TZANEEN SUNDAY 12/3/33

My dear Jerry,

I have received on the 8/3/33 (this week,Wednesday) in the morning,you cable from Dugamak, reading:

"Westrotrest offering post Volga Bridge Construction, "Nishninovgorod.Accepting further visa extension.Colossal work." "River floods here.Excellent Health. Jerry".

I have further received ,this Thursday (9/3/33) three letters from you,dated the 2/2/33,the 3/2/33 and the 7/2/33.

Between the period of your last letter and the last cable is alapse of a month,and you know such a period is long enough for anything to have happened,and now I must keep on speculating as to what might have happened since your last letter.

On the whole,I shall make no bones about the fact that I am very disappointed on this renewal of Visa and the new extended life of your staying on .I expected instead a cable from you and from London this time ,to the effect that you have evacuated,finally.

However,in ignorance of what might have transpired since the last of your letters,I can but postulate likely theories that have made you prolong your stay. I shall indeed be very much disappointed to find out that your prolongation of your stay,has been due to,but sheer curiosity as to what might have happened under such a further stay on,just a sheer cussidness or something like it.

I have lately tried to probe for the reason of such prolongation,and indeed if it was not due to any reasons of which are above your control,or for the desirability of later on expediting your evacuation in a more desriable manner,I shall be sorely disappointed....

I shall in the meantime not sit in judgment over it,but postpone it,and await now further letters,as to what made you do it. I suppose there must be valid reasons for it,and accordingly shall give you the benefit of the doubt,under the circumstances....

You have probably learnt by now,that I have come to the ONLY conclusion possible,and that is,that your stay on can have, no sense ,no usefulness,judge it from this,that or any other angle of sound reasoning. Especially is so the case,since things both in general as well in details thereof ,in particular,have been and are continually going from bad to worse. Discretion,and for good valid reasons,I am prevented to go into details. I can quote chapter and verse for such good reasons,were I in a position to do so,however it is at times prudent to be discretionary,and I cannot go into details.

I hope you will give me credit for the contention that I have always fairly reasonable in evaluating a situation free of prejudice, and in trying to see the next man's point of view,and I fail to see (unless there are any other good reasons) to explain your extension of your visa. been

Maybe,you have trying to work up an"evacuation with honour", according through"glasses" of the "popular environment prevailing", and the "official" "Standard Gauge"..... Maybe,and this latter reason seems so probable that you have been working to get a free pass outward,which is a thing not at all to be belittled in value.... It seems to me that in your last week's letters you were stretching the desirability thereof.... Another factor,maybe the scarcity of the obtainment of food in transit.Probably the complete unobtainability of this most vital commodity for travellers.... Maybe no money buys it at present. You new abode,in Nizhninovgorod is on the Main line of foreign tourists.It is in fact the "show window" of the whole concern,and the evacuation would be easier later on.This huge game of bluff may have made it essential that some parts ,at least, should be available to substantiate certain claims ,and that on this route ,the "goods" may have"to be delivered ",as the Americans will say. I can therefore to a certain extent fathom it all,in away, and justify your latest action,under the circumstances. Maybe,further, that once a person gets himself in a "Morass" one has to extricate oneself in careful manner,and doing it in a "rash" manner is very much to be deprecated..... Your luggage is hefty,and your anxiety to save these from loss,is also to some extent a consideration under the circumstances. .... Maybe,the excessive cold was a factor that made evacuation impossible.Now the excessive floods following is just as bad,and the scarcity of food ,make the moving about so difficult a question.... The expiry of the Visa fell due in an awkward time,between Winter and Spring,and most unsuitable

time to move about,and under the circumstances a short prolongation thereof right up to the mid Summer was desirable.... is some other

I have often been thinking that maybe there is some other intentions of yours,and the latter one to prolong your stay may have a touch of it.Your experience has been unique,almost epic like,and who knows if no other use can be made of it.This experience has been so valuable indeed,and a little more experience added on to it in a different sector and different conditions may under such circumstances, add further great value to it,later on.....

