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Converse, Charles. Letter to Family.

England

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Dec 4, 1939

Dear Bette & Wen Taddus,

Your second air mail letter just arrived and I was very happy to hear that you are so extremely well settled and everything is running along so smoothly at home. You are certainly most conveniently located as to transportation and from what you write I judge that you are also located in a very nice part of town. You must send me a picture of the building and of you all. I did not think the picture of you from the paper was good at all. The only satisfaction about it was that I know it was you and that the form of you had to be well and in Japan to have it taken. What's there an article with it? You only send the picture.

I fully realize that you are going to have a hard time on \$175 per month and after I have paid my notes off at the bank I hope to be able to send more to you. I will certainly make an earnest effort to. I will have to wait and see what allowances I get in Manchester. In the meantime you are assured of \$175 a month which is more than the income of over 80% of

I would like to make it much more but just can't at the moment. My outstanding bills here are not yet liquidated.

I still would advise you to do the same thing over again that is to proceed direct home and get settled and get the children in school. I am sorry if you, Emma and the folks at home don't come. You will necessarily be at home for considerable time and will have ample occasion to visit them all. You plan to visit Emma for Xmas sounds a good one if you had rather spend your Xmas money that way. Personally I certainly would! I would so love to spend a Xmas at Flossers. Give her my love personally when you see her and wish her every happiness for me. Tell her that I will write to her within the next few days. You all will have a really happy time together and you will probably see Maria too.

the families in Tampa and you
are reminded of me who would
greatly increase your expenses.
If you doubt this check it up
with a banker. I don't see why
you can't get along very nicely. I
was extremely surprised to hear
that you are so upset because
you don't have an automobile and
at the same time you mention
the sunshine, Anna Maria etc.
My God it seems to me that
the relief of getting out of this
terrible blackout ~~and~~ living under strained
conditions as we do would be
sufficient for a while. Just to
be able to lead a normal sensible
life with life going on normally
around you. We at five o'clock
in the afternoon stumble out
in the absolute black dark to
go home to the blackout. That is the
way the situation affects to me.
Don't forget you are evacuees and
not on a Florida holiday! I
am not trying to be unkind but
I just want to bring the situation
to your attention. I know and
fully understand that the guilty

and sparkle of the life at home makes England rapidly fade into the background but nevertheless we are still living like moles over here. Then too, I had hoped that if I could get together a few pounds I might manage to buy a few nice things or antiques. But when I get my extra I will send it on to you. I certainly don't want you to feel any want but I don't want to have London owing any debts either.

You continue to write me the \$150 I was to send the 1st of November. I had a complete understanding with you before you left that the \$350 was to last up to December 1st and I was to send \$150 then. This I have done, and after Jan 1st it will come to you from the Department. I have written Col. to try & increase the amount also. I am going to get some Christmas money off to you next week so that you can use it for presents or for your trip to Rome. I will send \$50

I had a letter from Ruth yesterday telling me how fine you all were and how extremely well you looked, all of you. You are certainly making a complete conquest everywhere and I am happy for you. Tell the boys to keep up the good work, Daddy is very proud of the way they are digging in! Why doesn't Papa Jack train Lennie's voice? He should be happy to. I have seen you mention him by the way.

See if you can't have some copies of my photo made by Stenbeger and give one to Emma, Ruth, Aunt Mattie, Col Simpson, Aunt Emma for me for Xmas. I don't know but I think it could be done quite easily. I'll see how photographer friends who could advise you. I like that some finish myself rather than grey. It should prove a very interesting Xmas present and I would like to remember all of them with my love.

I am going to try and get up
to Manchester during the next two
weeks and see if I can find a little
flat to live in. Wilkie was down
yesterday and he was quite pleased
over my transfer saying that it
is a very good break for me from
the Service angle. I hope he is
right for what I need in pro-
motions with a growing family.

I am going to take a
change with this letter and
it by regular mail. I notice
that there is really very little differ-
ence if you make a good connection.

Loads of love to each
and everyone of you and send
Daddy lots of news of your mother.

Devotedly,
Charles.

As soon as I get
the per diem I
will send it to you

Little Jane your middle
name is spelled Clarke.
I remind you!