

A War Bride's Story

By Lacy Roberts

Lori Brix called our message line some months back to share her mother's marvelous story. Joan Greenham Showfety was a young woman when she met a young American soldier, stationed in England during World War II. They married, and in 1946, she crossed the Atlantic to join him in North Carolina. She was one of thousands of young women to arrive in the United States aboard the Queen Mary (and a few other ships commissioned by the US Army) to join their new husbands in the United States in the months following the end of the war.

When we wrote her to see if she had any images, she responded with a wonderful collection of images of her mother and documents from the Queen Mary.



“The newspaper clipping was taken on Joan’s first day in Greensboro, NC—her new home. She said they arrived in Greensboro from New York by train at about 2 in the morning. They went her husband’s brother and sister-in-laws, where they were going to live while they got settled in. Two of her sister-in-laws rustled her out of bed early the next morning to take her shopping. Everything she has on in the picture was purchased by her sister-in-laws so she would have something to wear to church on the following day.”

Joan Greenham Showfety, received this Order from the US Army at her home in England. She arrived in New York Harbor on March 1st 1946.



ENGLISH BRIDE—Shown here smiling approval at Greensboro is Mrs. William Showfety, who was Janet Greenham, of Middlesex, England, before her July 7 marriage to Mr. Showfety, back in September after duty with the signal corps in England. The former member of the woman's auxiliary air force and her husband are now with the Fred Showfetys on West Greenway. (Record staff photo.)

HEADQUARTERS
LONDON AREA OFFICE
THEATER SERVICE FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER
APO 413 US ARMY

AG 370.5 ROD- 5639

14 Jan 1946.

SUBJECT: Orders

TO : Civilians Named.

1. Under the provisions of WD Circular 245, dated 11 August 1945, the following named dependents of U.S. Servicemen, are, subject to passport and diplomatic clearance, authorized and invited to proceed from points indicated in the United Kingdom to destinations in the United States:

Mrs Eleanor Lilligan, wife of Pfc Carl E. Lilligan, 11027773, from 30 Stockport Road, Marple, Cheshire, to Rumford, Maine.

Mrs Joan Margaret Nelson, wife of S/Sgt John Frederick Nelson, 16915173, from 29 Pinsbury Park Road, London, N.4, to Chicago, 20, Illinois.

Mrs Joan Shonfety, wife of 1st Sgt William K. Shonfety, 34212132, from 165 Heath Road, Hounslow, Middlesex, to Greensboro, North Carolina.

Mrs Jean Ethel Penella Nigro, wife of T/4 Victor Nigro, 39530546, from 20 York Street, Stourport-on-Severn, Wores. to San Diego, California.

2. 200 lbs baggage allowance for adults and 50lbs for each child is authorized.

3. Travel by Army or Naval transport, rail and/or motor transportation is authorized.

4. TCNT. The cost of this travel is chargeable to 60-136, 500 F 431-01-02-03-07-08, & 212/60425.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL THIELER

J.H. Beardelli
J.H. BEARDELLI,
CWO, USA
Asst. G-5 PROVAL

DISTRIBUTION:

TAG.....2
T Sec (Pass Br)...42
Each wife...(10)
Dependents Branch.16
American Embassy...1
USFET (Main).....1

R E S T R I C T E D

A welcome note from the captain of the Queen Mary.



*Good Luck,
J. H. Bellhouse*

"QUEEN MARY"

I send you my best wishes for your happiness and good fortune in your new life in the great country of your adoption.

B. G. Simpson

Captain

CUNARD BUILDING,
PIER HEAD, LIVERPOOL

March, 1946

25, BROADWAY,
NEW YORK

R.M.S. "QUEEN MARY"

Tuesday, February 26, 1946

. Dinner .

Creme Argenteuil

Halibut en Souchet

or

Roast Vermont Turkey, Cranberry Sauce

Cauliflower, Mousseline

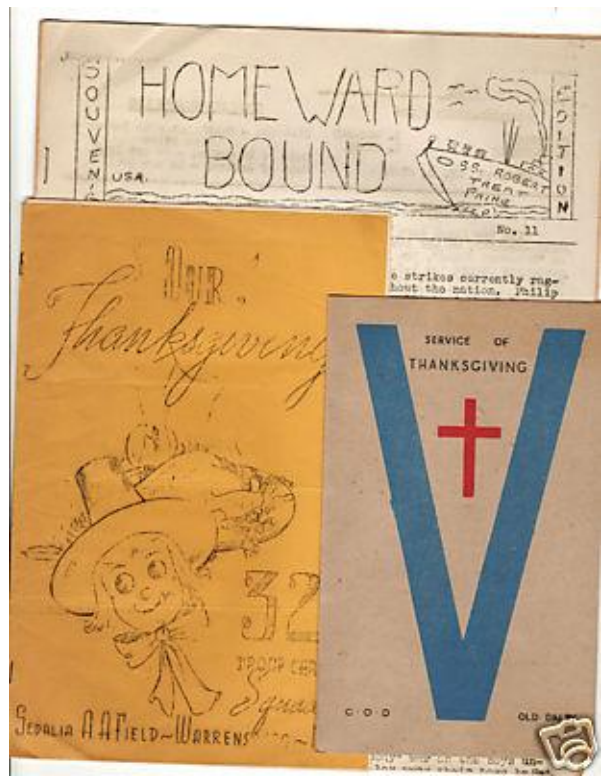
Boiled and Roast Potatoes

American Apple Pie

Ice Cream

Tea

Coffee



Other images found in the internet.