

26 Dec 44
13 Can Gen Hosp
C. A. O.

Dear Folks:

Well Christmas is all over
you it just finished half
an hour ago. And what
a Christmas, it sure was
swell. I'll try to tell you
about it.

To start with every night
last week they had either
a concert or Carol singers
to entertain the boys. Then
Sunday we staid up
and went to church.
It was lovely, they had
a grand choir. We are
so lucky in that one
of the boys who work

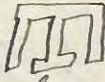
in the lab. ^{IV} used to be an
organist in a large church
in Toronto so he looks
after the music end well.
Well, Sunday night was
Christmas eve so I told
the boys they could stay
up as late as they liked
so a lot went to midnight
mass. Maybe I've told
you before that my ward
is A. Ward so therefore
everyone seems to drop
in there. So my orderlies
and I got stuff out of our
parcels and I got coffee (it
isn't rationed over here) and
we started serving lunch
at 11 o'clock and we had
continual callers and so

lunch went on ^{III} until four
thirty in the morning.
Oh! what fun. None of us
even thought of taking
any hours off to sleep.
I never saw so much
mistake and such good
use made of it. ha! ha!
But honestly they seemed
to get such a kick out of
the fact that on Christmas
they could kiss a sister
where usually they couldn't
even stop and talk.

Well after breakfast Barb
and I went to our rooms
and opened our presents.
Gee folks your parcel sure
was swell. The lipstick
powder & cream & soap were

just lovely, ^{the} the very nicest
kind and just what I
needed. And Mum you
didn't forget that I like
straight slips, it fits
perfectly and I was thinking
that I'd have to get a new
one soon. Also did you
know that we are only
supposed to use white
handkerchiefs, well if you
didn't know you certainly
struck it right. And the
woollen shirt, did I ever
laugh when I saw it
but they tell me I'll be
real glad of it before this
is over. Altogether it just
hit the spot. I thanked

you for the Feats before
didn't I. I also got a lovely
compact from Barb and
chocolates from Laura &
Muriel Eames, and a box
of candy, cake etc from
Clark and a box of all
kinds of eats from the
Alumnae & eats from
Burnstown womens institute.
Oh I sure was a lucky
girl. Oh yes I also got
your letter Mother written
on Dec 18th lucky eh!
Well then we didn't feel
like going to bed so we
just fooled around till
dinner time. At dinner
time the nursing sisters
served the patients and

did the dishes while the
officers served the men
and did the dishes. Then
we all met (officers & nurses)
in the mess at two o'clock
and had a cocktail party,
"sherry" was served and
at 2:30 we started our dinner.
There were approximately
60 nurses and 30 officers
we sat at a table shaped
like this . We started
off with tomato juice,
then had turkey & duck,
dressing, potatoes, grapepear
carrots & apple jelly. Then we
had plum pudding with
hard sauce. Then we drank
a toast to the king, then

had our coffee and stuffed
dates and nuts and Canadian
apples. We all had the
same patients, personell &
officers. We weren't finished
dinner until 4.30. And then
Santa came. We had drawn
names to give presents not
more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ ^{app.} (60¢). He was
one of the officers and was
he ever funny. It took
until 6 o'clock to get that
finished and then people
who were going to entertain
the patients later in the
evening. came in and
entertained us until 7 o'clock
after which they were going

to have a ^{buffet} supper
and dance but I came
on duty instead. And
to night was Christmas
night so I just let the
boys do as they please
you know they do obey
you a lot better if you
let them have their fling
on special occasions.

The wards and mess etc
were all beautifully decorated
this wonderful having
all the holly you could use
Well folks don't you
think it was a pretty swell
Christmas. I do. Of course
there was no snow but
in the morning when we

stepped outside ^{XI} the ground
was almost white with
frost. nice of it wasn't it.
The patients were each
given a Christmas stocking
by the red cross containing
cigarettes, nuts, tooth paste
etc. Also Christmas
morning one of the sergeants
was dressed as Santa
and pulled all around
the wards on a big wagon
giving each patient ~~a~~
another Christmas stocking
Al together I think we were
very lucky when I think
of the kids overseas and
in the air force. The plains
just droned overhead
all afternoon.

Well I must drop Eileen a
letter and thank her for
her wonderful parcel.

I do hope you folks have
had a nice Christmas
and a nice Christmas
holiday.

I expect to leave for
Ireland on Friday I hope!
I hope!

Love
Mona.