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3 Centurion Drive, Okeola.

Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> 1940.

Dear Susan & Geoffrey. No letter this week,  
& there does not seem to be except war  
news, & that has been not too good this week,  
& we have to carry gas masks about with us

Bar has a search light in the field by  
her house & a sentry on duty all night,  
& a van with engine running to supply  
the electricity for the light! The country  
is so lovely & the gardens full of flowers -  
I have so many lilies of the valley & also  
blue bells (wild hyacinths) I shall have to  
dig a lot of them up. We are having lovely  
weather except Wednesday when it  
was very dark & there was pouring rain -  
& of course that was the day the sweep  
came! But it did not matter except to  
him - he comes in a small & ramshackle  
car & as petrol is limited he has to place  
to do chimneys in the same district

every day, he left one tree root in a tub  
in the garden - quite a lot - it is good for  
the plants & slugs are supposed not  
to like it. I am thankful to say I have  
finished spring cleaning & except a  
few scattered jobs - it has been rather  
a strenuous time & today I have been  
gardening for everything has sprung up  
especially weeds & I hope to continue on  
Monday. Tomorrow Barbara & Harold  
are going to Southport for the day to see  
Mr. & Mrs. Mills they will take Geoffrey  
with them but they will leave Baby  
for me to look after. This week while I  
have been so busy first Auntie G. would  
come with some cold lamb & meat sauce  
for my dinner & then another day Dad  
arrived bringing also cold lamb - I  
felt quite like Elijah being fed by the  
ravens - for I don't spend much time  
considering about meals when I am busy.  
Harold's vegetables are coming up well

Their soil is sandy & things grow well.  
Mrs. Munnerley expects to be back home  
in about a week - she is now having  
treatment for the diabetes, she has been  
having insulin injections for some time.

We are expecting air raids any time now.

Sydney Nicholson is to be married on  
June 1<sup>st</sup>, his squadron has been moved to  
another aerodrome, but still in England.

Jack Rindley took my grass cutter to  
pieces & adjusted it so that it is now  
decidedly easier to push. It was very  
stiff.

Barbara said she would give  
me photos to enclose - it is the first  
time Baby has been taken. Dorothy  
is nursing again, the Dr. finds cases  
for her - not very long cases so that suits  
well. She will get over £2 per week, &  
everything found - washing included - that  
is usually the expensive item with a  
nurse - dresses, voluminous aprons (one

a day, belt, cuffs + caps. To say nothing  
of underclothing stockings handkerchiefs  
etc. Sunday I have just got back from Dad's  
Baby Elizabeth sound asleep. Geoffrey enjoyed his  
day out very much, they called at the Chettendons  
on their way home, they were mutually pleased  
to see each other. Dad sends you these photos,  
I am really not so fat as it appears. The dress is  
loose + the coat very loose. It is good of Dad + Geoffrey  
The larger photo of Baby is best - you can see  
the dimple she has when smiling, she moved  
her legs, they are never still - Geoffrey was  
very interested in the photos you sent. I  
had to explain these + then he said  
"Tell me again". It is a lovely day. Dreadful  
to think it is being misused to kill so many  
who have had nothing to do with causing a  
war. It is a very anxious time for everyone -  
Dora Jagger stayed at Auntie's Lashright, she is  
very worried at the prospect of having to accompany  
the children from her school in L'pool to safer area.  
Goodbye - with dear love from  
Your ever loving Mother -