

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

afternoon

Wednesday
April 20, 1943

Dear Douglas:

We were very pleased with the snapshot enclosed in your letter—are you really as tan as you look and you look heavier, do you think that you have put on weight? It is interesting to us to have pictures of your friends for when you mention Lt. Perry in your letters we have some idea of what he looks like and feel a little acquainted with him.

It is still difficult to realize that the weather is so warm where you are and so disagreeable here. I think it is the coldest Spring that I ever remember, our furnace is still going and I am glad enough to have my fur coat on today, which is cold with a drizzly chilly rain. There has been an unusual amount of grippe and colds around. Grandma came over Monday to stay with Marilyn but had to go back to Aunt Eleanor's at night again as she was coming down with a bad cold. But Marilyn is getting along beautifully and takes care of the baby all day, while I just help her with the washing at night. Daryl Anne is a bottle baby so we have to make up her formula and sterilize enough bottles to last her for the whole day. But she is a very good child, has begun to recognize us and twists her little mouth all out of shape trying to make sounds. It is a pity that Bill can't see her often for at this age a baby changes so rapidly.

I was in the Boston Store cafeteria this week (does that bring to your mind the time you have the man a bowl of salt instead of sugar which he put into his coffee?) when Earl Tomlin showed me an envelope from you and told me of your gift to the church. I am so pleased that the church means so much to you that you can remember it when you are so far away. You know my prayer has always been that your religion will always be a rock to which you can cling when everything else may seem to be shifting and I am sure that it does mean that to you. This Easter you will be in our thoughts as we sit, Dad, Marilyn and I at Calvary and hear the choir in which you have sung for so many Easters. This year I think the sunrise services will be held on the grounds of the State House. Do you remember the bitter cold ones you have attended? Mrs. Schmid is planning to attend an early service at her church, Church of the Transfiguration in Edgewood, so we can leave Daryl Anne with her and pick her up again after church. I was much pleased to have Marilyn so anxious to go with us. Calvary has not meant as much to her as it has to us, but I can see that as she has matured and responsibility come to her, that she is having something of an awakening along these lines. She has suggested

having the baby christened at the Schmid's church, and I think it would be a lovely idea, for it would please them and is something she is doing on her own initiative.

Last Saturday night Dad and I attended a Ladies Night (Masonic) in Lonsdale. It was the third year we had been there and we had a very good time, fine dinner, entertainment and dancing. As usual the Buffums, Metcalfs, and Henriksons were in the group.

Romberg is making a return engagement to the Auditorium next Sunday night and I may get up my courage and travel over there on the bus and trolley (*sic*) car.

Larry Millard is at Fort DuPont in Delaware (*sic*) which is near enough to Washington so that he can spend his weekends in that big city and he is making the most of it, having a wonderful time, Pete Gantnier gave him a list of telephone numbers and the people have been most kind to him. Bob Stang is getting plenty of flying experience but not soloing yet. Likes it very much but is working tremendously hard.

I am glad that you approved of our pictures. Think myself that they came out pretty well for old people.

Just the minute the weather breaks so it is not so cold upstairs I want to get up there and straighten it out—you know how things collect on the stairs to be put into the storages. Your course can't last much longer and I'm keeping my fingers crossed that you'll have a short leave before your next assignment.

I bought a new dark blue strictly tailored top coat today.

Somehow your letters and mine very often cross but as you always seem to answer the questions I have just asked, it works out all right. Perhaps when I go home tonight there will be a letter from you, as so often there is, on the day that I mail one. By the way, we are having good old tripe for supper. Meat is still very scarce even although we have the coupons for it, but we really get along all right with just a little planning. Poor Bing is the most unhappy about the whole situation but occasionally I buy a bit of fish to encourage him. Chip of course, is no problem at all as far as food is concerned for he eats absolutely anything (*sic*) that is put before him. I was interested to hear about the school cat and her kittens.

Your Easter will probably be like all your other school days just now, but I know you will think of us during the day as we will of you, all of us glad that we have such a symbol of a brighter dawn after so much darkness in the world.

Lovingly,
Mother (Transcription ends)