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My dearest:

The missing letter finally arrived... was written on Jan 16... my birthday... and got here today.. reason... "received in bad condition at San Francisco."... I know you went to save postage, but please do not use those ultra-thin envelopes as several have been badly torn, and this one was held up while it was being patched together. Thanks for the check... will have another one coming soon for December copy, if I ever get it. I need it, as you know and that much money is a lot out here, believe me.

Also glad to know you got the Christmas box at last. I had assum&d so because of Ann's letter, but could not understand why you did not acknowledge it... this being so far away is the very devil in some ways.. you get to thinking all sorts of things... don't we: will try and get shirts for the girls.. but as I told you they are expensive.

Have been out all day on a detail with a bunch of GIs... and being out in the air and wind all day made me plenty sleepy tonight... have several days of that type of manual labor ahead, and will also get a certain amount of outdoor training in the days to come. Hope to become hard as nails 'ere long.

One radio broadcast today said the Russians have taken a section of Germany containing a group of American prisoners... as I understand it there were many in north west Germany... Eloise writes.. in the first word I have heard in some time... "it shouldn't be long until Doug is home... so I wonder how he's going to feel toward me now... I know this --- if he still wants me he's gonna have me... I know he'll need a lot of rehabilitation and I'm gonna give him part of it." From this you can see that things are working out for her, the way they should.

Please send me 116 or 616 film if you can possibly find any... you don't have time to shop, but if you run across any please mail it. Also, send Bob Metter's address.. if you possibly think of it.

The other day I went to see Merritt Norris, one of the Airtemp boys, who is in the big hospital here on post. He looks good, considering, and I hope

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to be able to get transportation long enough to take him for a little ride around the island soon.

Am sleeping in my new BOQ tonight.. all fulla strange officers... but the Chaplain, who lives in the honse, is a marvelous guy. I am the only Red Cross man in this particular house.

Must to bed darling... my GIs will be waiting in the morning with their truck... at the crack of dawn... all my love to all of you,

Good morning....here we go again... with the GIs... more soon....