

*write on
thin paper
for back mail*

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Dear Red:

Your letter of 5 February is a source of considerable pleasure to me, and was very glad to find that you are still thinking about us in Washington.

The Friedman family is managing to survive the ordeals of selling the home on Military Road, moving into the town house at 1823 Que Street, and also into the country place at Fenwick, Maryland. Everything turned out very nicely, however, and we are all extremely happy about the country place. The view is charming and every aspect of the establishment is pleasing. When we go down there for a weekend, we hate to come back. As soon as the weather permits, I think I am going to travel back and forth every day despite the fact that the distance between Arlington Hall and ^{Fenwick} ~~there~~ is just a little under 30 miles. The road is excellent, however, and ^{with a new car} I should be able to make the journey in an hour.

The place in town is turning out ~~alright~~ all right, although for weeks I despaired of ever getting ^{down} the things settled. You can imagine that it was very expensive; ~~and~~ we put ~~in~~ a lot more money into the place than I had ^{ever} anticipated. But people who know tell me it is a mighty fine investment and I should be able to do well with it. They have started work on the underpass at

Du Pont Circle which is but a step from our house, and right across the street from us they are about to put up a very ritzy apartment hotel.

I was very glad to get the details about the Corderman family and think that you all are going to treasure for a long time the many interesting phases of your life in Germany during these hectic years. I am very glad to note that you expect to get back on Signal Corps duties when CBS is inactivated and hope that this will actually take place. With the changes to be expected from the new regime in the Signal Corps, I should think that with your background and record you should certainly be selected for extremely important work ^{arising from} ~~in connection with~~ whatever reorganization that takes place. General Aiken's appointment naturally did not come as a surprise and everybody is looking forward to a revitalization of the Corps. Whether there will be an change in the status of ASA or not on account of this change in leadership in the Signal Corps, ~~it~~ is not clear at the moment; but I, for one, doubt that a change in status would be brought about merely on that account. On the other hand, a change in status may result from whatever final decision is made about the organization of the armed forces. I should think that the ASA would become part of a completely integrated joint organization reporting on a very high level. As a separate outfit, this would probably be the only way to resolve in a satisfactory manner certain practical difficulties with which you are familiar. Of late these difficulties have

increased, and I regret to note some deterioration in our carefully established good relations with the Annex. This is the result of difficulties in points of view as to interpretations to be made from the wording of the basic documents governing our relations. As you know, in another month there will be a change in Coordinators and what will happen is not clear at the moment.

You will be interested to know that yesterday the Legion of Merit was awarded to Colonel Kuhn, now Mr. Kuhn, who is still with us. I understand, too, that the Board yesterday approved the award to Brigadier Tiltran, who is expected some time in April for a visit. Henry Frier got out of the Army and stayed out only

three or four weeks. ~~I have not seen him for a couple of days~~ *He came back into the Army for an assignment with War Assets - He tells me it is a very excellent one, which will now, but I hear he has reconsidered. I doubt whether he will come keep him in Chicago for about 18 months. I told him about ~~back to ASA, though.~~ *Harrod Miller, who is also there, I am sure, with War Assets.**

We have had many of our former officers join up as civilians and naturally it has been a good thing for the ASA for continuity. It appears that the work appeals to most of the people who have been in it during the war and that the terms of employment are just as good and possibly a bit better than in industry. For example, in Kuhn's case, he was willing to give up his seniority rights and ~~benefit privileges~~ *penion deposits* of over 15 years ~~or more~~ service with the A.T.&T. in order to stay with us.

You will be interested to know that after many attempts, Mr. Shing finally got his financial award for his suggestions and that a larger award from the superior board will probably be forthcoming also. You will also be interested to know that my 25-year

probationary period has terminated, and the Civil Service Commission finds me worthy of being considered to be a permanent employee. I should have thrown a party to celebrate the occasion but my financial manipulations with the houses dictated a cautious approach to mark the milestone. It took the Civil Service Commission only a year and a half to study the matter *and arrive at a decision.*

I am very sorry to have to tell you that George had to go back to the hospital for a second operation which is soon to take place. Naturally this was quite a blow to him, Mary, and all of us. The doctors assure him that there is no cause for serious concern. I expect to see him in a few days *when he is allowed to have visitors.*

In a very recent letter from our friend, Boris Hagelin, comes the news that he expects to leave Sweden for good and become an American citizen. Apparently he is keenly disappointed in the political trend toward the left in his country and wants to make a decided change.

I have made this letter longer than I had intended but hope you will find it of interest. Please give my very best greetings to Virginia and our warmest regards from both Elizabeth and me to both of you.

Sincerely yours,