

December 31, 1942.

Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt,  
President of the United States,  
The White House,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

This is the first letter I have attempted to write since arriving home last night from England. Incidentally, I returned by one of our Allies' fast ships unescorted and had the pleasure of coming over with Ambassador Winant and Admiral Stark - two very fine, capable men, who are doing a grand job for our country and Great Britain.

As a matter of fact, I want to congratulate you as well as the citizenship of America on the fine, capable representatives we have on the other side. This applies without exception all the way down the line in every department with which I came in contact, from the privates all the way up the ranks to the tops in the Army and in the Air Corps. They were all pepped up and imbued with but one spirit and that is to win the war as quickly as possible. During my twelve weeks stay in Northern Ireland, Scotland and England, I do not recall a single solitary complaint from either our own contingent over there or from the British. They are thoroughly schooled in discipline and self-sacrifice. In reality, they were an inspiration and I only wish we could have our entire citizenship encounter conditions as they exist over there for a short time. I feel quite sure they would return home imbued with a more patriotic spirit (if that be possible). At least, they would hesitate before complaining about conditions confronting us at home.

"Mr. Average Citizen" in Great Britain does not worry about gas rationing. They are not permitted to have automobiles and have no use for "Petrol", as they call it. The New Yorkers seem to think that the city is rather dull in the evening on account of the "blackouts". After my stay in England, New York looks like Cony Island in all its night splendor. In fact, everything over here looked so good to me that I even felt no resentment in



passing through Dallas. I made my mind up definitely when I arrived home to be more tolerant. (maybe it would be a good thing for us to send our constant complainers over there for a spell.) From now on, when I find anyone complaining, I am going to use a very old story to illustrate their conditions:

"A man gave a friend a cigar. The friend complained about the quality of the cigar. the donor exclaimed in indignation, "You think it is a bad cigar! What are you complaining about? You only have one and I have a box full!"

That story is thoroughly applicable to Great Britain and America at this time, even though I am not unmindful of the casualty list and the fact that the shoe will continue to pinch more so as we go along.

Some of these things, I indicated in my broadcast from London, November 22nd., over BBC at which time I paid my respects and admiration to both you and Prime Minister Churchill. Incidentally, I had a very pleasant visit with Messrs. Churchill, Eden and Bracken. I, also, had a nice visit with Elliott and had an opportunity to see Amon Junior several times. He is now in his glory in the country where General Eisenhower is operating, which naturally brings the war and its outcome close to my heart, the same as it does to hundreds of thousands of other fathers and mothers throughout the country.

Here I go, as usual, with a longer letter than I should burden you with when your precious time is so limited. In a number of instances, during my trip I was the beneficiary of courtesies of the American Government as well as the British. I tried to show my appreciation to the British through contributions to their Seaman's Fund on my return. I will feel a lot better by, in some way, trying to reimburse our Government and I know of no better way than through some worthy charity. Under the circumstances, I am enclosing, herewith, a check for \$1,000.00 payable to the Warm Springs Foundation Fund with the hope that they will be able to use it in carrying out the great humanitarian program of which you are the originator.



With this check goes my very best wishes to you, Mrs. Roosevelt and your family for better and happier conditions during the coming year. I trust the Almighty will watch over you and lend you the strength to carry through the program which you now have well under way.

Most sincerely,

AGC.KD

W. I. Carey.