TZANEEN

My Dear Jerry,
19/3/33 Sunday.

I have received from you this week two letters, a long and a short letter,dated the 12/2/33 and the 13/2/33. I have further received that letter that you wrote to Beile,dated the 15/2/33, and also a letter that you wrote to Fortes,dated the 8/2/33,and which the latter was good enough to send same up to me.

Though I am pleased to hear that that Torgsin has advised you that the £2.0.0. and £1.10.0. has arrived for you in Lugansk,and that the 10 dollars has turned up(from "eivi) at Bachmut,I can again assure you that no further moeny will be sent to you.

There is not much to write this week,Jerry,for there is nothing now. Your last weeks cable that you are going to Nishni-Novogorod has greatly upset us all,for while we were all expecting that you are getting or are being "evacuated" for good and all, a cable to the effect that you have extended your visa arrived,and these has created a great tension,a tension of uneasiness,A TENSION OF ANXIETY, REAL ANXIETY......

Such a lot has happened,and such a lot has been said alreay,everything there is to be said ,has by now thonoughly been thrashed out,and there is nothing left,but repetitions over and over again. It has all narrowed down toa very small circle of pros and cons, and unfortunately there are nothing but a resume of CONS,all against and nothing in favour of remaining....

It will serve no useful purpose in going over all the ground once more. It will serve no practical purpose in thrashing out all the aspects,that are best and safest left out,and not put down in cold type. Such discussions open and frank are wisest left out,since undesirables may obtain access to it,and which is best,in any case ,left out.

I shall therefore leave all political,economic,and what not aspects ,out alltogether,and come down to rock bottom,and to a very narrow circle of the problem,facing us.

We are all agreed,all and everyone of us that there is no sense in your [redacted] staying on.There is no usefull purpose whatsoever.There is no room and no reason for it.Nothing and nothing whatsoever. Whatever vestige of reason might have still existed has fizzled out long ago,has over-fizzled and once more evaporated long ago. Nothing but dis-illusionment has materialised,either the"practical" the "theoretical" or even the illusiory one.... There is nothing and nothing left of it.....

On the contrary,not only is it"sheer lunacy" and "sheer wastey of time in"lingering on",no matter what the prospects might seem to you,but there is real danger,danger of many varieties, of different characters and a host of directions overcasting the once-so-called clear horison.... To-day the horison is getting very heavilly overcast,and I can hardly help harbouring real anxiety,and real fear over it.... Your sojourn is no more safe,and Jerry, believe me,thus are not idle words,nothing of the kind......

You know me long enough for it,and you know that I am not inclined to be over -panicky .I have always tried to think, and reason sense,real horse sense,and I cannot help escaping from that dark overcast that would seem to accumulate thicker and thicker in that far off world.... One can hardly feel restful over things and events that seem to be getting more and more accentuated as time passes by.......

I do not,either,like the looks of the old world,Europe, either.... The Germany of the present time,has a nasty look about her,which turns the old world in a simmering Volcano.... However, be it as it may be,things in general and everything else in particular have a nasty colour about them. They have ,and your world in particular, a sickly look..... I do not want to have a peep in the near future,but all I will say is,I do not like the looks of things,and least of all your way.

You are probably isolated, as far as what is going on in the big wide world goes. You only hear of things that you are "expected" to hear,and as it takes such a long time to get the bits of news from our papers,you may not be so uneasy. I cannot ,however, find myself anything but "gravely" uneasy. I only hope for the best, which is after all all that one can do,but I do not like it..........

What good and valid reasons have been responsible for your extension of your viza,has been a problem I have been racking my head with,the last two weeks. Nor was I the only one that was worrying over it.The same shock that I had,did Beile,and also Aaron. It did not come as a good omen,and we can hardly help expressing youranxiety and direst didappointments over it. Nor was I by myself in not being able to concentrate to any particular work owing to it.

I thought hard with myself. Jerry is not a baby; he is not a fool either. His handling a position in the past,has been quite trustworthy. He has erred in a good many ways.He was too optimistic. He thought ,perhaps things will improve,and lingered on allready,much too long than was justified,than was warranted.....

