

24th Jan

Dear Mary,

Just a line to let you know I received your lot of cakes (all in fine shape) which were just grand - I had coffee & cakes with a vengeance the night they arrived - in fact I made a pig out of myself - many thanks for thinking of me.

Well I got a letter from Jessie telling me that he was reporting to the Mechanized Cavalry on the 23rd Jan - yesterday - and also Helen's mother had passed on to her reward - she was the sweetest person and I loved her as much as my own mom.

This war has demanded and received a great deal from Helen - and I wish to God it could just be with her through all this troubled month. I know she is big enough to shoulder the burden but to lose her mother and boy in such a short time is tough on even the strongest person. I would like her to give up the house and take an apartment so she will not have so much work to do - I have told her to do it and hope she does.

My second "Sagist" arrived this week and was also really welcome and great company.

I have had very little mail from home for weeks but I know Helen writes me every day - would sure welcome getting some - it is just about the only thing I live for any more -

Many thanks for having Helen & the boys up
before Xmas and for the small Xmas dinner you
provided for them and George & Jean -
God I would love to be home - I have had
all at sort of the place -

This place Scholes where my S. Grand father
came from is not on any map I can find here and I have
military maps which show every ditch & stream -
are you sure you got the right name. I have been to
the home town of Wallaces father - passed through it
several times on trips - it has about 40,000
people in it.

Thanks for helping Helen make her decision about
Joan - I think it is best to face the inevitable
even though I am not happy about it. - George &
Jean have such screwy view points that they did

Buhrman, of the Consulate General, is
fast, also is expected to attend.

Noon Raid Toll Climbs to 48

Bodies of 14 more children were found
yesterday in the wreckage of the southeast
London school which was bombed in
Wednesday's noon-hour raid. The death
toll now is at 48, and rescuers believe
about 12 children and three teachers still
are buried. At least 70 are in hospitals.

The Air Ministry said the Luftwaffe
sent over about 24 bomb-carrying FW 190s
and Me 109s, "about six of which pene-
trated to London while about 60 others
carried out diversions, mainly over the
Channel. Eleven enemy aircraft were
certainly destroyed in these operations
and many more severely damaged."

During Wednesday night, the Air
Ministry reported, enemy aircraft dropped
bombs at places in East Anglia and
Southeast England. No one was injured.

Two enemy aircraft were destroyed.
One more enemy fighter was destroyed
Wednesday afternoon as RAF fighters
made a sweep over Northern France.
This brought to 14 the total downed
throughout Wednesday.

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3/ not going to be much help - I think you know
what I mean - I got a letter from George - it
was his usual raves about Democrats, Republicans & Socialists
etc - as if I am much interested in such things under
present conditions - what I want is to get the men
over and then take care of the politicians but first
we have to tick far more potent enemies like - the
Unholy Trio - H. H. - Hiss & Co. & Dr. J. -
I would appreciate it no end if you would get
down to see Helen once in a while - She enjoys your
visits and gets a lot of comfort from them.

See by the paper you are getting some cold weather
home - we have had a few snow flurries only - don't
last nor are home on the ground - the rain & snow have
never had a clear 6 hours since I got here -

I am feeling quite well - although here dropped 28 pounds
had a blow and overboard before Xmas - Hemorrhoids
or Pyle which ever you wish and feel grand now.

Queen had better alone - want to answer a letter
I got from Sarah -

Give my regards to all -

Love -

Joseph

Capt J. Roberts

Hdq Chief of Transportation

at 887 - NYC, NY.