



421 CHATEAU DE SAUMUR (M.-e)
La façade Ouest (XIVe et XV^e)



Dear Aunt Alice
Right now, I am in Saumur
with Paul and will be leaving for
London tomorrow and then back to Saumur
on the 27th. Two weeks ago I bought
a rail pass for Europe. I went
from London to Dover, to Calais, Paris,
Lyon, Lausanne, Bern, Amsterdam,
Munich, Luzern, Salzburg, Vienna,
Venice, Rome and then all the way
up to England and then back down to
Saumur. I saw quite a bit of Europe and
the Alps. I hope the Island is in good form
although I will probably see you and find out before
I reach you. Hope Mary is well and you are also
see you soon
Much love Daniel

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67 Lyndenham #402
Kingston, Ontario
Canada

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XN 150



37500 - CHINON

Ermitage Ste-Radegonde

Peinture romane découverte et dégagée en 1964
par l'archéologue Albert HERON.

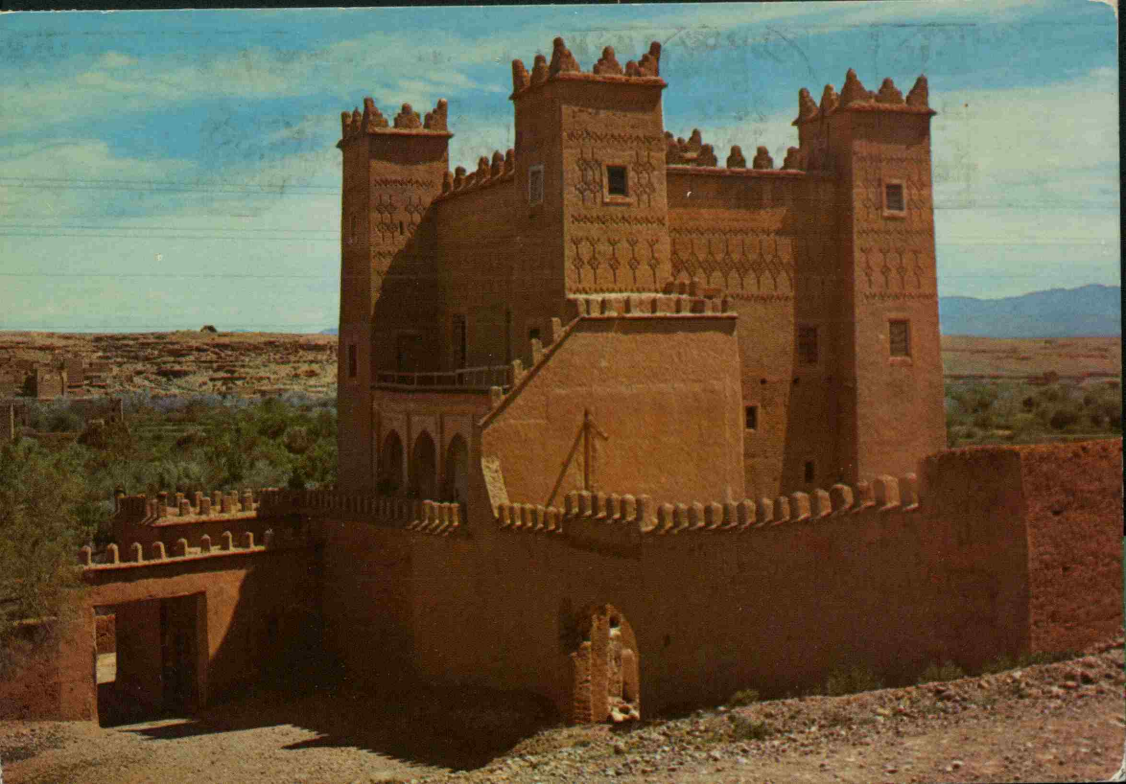
(Jean-Sans-Terre, Isabelle, Alienor et deux suivants)

Epiphany

Dear Aunt Allie,

On this twelfth night of Christmas Day I
feel very thankful as we spent and
shared such nice days altogether. I do
hope that your New Year's day was
Happy!

We did enjoy all the festive time in
Toronto, the colours and the music
and the children are still mentioning the
arm wrestles!



23/2/81

Agadir - Morocco

MAROC TYPIQUE
Casbah dans le Dadès
Citadel in the Dadès
Kasbah im Dadès

Having a
1981

ITTAH AIR MAIL
COULEURS NATURELLES

holiday here! Gorgeous sun -
shine. Lovely beach - miles
of golden sand. Agadir is
ultra modern since the 1960
earthquake - but we've been
to a very ancient walled city
and through the souks, full of
interesting spices, basket work,
leather goods, carpets etc. etc.
wonder if you know this part of
the world. Love to both,
Stella

Tél. 714-01
Photo ITTAH - 3, rue Ibn Batouta, Casablanca
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Imprime en France



Docta H. Kibut Douglas
402, 67 Sargent Street
Kingston,
Ontario K7L 3H2
Canada

I went with some people to a
show at the BAC Camp (British Airway
Engineers) - quite a talented group.
The doctor & his wife over there took me
& a doctor & wife from here.

At 9 AM New years day here you
were all just sleep the New Year in there!
Hope your turkey was good! Sure it was.
How great that Stephen can get to you
so often. Love, thought of you all alot.

Soon now our doctors will be
returning from holidays and we will be
back to normal - have had quite a long
over-time lately (but they pay us extra for that)

You sound as if your suppers are
getting better & better.

Am thinking of having a week in
Toronto in March to sort out finances
& see you all - last week. Looking forward
to it! Great love, dear Auntie. We will
have great fun in being in the city. Days are
getting longer now! Hugs & love etc.



Darling Auntie,

January 2, 1981

Here's a couple for you! - from
Turkey, - think.

One of our doctors is having a
Toronto holiday & will mail this for me.

It is so lovely to get mail from
you. You have been marvelous at writing.
My letter came a bit irregular because of
mailing difficulties.

Hope you had a super glorious
Christmas all together. Expect the weather
was rather miserable - hard for Marie
Marie. Hope it went well. Certainly thought
about you - though it was really hard to
get a real feel of Christmas here where
it's late Sept weather! We have the occa-
sional day of rain & lots of sand storms but otherwise
nice clear rather happy day. (No swimming).

Christmas dinner here was
very very good - 14 of us all together
& lots to eat & even some wine. (Everyone
here makes wine - as long as one is very

CREATING
REASONS

22

AGONY
MENTORS

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SEASON'S
GREETINGS

الطيب
التمنيات

MEILLEURS
VOEUX

the last of last night
left it - a one day
Kasheer, they want to a new, but family
be an American + the a Philippine - bond
course in the Emergency - they have lived here
for 4 years + have a family but they
would like to return to the old + the
Singapore. They have children that they
keep in their travels - you know the
+ children - love for them.

Maven - a young doctor in hospital
+ young girl + same organ
festival party for one of the children later
also a party to Jeddah - we will have
them - You, there are all of best people
here - kind + sweet, quite different

We had a funny day in the desert
on boxing day - sliding down sand dunes
- but when we went out there
below us a huge sand dune
had to jump about in the
out of the mass

discreet & does not overindulge or
sell it - no one says anything!)

New Year's day went to a very nice family -
he an American & she a Philippine - heard
Nurse in the Emergency - they have lived here
for 4 years & have a small child. He
is running the training center here and
would like to return to the USA or be a
Chiropractor. They have collected some lovely
keeps in their travels - from India, Turkey
& Pakistan - home for Shiraz!

Mervyn - a young doctor from Kingston
- Queen's Grad & I am organizing a
farewell party for one of the Canadian doctors
who is moving to Jeddah - we will miss
them. Yes, there are a lot of nice people
here - kind & sometimes quite interesting!

We had a glorious day in the desert
on boxing day - sliding down sand dunes
- but today when we went out there
there was a high wind sand storm & so we
had to turn about without even getting
out of the buses. On New Year's Eve

Please send on to AA + Steve
So glad AA had such a good enjoyment
of your new fireplace. Hope the
trees down the road are providing good
firewood.

Cheers. at.

Darling all 6 Recd Jan 22 / 6/1/81
You will find bits + pieces of letters
on the photo stated letter - Sorry its so
disorganized!

Went to a smacking dinner last
night sat on by an English Dr + wife
+ American Texans (dominated the discussion
- Not very interesting!) a well known woman
fr England who has been in Canada +
another couple of doctors + nurses - Very
pleasant anyway + scrumptious food.

Did I tell you that all the
Villas are built in pairs - mirror
images of each other + that these
are repeated over + over + we
all live in the same type houses!
Quite funny to see how people have
decorated them. These have
names of rocks + shells + coral on
their shelves.

They made a fabulous palette out of
fish + coral + another of linen!

News - our young Canadian Dr. has just been posted to
Jeddah for 2 weeks - Lucky guy! Wouldn't mind a change
now & again - He has been here a lot longer than I so deserves
to go! Jeddah at this time of year is lovely - but it can
unbearable climate in the spring & summer - Very hot & humid
Anyway, I am leaving to stay put & not keep running! Not
easy for me!!

Last night there was a great send off of the
"fired" Chief of Medical Services who got kicked out
for objecting to Company policy by using the wrong
channels. He left his car at the villa of the people
who were buying it & as they came out the medical
staff who'd gathered next door waved them good
bye & padded behind them - & there was a pipes
very noisy. Everyone feels he was scape-goated but
not much anyone can do about it. Actually I think
he was fed up & wanted a good excuse to leave!

There are a lot of new Locos coming -
each for a month or two - Always fun people - usually
British - Scots or English & the occasional Irishman.

Have been reading a bit - The Black Arabs - Thesiger
- about Iraq Marsh people, The Arab Poetry - translation -
- Gerald Dawoll, Van der Post - Very few new books here
& very few of literary value! Can buy tapes here 8 sh
each (i.e. 1/275 - not bad) - quite a lot of Classical Music
- they are all 'stolen' - copied from well known Companies

Thank you all for Marcellus card, letters, pictures
& photos. Keep writing! Lots & Lots of love
Alan.

It is a great Indian celebration going on across the hall - probably
our money? Wish I could understand it. They talk in Hindi
evening, - but that is about the only time they show any of their
energy. Great sitters; reluctant walkers. The interpreters are
I now have definite ideas on what the patient, should
do & do & be suffering from! Usually find that they have launched
into a monstrous tirade before I even have a chance to find out
what they are saying. & you have to be very careful what you say to
them or they take offence! Great spot.

Yesterday (Tuesday - Sunday) ^{started} went out to the desert in a picnic -

2 busloads of kids & families & odd & sods - we even supposed
to get to a flat area where the BAC (Brit Aircraft technical
staff who have a camp on the base) were flying their model aircraft
but the wind came up & the sand started to blow. The buses
started across the desert on heavy jello earth - but then we
had to turn back - just like a snow storm. Couldn't see a thing!
So we came back & ate our lunch beside the post - which is
covered by a big black tarpaulin. From the sun was out
& behind the wall we were quite sheltered. Then everyone
reverted their way home & Meru & I (Meru is a young
Canadian Queen's graduate) planned a menu for a party we
are giving together for a Canadian gymnast! ^{with wife} who is moving to
Jeddah where he will be the Chief. Stew, potato, salad,
pasta bread & also jelly, salads & dessert: fruit, cheese,
& cream & various toppings! And someone is making wine!
We should take about 6 hours at least - but here I
wonder is all it even made it. I don't take it - faster
party - but its amazing how it keeps off the crowd!
In Christmas eve I had a ~~partisan~~ party with a lot of
people who are over here alone & some even played the
guitar & we all sang carols. The 1st I told you -
& about 10 litres of my first beer disappeared!

