

13 December 1944

Dearest Susie,

You'll never guess whose office I am working in this week - Lt. Col. Potter - remember him? It's all very confusing the way I got here. You see, I no longer work in the Orderly Room. About three weeks ago I was transferred to Special Services. Unbelievable though it seems, it all came about as the result of a visit from the Reclassification Board from Boston. They didn't like it that I graduated from Special School (forgot Services - please add in its proper place.) and wasn't in that line. So - for once they did something about it. Well, this week Col. Potter's secretary is on vacation, so he borrowed me from Capt. McDonough. What a Colonel wants, a Captain grants, and here I am. Spending most of my week catching up on my correspondence - which really isn't such a bad idea as I am months behind in it.

How are things coming for you girls? I hope you like your work, etc., better than you seemed to at first. Those were mighty good pictures of you in the paper. We had them pinned up all over the dayroom bulletin board. Do you mind being pin-up girls?

I enjoy working in Special Services, though it seems I never have any time to call my own. Nights when other people are off-duty is when we are the busiest. I am in the shows and entertainment end of the thing. I've been helping (?) Fran in the Arts and Crafts shop, too, though I was doing that while still in the Orderly Room. Its very interesting work, and I like the people I work with. So, all in all, I'm satisfied.

Our company is still expanding - more new people every time you look around. It's terrific! And now we are all lit up like a Christmas tree. They have huge lights off the sides of each barracks, that really light the place up. We also have an M.P. in the dayroom all night long, and new front doors that won't let anyone in unless the door is opened from the inside. So, we haven't been having any trouble with prowlers lately.

The negro is far from becoming less of a problem. I very seldom leave the post unless I am with a man because the busses are crowded with negroes. And if you "discriminate" against them in any way, it's just too bad. Estes is bending over backwards to see that they are treated right, and it's gotten to the point where they are "cock o'the walk", and know it. I never disliked negroes before, but it is getting so I feel an actual physical repulsion every time I see one. How I wish they would go away!

Sgt. Harris, Angie, Charlotte, And Cheney are still on the job in the Orderly Room. I guess Sgt. Harris and Cheney are going slightly balmy since I left, as they haven't anyone to replace me. And though it is an easy job when there are

two people in the Orderly Room, it is too much for just one person. Poor Ruth!

I haven't seen Doris for ages and ages, so I am not up on what is what in Civilian Personnel. I was supposed to go over to her house for dinner tomorrow, but had to cancel it as we are putting on a show for the Fort Devens Square Club. I've always wondered what that was - now is my chance to find out.

Do you think you will get home for Christmas? The fifteen-day restriction was lifted for over the holidays, and the kids can get seven day furloughs if it won't make their total furlough time for the year more than thirty days. So quite a few of the girls are going home. I can't get released from my office, so I will just stay put.

It's bitter cold today. Winter is really here, I'm afraid, and it promises to be a cold one. How I hate cold weather. Think I'll see Estes about a transfer to Florida. I'm sure he'd be happy to oblige.

I'm afraid I don't know much gossip - I'm hardly around the company enough to know what is going on. I did hear that Lerma and Lemons are getting their discharges, and that Georgina Erno will be getting one too - same reason! Viddy, viddy interesting!

I hope you have a nice Christmas, and have fun! Say hello to Bette and Iris for me. And give them my best wishes for a happy holiday season, please.

Love,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Flo', written in a cursive style.