

July 1

Dear Ones,

I have spent the afternoon on the sack - but you just can't catch up on lost sleep with cat-naps. I hope to get to bed early tonight. All of us in the section - Officers and EM - are going out to a Frenchman's for supper tonight; I think I will come right back to the area and to bed. This and the letter I wrote this morning are my only signs of life today.

In talking about the trip of certain Senators to Europe, Mallon comments: "More intelligent and earnest American leadership to back the people in Europe who like our way of life (which is their historic way) is needed." And to that argument I can only say again that its proponents are dead wrong; the greatest error in the world would be an effort on our part to mold the shape of democratic growth in Europe - we would alienate the goodwill of the people and drive them back into the camp of the nationalists and authoritarian. Our role is to sponsor popular movements and to attack with all our vigor the fascistic manifestations such as those present in Spain and Argentina - but surely the lesson of the last war is enough to teach us that we cannot superimpose our constitutional or political standards on the peoples of Europe and expect them to grow into them; that does not work. If I touch on this point over and over again, I do so because I think that it is critical; Mallon like many others is so violently anti-Communist that he falls error to the same misinterpretations and misimpressions.

In the AP case, I do not share the views of Roberts and Stone in their strong dissent. Although the full opinion of Frankfurter is not cited in the TIMES it would appear to me that his point of view of the case as a "public utility matter" touched upon the most critical issue involved. Apparently there was no argument over the facts of the case, which were for the most part the AP by-laws. I do not feel that Roberts is justified in calling the majority finding an attack on the freedom of the Press. Since there is not further appeal other than working through Congress to have a special law passed, it will be important to see what happens to the distributing service of the major press associations.

I was sorry to read about Uncle Mark - wasn't he the brother whom we visited at the Maine General a few winters ago and whom no one expected to live at that time? As I recall, one week he was in the hospital his body full of tubes and needles, the next he was out shovelling snow in front of his shop. I think that at the time of our visit to him, you told some of his rather turbulent story. There apparently is no lack of a peppery temperament in the Bernstein strain.

In one of the Lawrence articles, he refers to the chairmanship of the Allied Control Commission as a "routine job" - a task for "an administrator rather than a fighting soldier." I think that those two statements and the rest of the article are contradictory and wrong: Lawrence goes on to show what a wonderful administrator Eisenhower is, just as Marshall is! As for calling the ACC a routine job, Lawrence would be the first to howl if we had an incompetent or only a mediocre personality in that job. If it is routine to be in daily contact with France and Russia and Britain, to be solving problems in international relationships that arise from day to day, to be a part of the first critical test of our effective peacetime cooperation with our co-victors, and to be charged with the responsibility that a peace such as we desire be extracted from defeated Germany then I will eat my hat.

I am glad that Pearson thinks that a State Department overhaul is in the offing. We heard of Byrnes' appointment today; as I said in a previous letter that may be the opening for a general shift in personnel. I see that conjecture is rampant at home as to the possibilities of Japanese surrender in view of the larger (though still negligible) numbers of prisoners we are taking; it is still unfounded optimism to think in terms of anything but a long and bitter infantry war to close out the

Japanese affair. I haven't heard of any Japs surrendering on the bypassed islands from Bougainville and New Guinea to Marcus and Truk. The results on the question of Trusteeship which came out of San Francisco were general enough in nature to be satisfactory to all concerned; some such declaration and section of the Charter was necessary; it remains to be seen how great will be the effectiveness of the proposed administrative handling of complaints. In any case, the first step of recognition of the problem has been made and a generally applicable rule has been set down. To my mind the best may well come in any complaint against the British Empire system. "Allon raises the question that the army big-wigs are trying to "bull" the service legislation through Congress; his complaint is that there is not clearly defined program on the docket. I certainly hope that he is wrong in his prediction that no action will be taken.

I think that the Truman recommendations on the succession problem were well made; I am a little rusty but it seems to me that an amendment to the Constitution would be the logical answer, although the Truman resolution might be adopted to fill the gap and to meet any new emergency. The Krock argument that the Truman plan would lead to better and more considerate judgment in the choice of a Speaker of the House was a good one.

OK for this afternoon; as I have written this two more letters came from home and there is one from Aunt Anne.

OK - All my love,

Gummy

Regards to Doris