My 'roommate' - house mate - another villa mate has
been away for a month or more - I have had the house to myself -

Copied all the front pages of the letter

because can't keep up with all the marvellous
letter writers! Think that's why I came to SA - to
get so many letters! Not a word from Ottawa!

No word yet on how everything went at Christmas.

Sam is posting this in Toronto. Hope you
got the Christmas cheques!

Think I will be there for a week in March -
Keeps me straight!

Tonight is a slide show of Bali - Done by an
German-Canadian who married (2nd wife) an
Albertan half Indian. I find her a bit difficult.
They have just come back from the Far East - fabulous
trip - which I will take one day.

Lep is not dull really!

Great love to you all. Did you get a letter recently
directly from England about life at Christmas in Tshuk? Saw it
to a rather unreliable carrier - So hope it got there -
Please Dave as a happy land time writing my diary!

Tons of love etc.

Hub + love, of course - Being in a villa at all is Marvellous -
Much more room than the poky little Apartments - but one's
existence is a bit precarious because the Saudi General -
who is the Area Commander - does not like single people married
people living in the same area - And starts pushing his
troops around + saying, all single must go + live in the
blocks. There has been such a furor over housing lately that
finally both our Chief + Personnel Service and the
Hospital Administrator were sacked! Ho hum! The new boss -
who has taken over both jobs temporarily has started a big campaign
for cleaning up the hospital + trying to communicate - everyone
to raise their morals. He is an American Surgeon who has been
working in Jeddah + Riyadh for a bit of a company man.
But so far things are going better.

Went to a variety night at BAC with the Airforce Surgeon + wife
- quite a dawdle, show - but fun to see a live show. Best part
was a flute + fiddle - gorgeous - just sat on a stool on
stage + played! Reminded me a bit of Dan. The BAC doctor
+ wife who took up are a pleasant English couple. 3 children - but
he is lined stiff as the BAC chaps are all so healthy! The
BAC compound is out of bounds to the Saudis - so they can behave as
they wish + have a bar! They are all, from, about trying to
train the Saudis in mechanical things - totally inept. So
amazing to think of our Egyptians who are so creative + good at
machines - when you think that in Iran also been brought
up in a desert. They are a ^{Saudis} funny, likeable people - ^{But} most of these
Saudis make an ^{not equipped} at all for the 20th century
- but seem of course most of them are Bedouin - and their
skill at desert survival invaluable.

- And there survive here 11 months + 1 to be that is
quite remarkable! - Not counting holidays. I wish base about 27 weeks
to go! Actually December has passed + I once get to March - then
vacations start. Training makes a few skills - but going too well!

Our cultural heritage is so much a
part of us + so important. Music +
Art + beautiful things. Most Dan
would look into the Pacific
Coast Guard - Sydney is so much
like Saudi! Be sure there is not
a 'one should' + 'it's good to suffer'
belief behind all that! [How can
we ever take one someone
elses suffering away - they would
not want that? Hey hi!

Great great love

DAN is, have written super letters.

Lovey cheer for 1981

M

Would love to be self sufficient here in ^{needing} a sense of not having to go places - eg. be better at crafts & house skills & reading & learning. (I suppose really, I am trying to train myself for my old age!) When have achieved all this I'll probably find that the culture shock of returning to civilization will be so great!

We get some funny locoms here. The dermatologist is a Pole who worked in Sweden & speaks little English, better French. He wanders around getting himself lost and turns up ^{under} the most amazing circumstances! He is staying with another doctor who lives here & eats him out of house & home! There is a British Dr. whose been in the army. Comp. Some friends of his here have invited me to supper when he comes in ^{they} say he is 'very sad!' - he has also lived in Canada so think I would understand him. Funny! Life has its

moments. There are several doctors here from Malta - really very nice people - quiet gentle gentlemanly types. One of the Malta brewers makes a fantastically gorgeous cake - decorates them.

The children here are totally gorgeous - Must get a good camera & some pictures - They allow that when you ask permission - but there is a 'No photo sign' at the entrance to the tentorium & one must be careful

one came in just now with wearing an orange dress. Two or three other boys & girls had brown eyes were wide open looking at the many lovely cards on my collecting board. I have a gorgeous collection of photos, prints, Inuit drawings, snow pictures & two people gave me the pictures with the captions 'Life is a daring adventure or nothing' - Heu Kelt

one a beautiful field of wheat or a hillside above the clouds. The other some fabulous down hill skier skiing

We hardly ever have a cloud - The weather is a bit chilly but warms up in the day. It has rained once since Nov. Hard to imagine Ottawa a winter chill of -50 w/h!

Pats' comments about feeling of responsibility & guilt for the broadcast of the country - Also I get pretty about living in such a fabulous country as Canada! But those kinds of feelings are inhibiting - not allowing one to live to the full oneself - somewhat of a real life.

Am trying to sort out my being here - So far it's going fast but 1 year may be enough. Amazing how many people have stayed for 4-5+ yrs!

Time flying by & no letters written by me
for 2 weeks. Sorry!

Jan 18/81 → 30/81
Jeddah!

I'm in Jeddah! - for 3 weeks, while some GPs are attending
a conference in Taif - up in the mountains where the King lives.
- The Islamic World Conference. Its fun to have a change from
Tabuk & to be here in the weather - when it's cool for
Jeddah but warm enough to swim in the pool & on the beach!
Hardship!

Three of us came down from Tabuk for this 3 weeks - a
Scot - Roy Murray (who never stops talking & is a fun person as well!)
who had been doing a locum in Tabuk & goes home from here -
Mark - a fellow Canadian - unmarried 30 yr old who's a
good friend - Paul - so that's fun. And we live at the
Sands Hotel - the hotel Whittaker uses for all its people
as they come & go from the Kingdom - & they pay our room &
board! A bus comes & picks up us every morning & takes us
to the hospital - (where we have not been working very hard at
all!)

The city is booming & growing by leaps & fallops - no bounds.
When I arrived here in Nov - it was during Haj -
the pilgrimage to Mecca time - and everything was
closed & all people had disappeared. Now it's a big
booming city with incredible development going on - High downtown
- Magnificent open plaza areas extending down to the waterfront -
A double highway - the Corniche - along the water front, dotted with
Modern sculptures - some very beautiful - others pieces of junk
in very aggressive forms - (faces looking quite angry & Chauvinist.
- The waterfront ~~is~~ is flat & regular - mostly fill over coral -
& beyond in the misty dusty distance are 30-40 tankers -

(No battle ships!). There is a fish market near the main
beach - down on the waterfront & close by they are building dhows
- lovely painted wooden hand hewn ~~boats~~ vessels - as old as history.
Unfortunately you cannot stand around & watch for long or a little
obnoxious Saudi Soldier: a gun shoots you away! - and of course
no photo.

We have been royally treated: A party of all the Canadians in the
Jeddah hospital & us by some very nice Canadian world travellers - the
15 Canadian - one a Chinese - New Zealander - very nice.
Were taken up the shore to a beach to swim & picnic by another
very nice fellow who used to be in Tabuk. We went sailing
(water dull sailing as have to stay within the reef) in the Chief of
Clinic's boat & I think I loved it up! - Saturday, going to
the sea - busy thing that you cannot get in Tabuk & have
a splendid time! Had went to a Baroque Concert!

And now it's time to go back to Tabuk & it's hard to
do in some way - but Mr. Kwon can come back &
stay for a weekend & shop or go to a concert etc. So
that gives me a bit of leeway.

There ^{have been} are a lot of changes apparently in Tabuk
White we've been away - new lady doctor - from Holland
& an Irishman - ~~so~~ ~~are~~ as well as many more medical
staff. Time will tell by our visit Mar-April when
get a break - to Canada. Will be there only about
5 days, I think. Hope RA can come up to us as I will
be able to go to Keighton in that time - & Ottawa?
May fly for Damascus: depends on tickets & political
climate.

Love to all.
This is a poor letter but it will go tonight to Dr. Goyt
England. Love
M.

All at 402 - Cheers

Khamis
22/1/81

Thought about phoning you on Easter to wish you a Happy one but it was too difficult to manage. So Happy Easter one!

Hope it was great fun. Hope Stephen's exams went well. He will be glad to have them over. How are his chances of getting a job?

I get 4 days off in May & am flying to Cairo. It will be very hot! but such fun to see the great sights. Don't know if I'll have time to see to go to Luxor but will try.

Can hardly wait until we all meet in Ireland. Think I'll get there about the 11th but maybe the 12th. So do plan to do all you want & then we'll take off for Crevy. Doris arrange it. Will get a nice big car, so we'll have lots of picnics.

This letter is being sent by Bruce - of the

Labs who will go to Scotland first -
So it will take a bit of time. He
lives in Vancouver so may post it
there!

Its getting too hot here to go to the
Red Sea - a rather the Red Sea is
too hot - up here it is a very nice
climate. The water situation has
improved & runs any time now,
Thank goodness.

Had very nice Easter in a
service! & Easter dinner -
Pats' letter describes it.

Great great love to you
all

Mary.

It's just a million times better here than Tabuk!
It's raining today! - first time since Nov!
There is a drought + water shortage so we
are all glad.

Had a marvellous trip to the escarpment
last weekend - just take off + another
doctor + wife + few others - no hand
like Tabuk where have to sign papers etc.

We are high on a plateau + mountains
rising to about 1000' around about
+ when you get to the edge of this
(about 20 miles away) - as it falls off
to the sea - you get a marvellous
view for miles + miles + deep into
the valley. Spectacular.

Villages have remains of old houses
+ some still standing - made of clay
+ tower shaped with funny
slit like windows + very heavy base



look a bit like a sand castle. Very
picturesque. Also old towers on hilltops
- warning towers - they used to be

Will this you all is Mar. they have shot fire in Italy

will pay their way ↓ what about Paul (& Bob) or Paul Douglas - will write Paul & Bob
meeting her in Dublin - Love + kin

2.
an area of tribal battles - the Yemen
peoples - Unfortunately there is little
written about it all. There is also the
first national park close by in Saudi -
Unfortunately you can't get into them yet
as they are closed until the King comes
to open them in a few weeks - 4
different sites - all marvellous deep
valleys + grand views - + (huge
lots of Pepsi cans everywhere!). I met
the Pakistani who is in charge of it +
he despairs about the garbage!