Outside of that value ,I fail to see any useful purpose in your staying on,and I shall be quite clear about it,once more.I am uncompromisingly ,but seeing a sheer waste of any practical usefulness in this staying on,a waste on all sides of either usefulness, practicability,or whatever else you may call it. Look at any angle, at every angle,at any point of view,apart of the "ultra phanatical one",I see but staring me the one conclusion of the sheer waste of the individual time on it,in staying on and on. It will only mean that this will cripple more or delay your"adapatability" to the new and old world you come from,before you have entered your present "whereabouts"..... I do not belittle it either. A certain dissatisfaction in ,say,either South Africa or the United States,where things are after all far from satisfactory to the "mass " of "humanity",may in view of the past experience in your present "kaleidescopical" world create a certain amount of awkwardness in the beginning,which has to be overcome..... In so many other words. The sooner this is over,the better.

Otherwise,Jerry,your long letter of the 3/2/33 is very illuminating, to say the least of it. Its bredd aspects as well as the narrower ones,are by no means so unknown here as you want to make me believe. You have hardly dropped a "bomb" here,in the way of the state of affairs. Lots of things percolate through,and this percolation,if one wants to pick up and pierce together for a fuller picture is by no means an impossibility. All this has served ,is but to confirm it, that's all.As Shakespeare would have said,"more than one something" is rotten in the state of Denmark..... It is only for the "phanatic" that cannot see it.... Or want see it..... Yes and again yes.....

No human being has ever been infalisible.No "God" has ever been incapable of "error".Nor has any Dogma been free from being incapable of making mistakes,big or small,few or many,heavilly or mildly blundering... It is only gensrations afterwards could sit in judgment, and issue a"historical verdict".....

A one side doctorine,a one sided religion,based on a doubtfull "half truths" or "misleading truths" of one aspect only have hardly stood the test of time. Thousands of years all sorts religions have prospered,to be found false and be superimposed by others,who in their turn ,have again been found wrong and wrong once more..... It is all very well if you swallow those helus-bolus.... The moment you start questioning these,anaylise them,put them to the test of reason and they collapse..... They are but "GODS" made of "Clay" and they disintegrate as soon as they come in contact with the "light" of analysis and sound reasoning.... Nothing can be judged by its intrinsic value,untill put to the test of time and its practical results,from which alone after all a proximate truth or untruth, can be decided upon.....

All others that for one or another reason do not allow this test of criticism,are afraid of the light of day,are but one of these countless "Gods" and "Godesses" "Idols" "Prophets" and what not that have swarmed the world at one time or another..... I do not say that they were all frauds.... There was a partial truth in their teachings... Yes,only partial..... Not the whole truth and often only but half the truth..... All have served their usefulness,more or less.... untill they have disappeared..... The theory that they have set out to teach,did not at all conform with the eventual practice,and but proved to be a "caricature" ,an absolute reversal of what they set out to remedy,and have proved the "remedy" worse than the "disease" they have set out to cure.....

Gods have come and gone.Goddesses have come and gone.Prophets

I am not going to sit in Judgment on contemporary Gods, this God, that Prophet, or on some new hybrid dogma.... It is for generations to come to do so.... I shall accept them for their "current face value", and eventually judge them by results.... My opinions and values estimated may fluctuate, more or less, in accordance with the balance of values, with the practical achievements gained, and none other. If my judgment from time to time may fluctuate from the extreme right to the extreme left of "evaluation" , it will not be my fault..... I have no other standard of values... It is the practical that counted, and will count.....

You will say, this is arbitrary, inconsistent, but so are the "new Gods" the "New Prophets"..... They have also proved so ~~xx~~contradictory, so unsatisfactory, so misleading.....

I do not claim ~~xxxxx~~ "infallibility", my judgement is "human", but am not going to grant them a "virtue" they do not posses, though they may "pretend" to posses..... Their pretension, I shall follow only in as far as "they deliver the goods".... and no further... These "Super Humans" are out of date.... For these "New Gods" to play hanky-panky with "Humanity" is sheer NONSENS, and old exploded myth..... The "divinest right of Kings", the "divine right of Gods", new or old, ~~xx~~ the "divine right of Prophets", ancient or modern, is nothing but a lot of SHERR TOMMY ROT!!!.....

Let them carry on, since I am not in a position to prevent it... It is all force and brutal force , at that.... I, for one shall not frequent their SHRINES.... I for one, shall not be sacrificed in vain on their MAGIC ALTER.....

I therefore maintain that your letter but served the purpose of confirming the things that have reached me , in ~~xx~~ a trickle by trickle, and drop by drop, have but confirmed my worst expectations.... Alas, what a delusion, indeed !!!?!.....

The more reason, that I got no restless, the more reason that I was getting nervously worried at times, the more reason that I have adopted an uncompromising attitude that you evacuate, and do so without the least possible delay.....

