

You might be interested to know that Nate Wolfe is using the clippings I give to him as the basis for his orientation talks. I have quite a waiting list for my clippings from the TIMES.
Dear Ones,

August 27th 1945

It is a fairly quiet Monday - at least the sun is out and it promises to be a bright day, if a little warm. Nothing special is going on. I am reading an excellent book and I would urge you to read it - Edgar Snow's "People on Our Side" - I would like to know what you think of it and of the arguments and facts which Snow presents. I have also started Ben Ames Williams' "Leave Her to Heaven". Yesterday afternoon a funny thing happened; I was reading with the radio on and I fell asleep; my first conscious impression was that I had heard someone say "Portland, Maine." I shook myself awake and realized that the news was on. I checked with the fellows but nobody had paid any attention to the news and I decided that it was just something on the radio that had sounded like Portland, Maine to me in my drowsiness. Then in this morning's news sheet there was an item about an Admiral dying on board his launch in Casco Bay - my faith in my hearing was reassured! I just wonder if it wasn't the mention of Portland that awakened me. This morning's news sheet also had an interview with Admiral Spruance in which he said that he didn't think we should hold Okinawa because it would be a "sore spot" and compared our holding it to having a string of islands off our coast held by another power. My godfrey - what kind of logic is that? Japan lost the war and we have sworn to contain her into her home islands - what if they are resentful over defeat and its consequences - that is but a part of the price they must pay. I wonder what made Spruance say a thing like that. American and perhaps Chinese trusteeship over the Ryukyus is the most logical thing in the world.

Mail today from Neil - Iwo Jima apparently took the surrender news in stride. I am going to have to write him a good long letter - he calls it hypocrisy for us to condone the war time decisions we make while condemning similar decisions made by the enemy; he takes an approach similar to the one which appeared in the Alumni Bulletin and which I criticized a few days ago in my note to you. Major Goodwin came up today from Headquarters of Base Command where he is now stationed; he is on an inspection jaunt. He is still the same. I tried to sound him out about what the future holds but it is clear that things are completely in the dark down there as they are up here and that everyone is waiting for declaration of war department policy and plans.

The Hildreth Veterans' Group seemed to run into snags from the very start; the charge of disproportionate representation of Cumberland County is not exactly fair because of the disproportionate importance of the Portland area - certainly though, Lewiston, Augusta, and Bangor areas deserve more than one or two members on any fair distribution by the Cumberland standard. It was interesting to note the CIO's clamor for recognition - the indications are that the CIO may well be one of the most vital forces in the State after the war. We heard last night that Rockefeller had bowed out of the State Department with the customary exchange of compliments and that Braden had been made co-ordinator of inter-American affairs; a more direct slap at the Peron-fascist forces in Argentina could not have been achieved. There are also indications that there are new developments in our policy toward Spain and in Russo-Chinese relations; the first signs are good and I hope that we continue our consistent evolution of progressive policies.

I was not surprised at the STATEVEPOST's seconding the Pegler interpretation of the current Elliott loan question. You know that I do not agree with the school of thought which sees in the story of the loan "the totalitarian phase of the New Deal" - the relationship of this affair to the judgment of the effectiveness, honesty, liberalism, greatness of the Roosevelt administration is still not clear to me. That does not mean that I think that the affair should not have been publicized - my point is simply that people with an anti-Roosevelt fixation twist its significance way out of its context.

That about does it for today; I am glad that you are learning to drive HB. The story of Teddy Perry was quite the stuff - I never did meet Norma, I don't believe. OK for now -

All my love,

Regards to Doris