The hospital work is very like the
Tibet type of practice - Some interesting
Cases in the emergency - Some malaria
close by + we have to take anti malarial
Meds - Noone gets it of the fake the stuff.
I also work out at the Air base Clinic
+ that's quite an amazing place - think
I told you about the multibillion dollar
sports complex - the Olympic pool out there!
gradually getting more settled + can
analyse staying in SA now 2 yrs. Nearly a
quarter of that has gone ahead. Please see
if anyone could come with AA in some to be had



Parigi...
 So necessary to be in Italy! Everything budding -
 So much to see. S. GIMIGNANO (Siena)
 Panorama... Totaly glorious & so much to
 better for having had your description first
 and the contrast after being from Saudi A.
 It's all over & all the thrill experience.
 Started in Rome - 3 days of seeing all...
 Then south to Naples & Pompeii - incredibly &
 Vesuvius came over the mist! - Then
 stayed in Sorrento → Capri & then the Amalfi
 Coast. How so views & great. Then back to
 Rome & stayed in Capri & drove to Assisi, &
 stayed the night - then to Sabbio, Siena,
 St Gimignano & now Florence. How super
 lucky! am to have this marvelous trip -
 quite spontaneous. Today was incredible.
 I think Siena came more of a surprise
 than anywhere else - such incredible
 views of the shell shaped 'square'
 had a dream like atmosphere. And
 San Gimignano - so super. I looked for a
 pit like yours - not a one!
 Kawaii for June. Love to you & Mary
 wish you were here too! Talk to ol!

POSTAL TELEGRAPHI
TELEFONATE PER
4.81-14

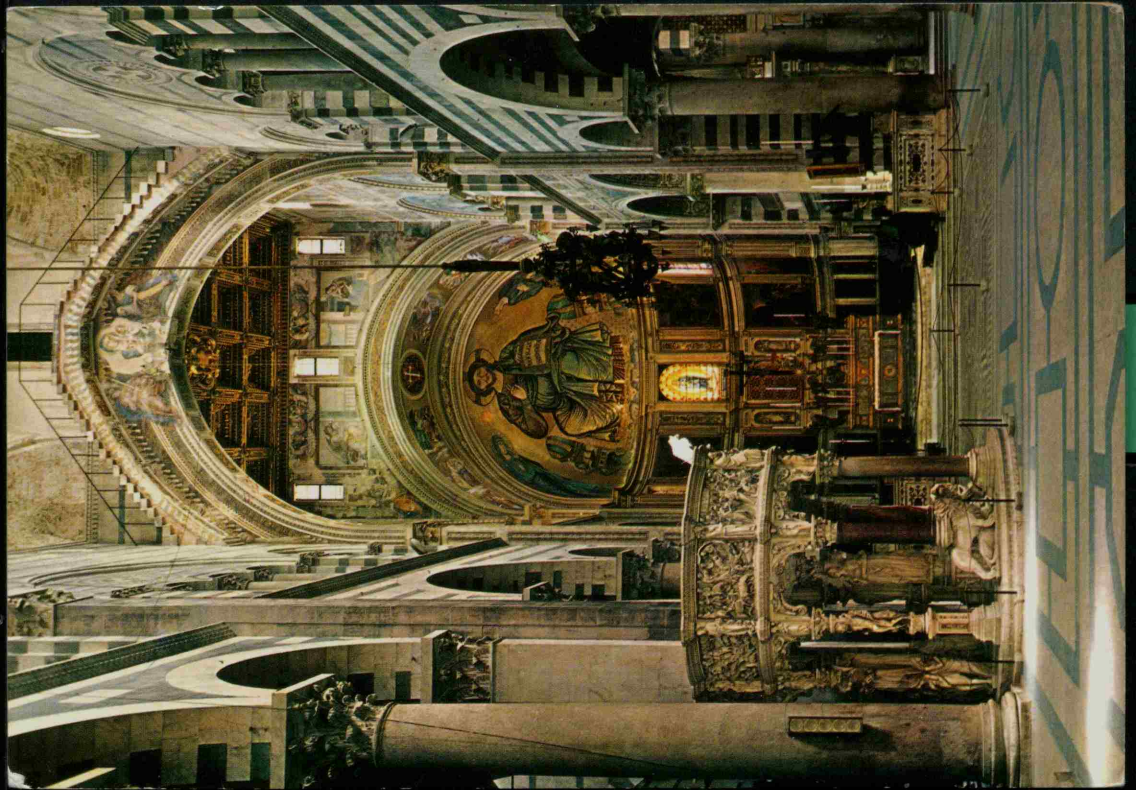


AIR MAIL

DR. A. V. Herbert Douglas,
 % Annandale Apt. #402
 67 Sydneyham St.
 Kingston, ONT.
 CANADA.
 K7L 3H2.

AIR MAIL

DA FOTOCOLORE IN CROMOCOPIONE (RIP VIETATA) - STAMPATO IN ITALIA - IMPORTO DITALE



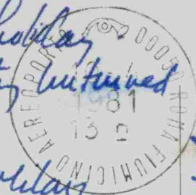
33 PISA
Il Duomo

What an incredible holiday
Don't think I left anything untouched
in whole of Italy!

Loved Florence, Milan,
Venice as well as all the
other famous places.

Also got into France
as far as Cannes & stayed
at France. Had a marvellous
day in the mountains in France
& explored everything! Wish
you were here! Hurry for
June.

lots of love to you Steve & Mary
m.



AIR MAIL

Mr. A. Vivian Douglas,

Apt. # 402

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67 Sydenham St.

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ONT. CANADA.

K7L 3H2



Riproduzione vietata



fotometalgrafica
bologna

DA FOTOCOLOR - KODAK EKTACHROME



Dear Everyone - Having this incredible
 holiday in Italy! Such a contrast
 to what we see in our own country -
 So much in sights, sound, vegetation,
 history, vistas, beauty! Absolutely love it
 and cannot imagine why I have not come here before now!
 Flaw from Jeddah to Rome - for Sunday
 - then south to Sorrento & Capri & the
 Amalfi drive - then north to Assisi,
 Gubbio, Siena (this picture) Incredible.
 San Gimignano, Florence & now
 off to Nice - then Venice & back to
 Rome. What indulgence - but
 do heed it after Saudi A: No
 food from Sarah in Rome - just as
 best as its hard to fit in everything when
 travelling in others. Klans in SA
 certainly better than Tabak - but
 not sure how long I'll stay. It's all
 been incredibly worth it - but maybe
 not sure what to do after Xmas. Will
 see. Hope all well. Love M.

Ediz. R.I.S. di ROMBONITALE
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RENIA
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AIR MAIL

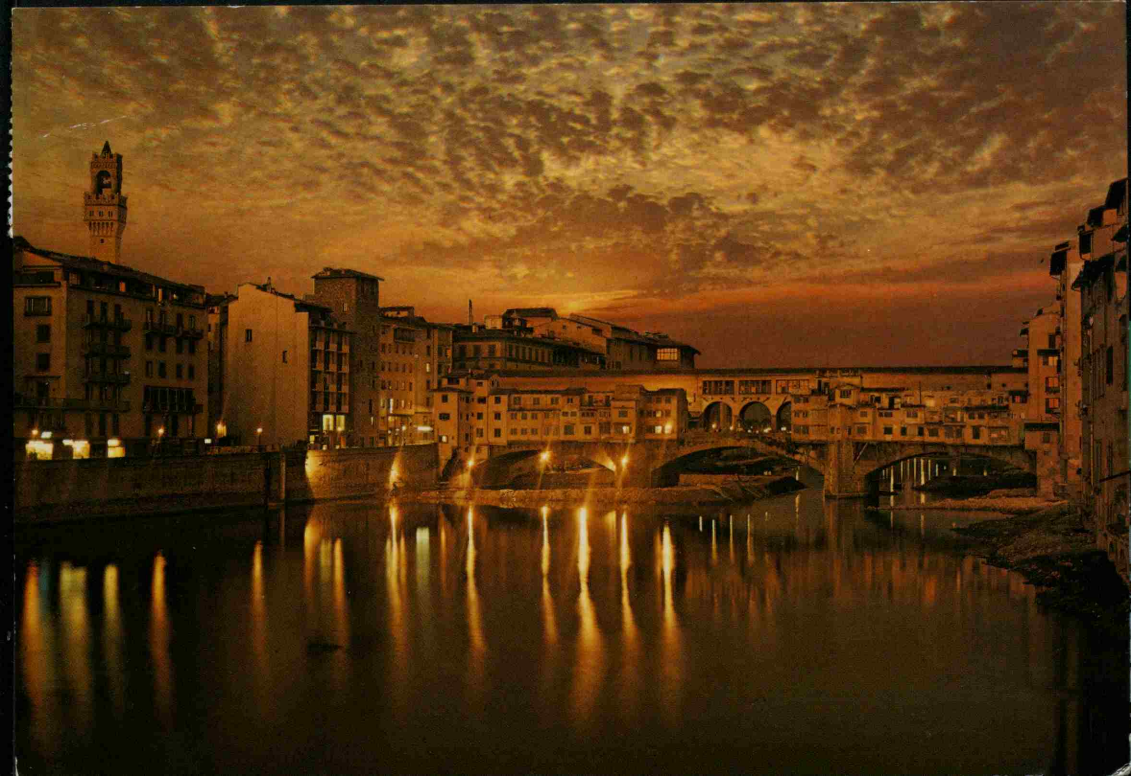
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TORONTO, ONT.

CANADA:

AIR MAIL.

Litografia SEVEN S.r.l. Verona Italia

Ireland - 2 Nos.



FIRENZE

Nottuno sull'Arno

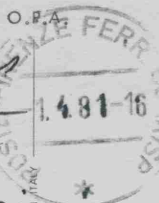
Nocturne sur l'Arno

River Arno by night

Der Arno Fluss Nachts

Florence is glorious
& wish you were

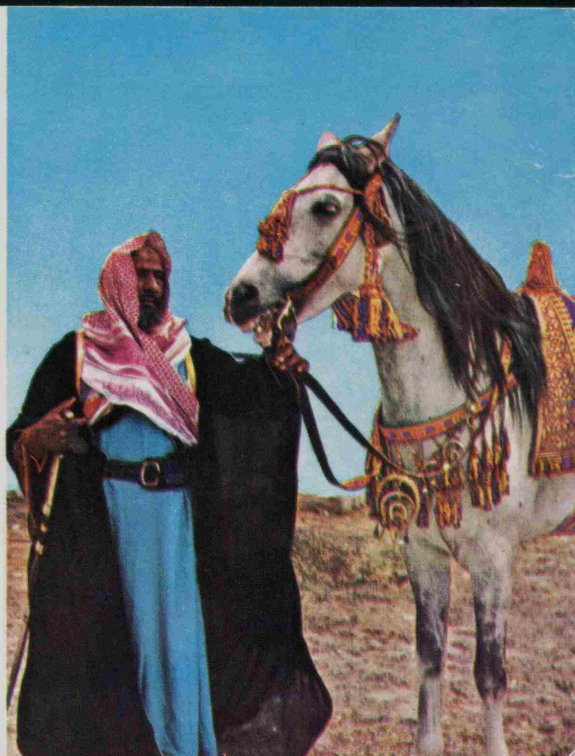
here too - to walk over the
Ponte Vecchio & up the Uffizi
Passage & through the galleries
& sit in the Della Segnoria &
visit the Duomo & Baptistery &
the Medici Library & the Academy
& Pitti Palace. What incredible
riches & endless things to
see. Now on to the Riviera
di Pisa, Siena & then into France
& Nice! Hurrah for June.
Gives blessing & love. Will go to
Venice too, hope!



