

Wednesday

[11/8/44]

Dear Coz:

Being kept on the go so much made me sort of lose track of the fact that I owed you a letter, so here goes--

Norm left Monday morning for his six weeks trial run, so here I am manless for all that time, woe is me! Although he is gone for only a short time, I already miss him. But I guess that's to be expected.

As he will only be gone for that length of time I'm going to stay on here, after all time does pass even though sometimes it's very slowly. It would be rather foolish for me to come home and in six weeks come up again. My job keeps me busy during the day and the women on the floor where I live are a swell bunch and I have constant company in the evenings. Then too, there are always personal things to do, laundry, ironing, straightening the room, reading and even knitting. (I've started a sweater) So in all, I won't have too much time on my hands.

Felt so darned bad when I learned from Mom that Arno is going to be shipped. Everyone knows how lucky he has been to have been in the states for the length of time he has and so close to home, but somehow I wished it could have lasted. I know Mom is going to be so lonely for him even though he used to go in and out so much. At least she saw him often. Well, we're no better than anyone else and I know Arno feels the same. I'm just wondering whether they'll keep him in the band or have him transferred to another unit. Let me know if you hear anything, will you Mollye?

What will the girls group dance to now on Thursday nites? Juke box music?

Norm and I have really been having fun and I'm not kidding. Eating our favorite foods, chinese food and italian 'til it came out of our ears, going to see some good plays, movies and some good name bands. We've been spending money like a drunken sailor but it's worth it and we are still ahead. Norm gets clear about \$20.00 a month, I get my government check every two weeks, and the allotment check, so with all the running around, and spending we are saving.

How are Bess and Bob taking the baby's death? We're sort of sorry a thing like that had to happen to two swell people like them two, but both Norm and I felt it was a thing that happened for the best. Can't wait for Bess to have a little one again, both of them will make swell parents. Tell them that when we come home again which should be around Christmas, we'll stop in to see them.

Haven't heard a thing from Babe, but of course I didn't expect to, not even for another month. She must be so up in the clouds that it will take her another couple of weeks to return to normal. Wish she'd write as I'm so anxious to know how she made out and her reactions with Rosey. Also what she did while in New York. I'll just have to be patient until she can write to me.

Did you know that Jack is going to school to become a clerk? I'm so glad as perhaps they will keep him here in the states. From the sounds of things and the news from home he seems to have turned over a new leaf. I hope so as little Michael and Eva really deserve a break. Understand that he gets home quite often too. Makes it rather nice for Mom as she misses him so.

I'm still keen over getting those contact lenses and if I can wear them I'm getting them. But from the looks of things they'll have to wait until I get home again. Norm is so excited and thrilled for me, he's keeping his fingers crossed that I can wear them. The ironic part is that he won't be around to see them on me. Maybe, if Lady Luck is with us he may come back to the states sooner than the two years he expect to be away. I won't think too much on the subject, sort of makes me feel blue.

Getting a letter from you is a Y recorder in itself, know it Mollye? It's swell to be so well informed on our boys. Not being home now makes me appreciate all the news about them.

Frankly, though, I don't miss Wilmington much. Actually there's so little to do and places to go, but the family and friends I miss like all blazes. Get so homesick for them sometimes that I feel the urge to take the next train home.

Norm looks swell now, but I'm afraid when he comes back from the cruise he'll have lost all that weight he picked up. Loneliness really strips the weight off him and being with me these months, he never looked more fit in his life. I just wish you could of seen him. He looks so swell with his added weight, new mustache and his cute blue hat. Makes him look like a handsome French sailor. We took pictures just recently and although they didn't come out too clearly ask Mom to see them. Then you'll see what I mean.

So long for now. I won't expect to hear from you for a while as I know you have so darn much writing to do, but anyhow, write when you can find time.

Love

" Roz "

[Trachten]