.

We are still enjoying the fruit and have given quite a bit of it away—sent a boxful to Marilyn and distributed some among friends and neighbors. We were surprised to find a large jar of honey and three glasses of jelly among the oranges as we neared the bottom of the crate. It certainly was a thoughtful present.

Saturday Dad brought home your pictures and we are much pleased with them. We had five of the one where you are holding your hat, and one with the hat on. We are going to send one to Mabel Snow as she writes that you are now the only one to carry on the Naval tradition of the family. I am very pleased with the snap shot of you in your

white uniform and if you ever have the opportunity, have an inexpensive professional one taken in that just for us.

I met Mrs. Thornton the other day and she was so interested to hear about you and Marilyn. By the way, Marilyn's letter would certainly make you smile, she has gone so domestic! In her last letter to Dad she says, "I never knew a house could get so dirty, today I washed the bedroom walls and tomorrow must wash the windows! We are having well-balanced meals and I am getting to be quite an expert in keeping the fire going." When the weather is too bad the boats are called in so occasionally Bill has quite a little time at home and he has been building shelves for their dishes, etc.

A long letter from the Lotts the other day inquired about you and told us that the doctor is still very busy and that Georgie has on long pants.

Tonight the CYMBC is putting on some very interesting colored pictures of the Army Ski Patrol and we expect quite a crowd to attend as it is something that can be reached by bus.

Dad says that the Ying boy has given up ship yard work at Quincy and is back in the laundry. It was hard to understand just why, but Dad thought maybe the work was too hard.

We were pleased to receive the several postcards. They gave us a very good idea of your surroundings and will be something to keep to look at in later life.

I am glad to hear that you are in the choir, it will give you a little touch with civilian life and help keep your touch with music. Should you ever have an opportunity to take more lessons with a good teacher, extra money can always be picked up by a good tenor in a city church, particularly one who can really read music.

Our love to you and Dad will write later in the week.

Mother (Transcription ends)