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BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION

VIA AIRMAIL ★ PAR AVION ★ CORREO AEREO

5608 Queen Mary Rd.  
Apr. 5/56.

Dearest Mary Sayre - Your lovely birthday, Easter personal letter arrived this morning and you were very sweet to write what was in your thoughts. I think you are wonderful that way - your Christmas letter and this one were both so beautifully expressed and so heart warming. I think all <sup>of us</sup> have felt as you do about home and parents but few of us have the out-giving-ness to sit down and express it (I am sure I never did though I often felt that I hoped Mother realized how I felt). It gives me the greatest pleasure that I have been able to give you some of the wonderful things that were Grannies, for they really came from her. Thank you dear - from the bottom of my bursting with love heart (though I don't deserve half the things you credit me with!)

I think you would be very wise to move in with Sheila Rogers - It sounds like an ideal arrangement and I have

never felt that you & Thorney were the same breed of cats. Speaking of Thorney you didn't mention the twin sweaters that I sent to her to take to you for Easter. While orlow - perhaps they didn't reach her but we insured the parcel so please let me know.

Jim was home for Easter & we had the Tremains, Babby & Diane & Mary H. for dinner - I made one of my Easter egg cakes and I had the China hen in the middle of the table, sitting in a nest of yellow & green cellophane & I found the cutest little bags made of white net with rooster heads, feather tails & yellow wire feet. They were supposed to be for jelly beans . I partly stuffed them with cotton batten & then put a handkerchief in each & put pale green pull ribbons on them, & tucked them all around the big hen in the cellophane. It looked awfully cute & everyone seemed to enjoy it.

This morning Mrs Rigby & I finished

house cleaning your room & it looks all  
rice & starchy & sun shiney (dont get too  
homesick). I know how you feel dear -  
but if you can live with someone who  
talks the same language & is congenial  
& the rice weather comes, I think you  
will be happy even though you long  
to see 5608 - However I say again - dont feel  
you have to stay just because we plan to  
go over - we long to see you & to have you  
at home - when ever you feel like tossing it  
out the window then come home by all  
means and we certainly won't be critical.

I think your time away has been  
wonderful experience for you - you have learned  
a great deal both in your work and in  
your heart and mind but as Dad said to  
me when I was teaching at Bennett. "how  
we know you can earn your own living  
and be independent, come on home!"

All my love darling & thank you  
again - your Mum.

Mar. 27/55  
5608 Club.

Dearest Mary Fayer: Thank you so much for the birthday card which arrived yesterday - I think you were wonderful to find such an apt one, particularly in England, where cards are so different from ours. Daddy loved his too.

I am so glad that Thorney is with you & that life will be more pleasant now, after working hours. We were also very pleased to hear about your new job. Two of the nurses I had, while in Hospital, had worked in Paddington Gen. and said it was excellent. One also had a sister who was a physio & had worked there too & liked it. I think your work sounds terrific & you should acquire wonderful experience.

We are anxious to hear all about your visit to Knepp and of course also to the Redstones. I hope you can get someone to take some ordinary snaps - not coloured slides, of all of you so that I can see

what Vicki & Roger look like now. It will be fun getting to know Roger again and I am sure you will have a good time. Give them all my best love.

You will have a grand time at the Manuels. We have sent off a pair of cuff links to Jim to commemorate the big day. If he wants to have a crest or anything put on the other side that is O.K. with us.

Jim was home this week-end again. He will be lost when Mary goes abroad.

We had the Macklem Clan, Ann Rainnie, Sally Macdonald & Bill here on Sunday all looking forward to clean up weekend but the Macklems say they are going to retaliate when they get into their house!

Do try to make arrangements through Canada House, to be present at one of the Garden Parties. It would be such a shame to be there and not take that in. Now DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT. DONT PUT IT OFF!!

We asked Gay & Frances for Sunday but Gay was working & Frances Skinned

apparently the skiing is still wonderful.

The snow here is still as high as the hedge on the Ellerdale side so Reaven knows when we will get into the garden. I have started my begonias down in the basement so that is at least something to work on.

Kay Lindsay's picture with her fiancee were in the Gazette but as you get it (I don't know who sent it to you) you will see it.

Spoke to Ted on the phone the other night - he said things were going a little better. Crazy youngster - played hockey - couldn't resist it - sprained an ankle again!

Loads of love dear & a Happy Easter to everyone -

Mum.

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25 Mar 52.

Hi Maffers:-

Thanks for your letter. This is a short one in return with two objects.

1. Primarily I just want to tell the gang at 5608 about our course performances which we got today. I haven't got time to go into the details of it now, but civil engineering seems to offer more of what I want than mechanical. Dad will probably like this idea, but it's closer to what I want and I reckon I'll take it.

