

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

Monday, May 3,

1943

Dear Douglas:

First, let me explain why you have not had a letter recently from Marilyn, particularly thanking you for the birthday card which was very clever and much appreciated. She has received so very many gifts for Daryl Anne that she has been swamped trying to write all the "thank you" notes. Then Bill has been transferred to Invasion Barge School at Provincetown for six weeks where he is to instruct (I imagine in practical navigation) and take Commando tactics. So last Thursday she and Mrs. Schmid went to Vineyard Haven to pack and crate their numerous possessions in the house down there. Of course, he doesn't know what his next assignment will be so for the present Marilyn will be with us. Of course, that pleases me and Dad immensely. Daryl is so good and so cunning that we dread the day when she will go somewhere else to live. We gave her orange juice yesterday for the first time and what a face she made but she drank three teaspoonsful mixed with water and later took a half a spoonful of codliver oil. Last week she gained 12 ounces which is very good.

Elizabeth Brown and Connie called yesterday afternoon (we have a constant stream of callers to see the baby) and told us that Charles has been sent to Gulfport, Mississippi.

When you wrote that you would be stationed either at Key West or San Diego I complacently thought (two more months in Florida) and it was several days before I suddenly realized that San Diego is in California! I don't know whether you have any preference or not and I am not sure that I have, for either way, you are quite a distance from home and I hear of boys having furloughs from California as often as I seem to from nearer points. Perhaps you will be given a break between your last three weeks in Miami and your next move. I asked Dad if he would finance a trip for me to Miami, should you find out you were scheduled for the West Coast and he said he would but I doubt if I could get reservations and then again you might not have any time off.

He has had another attack of the grippe which kept him in bed last Thursday, Friday and Saturday. He was up all day yesterday, Sunday, but as today is a cold North East Drizzle he felt it best not to go out. By the way, I had Marion Butler take care of Daryl Anne Thursday and Friday of last week while Marilyn was away so she was also able to get Dad's meals and give him his medicine (*sic*). When there is sickness at home is the one time I regret that I am working, otherwise I am very happy to be kept busy but

somehow every time something unusual is taking place at home we manage to find some way to take care of the situation.

I went to communion service yesterday. It was a pleasure to see the church filled practically to the last seat. So often the Sunday after Easter there is such a let down but because it was communion I suppose that made a difference. Next Sunday we are to have a special service when all the pictures of the men and girls in service will be displayed and each star on the flag will be assigned to a definite person.

Now for the bits of information of some of your friends. Everett Jones left yesterday for his Maritime School at Castine Bay, Maine. This has now been taken over by the Navy and eventually he should emerge as an Ensign (deck officer). For the last few weeks he has had a grand time playing with a motor cycle a certain part of which fell off every time by the time he reached Pawtuxet Avenue! Timmie Buffum has finally been accepted by the Navy, will be put into uniform and allowed to finish his whole course at Webb and then will go into a shipyard doing his own type of work just as Donald Kern did. Lucille Donle's address is 84 Round Hill, North Hampton, Mass. She graduates in June from a specialized course in teaching the deaf and has accepted a position at Colorado Springs, Col. Roger Hard Sr. and Mrs. Hard expect to arrive in Providence on Friday for a three months leave of absence. More about them when I have talked with them.

We enjoyed your Ubani clipping—it gives (*sic*) us as good a laugh as it did you.

Yesterday Providence had a five hour parade in celebration of the Second War Loan going over the top. There were many interesting floats and 42 bands in the line and a group of Chinese young men with several (f)loats received very hearty applause. I did not attempt to go down to see it.

We thought we had a chance to rent the Coles cottage but because of the gas situation the deal fell through. I am just as glad for it seemed like a big task with every thing else to try to open it this year.

Do you hear occasionally from your friends who studied with you at Columbia? I shall be interested to know what their permanent assignment is.

I know you must be getting warm weather where you are and that studying must be difficult under those conditions. How are your uniforms holding out? You have a birthday coming at the end of May—is there anything that you particularly want, such as extra bars or button sets, or anything else you can suggest?

Your letters are read again and again and the snapshots brought out to be shown to every caller so don't think you can send too many!

Much love from us all,
Mother (Transcription ends)