

9/0 S. S. Granger,
46, Stream Road,
Edinburgh, 9,
Scotland.

26th November.

Dear Mr. Brittain,

I thought I'd just enclose
these few lines with the card to wish you
all the very best for Christmas and the
new year, and also to let you know what
we've been doing with ourselves for the last
few months.

At the moment I'm down at Birmingham
in the middle of England. We've been here

about eight weeks now. The place we're
at is the Birmingham Civil Airport and
it's quite a nice place and fitted out
very well. The R.A.F. took it over at the
beginning of the war and are still hanging
on to it. The weather has been so
curful that we've hardly done any flying at
all since we've been here. We done 14
hours in eight weeks! - I think that's what

Scoialand.

SCOTLAND,
BIRMINGHAM,
46, STREAM ROAD,
EDINBURGH, 9,

From - G. D. G. B.



we mice went in the flying line - the ideal weather of Florida. We could reckon on a decent flying down nearly every day out there, but here we have to scratch around now or no when the weather breaks a bit. - the worst thing is fog, we're usually bogged in nearly every morning.

We've all got rather split up since we've been back in this country. All the officers come down here, but since there a lot of them have been posted elsewhere. There's about six of the old course 23 class here with me - including Alex Baker, Dave Canning, more here to begin with, but he was one of the unlucky ones who were taken off flying, and now he's wallowing in the doubtful joys of an equipment officer's course. I don't think he likes it very much at all. I haven't come across Frank Foster (Sleepy Jack!) since I've

been back, but I've heard from various people that he's doing the same as we are at an aerodrome near Kinston - about 50 miles East of us. All the rest of course 23 are scattered about the country in various places, about half are on flying duties and the rest are doing various ground jobs ranging from Flying Center officers & and Duty Pilots to P.T. instructors and clerks! I'm considering myself fairly lucky that I'm still doing a spot of flying - even though it is a very small spot!

Britain seems to be staggering back to her feet again after the war. It's a very slow business though. Bits of things are still as scarce as ever - some even scarcer than during the war. A lot of the stuff is going over to Europe and the little hundred and $\frac{1}{2}$ one countries just seem to be just about starving! I don't profess

to agree with this policy or disagree with it, but it certainly seems to make a difference to our country. The steps are taken now? — very pathetic now that Christmas is getting near. They all look very Christmassy with decorations and wear Christmas "propaganda": - but they've got very little to sell at all!! — gone, I seem to be painting a very bleak picture of life in Britain don't I? — I'll be amazed for spreading alarm and dependency or something! Actually it is not as bad as it might seem. — We're managing to exist which is the main thing!! I'm looking forward to being home for Christmas this time. The last two years I've spent Christmas away from home. All our family seem to be able to be home too. It's about the first time since the beginning of the war? I've been wondering what you are

doing with yourself now that Riddle Field has closed down. Are you back in Brooklyn now? — I'll send this letter to you home address and no doubt it'll reach you eventually. I believe there was quite a "do" when the field was won't there? We had a letter from Mr. Mr. Smith in Palm Beach telling us all about it. Alex Eaton met King Commander Lindsey when he was up in London a few weeks ago. He has apparently got a staff job at Air Ministry now. I've not come across any of the 24 course charts yet, but I believe some of them are knocking around and one or two of our charts have met them. There were quite a difference of opinions among us as to whether 24 courses had graduated or not when the field closed, and we weren't

very certainly at all until we got Mrs. Mc-
Smith's letter.

We've been swapping our training experience
with some of the other chaps who trained in
Canada, S. Africa and Rhodesia, and I
think we all agree that those of us
who were fortunate enough to do our
training in the States had the best time
of the whole lot. We wouldn't have
missed it for anything. - We're beginning
to miss that Florida "winter" right now!!
It's beginning to get jolly cold and dreary
right now - something Florida hasn't the
faintest notion of. - But I'm glad we came
back here in the middle of summer and
not now! We did at least have time
to accustom ourselves gradually to this
unique Boston climate!

Well, I'll stop now and once again wish
you all the very best of luck for Christmas
and the New Year and hope to hear from
you sometime, wherever you may be or what-
ever you may be doing! *goergenigen (Gerry)*

HAPPINESS
at CHRISTMASTIME
Joy the New Year
through

and may the best of everything

ALWAYS
COME TO YOU!

Best wishes

Grace D. Grainger