

May 2, 1946

Dear ones -

It is 11 PM. but I don't want to drop you line. Tomorrow night I will spend in Washington and I don't know how regular my letter writing will be until I get back into the groove here on Monday & Tuesday. If I hear me, I'll get in rather late Monday morning - Today I heard from Bolton & glad to get your word, Daddy, and the reestablished idea of Bolton Street. I will investigate the scene picture fully before I make a decision - in fact I have written to some of the fellows who are out - Art Davis, Nate Wolfe - to see what they had to say about it. Two months from tomorrow is my "D" day - "D" for demobilization - I hope as I understand it. I got separated at Fort Meade and then got paid \$4 a mile to carry me back to Portland (a maybe Cambridge since that is where I enlisted.)

I went to services tonight and I plan to go every Thursday if possible. I was the only officer there - that reflects very poorly since there is a regular officer group here. It was well run service, the sermon was short - the whole thing took 45 minutes and was in good taste. Then we had a refreshment period - each week a Baltimore congregational auxiliary "cater" to the men here. All in all a pleasant evening. I see no reason why I can't take a fairly active roll while I am here - in fact, Ralph Arcech asked me to take over the services a couple of weeks hence.

We had a short discussion of the Anglo American report. Perhaps I am not a properly fervent Zionist and perhaps I have the wrong

approach, perhaps I am taking a short range view. perhaps I am unrealistic when I accuse others of lack of realism - but I feel that is a matter of immediately saving 100,000 lives: no other issues rank with that in importance. Jewish terrorist groups should melt away for the time being, violence must end to meet the basic conditions of international relations during the period of entry. Sure, Attlee is trying to dodge and weave his way out, and his conditions are what ~~could~~ were to be expected from a British Government - but what is the alternative to saving 100,000 lives?? What is the alternative to making Palestine an issue of international concern, action, and consideration?? I admit the threat of (British inspired?) Arab violence. I admit the probability that the U.S.A. will shy away from any commitment to enforce the commission's recommendations. I admit the intransigence of many Jewish groups, particularly the extremists, but so what?? How can world Zionism stand before the world and in public declaration refuse the mass if the current conditions are attached?

It seems to me that we are at a threshold: give every support and cooperation to joint Anglo-American programs to make the entrance of 100,000 a fait accompli. Then turn Palestine back onto Arab and Jewish veto the greatest commitment of the U.N. Zionism faces a test of its fundamental humanitarian validity.

O.K. for now - I could probably rant on for hours on this subject - in later letters I undoubtedly will -

All my love,

Sumner

Regards to Doris.