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You can't go home again.

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YOU CAN'T GO HOME AGAIN

BY

ERIKA AND KLAUS MANN

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PREFACE: A short description of the authors' background and personal history: Youth in Germany; exile and fight against Nazism; activities during the war in the American Army.

PART ONE: "THE ROAD TO VICTORY" (1944)

AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS between E. (as U.S. War Correspondent in Western Europe) and K. (as sergeant with the Fifth Army's Psychological Warfare Branch in Italy).

LETTERS:

E to K: England; June...

(D-Day in one of the great English harbours; the Air Force takes off; troops embarque; the first casualties arrive -- among them some German prisoners-of-war. First contact with German soldiers.)

K to E: Rome; June...

(Entering the liberated city with Fifth Army troops.)

E to K: Normandy; July...

(Conversation with German prisoners, shortly before the attempt on Hitler's life of July 20. Growing tension in the German ~~army~~ army.)

K to E: North of Rome; July...

(Interrogations of German prisoners, shortly after the attempt on Hitler's life.-- Life with 5th Army Headquarters in the field.)

E to K: Normandy; beginning of August...

(Life of the French people in their ruined towns and villages.)

K to E: Florence; August...

(Meetings with some old German friends; sad news about others who have been killed by the SS.)

E to K: Paris; end of August...

(The French capital -- a few days after Liberation Day. General picture: living conditions, etc. Portraits of some Parisians -- including a young FFI soldier, the painter Picasso, the poet Paul Eluard, the actor Pierre Blanchard, and others.)

K to E: Adriatic Sector; September...

(Temporarily attached to British Eighth Army. Some remarks about differences between British and American Army.)

E to K: Aachen (Germany); October...

(First impression of the "Old Country." -- Hotel "Quellendorf," Aachen: the interesting correspondence between the famous hotel and Nazi authorities. The author happens to discover revealing documents. A detective story.)

K to E: Apennines; November...

(Back with Fifth Army. Some remarks about the writing of German leaflets. Samples of P.W.B.'s propaganda output. Addressing German frontline troops through loudspeakers.)

E to K: Aachen Sector; November...

(First attempt to re-educate the Germans: American soldiers re-training German police forces in a special school. Detailed description of methods and results.)

K to E: Apennines; December...

(Some reflections about the German character, possibilities of re-education, etc.)

E to K: Aachen, December...

(Mostly about German civilians: their attitude and psychology at that phase of the war.)

INTERLUDE (January - April, 1945)

E -- on one of her endless lecture tours in the United States. Half-humorous description of her experiences and impressions.

K -- with The Stars and Stripes in Rome. Some facts and anecdotes regarding the setup and personnel of that paper.

PART THREE "The Old Country" (May - December, 1945)

1. A TRAVEL JOURNAL (diary notes, by K.M.) *May - July*
Trip by jeep from Rome to Austria, over the Brenner Pass -- one day after the conclusion of the armistice in Italy.
Impressions in Austria: Salzburg, Innsbruck, etc.

Berchtesgaden: the ruins of Hitler's home.
Interview with Hermann Göring, near Augsburg.
Munich: visit to the author's destroyed family home.
Conversations with German politicians. (Dr. Schöfer, Minister President of Bavaria, and others.)
Has there been an anti-Nazi Underground Movement in Germany?
Conversations with German artists and intellectuals: Richard Strauss; Emil Jannings; Franz Lehar; Winfred Wagner; Prof. Karl Jaspers, and others.
Visit to Czechoslovakia.
Prague: Interview with President Benes.
The ghetto town of Theresienstadt, near Prague: re-union with the author's aunt, Mrs. Heinrich Mann -- detained there by the Nazis.
Back to Germany.
Frankfurt, Darmstadt, Heidelberg.
Weimar. The Nietzsche Archiv.
Bayreuth. Cologne. Bonn, etc.
Notes on German children.
Other aspects of German life. (Press, radio, etc.)
Luxembourg. Paris. Meeting with André Gide.
Return to Rome.

2. "GERMAN CHRONICLE" (continued: by Erika Mann.) (July-December)

Berlin: A general picture of the conquered capital.

War Criminals: Visit to Mondorf and the history of the War Crimes Commission. New facts.

Lidice: An eyewitness account of the massacre. Curious stories about Czech Partisans.)

Führer in the Making: Pastor Niemöller -- his past, present and possible future.

Schools open in Munich: About education in Germany.

German Sketches: Portraits of General Haushofer, Frau Rudolf Hess, and some other prominent Germans.

Two Trials at Dachau: The author acts as witness for the persecution in a trial against two German war criminals.

Vienna: Winter 1945

EPILOGUE (by K.M.) (January, February 1946)

In Germany. -- General picture. -- Prospects.