AIR MAIL

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⑧ Read early march - from Khams

Dear Suzanne!

I see I am in Khams - in the South of Saudi -
near the Yemeni border! Khams Musayt - Means
"Thursday Market". I was transferred here - along with
them - from Kingdon - a young fun fellow - because the
Area Commander in Tabuk got very annoyed & would
not let any single people live in villas - [single' being
anyone whose mate was not there - so this affects many
Males whose wives were at home - a well]. So the
company offered me a choice of which of the other 2
sites & here I am - first choice.

Though a lot further south than Tabuk (nearly
the whole length of Saudi Arabia away) - the climate
is far superior because we are high up at 7000'
altitude & that means there is a nice cool breeze all
the year - never too hot - but pleasant for sunbathing & swimming.
The only big drawback is that there is a water shortage
& it gets turned off every evening & through the night.

But there are views of mountains - (about
as high as the best Ox) and glorious skies & trees & even
a zoo. All this is such a relief!

I am sharing a house with a radiologist
doctor who has been here only a week longer than I. She
is American-Philippine. A fairly nice person who
probably has totally different ideas re the house - but
that doesn't matter. So far neither of our shipments have
arrived. [By the way I did get mine in Tabuk in
Dec.] So far there are pools of water everywhere
because of the shortage - that's the only decoration! -
except for a nameless found I bought in the
Bedouin Souq. This box is exactly same as one in Tabuk!

The town of Khams is about 25 kms from
here & a bus goes every day after work. The town
is a lot larger than Tabuk - & further from the base
there are a lot of shops & their funny little shacks when the

Bedouins sell their baskets & big hats & baby carriages & jewellery
[It's very hard to save any money!]

There are a lot of very nice people here - though
I do not know them well yet - but little by little.

Because of all the trouble I will not be venturing
as far as N. America in March-April. Really sorry
not to see you all - but the trip would take up about
4 days travel time altogether + all that jet lag -
& expense. So there it is. But the Jones
helicopter is still on. I can leave here in early June.
I have 3 weeks. It may take me about a week
to get there as may go through France. So Auntie
could I meet you in London or Dublin about the
15th of June - & then need have 2 weeks. Could Dan
& Marianne or Alex come with you - will pay their way.
- or Steve - but expect he will be into working for
a living!

Marvellous to get letters from you all, by the way.
Sorry I have been so awful about writing - get into
a bit of a slump in this country.

How lucky I am to have had experiences in
all these ~~nights~~ sites of the Whittaker Hospitals -

Also had a weekend in Riyadh - the capital.
That is where the Whittaker offices are and the Director of
Medical affairs lives in a villa & his wife owns a villa
right beside it that is available to all the employees
free for 2 nights - Also they take you around to the Old
Ibn Saud (Abdul Aziz) Palace, water holes, Museums etc.
Great fun.

Great great love to you all. Will write better
letters soon. Sorry not to see you all but come to bed!
Tilly to M.

8 Recd
late Feb.

Tyebull.
Feb 7/81

Many thanks for all your great letters. They keep me going! Right now I am enjoying the sun in the back yard of my villa - probably for one of the last times. Alas! The Area Commander has put his foot down about any singles living in married areas - even those with spouses elsewhere have to move to apartments - "The blocks' Great Keefable". For this time Area lucky privacy & restricted space & I do not know how & if I want to live like that at my stage in life - whatever the money! Actually it's what I expected when I came - but then there's a difference when you get here & really feel the restrictions. However, I expect I will survive a year! With the idea of some holidays especially -

But it seems foolish (unfortunate, sb!) to ~~go~~ to Canada in March-April. 5 days are lost in travel alone & if I find that I really do not want to stay here, that seems foolish to do. However behind in some ways very good idea - I would have us scruple about leaving here early if I really did not like it, because there are many others going to come & right now we are over staffed. I would like to see a bit more of Saudi & the Middle East - so what go yet!

The three weeks in Jeddah was great fun - & just the right time of year for that humid city. People were exceedingly nice to us & it was fun to see a city grow & change so rapidly before your eyes with a nice blending of the old & new. We lived at the Sand's Hotel - a hotel where the Whittaker people stay coming & going & where Idi Amin once had his quarters. Horrors. Some people see his in Jeddah & apparently he is a changed man! Hopefully! I got rather tired of all their scrumptious food! Oh dear.

You are all Marvellous almost wity. Recent letters from
Auntie (Marvellous) & Stephen terrific - & earlier letter
for all the others. Thanks so much. Find wity very
difficult! Maybe will do more when confined to barracks!

So until the plans for moving are finalized & we
can still stay in Villas (few days) will entertain in chander
here - if I can find the ingredients!

Taking a course in photography & will start Spanish
(Maybe) Arabic soon -

There is a slight chance that they may transfer us
to other areas if we ask for a change. I wouldn't mind
going to Kharris - in the south or Jeddah or Abudhakin but
seeing all my friends here would be tough - but there are
great people at all the sites - lots of Canadians too!

Marvellous news almost getting the hostages out -
Why on earth establish another Canadian Embassy there?
Apparently all Trigid's friends left there are still alive -
though in jail - would think the Canadians might end up there
too after their first rescue.

Send Mr. Jean's & books to the Book Room - please
Thank Bob & Paul - ~~Cannot~~ ^{address} lost the exact # on Bloss
St. & forgot to take it off the parcel. Will read the
books in pleasure.

May go to Riyadh the next weekend - the
capital. Another Jeddah - though in the dry
interior. Not sure yet. Should be fun.

So precious jobs. Won't see you in Mavel.
Will see AA in Iceland in June & anyone else who
can come with her. & then see you all next Fall
probably! And then what. Somehow don't think
Jackson's Point - we'll see.

Have now been here 4 mos! One quarter of
a year!

lots & lots of love to all
Mary

Khamis
Saudi Arabia
Feb March 2/81

Darling Auntie + Steve

Khamis is a great place!

We are up on a plateau - 7000'
with lovely mountains around - like
the Ox - a bit - though of course not
so rounded by glaciers! One little
Mountain is called Sheba - after
the Queen of - & is a volcanic plug
& upon top are some old bits of pottery
possibly dating back to Roman times +
old inscriptions - look a bit like Greek
letters - on the rocks - we walked up it.
That was so unbelievable - to be able to
do that - because in Teheran you cannot
do anything! It's just so marvellous to
have that much freedom -

On the weekend some very nice
people took us on a marvellous drive
through villages to the edge of the plateau -

great love to you both - Thanks for so many letters. Telly to it.
Love to Mary Liz.

The escarpment - very beautiful views,
some old villages, vegetation not unlike
S. Mexico (Oaxaca. sp!) and very dry
valleys. We walked down over many
rocky ledges where a doctor archeologist
found some flints - & old cave dwellings
(no drawings) - & down to a fertile
cleft where there was actually water
& grass & ferns & rhododendron bushes!
Amazing. Lavender was growing around
in small patches! I cannot imagine
being so lucky as to have moved here!

With all these moves I am not going
as far afield as Canada in March
April. Sorry as anything not to see you
all. Do come to Ireland in the Spring.
- about 13-15^{days} in either Dublin or London
& we will drive to Geary - Has glorious
it will be to see it all then. I have
to be back the 26th June - but if someone
else will come with you Auntie, maybe
you could stay longer -

Egyptian
letters

To Kingston May 25/81



Dr. A. V. Douglas,

67 Sydenham # 402
(Annandale Apt. works)

KINGSTON K7L 3H2

Ontario

24 May 87

Dear Aunt Allie,

Two great letters from Mary here - all about Egypt. We have all seen them here - had to wait until Dan got back from Oriskany City. He had a marvelous trip with school hours & orchestra.

Terrific letter from Sarah Cleary. She is going to be in Ireland with you (country of many) & will fly back to Canada with you all! Exciting.

Also had a visit from a young couple coming

a sand dollar from John
& Liz, which they had
received from a friend
of John's who had seen
them. John & Liz are
now in India.

Warm warm sunny
weather here now.
Christine is off to Washington
tomorrow for 5 days.

And love,
John

8 May 81
To continue my Egyptian Sage!
Here I am in Cairo awaiting
the Saudia flight back to Jeddah
& they have no stamps - so will
have to wait in Jeddah.

This has been a fabulous
4-day holiday. Last letter by train /
Set off to Luxor. Went by train.
- 'Deluxe' overnight trip. Train
German built & quite new. Two people
to a small double decker bunk room
in basin, small hanging place &
table (fold up) & mirror. No dining
car. They serve meals (included in
ticket) - prepared by Egypt Air -
exactly same as on a plane - very
good - but so much fun as going to a
dining car - but I suppose much
simpler for them in an Islamic country.
Just as the train was about to pull
out in came my cabin-mate - a
young Chinese woman from Hong Kong
studying Midwifery in England - a



NILE MILTON

Very nice person². She had been
travelling entirely on her own &
doing things in her own steam
rather than using agents - such
as Cheper. But failed not longer if
you don't know the ropes - so kept
true I'll be able to write about
without an agent. Had the
upper bunk & Claudia below. (She brushed
her teeth longer than anyone else I've ever
known.) They woke us up at 4:45
AM for breakfast & then into Luxor
Station by 6 AM - when the Travel Rep.
Met us & Claudia came along &
joined our tour. There were also
some Australians - a pretty bunch.
Luxor is gorgeous. We drove to the Elab
Hotel in a horse & carriage! Along the
gorgeous Nile - about 1/2 km wide at that
point, I suppose - glorious palm trees,
- past the Luxor temple, views across
the Nile to the high desert hills of
the Valley of the Kings & Queens, boats
- with sails - ~~A~~ whatever they are called
- not shown, I think.

There are very few cars + no hanky -
 a very pleasant surprise after Cairo!
 - But the inevitable pest, someone selling
 pushing their wares as you wherever you
 walk. Got very good at carrying 20 lbs
 (La). Breakfast in the hotel (2nd) - yogurt
 + fruit + coffee + then a drive to
 the ferry + across the Nile to the
 West bank + up into the dry hot
 sandstone cliffs by a little bus - past
 marvelous scenes of donkeys, camels,
 pedon housing - square flat roofs
 mud huts - every second a furious
 picturesque scene + up + up to the
 Valley of the Kings. Had some amusing
 talk about the robbers who stole everything
 for all the tombs except King Tut
 - because it was totally buried +
 all about Carter's discovery +
 then the 2000 pieces lot again -

CAIRO, EGYPT, TEL. 750666 TELEFAX 922222

and other tombs⁴; some remarkably
 preserved + practically + others
 partially destroyed by the enemies of the
 tomb owner! Incredible belief in the
 afterlife - what a way to ^{occupy} ~~filling~~ your
 life - building your tomb - or rather
 having a million slaves to do it for you!
 + the Valley of the Queens + the
 Temple of Tutmosis III + IV + Deir el
 Bahari - being visited by the P.S. (!!)
 - where Queen Hatshepsut's ^{portraits} ~~name~~ have been
 consistently removed for her ^{portraits} ~~name~~ by her enemies. All very ^{portraits} ~~interesting~~
 at this time of year. Saw some people
 hiding donkeys + bikes up the hill +
 see the sights. Incredible.
 Then back to the ferry + hotel +
 lunch + a meal + then on to
 Karnak - magnificent pillars + obelisks
 + statues. All very different from Greek
 temples - columns totally different + then
 occasionally but addressed by Alexander. OVER +

5.

