

Washington-- September 3, 1967

Dear Boris,

It is hoped that you can forgive me for typing my reply to your handwritten letter which reached exactly on my birthday, August 26. I was really touched and a wave of affection swept over me that you should take the trouble to write and plan with such remarkable accuracy for it to reach me on just that day. I feel especially grateful that you should have taken such a thoughtful attitude--particularly since you could only be reminded thereby that your beloved Annie was no longer here to do it herself. Thankyou a thousand times over.

Surprising as it may seem, we have too had a not-too-bad summer. I was frightened when we had such a fearful long stretch of particularly bad heat and humidity in June. But to our great surprise, since then it has not been too bad. Right now we have had a stretch of cool clear weather--following a long spell of too much rain, but at least the temperature was in the bearable range. In fact I have slept with my electric blanket turned on several nights recently, and twice in the last few days we have had the furnaces going for a little while in the mornings. I am sure you find that is hard to believe for Washington, but it is true.

Bill, I am glad to report, has regained enough strength and drive to return to his correspondence and writing this summer. We have a TYPIS T HERE ONE DAY A WEEK, SENT BY THE Marshall Foundation and so he has engaged her on Saturdays for some hours to work for him personally. Physically he has improved in several respects, but his legs are no longer capable of holding him up for more than a minute or two, or three. He does not take walks any more, even short ones. He takes a short turn in the back patio, and that is the extent of his moveability. It is a failure of the heart to carry the circulation to the lower extremities, so that the swelling in his lower legs and feet makes it very painful for it to be in an upright position. How things do change--when we were in Europe in 1962, he had the clots in the legs, and he HAD to walk to force the blood to form new paths around the blood clots in his legs; now he no longer has the pain from the clots, but the swelling pain which is NOT relieved by walking. He seldom leaves the premises.

We feel disturbed and sad about Bob, Jr.'s troubles with Edith. I can only say that I am glad Annie is being spared all this.

Now if it weren't for the Frago's and the David Kahn's, life would be more attractive. But we are forging ahead, getting the COLLECTION ready to turn over to the George C. Marshall Research Foundation, and living one day at a time. Day by day we try to keep as uninformed as possible about events in this country in the sword-drawn battle between the blacks and whites. Be glad you aren't facing this kind of situation, be glad, be glad!!

I repeat what Bill said, if I recall, in his recent letter to you, we hope you DO come to the U.S. and come stay with us!

Bill says it's about time you became our guest. Our only concern is that we shall not be able to look after you "in the manner to which you have become accustomed," as the saying goes.

We both hope you find satisfactory arrangements for your present life in Zug and elsewhere.

Thank you again for your thoughtfulness in remembering my birthday.

Affectionately,

*Elizabeth*