

Verbundkatalog Kalliope

Mann, Klaus

o.O., 1944-05-15

Nutzungsbedingungen

Bei zahlreichen Dokumenten auf monacensia-digital.de sind die Urheberrechte bereits abgelaufen. Sie sind gemeinfrei und dürfen ohne weitere Rücksprache mit der Monacensia weiterverwendet werden. Bei den Dokumenten, bei denen noch Urheberrechte bestehen, müssen für eine Weiterverwendung stets die Rechteinhaber*innen angefragt werden sowie eine Publikationsgenehmigung der Monacensia eingeholt werden. Das Zitatrecht bleibt hiervon unberührt.

Zur Erteilung einer Publikationserlaubnis wenden Sie sich bitte an:

Monacensia im Hildebrandhaus
Literaturarchiv
Adresse: Maria-Theresia-Straße 23, 81675 München
E-Mail: monacensia.literaturarchiv@muenchen.de

Terms of use

The copyrights for numerous documents on monacensia-digital.de have already expired. They are in the public domain and may be reused without further consultation with Monacensia. In the case of documents for which copyrights still exist, the copyright holders must always be contacted for further use and publication permission must be obtained from the Monacensia. The right to quote under copyright law remains unaffected by this. To obtain permission for publication, please contact:

Monacensia im Hildebrandhaus:
Literaturarchiv
Address: Maria-Theresia-Straße 23, 81675 München
E-Mail: monacensia.literaturarchiv@muenchen.de

Italy, 15 May, 1944

Dearest Mom:

Will you please be sweet enough to send me some cigarettes -- say, three cartons of Lucky Strikes. We don't get many cigarettes here, and as you know I am a heavy smoker, alas.

Also, will you please let me have a copy of Pa's new novel, of which our friend L.B. Gott, in New York has published a German edition (as a German-speaking Lt.Col. told me the other day). Not that I particularly care to read the thing; but it's somehow embarrassing when people ask me what my Dad's new story is all about, and I am not in a position to tell them. So please let me have ^{it}, will you.

Sorry this letter has to be so short. Am mighty busy, these days.

Yours son,

KLAUS



Sgt. Klaus H. Mann,
P.W.B., HQ 5th Army,
APO 464

Italy, May 15, 1944

Mes chers parents:

I address this to both of you -- first, for a change; second, because I received, this morning, a most appetizing package, from dear Mimose, New York, with "best wishes from your parents", so that my thanks are ~~was~~ due to Dad as well as Mom; and, last but by no means least, because it's Pa's birthday and he really should have a long, beautiful letter, all of his own. I trust, however, that you -- dear Zauber-Pa -- may have received my recent note to which a little collection of Germanic curiosities was attached -- with Godfather Vogel as its peculiar center. So that was my birthday gift. Besides I have nothing to offer but a big mouth-full of wishes. There will be numerous happier returns. Next year -- which is the 60th: isn't it? -- I hope to deliver a little speech, maybe at the Munich City Hall -- as the representative of AMGOT: "And now our own Sergeant Mann is going to introduce the venerable guest of honor..." Thunderous applause from the gallery. General Patton in tears. The band plays the Star-Spangled Banner, then "Deutschland, Deutschland ueber alles," then the "Internationale." That's the way it is going to be.

I am all right -- and confident, considering the recent developments in this war theater (which look extremely promising indeed) and other events to come (which may have already started when you received these lines).

Also, my personal conditions seem rather to improve. There are rumors about a transfer to a more responsible job; rumors about a commission or -- which is more likely -- a semi-commission: namely an appointment as Warrant Officer. On the other hand, YANK, the Army's weekly, for which I have just written a piece about old Sforza and older Croce, is interested ~~me~~ in getting me as a correspondent, to cover the German invasion: in which case I would have to remain a sergeant (as Yank is an enlisted men's magazine), but would practically live like a war correspondent. It is not very probable, however, that P.W.B. will let me go... At any rate, things are moving and I am not without success.

As a particular success I count André Gide's surprisingly warm, indeed, enthusiastic reaction to my book, which he received at last.

Even the late Offi would admit that the letter he wrote me is indeed "ganz nett." He says that I gave him "courage, réconfort, réconciliation avec moi-même et avec mes écrits. Comme vous les expliquez bien, et motivez! J'aurais été bien empêché si, cette conscience and clairvoyance que vous m'apportez aujourd'hui, je l'avais eue d'abord; mais combien profitable m'est aujourd'hui cet éclaircissement de ma vie! J'en arrive presque, grâce à vous, à me comprendre, à me supporter, tant votre présentation de mon être, de ma raison d'être, de mes efforts, de mes erreurs même, comportent de l'intelligence and de sympathie. Je reçois votre livre comme une récompense..."

Speaking of Gide: he is somehow sponsoring a very excellent new magazine, published in Algiers - "L'Arche" - for which ~~he~~ would like some kind of contribution from Papa lui-même, and perhaps also some little somethings from such Little Birds as Uncle Heini, Cousin Marcuse, Grandfather Doeblin, etc. I suppose the editors are going to write themselves. Pa may send something old, if he doesn't feel like sitting down and doing a new job. In any case, something should be sent.

Now a word to Mama -- namely my grateful acknowledgment of her letters of April 29 and May 6 (the latter -- not V-Mailed! -- reached me today, after only nine days!) I have already mentioned the receipt of the second Mimosa beauty - with Marzipan Dainties, and all -- and must have confirmed before the arrival of flash light, knife, and fountain pen. As for further wishes (including typewriter), see the literature enclosed herewith.

I had a dear, long letter from E. Hope she is on her way to England. As for the Golette, Habe has already written that he (G.) is a member of the Konni unit. But, then, Habe is quite a liar.

-- Bibi's rejection as a foreigner is of course due to some kind of misunderstanding. The same thing happened in the case of Hans Busch, who insisted on being taken. I feel very definitely that the "Ehezweg" ought to do the same thing. His little wife makes undoubtedly a quite serious mistake if she influences him not to do so. Of course, it is up to him, but I feel very strongly about it.

Slightly annoyed by Franzl's immoderate success. But his poor state of health makes it somehow more bearable.

Otherwise good-natured and faithful,

Yours old boy,

Klaus

27/5/26