

24th May.

Lt A. Rabier S.R. 648

F.A.A. Sqdn, R.A.F. Station
St. Eval, Cornwall.

Dear Uncle Brian & Berty,

I left Stornoway three weeks ago. We were at Thorney Island for one week before coming here. We flew all the way which has helped my flying hours to date. I had a good trip after my leave from Donibristle to Stornoway in a Fleet Air Arm "Flying-boat + land-plane" (and amphibian). I made my first water landing at a sea plane base on the west coast of Scotland where we stopped for dinner (but had none). We are billeted out here and have our meals with other R.A.F. A.C.'s in a hotel next door. This is due to the several blights the aerodrome suffers. I had my worst blight the night we arrived. It lasted all night and only finished in the early morning. It really shook me up for days. Since coming to the south I have made a few trips over the invasion ports. I watch for night fighters with great interest. We are due to land on our carrier tomorrow but this won't be so as certain events have altered the squadron's plans. We may go at a later date. The loss of one of our Battle Cruisers the Hood is bad news, perhaps you know she was the biggest warship afloat.

How are things at home? I expect the rationing is very tight. Did John get his week's leave?

Although we are standing by the whole day sometimes we do get opportunities to enjoy our surroundings. The house and hotel face the bay. There is a grand ~~sea~~ sand beach. ~~where~~ I have had one bath so far which was exceedingly chilly. We collected a bucket of mussels

+ cochels the other day. Perhaps they are an acquired taste for it was the first time I knowingly tasted them, and they tasted terribly, in spite of lots of vinegar. I have been to Newquay once. It's and evacuation town for the district. I could do with a tuck box of some description if it's not difficult to get. I am due for a trip over the channel now so will leave this brief letter.

yours affectionately
Cery.

P.S. If I am taken prisoner of war, or missing, or killed, you will have a letter from our C.O. of the regt. addressed to ~~my~~ Mother. Of course you will have to reply to this explaining my mother is ill and saying that you will pass the message to her. I thought you had better know the procedure but there is no need for anxiety.

C.F.