AN ANSWER
IS EXPECTED

BY THE SENDER OF THIS
MESSAGE. PLEASE GIVE
IT TO THE MESSENGER
OR TELEPHONE IT TO

WESTERN UNION

2477-D-

WESTERN UNION

B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

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Ship Radiogram

telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

WA21 12= WASHINGTON DC 6 833A

DR AND MRS W M MANN=

SS IRMO DOCKING 10 AM NORFOLK VIR=

CAN YOU HAVE DINNER WITH US DURING YOUR VISIT TO WASHINGTON
LOVE=

MARION AND MATT.

(43)6.

1945 AUG 6 AM 8 45

STANDARD TIME INDICATED

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229 EAST MAIN ST.
NORFOLK, VA.
TELEPHONE 24655

TELEPHONE YOUR TELEGRAMS
TO POSTAL TELEGRAPH

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THIS IS A FULL RATE TELEGRAM, CABLE-
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Form 16

NF54 31 DL= DX WASHINGTON DC 6 427P=

1940 AUG 6 PM 5 10

DR WILLIAM M MANN=

DLR CARE MR H N LARCOMBE NORFOLK WASHINGTON BOAT

FRONT ST NFLK VIR=

YOUR ILLNESS HAS BIGGER HEADLINES IN WASHINGTON PAPERS
THAN WAR. DO HURRY HOME. POOLS BEAUTIFUL FILLED WITH PRAIRIE
CHICKENS AND SWIMMING DOVES. GLAD YOU BROUGHT LIBERIAN
TIGER. REGARDS FROM US ALL=

MELVIN D HILDRETH.

S A L A L A.
June 21st.1940.

To Francis & David:-

Permission is hereby granted Mr. Chancellor and
others to stay at the house of the Polsih Plantation
Division No. 2. for only (3) ^{three} (two) days.

J. B. Watson
.....
J. B. Watson.
District Commissioner.

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AMERICAN LEGATION

Monrovia, Liberia
June 11, 1940

Dear Doctor Mann:

With reference to the desire you expressed the other day, I have to inform you that the Liberian Government states that they have no objection to your proposed visit to Wreputa in the interest of the Smithsonian-Firestone Expedition.

I shall be pleased if you will call to see me when next you are in Monrovia.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Clifton R. Wharton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Clifton" being particularly prominent.

Clifton R. Wharton
American Charge d'Affaires ad interim

Dr. William M. Mann, Director,
Smithsonian-Firestone Expedition,
Harbel, Liberia.

June 4, 1940

Hon. Clifton R. Wharton
Charge d'Affaires
American Legation
Monrovia

Dear Mr. Wharton:

Apropos of our conversation in Monrovia last Sunday I am writing the following facts relative to our trip to Cape Mount and Bendaja.

Mrs. Mann and I arrived at Cape Mount on May 7 on the fishing boat "Helene". The owner of the fishing boat had made arrangements with Mr. Paul of West & Co. to disembark us in a surf boat. He received us in a friendly manner. We went immediately to Miss McKenzie of the American Mission, who already knew about us, and she provided us with a house.

We stayed at Cape Mount six days, making one trip to Sugari to see the sacred crocodile there, and one to Toso where there was supposed to be a dance.

The County Superintendent was not in Cape Mount. We could not find that he had left anybody there to represent him. The only official we had talked with was the customs man, who was very courteous to us.

At Cape Mount we made such collections as we could ourselves, but wanted to go inland among the hunting people. We heard that the Superintendent was in Sugari; we heard also that he was in Mombo. We had been to Sugari and he was not there; Mombo is on the way to Bendaja, so we left, expecting to see him there. He was not there, so we went on to Bendaja, and presented the letter given us by the Secretary of the Interior, to government officials including Paramount Chiefs, to the Paramount Chief there. He received us and provided a house in which we stayed.

Mr. Paul accompanied us. Mr. Paul has two branch stores on the road and, I believe, some business in the Bendaja region. He was most helpful to us, knowing and being liked by the people. He has given a house by himself.

