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Mann, Erika

New York, 1940-05-16

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Erika Mann
Hotel Bedford,
118 East 40th Street
New York City
May, 16th, 1940

Dear Mr. Duff Cooper, -

it is for two reasons that I should
like to come to England by the end of July or the beginning of
August:

- 1.) As I told you in Chicago I feel that I would be able to do
a useful job as for the German-language broadcasts from London.
For, although I realise that you may not consider it ~~that~~ important
any longer to "talk" at all, - I still think certain results can be
hoped for if ^{that} and when the right people address ^{that} diseased nation in
the right way. I do not know, of course, whom you may have entrusted
with that radio-job by now and whether or not he (or she) would be
just as good ^{as} or even better than myself. At any rate I wish you to
know that I should like to place myself at your disposal.
- 2.) While there is not very much to be done over here during the
summer I have completed ~~arrangements~~ ^{side} for an extended lecture-tour
beginning in November. I know that I would be in a far better po-
sition to impress my audiences if I had spent parts of the summer in
Europe and could talk with the authority only experience can grant.

Things have moved swiftly over here; yet quite some work will still have to be done. And if it should be possible for you to give me half an hour of your time now and then and to instruct me as for the things you want to be stressed all over the States it would be of tremendous value to me personally and, maybe, of some tiny value to our common cause.

Will you let me hear from you as soon as possible so that I may make the necessary arrangements? Being a British subject, while, at the same time, having taken out my American first papers, I shall not have any ^{legal} difficulties as for leaving and reentering this country. I should not like, however, to undertake this trip, unless you still feel, - as you did in Chicago, - that I could be of any use in England. I need not say how fully I agreed with your "we must fight the German-people" ^{the day it was made, -} "speech", - now since it has been so terribly justified even for American "appeasers". And I feel that I shouldn't waste one more moment of your time. Believe me that I am proud and happy to know you and that I couldn't possibly think of anything more desirable than to work for you and under your, - however indirect, - supervision.

Will you give all of my kindest regards to Lady Dianah, please?

Yours very sincerely

Erika Mann.