



MR. W. GUNTON.

MACHINE ROOM.

WATERLOW AND SONS. LTD.

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PARK ROYAL.

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RAF STATION.

ISLE OF TIRRE.

ARGYLLSHIRE.

~~TUESDAY~~
(I THINK).

DEAR UNCLE BILL AND OTHERS.

HERE I AM STILL IN THIS SPOT SET IN A SILVER
SEA - AND I SHOULD LIKE IT PUT ON RECORD THAT I
WISH I WASN'T. AFTER ALL MY AIMS AND AMBITIONS
HERE AM I TAKING THE LEAD IN A ROBINSON CRUSOE
ACT. JUST ONE LAUGH OR SMIRK FROM ANY OF MY
SO-CALLED FRIENDS AND I SHALL REMEMBER IT
LIKE THE PROVERBIAL ELEPHANT AND EXACT TOLL
WHEN I NEXT VISIT.

THE EXCITEMENT HERE GROWS ON ONE AND WE
HAVE TO SPEND A COUPLE OF HOURS A DAY ON OUR
BACK TO GET OVER IT - I DON'T THINK. THE

LIVELIEST PLACE ON THE ISLAND IS THE CEMETERY WHERE THEY BURY SOMEONE ABOUT EVERY SIX MONTHS. THERE IS A GALE BLOWING SIX DAYS A WEEK AND IT RAINS LIKE ^{DOWN} FUN ON FIVE. THERE IS MORE WIND ABOUT THAN AT A CHAPEL MEETING WHEN MR. HUNT HAS A GRIEVANCE.

THE BEAUTY OF THIS PLACE IS THAT ALL THE LETTERS ARE ONE WAY. I HAVE THE ADVANTAGE IN THAT NO ONE CAN COME BACK AT ME WITH A SHAPPY REPLY. NOT THAT MY CORRESPONDENTS HAVE EVER EVINCED THE SLIGHTEST SIGNS OF DOING SUCH A - TO THEM - DISASTEROUS THING. IN FACT THE MAJORITY OF MY FRIENDS SEEM MORE CONCERNED WITH THE SUPER-HUMAN TASK OF CLEARING THEIR OWN CHARACTERS THAN ATTEMPTING TO BESMURCH MY LILYWHITE GOOD NAME.

HAVING GOT OVER THE INITIAL HORRIFYING SHOCK OF SEEING THIS ISLAND I HAVE HAD TIME TO LOOK ROUND.



THE FIRST IMPRESSION WAS WRONG. THE PLACE ONLY LOOKS HALF AS BAD AS IT IS. THE ONLY BEER ON THE ISLAND IS "NAAFI" - AND TASTES LIKE IT. IF YOU WANT 14 DAYS SICK LEAVE ALL YOU NEED IS A GOOD DRUNK ON IT AND YOU'D BE A CERT CASE OF VIOLENT POISONING.

WE STARTED OFF UNDER THE IMPRESSION WE SHOULD BE HERE FOR TEN DAYS. HAVING FINISHED THE FIRST TEN WE ARE WONDERING JUST HOW MANY MORE OF THEM WE SHALL HAVE TO DO. FROM THE LOOKS OF THINGS WE ARE GETTING ALMOST AS PERMANENT A FIXTURE IN THIS JOB AS MR EVANS IS IN THE SPECIAL SORTING. AND IT IS WELL KNOWN JUST HOW PERMANENT THAT IS. THE ONLY DIFFERENCE IS WE ARE NOT SO KEEN ON KEEPING IT. ALTHOUGH FROM WHAT I CAN GATHER IF HE DOESN'T ALTER HIS WAYS A BIT AND GET IN EARLIER SOMEBODY WILL HAVE

THEM SORTED BEFORE HE GETS UP.

