

1st Regt R.C.A, Regimental H.Q.
C.A.O. C.M.F.
19 Jan 43.

Dear Harry and Esther: - Thanks ever so much for your swell joint letter. It was grand hearing from you personally. Ann, of course has kept me pretty well posted about you. But there's no substitute for letters from people themselves.

I was as surprised as you were to hear of Ann's stage prowess. If the Hollywood or New York scouts get after her, will you see that she gets a good manager to look after her contracts, Harry. He may ^{yet} not have to go on Relief after all, when I get back. Here in Italy the women do most of the work, and seem to thrive on it alright - but broadwise.

Glad to hear that you're feeling better now Esther. Judging from the snapshot of Billy which Ann sent me

some time ago, he already looks like somebody's big brother. He sure has grown since I last saw him. Here's hoping your blessed event turns out to be exactly that.

It is too bad about Howard isn't it? Say hello for me the next time you see them and please extend my best wishes for his early and complete recovery.

Things here with me are fine. Have been with this new unit some three months now and find them a pretty good bunch. We live surprisingly comfortably, considering we are camping out in winter climate. But the weather has been grand for the past two weeks or so, and with the few trimmings which we have, in the way of conveniences such as electricity from batteries, heat from a coal & oil stove, and an

officers mess on wheels, we manage very well. Right at this moment I am sitting here in the mess, at a real table, warm as toast, and listening to a radio news broadcast. It is very interesting to hear what these newscasts have to say about the news which is being made out here. The Russo-Polish relationships seem to be figuring quite a bit in the reports these days. Those Russians are still being very difficult allies, aren't they? In spite of the fact that they profess to be in full accord with us and ^{fully} satisfied with our efforts, they seem to act as though ~~they~~ the defeating of Germany is all their doing, and the shaping of post-war Europe should therefore be their prerogative, chiefly. I'm afraid we're going to have trouble

with them.

Well, thanks again for your letter, folks. And don't be afraid to get the habit. Regards to all our friends.

Sincerely

Loe

P.S. Sorry to have to be writing by surface mail but we are rationed for air-letter forms — 1 per week now — and the airgraph hardly gives one room enough.

On Active Service

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