

File

13 May 1944.

Dear Pat:

Your letter of 29 April arrived the other day and I was very happy to hear from you. The only thing that grieved me about your visit was that we had so little time together just to chat. I feel that we are kindred spirits, and I always get a lot of pleasure in discussing things with you.

Your very kind remarks about the way in which the conference was run are most flattering. As a matter of fact, I think that here again we have proof that there is some sort of a guidance over everything because I learned how to do that sort of thing as a result of the Government's having made it possible for me to attend conferences of a similar nature both in this country and abroad. The money that the Government spent in that way not only was, therefore, useful at the time because I think I contributed materially to the work of those conferences, but also the experience gained paid a fairly good dividend in my having the "know how" when our conference had to be engineered.

I note your designation as W.E.C. representative on questions of terminology, and within a short time I hope to have a document to send you. I have been a bit remiss but I know that you and the others will understand that first things must come first and I doubt whether matters on terminology can be considered among the latter in this juncture.

I got the biggest kick out of the last paragraph of your letter and I promptly sent that part of it to Barbara. Knowing that she has as keen a sense of humor as both you and I, there is a certainty that she will get quite a kick out of it.

Things are moving along at an increasingly rapid pace, but now that the summer weather is here and I can get out and play a bit of golf now and then, I feel pretty well.

With very best regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

~~TOP SECRET~~
REF ID: A6291978 dated 29/4/44.
"C" Section,
Wireless Experimental Centre,
Delhi.

Dear

Billy

This is just to tell you that we are back home in India and to thank you for your many kindnesses to us during our stay in Washington. I enjoyed myself particularly this time, feeling as I did that I was returning to a lot of old friends. I hope you will forgive me the liberty of congratulating you on your almost incredibly efficient job as Chairman. Without your expert handling we should not have achieved half so much nor should we have completed it in anything like the time we did.

Please consider me as duly appointed to be the W.E.C. representative on terminology and suchlike questions, and please communicate with me on this subject as occasion demands.

Please give my respects to the family and tell your daughter that two more of the brutal British are back to oppress India!

Yours ever
Pat. Humphreys

Mr. William F. Freedman,
Arlington Hall Post,
Virginia.

~~SECRET~~

Arlington Hall Station
Arlington, Virginia
U.S.A.
18 August 1943

Dear Pat:

I was particularly pleased to get your note of July 22, and especially to know that you arrived back home safely.

It would have been our great pleasure to have had you here longer because the moment I met you over at Bletchley I was able to discern a kindred spirit. If we contributed in any way to making your stay in Washington interesting and enjoyable I am very glad. Had you been able to stay longer there would still have remained sins of omission so don't feel too badly about things you imagine you could have done. I felt exactly the same way you did and your guess on this score is 100% correct.

When I read Barbara that paragraph of your letter which concerned her she was very pleased to think that you would keep her in mind and no doubt when you come here for your next conference she will have a number of additional questions to propound, which you will no doubt be able to answer completely to her satisfaction.

I have had one letter from John Tiltman recently and it was written just before he started off on his two-week holiday. In it he said, "I have taken the precaution of persuading the doctor to give me a medical certificate, not because there is anything much wrong with me but so that any attempts to drag me back from leave early might be frustrated." I agree with you that BP is a very gloomy little place so far as the town itself is concerned but the "works" I found extremely interesting, not to say fascinating.

In the past few days we have been able to make somewhat startling progress with the 7890 affair and there are high hopes of being able to begin pushing out much valuable material. I have been engaged in the past day or two in assembling the figures for a considerable increase in our staff to work on these problems. Approval for the increase will no doubt be forthcoming, because we have a high-powered paper from the staff

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~~SECRET~~Marr
John-

directing us to do so and so. All in all this work is going along very nicely and no doubt within a very short time the coordinating functions which we must exercise from here will begin to manifest themselves and, I hope, will produce good results.

And now for the most important part of this letter, namely the recipe for making "Old-Fashioneds". You will remember approximately the size of the glass, which is six ounces. Put $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoonful of sugar syrup in the bottom, add 2 or 3 drops of Angostura bitters, and then 2 full jiggers of Bourbon or what have you, a slice of lemon, a slice of orange and, if you have it, a maraschino cherry with about $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoonful of the maraschino liquid; then add a cube of ice. You need a muddler to stick in the glass so that people can stir it up. Some people don't like it sweet in which case reduce the amount of sugar syrup. Three of these things before dinner will fix anybody up and it is guaranteed that the hostess need have no worries about the quality of the food, though I am not so sure about whether she need to be apprehensive about its quantity.

Please write soon again and let us try to keep in touch with each other.

With cordial greetings to Martan and best wishes to you, I am,

Sincerely yours,

William F. Friedman
Director of Communications
Research

Colonel Patrick Marr-Johnson
The White House
Anand Parbat
Delhi, India

~~SECRET~~

July 22nd 1943.

The White House
 Anand Parbat
 Delhi, India

Dear Bill

I have been meaning to write to you for a long time to thank you for your kindness to me in both official and unofficial matters when I was in Washington. But I am terribly bad at writing letters and somehow or another nothing has happened about it to date, but please excuse me. Not only did I have a marvellous time while I was over there, but I feel that I learned a great deal, and above all had such a valuable opportunity to get to know all of you who are engaged in the same work, and this I often feel is perhaps the most important thing of all.

I am trying to get my affairs here in order but there is still a lot of leeway to be made up, for I was away in all for almost two and a half months, and a tremendous amount of things accumulate in that time. I also have had a lot of fights to get an increase of staff and so on, and maybe in the end I shall get a reasonable amount of work done, but things take time out here.

I am now cursing myself for all the hundred and one things that I meant to do in the States and did not in fact do in the end - but then that is always the way, and I imagine you may well have felt the same way after your return from England.

I wonder whether your daughter is still pondering deeply the question of the fate of India, and whether I managed to persuade her that the British were not quite such evil ogres as she thought? Please give her my best regards and tell her that I shall be thinking up a perfect answer to all her questions for the next time that I am in Washington!

Now there is one thing of great and immediate importance that I want off you, and that is your recipe for making "old-fashioned" - would you mind very much? Not of course, that we can get Bourbon, but we can, these days, get some Canadian Club, and this is not so far removed from it.

Have you heard from John Tiltman lately ?
He is quite hopeless at writing letters, so I imagine that you will not have heard. We had a letter from Tempe a few days ago, in which she said that they are soon to move into the house next door - I expect that you heard some of the discussions that went on about this, the old woman who owned it wanting double what it was worth and so on - I am very glad that they are not going to be rendered homeless, for there was a risk of this, which would have meant that John had to live by himself in a billet, which would have been horrid for him. I am not over fond of this country, but I must say that I am rather glad that I don't have to live at B.P, which I always thought a very gloomy little place.

Well, enough for the present - write and tell me the local gossip if ever you can spare the time. My respects to Madame, and please tell her that if she persists in addressing me in formal manner when next we meet I shall decline to recognize her !

Yours ever

Pat.