

IN REPLY REFER TO
FILE No. 12



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AMERICAN CONSULATE
Lagos, Nigeria
April 9, 1942

My beloved,

L-139

I've just got the shortest possible time to write a note to remind you I love you and to say that I received your lovely letter of March 16th. It was just grand. It said just what I wanted to hear - namely, that you haven't decided to go off into a nunnery and immerse yourself from the wicked world, or picked out another man. All I say in my letter number 11, which you probably haven't received yet, goes double right now.

The reason for this hurried scrawl is that our friend and go-between, Jim Bledsoe is in town, and he came past the Consulate to ask if I had any more letters for you. I didn't at the time, but I promised to try to write one during the afternoon. Alas, a long telegram to encipher and two visa applicants took up all my time, and it is now time for me to take my bath and get dressed for a drinks party at Mr. Jester's. And there's no being very late, either, because I have to call for two of the principal guests and take them along. McSweeney's car has arrived, but no McSweeney, so I am taking the liberty of using his car on urgent occasions, when so instructed by the boss. I hope McS. isn't terribly particular about his stuff, because we are going to have to live almost like college room mates, sharing each other's things. Unfortunately, I have very little to contribute to the partnership except my charming personalty (!). His fine radio has already arrived, but I have not made any effort to use it.

I forgot to say in the former letter that I had finally written Janie to congratulate Janie on her engagement. She was very worried about whether she had made a good impression on you, and I said that judging by your letters, you were very fond of her, and that she had probably received a letter from you saying so. Let me know what she says in reply; I think it will touch her heart, because she said that you were one of the most lovable people she had ever met. I think the same, only leave out "one of".

I am very pleased that you finances are shaping up well; anytime there is anything you need, let me know, and I will be glad to contribute. I feel responsible for you - you know why. I think your idea about the engagement ring is lovely, and I hope you will look around and pick out a good one. However, don't buy it quite yet, because I have written to Janie about some rings which were left to me by my mother and grandmother, to see whether we can't make something out of them.. In any case, I want you to have one soon, altho I wish I could present it in person. I love you deeply, tenderly, sincerely and eternally. Our day WILL come.

Ym Bill

No time for corrections! I love you again

Penciled note in right margin, WLK hand: "No time for corrections! I love you again"