On the afternoon of May 17 Dr. Koch of the American Mission Hospital came to Bendaja. He was accompanied by a friend of his, Dr. Kahl. Dr. Koch conducted a clinic in Bendaja, inspected a dispensary, and we walked with him to Dambala where he visited the local teacher and inspected the dispensary.

On May 19 Mr. Paul and Dr. Koch informed me they

would have to leave for Cape Mount the following morning, which they did, accompanied by Dr. Kahl.

That afternoon we were informed by the Paramount Chief that we were under detention in Bendaja, and must stay there. The next day we received a letter from Superintendent Davis, a copy of which is enclosed. Five days later another letter came from Superintendent Davis saying that our credentials were satisfactory and that he had written the Paramount Chief to that effect.

At Bendaja we made short walks from the village into the forest to make entomological, ichthyological and herpetological collections, and to study some of the habits of termites and the fauna of termite nests.

At no time did we go farther than Dambala, our other trips being confined to a radius of about a mile from Bendaja. Not having brought my passport with me (this passport had been visased for Great Britain and colonies) I did not go near the frontier. Neither did Mr. Paul, Dr. Koch or Dr. Kahl.

Mr. Paul did not have a gun with him.

The natives at Bendaja had been most friendly and good to us until the letter from the Superintendent arrived. We could not understand the change, and returned to Cape Mount as soon as we could get porters.

At Cape Mount we called at once on Superintendent Davis, to whom we had already sent by messenger our Government credentials as well as your letter to him.

It is my custom always to deliver these letters in person, but in this case you can see it had been impossible.

We received your letter asking us to return to Monrovia, which we did as soon as the fishing boat called for us. I may say we did not receive your letter of May 20 until May 30, which was two days before the fishing boat was due. It was as quick to wait for the boat as the overland journey would have been.

Being a neutral in a neutral country, and having seen President Barclay's proclamation of neutrality, I returned friendship to those who had given it to me, and associated with the residents in Cape Mount, Americans, German and Dutch. In fact we dined with each of them and they visited us at our house.

Sincerely yours,

W. M. Mann

June 4, 1940

Dear Mr. Wharton:

Enclosed is a statement of what actually happened during our sojourn in the Cape Mount district.

Superintendent Davis told us verbally that reports had been given him by someone who had passed us en route to Bendaja that I was leading a force of Germans into the interior armed with eight high-powered rifles, headed toward the British frontier.

This statement, on which I was apparently judged and tried without a hearing, was as ridiculous as it was malicious.

Our detention at Bendaja occasioned no physical discomfort, as we had our own supplies with us.

Sincerely yours,

W. M. Mann

June 4, 1940

Hon. Clifton R. Wharton
American Charge d'Affaires
Monrovia

Dear Mr. Wharton:

I am enclosing a copy of a report which I turned in to Superintendent Davis. You will note that this has nothing official in it but is an account of the callousness of one individual, who sabotaged property that I had bought and paid for, and who accepted money for taking care of it.

Sincerely yours,

W. H. Mann

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE,
Robertsport,
GRAND CAPE MOUNT COUNTY.

May 29, 1940.

Dr. William M. Mann,
Robertsport.

My Dear Dr. Mann,

The Honorable Superintendent
of this County directs me to inform you that
he would be pleased to meet you at his Office
for an interview, today at the hour of 2 o'clock
p.m., or at any time convenient with you.

Yours faithfully,

S. Moku Freeman
S. Moku Freeman,
Superintendent's Clerk.

Dr. W. Mann
On Tom Baidapa

May 25th. 1940
Baidaja Postpah

My Good Friend,

I am now informing you to know that I will leave early morning tomorrow for Robertspott. & I hope you will not be up at that time. So I take it a pleasure of telling you a farewell. And I hope & trust you will get more animals in your expedition. May the Almighty God go with you & Mrs Mann to your destination (Amen). Also asking you a sorrowful favour to please grant me the sum of 4/- four shillings to help my bond to Robertspott. I hope you will consider this as a sort of gratification to render me this assistance.