However,on the whole it was not bad,and I shall credit him that under the circumstances he acted right,with the only possible reservation,that he should have realised that there is no room for him long ago,and should have quitted months ago.

However,there was the Winter, a climatic factor that I did not take in calculations. Such a severe Winter made evacuation dangerous and impossible.

Has he prolonged his visa,because at the end of March,or rather middle of March the climatic conditions were still unfavourable for evacuation ?.... Is it because that beginning of March the Winter is still reigning supreme?. That food is still just as scarce,and probably still scarcer ?..... Up to how long has he extended his visa?.... For how long has this new visa extension been undertaken ?...... For how long ?.......

This chronic renewals of visas is getting on my"nerves" . It seems to me to be without an end .... Is it not another way of getting hold of one,without relaxing one's grip of one ?.... A sort of authomatic extensions,coming on one another before the previous one expires,and this is the factor that I do not like.... They seems tohave somehow sinister about them..... Something weired......

At first ,I thought there will be trouble in getting a renewal of one's visa,and now they are too automatic and too freely given...

Maybe,I am wrong in seeing something sinister about it,something of an ill omen..... Let us hope ,I am wrong,but untill I see it that I was wrong,and that there is nothing in it,I feel so uneasy over it.

Was this visa asked for,because you could not save your bulky luggage?. If so,chuck it.... You will ,under present conditions not save your luggage,nor your instruments,and it is a waste of effort in trying to. Besides their value in comparison with the urgency is so paramount,that they can be of little account. I undertake and the rest of the family with me to replace their value. If to save these ,kept you waiting and extending your visa,let us be quite clear over it. I advised you long ago to jettison all your bulky luggage,much as it makes your heart sore to leave them behind. It is to extricate yourself that is most vital,and the rest is but a comparative small affair.....

Make an end of it,and as soon as possible... Not a day overstay than is possible,than is absolutely essential....

Get out,and linger NOT!!!!!!........

I have lately been almost taken by panick in between depressive moments,and though I know,I should not mention it in a letter,I can hardly refrain from doing so.

I have been wondering as to whether we know all there is to be known from your end.... I have been wondering as to whether everything could have been reached us.... I have been wondering as to whether you have told us everything.... I have been wondering as to whether we have been told the whole truth.... I have been wondering if there is not as much to know that we have not been able to gather....

These are wild ideas... trylly wild ones... I have no reason to think so.... But ,Good Lord,what is a person to make out of some things that we have heard ,if not wild things,incredible ones.....

A worldthat is most unreliable,a world where the truth exists in its absence ,rather than in its presence is such a "freak" that anything may be possible..... Anything may be possible.....

However,let us get these incredible suspicion away from one's mind. I have no reason to think so... I have no reason to have doubted you... I have no reason to think that things have been ,in their reality been hidden from us..............

I do not like to keep on "brooding" in such a pessimistic strain, and I absolutely refuse to go into details.... But I shall be quite frank over this business, that I shall not be feeling any easier, untill I hear that you have LEFT, and that you are in London ONCE MORE......

Untill such time as you find yourself back in "our" world, I can hardly feel easier, can hardly~~xfeel~~ "breath freer" at al...

Anyhow, Jerry, I must ask you to be more frank, and I want you to lay your cards OPENLY.... You have not hidden it ?. Have you??.. You have told us, or at least, I understood, that there would not be any difficulty in your leaving, should you not ask for an extension of your visa. In previous letters it was a question of getting a concession, perhaps a free ticket to London ?. Was that not rather a fancy idea of yours ?......

Is there anything sinister about this business, or not ?.... Are you really free to leave or are you not ?..... Can you leave, or can you not ???.......

There is no sense in staying on, anyhow. None whatsoever. You may have wanted to maneuvre in, in ~~x~~ better ~~xixixx~~ climatic conditions, and though I do not know for how long this extension of the visa has been granted or asked for, you must evacuate UNCONDITIONALLY, and again, I repeat it absolutely UNCONDITIONAL. Never mind, getting a free passage to London. It is not worth bargaining for.... If you have sufficient valuta to reach London, take this trip and to Hell with everything else.... To Hell with everything else, once more.