And then a walk through Luxor temple
 again suggest - + onto the train
 again to Claudia. A funny time in her
 presence which they insisted on keeping
 until after the train had left the station -
 & we didn't know of stairs on the train
 though they arrived her at last! Eventually
 it was brought to the cabin. Why? Some
 wrangling. So back to Cairo to arrive
 at 7am & have the whole morning to
 see the pyramids again & do some shopping.
 & Now off to Jeddah. Got driven out
 to the airport by an elderly local Texan
 (widow) he assured me - very Texan.
 Nice to get a few words though!

Later Now in Jeddah. Flew over
 the Sinai & think I saw the Suez
 but hard to tell in all the cloud
 - What a lot of noise & descent should
 really have been on other side (S) to see
 the Red Sea & don't know if flew right

6.

over Mt. Sinai or not. No, now
 looking at map think it was the Fran basin
 I saw on the Suez. I don't know!
 Must be we flew south & that was
 the Nile I saw suddenly - he at Luxor!

Must post this now & make my
 connecting flight to Abha -
 the Khams airport & then
 the bus will pick me up. & he
 back about 12³⁰. What -
 travelling 4 days - feels like -
 2 week holiday - again so soon!

So well done. Please send my
 letters on to AA & MC etc as
 I am running out of writing power
 Cheers M.

Will mail this in Egypt! Going there tonight for 4 days. Have no idea what it will be like except am dying to see the Sphinx & the Pyramids. Most people say they love Luxor but get fed up in backwash (pippin in Egypt.) Marvellous to think of seeing the Nile & that desert & the incredible old old old civilization.

Going by myself - but expect to join a tour when I get there. There are several Egyptian interpreters here who have been very helpful giving me names of agencies and changing Egyptian money - very warm friendly people.

Life goes on quite fast these days. Can't really believe it's May 4! Only a little over a month & then Ireland! My first year will be up before I know it. The pace is leisurely & people relaxed but underneath

→

There is constant worry for the Lebanese - re their homes & families - and one of the interpreters was reading some Cuban poems & talking about Che Guevara & one knows that there are many who are basically revolutionaries though they hide it. Politics is rarely discussed & it's hard to know what the Middle East feeling is about the West.

And the Western doctors tend to stick to themselves - The nurses are a bit more adventurous & socialize more with Middle Easterners.

Several of us went shopping in the ^{Khanis} Souq & met a Sicilian engineer there who drove us to look at old carpets - to a marvellous area, where Saudis living in tin houses & gathering in the remarkable market - full of junk. I bought a very dirty 1/2 meter eaten carpet very cheap - Iranian - which may be palvagable & anyway I will enjoy in my bedroom. Went to a

Darling all at 527

How are you?

Harris heard from Pat & Audrey since February!

Patry told me about Pat's Big Bridge Birthday & Patsy - terrific. Sorry! Doctors get rough. There for the occasion. Unforgettable from Sandi.

What would you like via Ireland? (Sandi has practically 0 crafts!)

with huge bundles on their heads. Women washing pots pans & cloths in the canal. A horse being washed in same place! donkeys, caravans of camels, water buffalo, men turning a pump handle to raise the water to flow down a higher ditch, oxen turning water pumps - incredible irrigation & bountiful harvest of grain & vegetables - flowers flowering trees - Evergreen date palms & bedouin housing & all sorts of animals & chickens & women in Cloupt clothing & children & lots of birds. & then in the distance the great bank of sand & the pyramids. Fabulous.



Then all that's left of Memphis - the alabaster Sphinx, the huge recumbent statue of Ramses II. - Then to the crumbling 'step' pyramids & the

Mastaba of Mereruka - a remarkable tomb

with incredible nos of paintings & bas relief. There is just so much to see & I could spend another holiday here another year easily. And to think, this is not even holiday time - just 2 weekends put together in places of one I did ~~not~~ work!

So you see living in Saudi, uspet of all the drawbacks

has advantages!

Though you know until Sept its too hot to go anywhere except Beirut!

The nine month! Can hardly wait to see you all. Wish Marie Claire could come too & what about Chris, Is. & Stephen. Hope exams went well for Stephen & that he has found a job for the summer - very hard to do apparently.

So will write some more when I get to Luxor - & when I get back & in the meantime, please send this on to AA & Marie Claire.

Great great love to all
Mary

May 5, 1978

4.

Cairo! Here I am at the Hilton -

Expensive but marvellously convenient. Very funny being here on ones own - Could get picket up & taken around! But somehow best!

Came "overnight" via Jeddah - Arriving by their time at 3 am. First unparted by the customs who say I need a visa.

Thought this all settled in Saudi. ~~But~~ Then they said would cost \$150⁰⁰! Turned out however, that you need to have 150⁰⁰ ~~US~~ ^{US} in hand to get in + visa out costs 2⁰⁰!

& they take Saudi Riyals without any bother! So that was easy at last. Then got a taxi - Old Old Man swelling very big & Young Boy (? grandson) - Aukles & Aukles though Cairo at night. Wow - gave them much too much money! But they were needy! And the hotel had a boom - not overlooking the Nile - but with fountain. And hotel had 24hr haunting service - etc service incredible after being in SA where everything is a major expedition interrupted always by prayers! Noone


3.

Went to the Bar-BQ of Spring Rec Centre - by the pool at night - looked like a great resort hotel pool! Fantastic! They had a door prize - pulling the tickets out of a hat - 78 # on the ticket & I nearly won - 3 out! 1079648 & I was 1079645! excitement. Lots of children there - swimming in the pool - let from underneath.

Someone at the Air Base Clinic where I work 2 days a week found a lovely bird - with a broken wing - beautiful yellow under the chin & greenish - yellow wing feathers. I took it home & on feeding it is a dropper but it won't do anything for itself & I am sure a cat will get it when I put it outside. Lots of wild cats in the Middle East! So we are keeping her in a box at present. Have taken a photo of it.

Big thunder storm just now & all the lights went out - & lots of lovely rain

Seem to pray much here!) And an American Express travel Agent to take you all over for fairly reasonable prices!

So in the am of course first they a walk by the Nile. So amazing to have such a great river in the desert - especially striking when carside SA - so unending! Small boats & small ~~boats~~ dhows -  Bridges & trees & some quite fine architecture.

Then on a tour to the pyramids & Sphinx of Giza. Fabulous: Setting night up on the dry sandy desert on the edge of the marvellous fertile valley. What a contrast. No wonder the Nile & fertility are synonymous - & we climbed up inside the great Cheops pyramid - half bent over to the tomb room - 'Really incredible' & then the Sphinx & all the Arabs trying to sell Lawrence head dress & get your picture taken on a camel. I did not find in - though remember that AA did! Very funny people looked! Did you hear the headdress Auntie?

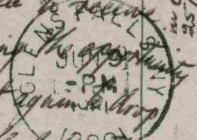
Then back to the hotel - stops at the Papyrus factory & the weaving (bought a tapestry made by children). Then back to the pyramids for son et lumiere - that night - French - very suitable for this particular dealign - quite ~~amazing~~ & poetic. Storins view of the 3 pyramids Cheops, Chephren, & Mycerinus & the Sphinx & a new view! & the stars. I loved it.

Incredible what you can accomplish in 4 days! Tonight 190 by train to Luxor - have the day there & return that night by train - saves hotel bills! They arrange a package deal.

This morning had ~~an~~ magnificent trip - again arranged by American Express - to Memphis & Saggara & the Step pyramids - a most marvellous drive along the Nile, then a canal - with incredible scenes from the Biblical times - when



Saratoga Springs N.Y.
 Skidmore College
 Dear Allie, was so pleased to receive
 yours of Jan. 9th & am taking the opportunity
 of being on the same continent again to drop
 you a line. - Neil was well but with
 arm in plaster after slipping on rocks
 when on holiday in W. Australia's N-W.



Back
 IN GENEVA
 25/6/61



I had only 3 instead of 8 days in Jakarta
 with Warwick & family thanks to Qantas
 strike, but we will all be together
 for Xmas & New Year as it is their home here
 year again & I have booked already as
 I want to be there for 18/11 & the
 50 anniversary of my matriculation class.
 Warwick is Deputy Director for 3 yrs of the
 Office in Jakarta. My flat is full of things
 which I am here at Biennial Conf. of Pan
 Pacific S.K.A.s in Women's Res. My letter to Tina
 from Auckland only reached her on May 1st

Much love,
 Franie

H. A. Vibert Douglas MBE
402-67 Sydenham St.,
Kingston, Ontario
Canada K7L 3H2

Auntie

To Auntie, Sarah, Mananne, Daniel, Aleck

Creevy June 1981

I want to write a poem of praise
For you 5
Because of the joyousness of being with you
At Creevy, this time. Magic!
And we could all sing it to the
accompaniment of
Flutes and Recorder and Trumpet

Then again, I am no poetess!

I want to say how much I rejoice in the
greatness of you all
Your vitality, love of life, ability to take life
as it comes.

Its losses & sadness
Its richness & gladness

I wished for more time to table of Life & Death
but loved every minute of time we spent together
Eating & drinking, picnicking, making fires,
walking yelling* Ohm-ming, wading reading
cleaning talking snarling* driving, being nice
horrible* Stubborn* warm, silent, difficult*
loving irritating* outrageous, beautiful, funny
HUMAN. *Subjective experience

Hope all tripping was marvellous + so the Summer 1981
Love you all tremendously
Mary

Darling Auntie. Hope all went well in hotel & en route back. I loved our visit. (Sorry I can't be about all the times I get irritable & impatient & don't remember all the things I want to discuss! - you!) Please ask your doctor to give you a referral to a therapist who may have some ideas about the shaking that your doctor does not have. It would make life so much easier. Great love & thanks for all your love, letters & good vibes. Talk to you.

Allie

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NAME _____

DATE

29 June 81

R_x

Dear Doctor

I am writing on behalf of
my Aunt Dr Allie Douglas as
I wonder if you would agree to
send her to a neurologist. It
occurs to me that she might
be helped by such meds as
Tuderal - and that ^{you and} the
Neurology Dept may have some
other ideas. This might make
life easier for all concerned

Yours respectfully

PHYSICIAN _____

Maslow (M.D.)

For the doctor.

Italy
holiday



Dr. A. Vibert Douglas

67 Sydenham St,
Apt 402,

Kingston,

Ontario

K7L 3H2

Dear Everyone

12 April 81

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Marvellous thank Allec taking
AP over + Mariane + Dan
from my! Nurse
That's terrific. Will probably arrive few days earlier than I thought. Will see.