2. This matter is about the back. From Dad's letter which I received today I can see the opposition you are running into. My interpretation of his attitude is that I may need some treatment in Montreal and as it would be best to find my summer work in the city. Well it seems that we don't see eye to eye on the matter. I've spoken in my letters to Mum and Dad of how much it bothers me and how much it is interfering with studies. It may even seem overdone, but what I've been trying to put across is that I just can't wait to get somewhere else and get something done about this thing! - I'll tell you how badly it is and then I won't mention it anymore. You can keep it to yourself or let Mum and Dad

know. At present my activities consist  
of walking a few hundred yards a day &  
from classes. — I go up and down stairs and I  
study. Yet the back is paining continually. At  
night it goes up & down as I breath. Russ  
Black says to stop breathing! In the morning  
I sort of drag myself out and after loosening  
the joints it is OK. Sometimes I can only  
stop the pain when walking by going into a  
limp. When I'm sitting its' OK if I've got  
something to attract me. but when the escape  
is gone, the back returns. We saw a movie  
this aft and I forgot it completely until the  
lights went on and there it was! If its' this  
sore working this way — how does Dad ex-  
pect me to work! What I'm trying to say is  
that I won't be working until we get this  
fixed and now (April 26) is the time.

The military authorities have been  
ticking it around at a great rate — from June  
to July to September to February to March and now  
they say that since it was not caused while  
on duty they won't handle it! (Although  
they nearly sent me to Toronto on March 6)  
After being passed around in a game of  
pass the buck — and you come home  
and give them the straight goods, you  
expect the straight goods back plus action

and action is something 5608 doesn't seem  
to offer at this point!

Last year I was down as having above  
average O.L.Q.'s (Officer like Qualities) — With  
all this humble "Knock Doc — I've got an  
ache here," — "Sir, About summer training....  
perhaps if we took the summer off! — or "the  
situation has deteriorated...." — they're getting  
a new opinion of the fella who was out in  
front last year. — First impressions are  
lasting ones — until they're changed — and it's  
even harder to change them back again! Dad  
has aspirations of seeing me carrying a few  
bars around in a couple of years, but for the  
last year I've been able to do little about  
it. I haven't had a rifle on my shoulder  
or carried out duties since last fall. How  
can I stand out in the class while on light  
duty!!!! How do they assess your leadership  
qualities when you're in bed? i.e. Under the  
present circumstances I'm not able to put my  
best into or get the most out of R.H.C.  
Let's get this changed.

The boys of R.C.H.C hit Borden on  
April 26<sup>th</sup>. This will give them a great sum-  
mer and I certainly wish I was with  
them working for an appointment in Europe  
next year. But no — I can't go. I've got a

more back fella's! Sorry, & maybe some other time! — So I look like a shiner & many figure so. So we get out an act and be aggressive and use our initiative and drive it. But where do we wind up — in bed — "killing the fit?" — Yip — "Lead-swingin', eye?" — Nothing more valuable than a good sense of humor, but my patience is running out.

I'm not going to go so far as to design a satire on it, or insist on treatment and attention. But I'm not prepared to put it off any longer, — no more of this "wait and see" stuff. We've been waiting and now we're seeing — let's conquer!

This may seem like a very one-sided argument and it may give the impression that we're all worked up emotionally. But every bit of it is the truth and you are my medium to Mum and Dad who are the saviors of my problems. So do what you can please, Sis, and come the 26<sup>th</sup> we can begin to get back on the right road. In the meantime we'll do all we can to get the exams so we can enter third year in September 1952 or 1953.

Regards to your Bob,

Regards from Ellen, — Love to ya Sis.

Jim.

PS: - This won't mean removal from LTHC — make it clear to Dad — It may mean only a year off — but that all — If we get better!

Sunday Night.

Hi Sis : -

Thanks for your letter - and by the way I'm looking so I won't bother reading it over. Unfortunately my writing is not its worst tonight and so the letter won't be up to par!

Did you take the typewriter up to Harris or wherever you were when you wrote the letter !?!

THANK YOU 1,000,000,000. - - - TIMES FOR THE BEEOOTIFUL SWEATER. ~~It~~ Really it was wonderful and it took me two whole nights to show it to everyone in the hut. Thanks very much Sis - it was & is great. — I still think you could have kept it till September and made it count for two birthdays! — Well, I suppose it does anyway, aye? — De agrees.

I think Bob omitted to tell you where I was going on the train. After the weekend in London I can see I was warped (mind) on to Mary as there were no others around! — On the other hand she certainly was a wonderful dancer and we had a great time!

Haven't had any word from Ellen for 10 days and am hoping to get instructions on how to get from A to B soon.

Hope to have a good time and am sure  
I will — Ellen says that parents say we're  
(you & I) are so nice that she's  
going to be traded in for a new model!

Did "Terri" Prentiss ever phone?

Having a good time on the weekends  
here, but don't do enough to justify the  
time wasted. Haven't been to any dances  
recently, but have found a dandy at the  
swimming pool — now we have to get an  
introduction!

Went to see "½ Angel" and "Strangers  
on a train" recently. Both were pretty good.

Had a squadron stay last week. Everyone  
got coked but about eight. — Had only 1 keg.  
Was transportation representative and had to  
make sure all got home! NMF — (Not  
much fun.)

Bye for now. Best luck in the Physics  
and thanks again for the sweater, Sis.

Your old drinking friend,  
Ginger Jim.

PS — Sorry I won't be home <sup>working & going with</sup>  
<sup>Wednesday night</sup>  
<sup>Friday night</sup>  
<sup>Saturday night</sup>