ENOUGH SAID.....

I do not like the looks of Europe either. There is trouble brewing, it is but a matter of time, and taking it all together, it is time, it is indeed high time, it is indeed very high time , that your ~~xxxx~~ close the last few chapters to "your adventure".....

As I said, maybe , new factors got mixed up once more in your calculation, and you have valid reasons for having ~~xxxxx~~ remained for a few more months for the weather conditions to improve, but all that , is not known to me, and I merely speculating with possibilities. I have learnt in the past that your judgment has not been faulty, and I am therefore cerditing you with same common sense, which you may not divulge in a letter, the way one would like to. However, you have realised the position, and there ~~xx~~ are no mysteries to be cleared up...

I shall take you to task over this Torgson business and the money that you never got. I am afraid you are exceeding the balme too much, Jerry. You know how long a letter or a communications takes, and you know what the state of affairs were then. We have heard that such remittances used to reach their destination in the past. We have had evidence to that effect, so why expect that a world can change so quick inside out and outside in, as has happened in this instance. It was all done in the best of intentions, and certainly not for any obvious or other sinister reason, believe me. Beile sent one remittance, and before your ~~xx~~ cable reached Aaron (I believe) she had sent another. So did Leivi from America. No sooner did you cable and we stopped sending , and never for once tried it. However in between these two remittances were sent by Beile, and once by Leivi, and that's all.

You have not received any, nor will ever receive any, either. What I think of it, I shall leave unsaid, with the only adding, that Good Luck To Them !!!.....

It is not the financial calamity that it has caused, it is the MORAL value that it teaches, and the trust that it has shattered.

So, please, Jerry forget it, and ~~xx~~ let it but joing ~~xx~~ the ~~xx~~ one great disillusionment.....

I have been writing you the last few months regularly on Sunday, and have dated my letters accordingly. Always one big letter, and no more. I mark the top copy ORIGINAL. The others FIRST SECOND and THIRD COPY, and once you received the original you need not worry for the following copies, of which I post one on every successive week, minimising the none receiving ~~xx~~ of any of my letters to the narrowest margin of possibility. I have also sent copies of the letters I write to you regularly to Beile and Leivi, and also mostly to Aaron. With one exception and I think this was a month ago, I only sent you one copy, I have however asked Beile to post on to you her copy. I received then a letter from you saying that you have ~~xx~~ received every letter of mine, so taught that it is ~~xxxx~~ no more necessary, and no sooner did I stop this practice of sending successive copies weekly, when you wrote that you have not had a mail from us for some time, and I immediately starting writing again with carbon copies as before. I am further adhering to this practice.

Further , Beile, Aaron and Leivi have had copies of all your letters that you wrote, which I typed over with carbon copies.

As regards Leivi, it takes a very long time for him to ~~xxxx~~ receive these copies, but I do not see how one can do it otherwise.

So, you may also find yourself soon unemployed, and who knows, if this will not prove "the blessing the disguise!.... and you will be able to get evacuated , once and for all.....

Who knows ??????????? Who knows ??????????????

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I am breaking off at the moment, but may continue, later.

Monday afternoon. 13/3/33

I have just received a letter from Aaron, wherein he enclosed along typed rig-marole by a friend of yours from Zara Cleveland Ohio, U.S.A. an editor of a paper wanting contributions from you ~~xx~~ ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ Yes, you will be a bloody fool if you do poke your nose in things that are not desirable , either way, in the meantime and while you are still "there". His name appears to be Peter Zwara, or somethingx Hungarian friend. Such "poking ones nose" in things may find you excluded back to the country you came from, as an "undesirable".....

However, all said and done, and whilst I am trying to give a reasonable latitude as possible in your latest renewal of your visa and your staying on, I want to be quite candid with you, and warn you that you are playing a dangerous game , in staying on and on and on. You have several opportunities to clear out. You have had ample opportunity to judge clearly, and make double sure that your venture has proved a miserable FIASCO, and still you will persist, and again persist in trying and trying again and again. This is a dangerous game you are playing. You think we do not know here as to what is going on in "your world"..... Dent WE, HELL ????..... I should like to show you a few things in print, which may even open your eyes, to your assertion that noone else knows anything like as to what is going on. It is very unfortunate that I cannot and dare not send it up to you..... That's all.....

The situation in Europe is also getting alarming, and the Continent of Europe has an UGLY look politically, since Hitler became master of Germany. I hope, I shall prove a false prophet, but I