

356 WEST 22ND STREET

NEW YORK CITY

May 11th '42

My Darling Laurie:

Your letter and the
huge check - which I'd like
to send straight back to you.

Aw, Honey, why is it, when you're
such a marvelous artist + such
a d—d hard worker, that you
should have such an eternal
struggle making a living? It just
isn't fair!

But despite your first setbacks
in trying to get a war job, I can't
but feel you will get the breaks
soon.

And of course I know how a
feeling of indebtedness weighs

on one, even if it's between staunch friends,
so I'll let you send me this check,
if it makes you feel better, but you're
absolutely not to send me any more.
That's flat. Who knows but what that
other 100 might bring you East one
of these days? And what better
investment could I make than that?

Sorry so much of the farm has had
to go - but that East field facing
the sunsets is the choice lot, after
all.

Glad indeed that you've seen
Barbara, & gotten some photos of
at least one of the boys.

Me, I'm just beginning to come up
for air after an intense stretch of
work & agonizing thought ~~sp~~ over
this "Christ, the Light of the World"

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competition figure. Not that it's any where near finished yet, but I think that all the major problems are solved - & it's they that have been driving me wacky. Whew! What an undertaking - to try to interpret that Man!

Eliot - up here with some exquisite new aquatints (his latest experiment) - blew in today, & to my vast astonishment, liked my figure immensely - so maybe there's hope.

E. has been doing some fascinating work with the Camouflage Corps. He's so ingenious, he has all sort of new ideas, & many have been adopted. Not only for camouflage, but one rather terrific ~~new~~ idea

have some fun, after all. I don't know when I'll get away, if at all. Must get back to the memorial group as soon as Christmas is finished. Goodnight, dear, & many thanks for the check. ^{as Christine Brandie} for bombers, which has been accepted, & will soon be tried out. Maybe Train's firm will be incorporating it in their bombers!

Otherwise, not much news here except the usual. My evening class at the Beaux Arts has embarked on its final 4-week pose, & when that is over, no more teaching - praise be.

Did I tell you my fine Yommie got her Guggenheim renewed for a second year? I'm very proud of her. She's developing wonderfully.

Dad will be coming up soon, on his hopeful way to Maine - but I fear that cruising will be sharply curtailed along the Maine coast this summer, so he may not have much fun. Also there's the serious gas shortage here. People are selling their cars right & left - new ones for about \$50! But even Dad's motor boat now has sails - so he may