Have just come back from a marvellous holiday in Italy! Glorious Spring & what a contrast to Saudi! Not only in terms of glorious growth & countryside - but the incredible heritage of beautiful things - is overwhelming - leaves one quite breathless! The art, the sculpture, the incredible buildings, magnificent cities & Glorious Medieval towns and Roman remains & mountains & blossoms & WINE! & fabulous pasta! - HAM & BACON & PORK! 2000 K. kmelen drive - About 100 miles walking & numerous sight seeing trips later - Here I can walk in Jeddah. I went to New-a doctor friend (all very Platonic!) - great person to have! With us we have about same energy & speed & like to see & do some things - Decided beforehand that it would be a ^{re-orientation} of the country - & it was! With Michelin guide in tow & hand we saw nearly every "3 Star" spot in the entire country! (Except the Italian Alps - where people were still skiing, we gathered together we saw their skis on tracks - but that seemed hard to believe in the balmy weather we had most of the time.) Here are some impressions of the various spots:

Rome - Totally magnificent (after Cairo in Saudi Arabia especially!) I loved its many levels, the glorious Palatine hill & the Roman remains, the Spanish Steps & the Trevi fountain & the great St. Peter's Piazza. The museums were too colossal to absorb on a short stay - one would need a year or two! - The Sistine Chapel too incredibly crowded - but of course magnificent - The whole thing overpowering in its immensity & richness of heritage & culture & at the same time staggering a bit under the heritage - trying to maintain it & keep alive in the present.

Naples - Sorrento, Capri, Amalfi Drive, Pompeii - a 3 day tour - Packed - driving in a huge bus along a precipice ledge! Loved Pompeii. Naples was disappointing as Vesuvius was hidden until late & the fog had come in. Capri - glorious & the Blue grotto gorges - also Sant Michele house. (and two shopping!) The Amalfi drive is magnificent & the various crafts - Carvers - inlaid wood work & glorious pottery (like some at home). Then back to Rome where we rented a car.

A Car! To be able to drive again!!! Even with all the Italians honking their horns & driving like mad men (women) & the network of one-way streets in every city - and the difficulty in finding out where we were & where we should be in order to get to where we wanted to go - and the incredible mountain roads we found ourselves on (by mistake?). Two things I could not bear & put my foot down about: 1. Drive along the gorges small narrow streets of the Medieval towns & 2. Wait with baggage while movement of who knows where! Luckily I was driving when we arrived in Assisi - I parked before we entered the old town.

Assisi. What a glory! The town is so marvellous & then the splendid St. Frances Basilica, its facades & cloisters & all the other churches & vistas & a marvellous small hotel & super-food! & the bells in the ringing...
Gubbio - an incredible mountain town & place rising up the mountain side & opening out onto a beautiful square at about the 4th story level! & incredible narrow steep streets & steps.

Sienna an incredible town. Had strange effect on me sitting in the square - déjà-vu. Feels of having been there in some past life - & at the same time quite scary - hypnotic power of that shell shaped 'square' & people coming in all directions. Marvellous flow of the buildings & rooms & Palazzo Pubblico & enormous Cathedral - Romanesque style - in white & green marble stripes.

St Gimignano of antique vase fame - a glorious congregation of little streets, churches & squares & 14 Square towers! What fun.

Then Florence - What a glory: Michael Angelo. Leonardo da Vinci, Uffizi gallery - David, Loggia delle Signora & its sculptures, the Cathedral, ^{doors} Baptistery, Pitti Palace, the Medici Church & library (the Caracci printing press & early maps) & of course the Ponte Vecchio!

Then on to Pisa - Surprised at beauty of the great enclosed square where the Tower, cathedral, baptistry & ^{companion} cemetery stand so harmoniously. Didn't like the feeling of walking around the tower at the top! & then incredible pulpit & intricate sculpture & the marvellous chandelier of Galileo.

Then up the Italian Riviera & into France! first putting up at San Remo where the flower market is a blaze of colour & huge bunches of long stemmed healthy flowers - I bought some & had them for several days in hotel rooms.

& Nice, Menton, Cannes & Monte Carlo - greatly built up since I was there in 1950!

A marvellous day up into the Alps - Inland - Mountain roads, far hair-pin bends! & Medieval villages. Love France!

Then Milan - glorious square & magnificent cathedral. The pigeons swirled around the square - totally marvellous. The cathedral was under repair & and not see beyond the transept - but how beautiful it is - especially inside & the great gallery of Victor Emmanuel & splendid shops & flanked in roof & the band police band played. It was all - "well for all people!" No opera at La Scala while we were there, unfortunately. As we walked at least 15 miles around & saw every gallery & church!

Verona - A marvel - incredible to walk through & suddenly come upon one wonder after another - totally hidden by houses & narrow streets. Beautiful site

Back from Italy intact - Sent whole account to Pat & Bud
& they will send it on -

Marvellous plans for Creery. So glad that you can all
come. Wish I could stay until you go but have to be back here
on the 26th. Anyway they will look after you well & we'll get
in lots of food for the week so you won't have to worry about that.
We'll talk about the money when we get there! Anyway,
the car & all the food are on me, of course. Will write to

the Buswells & make a reservation for the night of the 11 or 12th
- Think I can get there by then. We could go off to Creery in the
car & get there ahead of Dan & Marianne - who would be
happy to come up - after a sleep anyway - by train than
cramped tight in a car - + baggage. I'll book them a room at
Buswells for a night if they would like that? Let me know.
What fun it will be. We don't have to do

anything at all except stay at Creery - if that's what you
would like - with ^{day} tripping when we want - Terrific.

Not too far away now. Great fun. Will write

Alex & Joan.

Great great love to you & good luck to Stephen
for exams. Tallyho at.

On the banks in the River - lovely Roman Arena, theatre, & square where they drove the chariots - (Piazza delle Erbe).
& Romeo & Juliet's balcony. & the tomb of the Scaligers.

Then on to Venice! Course had to leave the car & then by boat (got the long way round trip by mistake but glorious view of Venice) & dumped at St. Mark's Square not knowing where to go! luckily found a Pension quite close. Incredible arriving by boat! What a magnificent place. Dreamy idleness - & so much to see. Just to sit & watch, the gondolas, steamers (Vaporetto) people, pigeons cats & look at the glorious buildings, the great Campanile & Doge's Palace the fine ~~church~~ Bell tower in St. Marco, & the Salute - what a lot of activity on the Grand Canal. The Cathedral mosaics are glorious & the Doge's palace a glory & the Bridge of Sighs! Best of all (just liked walking over the little canal, & bridges & seeing the gondolas & getting the feel of that incredible place. And the art galleries! I finally could not look at one more Madonna & Child! - or other religious picture.

Ravenna Mosaics - wow!

So back to Rome & now Jeddah.

Actually, this Sands Hotel is a great welcoming & healthy place. ^{for all the Whittaker people} Merv goes off to Riyadh & I to Khamis - Back to the Hard life. But I bought so many books & have so many others sent me - I don't need to think about anything else except reading them & thinking about the glorious holidays (& the next & next!) & learning Italian!

Bless you all - Love May.

Now back in Khamis & Merv to Riyadh. So starts a new quarter. Lovely weather here & lots of water in the tap (a change) & everyone wanting to know about the

holidays & how was the wine & how much did it cost? Mucho!
Open house in heland in Sone for anyone who'd like to come 13-26. Love M.

Darling Auntie,

Aug 15/81

At last the strike is over.

You have been terrific to get letters through
USA.

What a marvel you are!

Do hope you have had some lovely
days at the Island with lots of ~~the~~ visitors &
hopefully Marie Clume & Alex & Mainance
& Sarah etc. with great feeds of fun.
Hope visit to Stella & Mary was great at
both ends of their trip to the Rockies.

Enclosed Memoographed sheet on happenings
here during Ramadan etc - is hard to read -
sorry!

Last weekend had a great time
exploring caves & cave drawings out in
the mountains & escarpment & slept out on
the rocks under the full moon! glorious.

Will soon have the car in our possession (3
of us) - as present owners are leaving -
will miss them as they are a very nice
family. Lots of parties for them.

This letter will be mailed next Wednesday
± in Toronto or Ottawa - by friend who is
going home for holidays.

Not sure yet when I am going to Greece.
Hopefully in Early Sept for about a week. Will

have to go many times - there is so much to see
there.

Still planing to return to Canada in
Nov. & will see you then.

Super that Manianne will also be
at Queens. Let me know if you need more
money for her. I gave her \$13000 but that
may not be enough.

Great love to you & all
at any.

Love to think of our time in Ireland!

Mail strike over!

c/o Whitaker
Saudi Arabia

May 10th

Big sign up on the Recreation Center Bulletin Board -
for all Canadian Ex-pats! How nice to think of hearing from you
all again!

This is a Communal letter - so some of you may have
'read some of it - Where was I?

June. Marvellous trip to Iceland where met 2
nieces & 2 nephews & 1 aunt! Sager times getting to
know them all as ^{we} grew ^{to know each other, again} ~~to know each other~~ in the nurturing
Irish climate - ^{on way} all explored the beaches, mountains,
bays & dunes & ^{followed} the pagan practice of bonfires on
Midsummer night - (when sun set about 10³⁰ p.m!).

On that latter occasion we collected huge stacks of wood
on an ancient pagan fort & as the blaze died
down a bit, accomplished great feats of jumping over the
cinders & then cooking kabobs (on metal coat
hangers) & baking spuds in the coals - All around
the bay could be seen after fires - until the
sea mists obscured everything except us dancing &
chanting around the embers! Afterwards back
to the cottage for hot wine toddy! There was
lots of music too with 2 flutes, a recorder & a trumpet!

July. Ramadan in Saudi Arabia! Ramadan
starts when someone in the desert or on the mountain
sees the new moon & they call out & the word
is spread from Mosque to Mosque & by the sound of the
big ~~guns~~ guns. This year we were celebrating
Dominion Day & July 4th together (because of the
imminent commencement of Ramadan) - on July 1
- having a Miss Legs Contest - when the big guns
went off! (What a meet up of West & Middle East!).

Because all Islam fasts run from sunrise to sundown (defined
in the Koran as the time when can no longer distinguish
the white from the black thread) - & then party all night
- we change our clinic hours to morning &
evening & close down in the ~~at~~ afternoon - are

advantage when Ramadan comes in the heat of
the summer. And so are got through July, car-napping
during the hoisy nights + enjoying the pool in the
kitchens + hiding the fact that we ate during the
day - + listening to the endless (it seemed) prayer
calls - the most unharmonious, to our ears, droning
sounding sounds! What a strange time. In the
Emergency Room - open all night - people walked
in for the most minor things all through the night
with bloated stomachs - after eating huge amounts
at night + the children stuck to candies. Special
Ramadan treats are found in stores - Candies like
Purkiss Delight - Lots of Apricots - + there are mandarin
oranges. Feasting Then at the end of Ramadan
there is the year 3 day feasting Eid El Feter A-LSAH
There are 2 Eids during the year - 1st at time of
the Haj - the pilgrimage to Mecca). A shepherd is
seen around the houses + flocks of sheep + goats
these gradually disappear (+ can then be heard
knocking behind the house walls + getting ready for
the fast!). Now everything is about back to normal
with clinic times on a daily basis + we can all
eat again in public! - + the nights are fairly quiet!
except this is now the time of weddings + several
big tents have appeared across the road on an empty
lot near the Saudi housing - + great beating of
drums (quite primitive sounding) can be heard in the
late evening.

Aug. Lots of friends seem to be leaving Saudi
this month + there's lots of goodbyes + sad farewells -
The people we are buying a car from (2 gp's + 1)
have become best friends + also a gp I took some
painting lessons from - It's sad to see them go -
lots of farewell + ...

