

Verbundkatalog Kalliope

Mann, Klaus

Rom, 1945-07-21

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THE STARS AND STRIPES

UNIT No. 1

MEDITERRANEAN

APO 512

Rome, July 21, 1945

Dear Erich,

Your letter -- or rather, the copy you sent c/o The Stars and Stripes, Southern German Edition -- caught up with me here at last. It was a good surprise to hear from you again. What a pity that I didn't know your address at the time of my being in Germany! I spent a day in Bayreuth, and would certainly have made an excursion to Kaibitz, and paid my homages to the Lord Mayor of that community, if I had had an idea...

It looks, however, as if I were due for another trip to the Old Country. If things work out the way I expect them to, I may take off in about ten days or a couple of weeks. *) This time, it's the Russian-occupied zone -- especially Berlin -- which I am supposed to "cover." But maybe I'll manage to include the American area in my travel program; if so, I may actually show up at your castle and "requisition" the bed you kindly offered me.

There are many things I want to discuss with you -- but not in a letter! I wouldn't know where to start or with what

*) It may take a little longer. You
new man tell in the Army...

Mr. Fritz Kobermayr

21.7.45

23.10.1945

512 024

to begin. Don't forget that we have been living in two different worlds for the past twelve years! So long and so profound a separation cannot but result in a kind of estrangement. I don't say that it ~~will~~ will be impossible for us to understand each other again; but I am afraid that it may turn out to be more difficult than your letter seems to suggest.

Well, let's try! In any case, I am glad to know that you are alive, and in good health, and on good terms with my new compatriots.

Remember me to your friend Baedeker, whom I seem to remember, if only in a somewhat vague way.

The best of luck to you!

Yours old,

KLAUS

P.S. This letter, which I had first addressed to the Military Government of Kemnath, was returned to me, with a note saying that "no mail service to Germany" has been established as yet. In the meantime, I received the original of your letter and, enclosed with it, Pfr Hartmann's note. So I hope that these lines may finally catch up with you, through Hartmann's military address.