

Verbundkatalog Kalliope

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Erika Mann
March 31. 1950

Dear Mr. Jacobs.

The F.B.I. have come to see me - or were the two gentlemen who third degreed me yesterday for an hour and a half a couple of secret cops in the service of the L.A. Immigration Bureau? I am not sure. However, I am sure that - apart from the general thought policing they were doing - the main purpose of their visit was to pin me down as a Pacific Palisades resident not eligible for anything in New York. I explained to them that I was indeed a New York resident, although I had always been spending my vacations here. I "admitted" moreover that I was making my parents' home my headquarters whenever my lecture schedule called for appearances in locations West of Kansas City. Even so, I considered myself a New York resident - not only in 1947 at the time I filed my application but also now and during the three years that passed between then and now.

Obviously, it would be disastrous if they could get away with this new obstructionist move. They're going to get all my itineraries from Colston Leigh, and while up to two years ago I did spend a lot of time in the East (whenever I was in this country) business has since fallen off, and I've been out here for many months in a stretch.

What do you think could be done? At any rate I felt you ought to know about the new party line so that you'll be able to brood about it.

For the rest I was asked about dozens of blacklisted organisations of which I've never been a member. In for or five instances, though, I couldn't say whether I might not have been a sponsor or something of the kind, prior to 1939 when one inclined to sponsor anything of an anti-nazi and anti-fascist character. I never paid dues to anyone except the American Authors' Guild (if that's the name of the purely professional, protective, non-political American writers' organisation) and the American War Correspondents' Association. Spain, of course, came up, and there was no denying the active interest I took in the loyalist cause. Unnecessarily, I admitted once having raised

\$ 1000 for same - a fact entirely unknown, and now constituting, I am afraid, a crimson feather in the caps of the local Gestapo.

Please let me know whether our New York masters are trying to get rid of my case or whether it's just that the L.A. authorities are anxious to get it.

Kindest regards. I'll be in New York on the 26th but hope to hear from you before my departure from here on the 18th.

Yours as ever cordially

Jacobs
[31. III. 50]

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