

Lorraine
Le Bigard
Forest

Guernsey C.1

19/8/89

Dear Henry,

I am so sorry that I have not replied to your letter of 27/5/89 and you must think I am a lazy and ungrateful beggar. I have no real excuse to offer, other than the fact, that my wife has taken rather a long time to recover from her operation, but is now very much better and I am now, not tried?, so busy about the house. I had not forgotten about you, and would have written to thank you for the newspapers eventually, but I do apologise for the long delay.

I had hoped that some golf playing Swedish people who I know would be over on holiday again this year, but so far I have not seen them, which is a pity because I am

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sure they would have read the ~~book~~ newspaper story to me. Anyway your letter gave me a good outline of the events.

I do remember the ~~two~~ two girls who "assisted" me as I walked along the road, adjacent to the field in which I landed. Strangely, they did not understand what I said, as most people in Sweden, I subsequently met, seemed to speak and understand our language. They each took one of my arms, and as we walked along the road, I reached into my top pocket to get a cigarette. The girls must have thought I was going for a weapon, because they leapt back and pointed their rifles at me. As the rifles were presumably loaded, I was careful not to make any more sudden movements!!

En route to their command post we were passed by a car going in the opposite direction, which ~~was~~ being driven by Lt. Malmström, who seeing us in his headlights stopped, and

as I heard him get out, I shouted 'do you speak English?' His reply was 'Ja, welcome to Sweden'. I felt then, that, I was in a friendly country which turned out to be true, as we were always treated very well during our stay. Lt. Malstrom spoke very good English, and when we got back to the command boat, he asked me if I knew exactly where I had landed, as the girls wondered if they could have my parachute, as the material was good for making undersweat.

I expect they found it OK, because it must have been very close to the point where they picked me up. I expect they remember the night as vividly as I do and if you are able to contact them, would you please give them my regards.

I really do not know whether Lt Malstrom is still alive as I think that he was a little older than me. Again if you have any contact with him, please pass on my regards.

I would certainly like to meet you one of these days Henry, and will certainly let you know if we intend to visit Sweden again.

This will depend on how well my wife progresses, but I feel that in a year or so she will be her old self again, and we can then consider a visit. If it is your intention to visit the Channel Islands, again please let me know, as I am sure we would have a lot to talk about. I am delighted that you regard me as a friend - I also thank you for being interested in my wartime exploits.

I shall finish now and get into bed. (My pen is running dry). Ah, that's better, I've picked up another one. Once again my sincere regrets for not writing you many weeks ago

Kindest regards to you both
Sincerely

Doug King