SHOULD THIS LETTER NOT SEEM TO ANSWER ANY
QUERIES ANYONE MIGHT HAVE PUT LATELY IT WILL
BE BECAUSE I HAVE HAD NO MAIL FOR OVER TEN
DAYS. I HAVE WIRED FOR IT TO BE FORWARDED
BUT DO NOT EXPECT TO GET IT BEFORE THURSDAY
AT THE VERY EARLIEST. SHOULD YOU WISH YOU
CAN - IF YOUR INCLINATIONS RUN TO WRITING -
WRITE TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS BUT - AS I DO NOT
KNOW WHEN WE SHALL MOVE AND WHEN WE DO WE
SHALL JUST DISAPPEAR BY PLANE I SHOULD
CONTINUE TO WRITE TO LIVERNESS FOR A WHILE.
ALTHOUGH IT WON'T MATTER WHERE YOU WRITE I'LL
GET EM IN THE END - I HOPE.

THIS SIDE OF SCOTLAND IS THE SIDE THAT YOU
- MY FRIEND - ARE ALWAYS CRACKING ABOUT. THE
NEXT TIME I SEE YOU I WOULD LIKE A FEW
WORDS IN CONFIDENCE JUST TO READJUST YOUR



IDEAS AS TO WHAT CONSTITUTES SCENERY, OR A
DECENT VIEW. YOUR IDEA OF A GOOD VIEW IS EVIDENTLY
SAND HILLS WITH SAND BETWEEN THEM. MINE IS
WASHINGS OF CINEMAS AND AN A.T.S. BARRACKS WITH
A FEW PUBS IN THE FOREGROUND.

THE CORPORAL IN CHARGE OF OUR PARTY SHOOTS ONE
OF THE MOST HORRIBLE LINES I HAVE EVER HEARD.
WHAT HE HASN'T BEEN, DONE OR SEEN IS HARD TO
BELIEVE. I ALWAYS GET A THRILL OUT OF LISTENING
TO HIM. IF I SHUT MY EYES I ALMOST THINK I AM
GROUND NO 7. LISTENING TO BROTHER GEORGE,
ALL THAT IS MISSING IS THE ACTIONS. AFTER THIS
I SUPPOSE I SHALL GET THE ACTIONS NEXT TIME I CALL.

I HOPE THE BOYS ARE NOW ENJOYING THEIR LAST
FEW DAYS OF LIBERTY AND I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW
THE THREE OF THEM WERE COMING HERE. LIFE WOULD
THEN HOLD SOME JOY FOR ME. THAT IS IF "OLD

RAILINGS^A CAN GET BY THE M.O. WITHOUT HAVING AN OPERATION TO HAVE HIS STOMACH REMOVED. NOT THAT THEY HAVENT WAYS AND MEANS OF REDUCING SAID CORPORATION WITHOUT A KNIFE. CHARLIE AND CHERRY SHOULD DO ALL RIGHT IN THE SERVICE. THEY ARE FOND OF MAKING THINGS. IF THEY ONLY MAKE MISTAKES LIKE THEY MAKE THEIR PRESENTS THE SQUAD THEY ARE IN WILL JUST LOVE 'EM. WHEN YOU WRITE TO BILL SMITH GIVE HIM MY REGARDS AND TELL HIM IF HE WILL PLAY AT SOLDIER'S HE'S BOUND TO GET HURT. ALSO IF FRED. BAULCH SHOULD BE SEEN WISH HIM LUCK.

THIS I THINK WILL BE ALL FOR A WHILE AND IF ANYTHING HAPPENS - WHICH I DOUBT - I WILL LET YOU KNOW. KEEP YOUR NOSE CLEAN. REMEMBER ME TO EVERYONE THAT MATTERS, ALSO MESSRS. HUNT AND ASHTON. GIVE MY LOVE TO THE ENGINEERS AND THE OPAS.



KISS JACK DENNY FOR ME.

HERES FUN. LOVE

PETE.

P.S. IF ANYONE HAS WRITTEN I WILL THANK
THEM IN ANTICIPATION AND REPLY WHEN I SEE
THE LETTERS.

P.P.S. ON SECOND THOUGHTS ILL THANK THEM
AFTER I SEE THE LETTERS.

P.