Weekends have been spent out in the desert, up in the hills & on the edge of the escarpment. We have found some
drawing down in hollow, wadi area — a nice
spot. This weekend we are going back there to sleep
out on the rocks & watch the stars. It's marvellous
& to think can do this all year! (No really, even the
snow too!) It's been too hot to go to the Red Sea
but when Sept-Oct comes down the great
escarpment again for that nice too.

Have a small cat here. My house mate
Tammy (the Filipino radiologist) got him when
was in Beirut. She named him Jake & now
he is known as Jake the Rake. He's getting big
enough to ^{go} out to the big cats & is acquiring
bad garbage eating habits — & stinks. Actually,
I think he's a small wild tiger. It is amazing
for us to be small wild tigers too go out to
fight, scratch, bite & hiss back at him.
He's a riot! Sometimes he looks at my Egyptian
kunal & carries on quite a conversation with the
pictures of people & birds & when he addresses the
flies, spiders & ants, he uses a totally different
voice! Taming him is very difficult & requires
a anti-insect spray — the only punishment he
takes seriously! I hope he'll take off in the
big Middle East cats but the food's too good
in one house! Anyway: When Jake the Rake is on the
Make
We'll have him spayed
For our sake —
Poor Jake ...

lots of love

Do write

Your Mid-Eastern Friend,

Fabrice [unclear] [unclear]

16 Aug 81

Dear Auntie,

Enforced account of
Gene: Gogons

Love to get your letters.
What have you decided re your
Apt ~~to~~ Condominium? Would interest
on the ~~cost~~ Capitas be more than
your monthly rent - so make
much difference? Would you like
some money? please let me know.

How is Marie Claire?
Hope all OK.

Must be lovely having both
Steve & Marianne there.

What is cost of Marianne's
year there?
Love to Mary L'S.

Lots of love to you
BT

King Faisal Military
Cantonment Hospital
Khamis Mushayt
Dr.
No.

13.

Back in Khamsi having made all connections
& spent all night of last day in airports
C'est la vie de tourist - on voyageur -
Prince Sultan is here (Minister of Defense)
- So things have been sprung up & such
a lot of kerfuffle at the hospital too. It's
a comedy & farce sometimes.

I have nearly been out of Canada
1 year (Sept 26). Six weeks off
to Canada. Am looking into whether
round the world tours are cheaper
as want to go to West Coast also. So
will let you know just when I will get
there when I find out!

Off to the Red Sea this weekend! It will
still be very hot there - but not unbearable
& it will be fun to snorkel again over
the coral. Will see so many of you
soon!

Lots of love & blessing.
Mary

name. They gave me ² a ticket with no hesitation.
[However all this caused a bit of anxiety on
my part!] Then flying over the desert
- not ~~so~~ ^{pleasant} really - looked like an
oriental skin covered in black scars
& abrasions (rocky outcrops) from that
height - & one could help thinking that
landing in the Arctic would be preferable
as at least there is water there! Then
suddenly a few bushes on the hillsides &
were ~~not~~ ^{green} greener until ^{the vegetation &} ~~the~~ ^{middle of} ~~there~~
the fertile crescent became evident &
then the high rise building of **Beirut** &
we were down. There was so little
evidence of war & bombing from our
view point - I was amazed. I expected
to see a flattened city - but then we
did not see that at all. Part of the airport
was under repair. Dry & dusty &

rather unattractive at this time of year
- though the distant hills are lovely & I'd
love to be there in the Spring some year
when hopefully the war stops. Poor
Lebanon. Then on to Athens with
incredible views of Anatolia's snow-capped
mountains & high forbidding shores
- another place that's intriguing!
Then over the Cyclades & Crete - looking
like grey-brown rock with occasional
white speckled habitation - then
down, down to Athens & its mountains
& hills & the acropolis! Wow. I
took the airport bus into the city & had
sudden & great views of the acropolis, Hadrian's
Arch & the temple of Zeus & the Leicahtos -
the high cone shaped hill with white masonry
stairs. Found a small hotel & walked up
the acropolis via the small steps.

terrace of the Plaza, getting lost a few times on the windy streets - (Smelling a bit like Tacco!) - then the Parthenon - magnificent - more crumbly than I imagined it + closed to visitors - but the propylaeas are so marvellous. Of course & the Erechtheion & the Caryatides - all upstair & unfortunately - scaffolding - much smaller than I thought they'd be - & incredible views all around. Gave one a feeling of being on an elevated plane - Physically + emotionally! That evening saw Sou et Lumiere - Academy - in front of the King. So many people taking flash pictures - detracted from the atmosphere & story that they were trying (not too successfully) to create. Then on to Greek dances - in a beautiful outdoor setting in pines & flowers, shrubs & plants - Marvellous groups of costumes - when I was

Greece!

Who wouldn't go to Saudi in order to get to Greece! (To say nothing of Italy, Egypt, Iceland!) - to have - the hum-drum life!

Several others from Khavis were going at same time - but wanted Island cruises & wanted different experience - Anyway am delighted to be on my own on this trip - unplanned & unfolding minute by minute -

Even getting to Greece was imprudent as found I could save a day if went via Beirut - rather than wait for a direct flight Set off for Jeddah - a hellishly hot humid Chaldron at this time of year - via Middle Eastern Airlines - without prior reservations - Luckily the company uses the same hotel in Jeddah as Whitaker - The Sands - and when I gave them the director's

Very much a ruin - but work it could be the
site of the Games permanently (or nearby) - such
a peaceful atmosphere - (though actually going
they were stopped 393 AD due to fighting) (Started
around 500 BC!) From there drove over
wreathed mountains to Basse a temple -
Parthenon like structure high up on a limestone
plateau - in the middle of nowhere. Seen in
the guidebook that explored by Dodwell (Others)
in 1805-6. (Could that be our Dodwell & family reference?)
- Too early?)

Then through more mountains - some recent burn over
the small dry pines & bushes - stopping
dramatically in one place ^{just before} a village.
& a huge wide valley in center of Peloponnesus has an
enormous herds plant - burning coal - filling the
whole valley with its black black & grey pollution.
A town near here called Megalopolis - of all
grand names - seemed swarming in orthodox
priests in black & high hats - tried to get breakfast
here & ended up eating a peach & piece of
bread on one side of the street & coffee at the other!

Then ~~for~~ a swim along the way - flowers hot sea
& a visit to palace of Nestor - great site
little palace left & on through a most
incredible pass (the Langada pass) to Sparta
situated in a wide undulating fertile
valley - near the old site - (glorious views
of the huge mountain range to the west) Nestled
into these is the incredible Mountain Medical
town of Mistras - numerous palaces & church

& well walked over by me one morning - puffing
as the boiling sun poured onto the eastern face
(Drank quantities of water & milk! - wine seems a
bit inappropriate alone!)

[Of this epistle seems an excellent piece of
descriptions of where & what - ~~and~~ skip along
- A lot of it is written for my own benefit, as
a diary]

Drove north stopping to swim at Lerna -
one of the oldest (stone age) sites in Greece - had
to swim around to it to cold fresh water was
pouring in to the hot salt spring a strange
effect when swimming through it - people
were camping there. Then on to a
marvellous Minoan site at Tiryns - huge
& square blocks & fortification galleries still
& extant. Excavation going on - rather desolate
place to work though - in the boiler, sun & dust
under some canopies & umbrellas. Then on to
Epidaurus site of Aesculapius' resort -
some health spa whatever. What a marvellous
site & concept. Huge old theatre cut into hillside
& very well preserved & all parts of (now ruined)
therapeutic building & bathes. gave great feeling
of recreation & health) - flowers pines again.
When I left there took the 'way' road &
after miles - in the dark when was considering
pulling up & sleeping on the car - came to a

8
Very jolly-looking village across from the
lights of Póros ^{Island} - lovely site & little
services going back & forth. I drove along
looking for a hotel & then saw a lot of people &
fire engines all headed for a brush fire
on the hill. Headed back finding a hotel &
considered curling up in car near beach -
Million Misfortunes. Then gave that up &
finally found a very nice hotel & good food!

Next day on to Mycenae - biggest of the
Helladic & Minoan civilizations. It's a
wonderful underground cistern - 88 steps down
very dark - people ahead had ~~no~~ cigarette
lighter & behind a very small flashlight - the ones
behind decided to turn back & ones ahead
went on for & then I was in the dark -
What slimy walls & slippery steps! (I retreated)
Suddenly rounding a corner & here was daylight!
There again the site of the city is stupendous!

A spectacular building is the Treasury of Atreus.
 Huge corbelled stone blocks. Come to a point
almost - some 200 feet up.

Then on to Nemea - a temple of Zeus -
(Doric peripteral hexastyle 340 BC! in case
you're interested!) Amazing only 3 columns are
standing & the others fallen to bits on the
ground. Imagining the earth quake & the huge

5.
Awake enough to see it! Datsun
Chore

The next day a small red hired car - away to
Delphi - (to consult the oracle about my
future - of course!) - a longish drive over distant
rocky hills & then to the deep narrow valley
of the piedmont slopes & the cedar sing locally
+ lovely birds (No golden Eagles) & then it's divine
What a situation! The lower tholos at the
Marmaria Temple of Athena is three standing columns
- The next level is castalian fountain. Such
gorgeous cold water & up the sacred way past
the treasuries & up to the Temple of Apollo - many
bits & pieces standing & (many not!) - how that
well preserved Scaetite & above that again the
Stadium. What a view! What wonderful site
Such a combination of natural beauty, architectural
brilliance, history, religious significance & on top of
all that the shattering effects of earthquake -
seen not only on the building but on great
hills in the rock. (Must read Mary Stewart's My Brother
Michael again! Museum magnificent especially Charioteer.)

Stayed down on the sea at Itea - little port
where cruise ship come in & tourists. Many of
them have to go & back paddlers. So glad to be able
to get ^{to Delphi} ~~there~~ early & late & avoid the crowds -
(Allergic to tourists!) Very mosquitoey & soon at
Itea I bought a lot of anti mosquito spray next day!
Then drove westward & got ferry across to the
Peloponnese - huge truck loads of very ripe fruit
into ferry & every kind of person. Drive to Olympia
- glorious pastoral area & whistling pines & quiet
respite of usual tourists.

and wild driving seems to have been the rule. Not really wild driving but driving over wild roads - incredible!

Went back to beach the first day after trying to ~~Allen~~ & avoiding tourist spots explored a small off-track road leading to a mammoth small Taverna - restaurant on a cave shore where several fishy ships tied up. Super spot. Funny nearby empty hotel gave me a room. Next day to Knossos - seems nice like Egypt - big red pillars & murals. Then on to Phieris - what an incredible setting way up in mountains. Tried to find a way down to sea from there south coast over incredible bad road - picked up hitchhiker & a rather a yodel with a heavy shovel who demanding to be picked up & dropped at his home - After miles of rock & dust road landed at beach where only view was of an island covered in petrol storage tanks! After a swim (scary) got out of there fast & staid down South shore where the map ~~showed~~ there was a road - proved out to be under construction & by night fall, found it was totally impassable! So had to walk back & kept getting lost & ending up in remote little towns who'd never seen a tourist let alone a waver driver! & of course no hotels! After much being lost, back tracking, cursing despairing finally reached back to road to Iraklion (city) & finally ~~found~~ headed up a side road & clunk, stalling. I so there I stayed the night - on top a mountain in the middle of nowhere in the wind howling around - curled up in the car

Seat with a trusty sleeping bag (luckily brought) & slept well! - between wondering if the car was to be blown down the hill or if bandits were about to attack - & at dawn found I was in a most beautiful place with a tiny white walled chapel clocky, some grape vines & then the friendliest family went by on their tractor waving good morning - & what a view of mountains & roads!

