

*Placed on board Excambion*

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Lisbon, August 22, 1941.

Dear Dad:

Your letter of August 11th arrived on the 18th and naturally I was very glad to hear from you after such a long time. It looks as if you had the right idea about Dakar. For a month now I have been waiting here for a visa, and according to the latest news received from the Legation, the French have decided not to allow me to go. There are several people here in the same position who were going to other parts of France, and once again we have all started to wonder where we are going to go next.

The past month here in Lisbon has been most pleasant. As I believe I mentioned in my previous letter, several of my old friends from Stuttgart were here. Hervé L'Heureux is executive officer of the Consulate General and is, as a matter of fact, virtually in charge due to the illness of the Consul General. John Cope, also from Stuttgart, has been assigned here, and Jensen was here for three weeks before leaving for his new post at Zurich. Beside these three there is Bill Gordell, who was with me in Washington, so I have not been lonesome at any time. Since I am staying at one of the better-known hotels I meet a lot of Americans who are passing through here on their way home. For example, a number of people have just gone through here from Athens and I have heard from them at first hand the story of the occupation of Greece. While it is not substantially different from what one reads in the newspapers, it always seems more realistic to hear about these events from somebody who has actually been there. Then too you hear a lot of things which do not pass the censors or which are not important enough to be put in the newspapers.

There is an American Coast Guard vessel stationed here at present which takes the place, more or less, of our old Mediterranean squadron which has been recalled for obvious reasons. They welcome Americans on board, and they have movies every night. Since I have been now for a year and a half without seeing more than one movie in English I am very glad to take this opportunity to catch up a bit. I have also been able to get on board a couple of the Export Line vessels which have put in here and this has enabled me

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to get some toilet articles like Mennens After Shaving Lotion, which I could not find here.

I had always imagined that it would be terribly hot in Lisbon during the summer, but I have been pleasantly disappointed in this respect. Almost every day there is a good strong breeze blowing, and some nights I have found a blanket very comfortable in bed. Today is a bit of an exception. The sky is partially overcast for almost the first time since my arrival here, the sun is glassy and there is not a breeze anywhere. Although it might not be so hot as some of the other days the atmosphere is very depressing.

I guess the letter which you addressed to me at Dakar must have had the news in it about Janie's job because that was the first I had heard about her having a job. I hope in your next letter you will tell me all about it, since it may be a long time before I get the letter which you sent to Dakar. Since you mentioned her writing to you I suppose that she is still in New York; perhaps you could drop her another line and ask her to write to me here, for while I do not know how long I am going to be here, it looks as if it might be some time yet before I get under way. Under present conditions it frequently takes a couple of weeks to arrange transportation even after the visas are in order, and since the mail service is very good, there will probably be time for another letter.

I think this is about all for the present. I hope that you will not work too hard with the flowers because there is no sense in tiring yourself out too much over them. After a day's work in the store you should take things easy and rest up. Please give Sarah and Betty and all the rest of the family my love; perhaps I will be seeing you all sooner than I expect. You may have noticed that the typing of this letter is far above my usual average; this is because a Miss Andersen, who is also waiting here for a visa, has kindly consented to type it for me. Maybe if I had more assistance of this kind I could write oftener.

With love and best wishes,