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EXAMINED BY  
BASE 1560  
ARMY  
S

Miss Sally Doane  
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Stanton, Virginia  
U. S. A.

ARMY  
POSTAL SERVICE  
JUN 24  
1942

U.S. AIR MAIL  
6¢  
POSTAGE

56



AMERICAN RED CROSS

Somewhere in FRANCE

22 June '44

Hi, my Sally Gal!

I wish you could see this lovely country. It's sunshiny and warm, and the flowers are beautiful, particularly the poppies and foxglove.

The day we got here I found six little girls hiding from the Germans in a deep ditch with their old grandfather. He asked if they could come out now that "Les Americains" had arrived. I told him, he should stay in the big ditch.



✓  
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for a day or so until all the shelling and bombardment ceased. I then gave them a Baby Ruth candy bar ("bon-bon Americains") and a box of K-ration. And what do you think, the old grand père tried to kiss me on both cheeks! Was I embarrassed. The six little girls ranged from 3 to 11 years and when I came upon them in the ditch their eyes were big as saucers and just as blue as the sea.

I suppose I did frighten them, because we all had our guns and pistols out looking for <sup>an</sup> enemy machine



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gun that was firing on our boys on the beach. We probably looked pretty wild too, because we had our assault jackets, camouflaged helmets etc on, and we were still wet from <sup>the ocean</sup> and some were bleeding from wounds.

Soon they knew we were friends though and were most grateful for the food and candy.

I'm enclosing a dirty old shoulder patch which I tore off my jacket the other day before turning it in for salvage. I wore it in the invasion and for about fourteen days afterwards.

The Red Cross (No girls, just men!) gave all of us a little kit yesterday.





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containing a towel, a razor + blades,  
some toothpaste, a tooth brush, a  
bar of soap, and a clean handkerchief.  
And also a most useless thing for  
me --- a comb! Can you imagine?

Be a good, sweet girl. Do what  
your Mother tells you. If we ever  
stop long enough and I can find one,  
I'm going to send you a French rag  
doll, like the one one of the little  
girls had in the big ditch.

Every moment I think of you and  
your Mummy and say my prayers often  
to keep you safe until I come home.  
Give Rags and Fred a big kiss for me  
and tell them to take good care  
of you. I love you SO hard.

Love,  
Daddy