

Orinda Cal
Jan 8, 1941

Dear Mammie -

Yours Jan 2, at hand. Yes so please continue to send mail here until further notice. I'm still in the doldrums and don't know what to do with myself. It seemed a bright idea with the army practically on my door steps, to spend a little time sketching them so I got a permit from infantry headquarters to do so. When I tried to use said permit on heavy artillery it didn't work. This morning I received a "Call to Artists" from Office of Emergency Management - to submit sketches of local defense operations, so I started off boldly again to draw infantry machine guns on the hills. This time I was told that my permit had been temporarily suspended. - So it goes - or doesn't.

Last Friday I drove with Santa Maria friends to Santa Barbara, and had a too brief visit with Mrs Seymour. She & Mam leave this week for a month on the Mojave' desert & then motor East - tires or no tires! I've heard nothing from the Ranch to which I am waiting to be invited. It's quite boring this in decision and right now I'd jump at any artist Emergency job if I knew where it was. However you'll probably find me for some time not too far from Orinda.

I did get your telegram greetings and enjoyed Xmas as much as possible - two dinners one in Ocean and one in Santa Maria, and more of the same on the following Sunday. New Years was spent at home alone in a deluge of rain, with just the cats to entertain me.

Weather has been exceptionally cold for these parts, beyond that no news.

Love,
Tom