

24 May 1946, D-Day minus 40

Dear Helen Babsy -

Not much new - I am still sweating it out. Tomorrow I will have to pick the psychological moment and hit up the Captain at headquarters for the information on my request. Today I wrote to the Dean's Office at Harvard and this weekend I will dispatch all the required forms except the one for which I need a picture - I am hoping that airmail will come through with some regularity and that I will get the pictures from home... I am using airmail for everything and just hoping that it goes through. We did not receive any mail today. I am sending in my application for an absentee ballot on the official form today; I'll take care of the Reader's Digest too - I put in a good supply of Airmail stamps. Tonight I will send telegrams to Allentown, telling them that I will not be there - though I assume that they realize I couldn't possibly make any such trip.

Last night's services were pleasant; tonight I am going into town to have supper with the Avrechs. It should be pleasant. And a change from the helter-skelter of this place - you can well imagine that things are pretty well upset at best. One result of the disruption is that I hit duty officer for this Sunday instead of Monday - no real damage since I'm stuck here anyway.

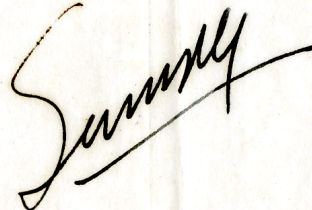
Now to get to your letter of Tuesday, Toots.... I'll be looking for the dope on the insurance. I'll make note of the various family events you mention. I have already discussed the various topics of Ruthie, New York, New Rochelle and what have you. I imagine that the strike will mean another delay before my footlocker arrives - I won't even contemplate a trip to Richmond until my summer uniform is available either through the arrival of the footlocker or through the purchase of another pair of pants. I hope that you are able to carry out your plans for Boston next weekend. The way I look at it, the rail strike simply cannot last more than ten days - by all the rules the country will be completely paralyzed by that time - we shall see..... I certainly don't know what the solution is, I'll admit that. As for the reserve in crises like this: joining the Reserve under current regulation bears no commitment - you can resign if the reserves are called up and you do not want to go. As I promised you before - I will not join the Reserve until I know all the conditions involved...

Thanx for your very complete report, Toots - I am glad that you are getting a little of that necessary - uh - balance in your program - more power and more good times to you. With regards to this Harvard business though - now that you are becoming more and more the young lady, I expect you to become more and more respectful of such true values as higher education in its finest form - need I say more??

That just about does it for tonight - I have to go up and wash and dress -

All my love,

Regards to Doris

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Sam", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.