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Converse, Charles. Letter to Family.

Manchester, England

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January 30, 1940

Well what a treat I receive this morning. The long long delayed Christmas letters finally arrived and what a Christmas you all did have and what presents. I would certainly have loved to have been there with you all. Your presents sounded very interesting and should keep you busy. I know you must be glad to get back on skates. You haven't had a free hand on them since we left Northwood. The snapshots were very good but I was very sorry to see the Puss in glasses. I hope however that this is definitely only a temporary thing. All three of you looked grand. What was the matter that Mother was not in one of the snaps. Is she getting too fat? The flat looks very attractive and I am sure you are enjoying the freedom of Florida. What is the matter with your fishing Sonnie. It is hard to believe that you can catch no fish. When I fished down there we used to catch hundreds. Laura I know you were proud to be made sergeant but Darling please remember, no bossiness. That job might tend to encourage you to be bossy. Please don't let it.

George has insisted that I go out and stay with him until I receive my allowance so I went out yesterday afternoon. It will be a great help financially and not so lonely. He has a very nice house and is very comfortable. I am still on the lookout for a flat. The weather has been and still is so miserably cold and the snow so thick underfoot that it has been impossible to do very much in the way of flat hunting. Transportation has been seriously affected and in some sections there is an actual shortage of supplies.

Boots and John called me from London yesterday and told me that they are planning to return to the US early in March. They have very fortunately gotten out from under their lease so feel that it is a good time to check out. I think too they are both fed up with the work they have been doing. I told them to let me know the date they decide to sail and I will try to run down to London and see them the weekend that they leave. They will probably forget to let me know but at any rate I have taken a step in the proper direction.

Well here's hoping that this letter gets through in better time than those that have gone before. You kiddies should really be ashamed of yourselves. You have been home three months and have written to me twice. Too much play and not enough work makes little girls and boys very stupid and quite incapable of thought. So do try to write at least once a month or you might forget who your old Pappy even is. I too am very sorry that you lost the pictures for they were recent of me and I would have liked for the children to have them about. Maybe some day I can have some more made. This is a very lengthy effort and if you find occasional typing errors I am sure that you will be able to make out what I intended to say. Keep healthy and look after each other. Oceans of love and God bless each and every one of you.

*Charles
and for
Daddy Paps.*