

H.M.S. BRAGANZA

(C.F.9)

c/o G.P.O.

21.4.45.

My darling,

I really don't think I can say all I want to say describe all I want to describe in this little arrangement. Let me explain - the mail from India to you is different to your end - all mail is free but only those 102. & under go by air mail, the rest go by ordinary mail - thus I'm writing an Airmail to let you know (a) I'm here (b) I love you (c) I love you. Further, altho' you're allowed to tell you I'm in India I'm not allowed to say where - but you can guess. I believe I've slipped up in not adding C.F.9 to my address - therefore, up to now, I've had no mail. In addition, re the voyage, we must not describe the route time taken, etc. However, in spite of the restrictions I've got plenty to tell you about but I think it'd be better if I put it all in a long letter & just keep to the essentials in these iddy biddy things.

The first essential is that it's bloody hot - & I aint kidding. I've never sweated so much in my life & I'm including the Turkish

Baths. I've got blisters & spots all over me & my
sawd, don't they itch. The camp is well set
out, (by the way I'm in transit camp at
the moment - I go to the permanent base
next Tuesday), but there I leave my peon
of praise - one cough & you get enough
dust over you to turn you as brown as the
natives - that dust!!! Water? There are
numerous well appointed wash-houses with
plenty of taps - the trouble is there aint no water
coming out of 'em. I did find one tap
that does its stuff & there I can be seen
at various hours of the day lining up in
a state of nature in company with a

million of the X million Untouchables waiting
to wash the aforementioned dust off the
body beautiful. We are housed in separate
compartments of a 6 compartment hut made
of and (?) wicker work & corrugated iron -
don't get me wrong, they're fairly roomy &
comfortable - Jim's with me in my
compartment. But as I say we'll be out
of here next week so I'll have a different
tale to tell. Food? Mainly it's the same
as in England but with more fruit
which is plentiful out here - bananas,
coconuts, tangerines & others too numerous
to mention or complicated to spell.

I can't say we've settled down yet.
It looks like I shan't go into ~~the~~ X
for a month or two. I want to get into
the way of things first - first costs indicate
that I'll probably be able to get a camera
& films & general goods appear to be
plentiful & fairly cheap, cheaper than
England anyway. Everything seems to
be working out as expected before we
left England - no surprises as far as work
is concerned. As for the life, conditions etc,
out here I'll leave my verdict until
later when I've got a true value of things.

It's all very strange confusing - and hot -
and dusty. They tell me this is the
hot season & in a month or two we
shall get the monsoons - I dunno, but
what will be, be, I always say.

Finally, 'India's coral strands'
cannot compare to the sight of that
lovely face looking out of the frame
on my table - that photograph is my
stauncher to ban on when mental
weariness threatens to make this journey
a voyage to the Pit of Hell.

I love you
J.S.

SECURITY: THINK-BEFORE YOU WRITE !!

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED
THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT
BY ORDINARY MAIL

MARITIME
ON ACTIVE SERVICE

10

received
30.4.1945

MRS. LIZ WESTAYN
85(A) BENE GROVE RD.
WELLING, KENT.
ENGLAND.



Name: L.H.F. WESTAYN
Rank: Petty Officer R.N.
No: P/RX 50221
Written in: ENGLISH (Language)

Sender's

THIS LETTER IS FOR THE USE OF H. M. FORCES ONLY

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10

received
30.11.1945

MRS. H. F. WESTAWAY
85(A) BENE GROVE RD.
WELLING, KENT.
ENGLAND.



Name..... L. H. F. WESTAWAY
Rank..... Lt. Col. R.N.
No..... P/RX 50221
Written in..... ENGLISH (Language)

Sender's

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