

Jan 20, 1979

Dear Hilda, Rusty -

Thank you for your letter, for the sympathy shown.

I must tell you that no one knew of Ruth's illness - at least, of its nature. Although it is to-day quite incomprehensible to me that all the tests, X-rays and examinations did not afford the learned medical profession a clue - the fact is that Ruth's cancer was only identified on Dec. 9 - and then (she was working until the end of Nov., and was a walking patient in hosp. until almost the middle of Dec.) - she had less than 3 weeks to live.

It was very hard to take; I was - and am - wracked with pity and anger at the raw deal she had (by fate, not by the poor circumstances, the doctors who know so little tho' they know such a lot) and the modest hopes and expectations she had - for a few more years, some ease in our materially improved circumstances, for a chance to get back to painting. She got pains, for her pains and - mercifully - a speedy ending than one could have imagined.

I'm not sorry for myself but infinitely so for her - tho' she feels no more pains.

I shall probably take a fortnight's leave and come to London in March or April. In the meantime, my job keeps me busy. - I hope and trust you are well!

Much love
Fred

1
17-Sept. '89

2. Francis Way, Collyford Down
EX13 6GN

Dear Hilda + Rusty,

I must apologise for not replying to your letters sooner, but I can only excuse myself, by pleading that the trauma I experienced, and the complications that followed it have disorientated my thinking and memory.

I mentioned to you Hilda, that I wanted to return to Africa for a period, and if possible, to visit S.A. in the hope that I could contact some of our old friends. I'm now firming up a tour - with Janet's assistance - which will ~~now~~ encompass calling on you and Rusty at SOMAFCO, then on to Marion in the Serengeti - then on to Lusaka with Janet - then to the Falls and S.A. with Janet.

Janet has worked out an itinerary which commences from London to Dar-as-Salam on the 17 Nov. - then on to Nairobi on the 2 December where Marion would meet me, and then on 20th December Nairobi to Lusaka.

Janet insists that if I'm going to S.A. I must go to Morogoro first, because Tanzania is very strict over people with a S.A. Stamp in their Passports. Marion also says that the checks into the Serengeti are even stricter on S.A. stamps in Passports.

As I mentioned to you on the 'phone I would love to visit SOMAFCO so could you enquire on my behalf for a permit. In fact I would ~~really~~ want two because I've contacted with an old friend of Evelyn and myself the nurse that use to come on holiday with us in S.A. She is EIRLYS HERSCHEL-DAVIES (I'm sure you met in Ish-bony). She has three sons - knows many of our old friends, and was taken in for questioning by the S. Branch. She is a nurse - Grade Matron.

Incidentally, Marion has been in England just recently, and she mentioned that you wanted to visit her in the Serengeti - I have given her your address, so I assume you will be hearing from her. She's keen that you should visit her.

I hope you're both fit and well and enjoying your new environment. Please pass my comradely regards to any of our old friends who may

Still remember me. I do look forward to meet them all again.

I hope you can decipher my scribbles and make sense of my jumbled thoughts - I can only blame my age.

Best wishes to you both, I hope I see you soon.

With love

PS

Given that we are fortunate enough to visit SOWAFEO, how do we transport ourselves from Dar-es-Salaam to Morogoro. By train or Road? I estimate the journey is 100 miles plus - too far and expensive for a taxi. Please inform us because Dar is too hot and steamy to hang around in! Hope to see you soon Mum.

Mum & Eirlys

An aerogramme should not contain any enclosure

Postcode
 ENGLAND
 EX13 6PN
 COLTFRORD DEVDN
 2 EDWARDS WAY,
 L.R. EAST
 Sender's name and address

Mrs Mrs Lionel Barnstein.
 SOWAFEO.
 PRIVATE BAG, MATZINGU,
 MOROGORO
 TANZANIA.

Royal Mail

Aerogramme

By air mail
Par avion



26

30/9/89

SOMAFCO
P.O: Box 680
Mazimbu
Morogoro
Tanzania

Dear Wilf,

We are delighted that you are planning to visit us here at Mazimbu. However, if you think you will meet up with some of your old comrades here, you will be disappointed. This is a colony of young people, Rusty and I are the oldest, the most ancient citizens around, a curiosity. You would probably find people you used to know in Lusaka, but there again there are problems in meeting people, because for security reasons the ANC personnel are dispersed in different places, hard to locate and transport almost non-existent.

As far as getting in to Mazimbu is concerned, you must send us particulars of your passports - numbers, date and place of issue. We will then apply to the ANC Chief Rep in Dar-es-Salaam for a pass for you to visit here. The Tanzanians are very strict on security, and Marion is right that you should come here first. Toni always has to have someone from the ANC at immigration to clear here when she comes to East Africa, because her passport says she was born in South Africa.

When you arrive in Dar, you will have to take a taxi to the ANC office (the address of which I'll put at the end of this letter). From the ANC office there should be transport to Mazimbu - there are cars coming and going constantly, although it might have to wait for a day or two. It depends on the day and time your flight arrives. If it's at a weekend, the office will be closed. It's open from 8 am to about 4 or 4.30. There is also a public bus service between Dar and Morogoro - the dala-dala - but ANC cars are preferable, and if you land in Morogoro you would have to take a taxi to Mazimbu (though only a couple of miles). The road from Dar is horrendous, so a journey that should take only a couple of hours usually takes four.

If you have to stay in Dar for a day or two, I may say it is not the kind of town that offers you anything to hang around for, so if your money is sufficient, you would be better off in booking in at one of the beach hotels, more expensive but at least pleasant.

I don't know how you get to the Serengeti from here, but presume you would return to Dar, so perhaps when you arrive there you can make enquiries.

Let us know your flight particulars - time and date - so that we can make sure there is accommodation at the Guest House. There is also an ANC bus service once a week from here to Dar (leaving 6 am on Fridays) and from Dar returning on Friday afternoons.

So, your full names and passport particulars. I don't remember Eirlis, but that's not surprising, I don't remember anyone, and it isn't only old age - I've always been afflicted with a total non-memory.

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