If we can cable to you, well and good, otherwise get accross ~~[illegible]~~ Finland, if not sufficient funds to go to London.....

You wrote us some time ago that you think you will have sufficient funds to reach London...... Then cable !!!!!..

Another possibility entered my mind. Your change over to Nishninovgorod may have had other good reasons. It is on the direct route of transportation, and may have been wisely chosen for a later evacuation....

If so, you have acted wisely, under the Winter conditions prevailing.

However that be, we are really anxious over you... I have no more faith in your world.... and I have valid reasons for it.... believe me... My word of honour!!!!........

I do not like these pessimistic brooding of ill omens, which seem so fantastic after all is said and done. I have just put them down on paper as I felt at times over it, for the days between one mail and another seem months and years, and one s nerves get so strung with the unknown and uncertainty. One can hardly feel anything DAMNED over this whole miserable and wretched business from beginning to end...... But enough of it... enough !!!!. .... Let us not keep on brooding over the past... Let us concern ourselves with the future, only..... There is no room for you there, none whatsoever.....

There is only ONE THING ~~xx~~ and ONE THING ONLY, and that is you must get out, and get out without any further loss whatsoever in time. You must get out at ALL COST and at ALL and EVERY sacrifice.... Never mind what you can save of your belongings or what you cannot save of your belongings.... Leave them all behind, for all that matters... but get out, and at the earliest possible opportunity. ....

Such is the position, and such are the state of affairs to-day~~xx~~, that make me say so, once more...............

And again, believe me, I have valid, very valid reasons for what I do say. Very valid indeed... It is unfortunate that this dark chapter has happened, and now there is but one thing to do, and to close that miserable chapter once and for all!!!!!..........

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And now, let me return to the brighter side of things, though these are as yet, very meagre indeed.

I am pleased to see that you have got or that you are rather going to get, the £1.10.0. and £2.0.0 from Beile as well as 10 dollars from Leivi. However, rest assured that no one will send you any more money or Torgsin orders.

I shall not go in into details as regards Leivi's offer to you to come to the States and do publicity work there. I am afraid that you are in expressing that this may be "unnatural~~x~~ a view to take of things". Why unnatural, Jerry, ?. Why impossible ?. Why far fetched ?. ..... You know, Leivi, by now, and you know his sincerity. It may seem weird and a wild idea for you under your present circumstances.... It is however quite a feasible thing. Quite a practical thing, and a further a most feasible thing.

It is just a matter of adaptibility, and surely, in view of the most topsy-turvy world you have so lately, and in a most unnatural manner got adpted, the other extreme is hardly less feasible, nor possible. Your nerves are at present not normal. None's would under such a trial and trials... I need not drift into examples, since we all are fully aware of these......

However, none will compell you to go to the States, none whatsoever, if you do not like it. If you do not think these feasible, practical or anything else... We are not concerned much with that aspect, of what you should or should not. You can in any case, please yourself. You are as free to do as you like. You can sit over a week or two in London in thinking it out, in making up your mind, one way or another. A stay of 12 to 15 months in New York, cannot do you any harm, in any case. It will at the worst but be ~~x xxx xxxxx~~ an experiment, and cannot be a bad experiment at that.

We are aware that you cannot remain indefinitely in the United States, and it is but the practical aspect that need be considered.

However, at present this question is but of a secondary consideration, and of no vital matter whatsoever. It can be considered at leisure, when the question as to what would be best for you to do crops up, and how to start off again once you have landed back into the "old world" you so recently came from.......

There is not much to write further of local news. I have been sending you regularly the Week-End-News from South African papers, all that are available in the Transvaal, and if you follow these, as you undoubtedly do, you will follow ~~[illegible]~~ what is going on in the big world.

Fond regards and a little bit of good luck on "your way back"......

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