One town where I stopped at a grocery store "Supermarket" & looked for a bottle of milk by slivig her a bottle I had got in the city (Heraklion) & she had no idea what it was - had only seen goats milk in a pail, (suppose! Finally got some german "long life" milk - good until 1982 Jan! No refrigeration in most of the stores. So many remarkable primitive ^{English} sites still - people on mules - side saddle. Others leading the many goats on a rope -

Cret is very mountainous but there are also wide valleys in olive groves, grapes, fruit trees - pomegranates. The grapes were being dried on racks & I didn't twig to what was all about until I saw them brown & dry & being served - raisins! There were so many things I wondered about & wished I could ask. Suppose one misses out a bit by not going on tours (but preserve me from them!) - The Cretans are warm (too warm sometimes!) & amazed as a female travelling alone.

(12)

The next day I drove + swam + found a room in a marvelous whitewashed Cretan house - outside steps leading to the kitchen + bathroom - beautiful flowers all up the steps + such nice clean plain room.

Weather has been superb - hot for about 2 hours in the afternoon - no rain + only used a sheet at night. Perfect time to come. No difficulty in getting hotel accommodation - (mostly). How lucky I have been. Now am in Heraklion, haven't given up the car - oh yes had funny episode yesterday when left car keys in washroom of hotel that closed from 3-5 - I was closed when I realized what I'd done. So had to sit + write part of this - luckily over a promenade + many cafes + gardens view! There are some very wild + some lovely very touristy places in Crete. Today found a super harbor + boats + marvelous restaurants + tourist trap shops all around the promenade! Certainly fine I went back to work. Seems as if I have been away a month or 2 not 10 days!

9

tumble (can't imagine anyone living in it so no lives lost) is as exciting as the glorious remains against their spectacular Mountain setting. Always, like the ruins better than the original (depreciated in price + reconstruction).
Then to Corinth - ancient city with

Commanding view over the Korinthiakos Kolpos + its 4 great pillars standing at the Temple of Apollo. + the incredible fountain of Peirene + rising high above the limestone citadel - the Acrocorinth - then on over the canal (looks like an axe cut through a type of candy!) + on to Athens via Piraeus - the horrible dirty, decrepit port of Athens - where you get four hours + ferries to the islands.

As I had little time left I decided to fly to an island rather than sail. Got a hotel room near the Domestic (Olympic) Airport - [was sure the planes were landing in the window.] + went to enquire re flights - all booked except Crete - So there I went! Perfect here I am!

Got a very old car - cheapest from Budget. Call it Minis the bull - very strong little car + with 4th gear - dashes along then stops suddenly (stalls). Usually as I try + penetrate the white hill-top villages looking for the road that always loses staff in those narrow street towns - if stalls for an hour at the Taverna where a lot of Cretans sit sitting + drinking + starving!

Darling Auntie, Stephen & Mananne

Sept 19 (Stephen
Birthday)

Just back from an eventful weekend at the Red Sea! Sailed (in something like a laser - though a school of dolphins! Sea about 40°C!

Happy Birthday Stephen! Do hope you had a celebration. Knew in AA you had a super cake! or maybe Mananne made it.

Mananne - How are the FROSTH this year. Just a year ago where we were looking at Steves 1000s & laughing about it all & now you will be in the Wheel. Don't forget to study! It's very easy to sit up & talk for hours - Remember sleep is important!

Alast + Allie - your letters are super. Hope you get some great days at the Isles this Fall & that the Thanksgiving weekend is a glory.

Now only about $5\frac{1}{2}$ weeks & I'll be seeing you all! Wow! Can hardly wait. May have to stop in England for a few days of refresher course in order to get my study leave time off - unless I can find a course in Toronto - sure I'll be able to.

Great love to you all & May & 'E

May



ST. PATRICK'S CLOSE, DUBLIN by Rose Barton (1856-1929)

Rose Barton was the daughter of a Tipperary solicitor and was born in Dublin. She was a cousin of Edith Somerville, author of the *Irish RM* stories. After presentation at Dublin Castle in 1872 she travelled on the continent, studied art in France, exhibited in London, becoming a member of the Royal Society of Painters in water colour. This Dublin view was painted in 1887. Rose Barton loved horse-racing, and backed two winners on the day of her death!

a p.c. from MA from Helsinki; I think she takes after you as far as travel is concerned.

I will be here for Christmas but have been asked to go round to my good friends, the Harveys on Christmas Day. I will probably be going to sister-in-law Janet + family at Cullenaamore after Xmas. When I went to Shigo to collect Thatch in Sept. I called in on Sarah at Creevy + found her in good form + enjoying her course in cheese making.

I wonder if you are going to

Dooneey.

Very dear Albie

I wish I could drop in with a case of sherry for you! As it is I have nothing but this card, but it does bring my very best wishes to you.

Wishing you Peace, Happiness
and Prosperity for Christmas
and the New Year

Since I was with you in Sept. I have been lucky enough to have visits from Mauraane, Stephen + Valerie which even tho' they were brief, it was lovely for me to have them. Now I have just received



P + A. for Xmas or praps to
Mary or to Ottawa. You will
soon have Mervine back again
at Queens which I'm sure will
be a cheer to you.

I hope you are keeping warm.
We have had a few degrees
of frost on + off here, but it
usually turns shokky to rain.

I wonder if Halley's Comet is visible
around Kingston. It has been
seen here by a few people, not
me yet; a head line in the Irish
Times today "Dubliners besiege
Jussink Observatory". The public had
been invited to view the comet thro' its
large telescope between 7 + 9 p.m. each
eve. this week + apparently 1000 turned
up. Tonight is cloudy.

All good wishes + much love

from  Mary

Current, Inc.

SUNNY N. SILLY



Darling Auntie,

Very Happy Easter - brought
to you by Stephen & Val. I hope you
all have terrific fun!

I will be down soon after
Easter - but I am going to Zermatt
to ski! glorious! Could not resist the
chance.

Really that Marie Clare &
Alex will be there with you.

Do hope that Maunuel
won't have to work too hard. I remember
those days!

Great love to you all

Mary.

28 Church St,
Faringdon, Oxon.
SN7 8AD.
9. XII. 21.

Dear Hilda,

I was about £50 to the Post Office to check the postage on my card to you when yours arrived, plus letter, plus your very acceptable piece about Sybil Campbell. It is not too late for the collection we are making for the Cross Hall library; it says something quite different from anyone else and has a different slant. Very many thanks.

I can well believe your trip would take some recovering from, I thought at the time it was hardly a rest cure. But hope something to look back on.

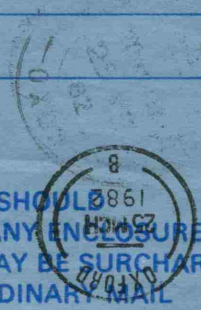
Thank you for news of Violet Douglas. Too bad she should have all this upset at her time of life. If when you do next see her, you think of her & give her my warmest wishes. A thorough kiss person.

Sudden arctic conditions here - 10 degrees below zero in the night, plus snow & ice.
Yours aye & all the best. Do take care of yourself. Kathleen.

the financial situation has made some
 improvement. Sadly the number of
 members in BFUV has now fallen so
 low and we don't seem to be able to
 attract the young - ^{but} we wonder
 whether we shall survive. We have
 an excellent President now, Norway
 Catechete, who is devoted to the
 interests of the Federation and Crosby
 Hall - and we are all working
 hard to make improvements. There are
 hard times for all some in other
 organizations, but with the will
 and a good programme we should
 survive, and Crosby Hall too. We
 can never recover the pleasant
 we have lost and the whole outlook
 is different - as you noticed in the
 Hall - the dining customs are
 typical! We celebrate 75 years of
 BFUVs tomorrow in Crosby Hall -
 am sorry not to give you better news -
 but at least we are now aware of
 our shortcomings.
 It was so very good to see you when
 you were over here. I do hope you
 will recover very quickly from
 your heart trouble. Love all good
 wishes, Yours affectionately
 Margaret (Sainbury)

SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS (PLEASE SHOW YOUR POSTCODE)

POSTCODE IT
 An AIR LETTER SHOULD
 NOT CONTAIN ANY ENCLOSURE;
 IF IT DOES IT MAY BE SURCHARGED
 OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL



BY AIR MAIL
AIR LETTER
 PAR AVION AEROGRAMME

SAINSBURY
Keep for C.H.



10 1/2 F

Miss H. Buckmaster
 357 Victoria Street,
 Kingston

ONT K7L 324

Dear Miss Buckmaster,

Thank you for your letter of 25th February. I am sorry not to have answered it before now. In fact one is heavy hearted to think that much of what you have been told is true. You will have seen the state of Crosby Hall for yourself. I do think that inflation and the raising of fees for foreign students (this done by the universities) has had a very adverse influence. Also when London transport fees were high there was considerable expense for graduates who were researching at the British Museum or even distant parts of the university. But it is true that there has been mismanagement. There was, for instance, one warden who was not at all the kind we are used to and let everything slip disgracefully. In fact, since Miss Billie retired (reluctantly) there has not been a good warden really devoted to Crosby Hall, as both you and Miss Billie certainly were. And no one since you has had the wide, cultured, scholarly outlook which I think personally is necessary for Crosby Hall. There has been too much desire to be up to date, to consult the students etc (I know that can be a good thing, but a desire to be in fashion for its own sake can lead to most unfortunate misjudgments.) The present house manager is a great improvement and is doing well on the whole, but she is not - as you say - awarded. It is true that many trustees have had and that the hall has been through very difficult times financially. Two years ago the officers of BFUW made a protest (at that time the hall was only half full and making a loss), many changes were made, an unemployed manager from the Westminster Bank came in to supervise all the financial affairs (this is a service offered by the Bank), painting and redecoration has been done. Charges have been made in the Board of Officers as occasion has arisen and BFUW competent BFUW members are now on all the committees. The number using the Hall has increased this year; but great care is needed. Graduates coming to study in London now seek a small room or flat where they can do their own catering - and this is another fact which works against Crosby Hall. It is true that the Akiagneres tapestry has been stolen. BFUW is now doing its utmost to see that no more are stolen or disappear and

Design by Irmgard Lucht, Federal Republic of Germany. Contributed to benefit the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Composition par Irmgard Lucht, République fédérale d'Allemagne, offerte au Fonds des Nations Unies pour l'enfance (UNICEF).

Obra de Irmgard Lucht, República Federal de Alemania. Contribución al Fondo de las Naciones Unidas para la Infancia (UNICEF).



Greetings and Goodwishes
for 1982.

Hope to see you in 1983
or in 1982 if I can
manage to go to both
the Conference and the
Council.

Bruce