

## **Verbundkatalog Kalliope**

**Mann, Erika**

**Pacific Palisades, 1950-09-29**

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Erika Mann  
1550 San Remo Drive  
Pacific Palisades,  
California,  
September 29th, 1950

Mr. Victor Jacobs  
Galef and Jacobs, Law Offices  
22 East 40th Street  
New York City,  
N. Y.

Dear Mr. Jacobs,

*Saving* Instead of waiting any longer for your "rebuttal" to arrive, and with a view to ~~reaching~~ <sup>reaching</sup> you - if possible - the trouble of going into it, I am resolved to make myself heard, as follows:

1.) the only objection to my proposed "letter of withdrawal" that I anticipate from you, concerns my probable future inability to obtain any more Re-entry Permits. Well, it has been hard (and costly) enough to secure the horrid things in the past. Besides, as I wrote you, I am by no means certain that, once a citizen, I'd ever lay hands upon a passport. Finally, however, I may not even wish ever to leave this country again in order to return. Should I decide to stay, I don't think the authorities would be entitled to deport me, even though I withdrew my citizenship application. While they can treat a naturalized American citizen precisely as they please, they cannot - as yet - push a British subject around without telling the British Government in so many clear cut words, just why they are doing it. They would, moreover, have to submit quite a bit of irrefutable evidence as to my actual "undesirability", my "misdeeds", my "subversive exploits, associates, plans, characteristics, etc. pp.". *incidentally* Should I, ~~regardless of the above~~ <sup>thus</sup> decide to stay here, chances are, I wouldn't, or rather couldn't, attempt to leave the country for some time, - being far too poor to venture beyond the city limits of Greater Los Angeles. So there. *if, on the other hand, I decide to go, I'll be going for good, better, or worse.*

2.) ~~While~~ <sup>thus</sup> While I am incapable of imagining any sound reason for the proposed letter of withdrawal not to be written - any sound reason, that is, concerning my interests, I'd readily understand any hesitation on your part to "handle" my withdrawal. You've been good enough to identify yourself to a high degree with this particular "case"; you've talked to a number of "higher uppers" urging them to hasten their decision one way or another, - and quite conceivably you might not now wish to represent me as I proceed to throw my pending application into the faces of those who kept it pending for three years and nine months. Consequently, I'd like to suggest - in the friendliest of terms, and notwithstanding my very real gratitude for your efforts - that you drop my case at your earliest convenience, and let me do what I am fiercely and irrevocably bent on doing. All I ask is that you inform me as to the personage (name, title, address, etc.) to whom I have to address myself. As I told you before, I do wish to act swiftly lest "they" chance to act first, and "grant" me a hearing at this unsuitable time. To withdraw a pending application is one thing, to decline an invitation to go and see the authorities, another; and all the more

decisive is the difference between the two, when said "invitation" has been issued upon the request of the very person who subsequently refuses to accept.

I am eager to go ahead, - eager to <sup>regain</sup> ~~secure~~ the full protection extended by the British Government to any British subject not in the process of giving up his or her British citizenship, - eager to get the whole disgusting affair over with, - eager, - e a g e r, - E A G E R !

Please let me have an answer just as soon as possible. Perhaps - unless you mind terribly - I might send you a copy of my proposed letter for your ( wholly "informal"! ) approval. Kindly say, whether or not you'd be willing - as a last favour - to look at the thing.

Warmest regards. Sorry I have to be so stubborn. As a rule, I am as gentle a creature as they make them, and an awful lot of injustice has to be done before I even realize that I am the victim thereof. But once I've had it, I have indeed had it. And by now they might make me Secretary of State, and I'd still prefer to remain another humble subject of his Majesty, the King of Great Britain. wish to

As such, I am - in addition - yours most cordially

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