Awaiting your favourable reply
Yours truly friend
J. Morrey.

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE,
Robertsport,
GRAND CAPE MOUNT COUNTY.

May 22, 1940.

Dr. William M. Mann,
Director of the National Zoological Park,
Washington, D. C.
"ON TOUR: KPORKPAA SECTION, LIBERIA.

Sir:

I am in receipt of your credentials from the American Legation and the Interior Department of Liberia. I am returning the Interior Department's letter which you may present as your sufficient credentials to the Chief, or the County Commissioner with whom you may come in contact. I am also writing a letter to the Paramount Chief of the Kporkpaa-Kpowoso Section to render you all and any assistance you may require.

Sincerely hoping this will be sufficient to facilitate your mission,

I am,

Faithfully yours,

Superintendent,
Grand Cape Mount County, R.L.

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE,
Robertsport,
GRAND CAPE MOUNT COUNTY.

May 22, 1940.

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Director of the National Zoological Park,
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I am,

Faithfully yours,

Superintendent,
Grand Cape Mount County, R.L.

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE,
Robertsport,
GRAND CAPE MOUNT COUNTY.

May 22, 1940.

Paramount Chief Boima Quae,
Kporkpaa Section,
County Jurisdiction,
Cape Mount County, R.L.

Dear Chief,

I have seen the papers of
Dr. Mann and they are satisfactory. He
will present to you his letter from the
Interior Department also. You are
therefore required to render him all
legitimate assistance in your power to
facilitate his travel and his mission.

With sentiments of my respect,

I am,

Faithfully yours,

Superintendent,
Grand Cape Mount County.

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Monrovia, Liberia

May 20, 1940

Dr. William M. Mann

Smithsonian Expedition

Robertport, Cape Mount, Liberia

Dear Dr. Mann:

Due to certain matters brought to my attention officially by the Liberian Government which I must take up with you in person, I deeply regret the necessity of asking that you return to Monrovia.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Clifton R. Wharton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Clifton" and last name "Wharton" clearly legible.

Clifton R. Wharton
American Charge d'Affaires ad interim

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE,
Robertsport,
GRAND CAPE MOUNT COUNTY.

May 17, 1940.

Dr. William M. Mann,
Bandaja, Kporkpaa Chieftom,
Grd. Cape Mount County.

Sir,

I am informed that you are making scientific investigations in the Kporkpaa area of this County for the Smithsonian-Firestone Expedition. I am also informed that you have in your possession certain credentials to this effect which I have not seen. I regret to call your attention to the impropriety of your proceeding on such a mission before presenting your credentials to me in person or by proxy as I was within the jurisdiction of my County and could have been reached at any point without much effort. I therefore require you to halt at the Paramount Chief's headquarters at Bandaja and immediately forward your credentials to me or return to this office in person.

With sentiments of respect,

I have the honor to be,
Yours respectfully,

T. Elwood Davis,
Superintendent, Grd. Cape Mount County.

Republic of Liberia.

Paramount Chief,s Offi
Gibi Chiefdom C.P.,
District Number Four,
Liberian Hinterland,
April 10th, 19

TO Dr. William Mann,

Sir:-

Kindly sell me some of your cartridges?
I have a gun also and I am in need of cartridges
and I would be very glad if you sell them to at
reasonable price at the rate of -/9 (nine pence each.

Truly yours,

Menyongai
Paramount Chief
Gibi Hinterland.

Dr. William Mann
Gibi Chiefdom C.P.,
District Number Four
Liberian Hinterland.

Dear Sir. It is with feelings of deep
regret that I am obliged to
willingly to bother you this morning.
I am very very sorry to
inform you that the boy with
my suitcase can not be found.

It appears that he took another
route instead of coming this way.

I'm asking that you all
please lend me a helping hand
in this respect, as I have nothing
wearable left with me.

Clothes shoes all
gone. I am not in the position
to do you all any good at
present, but nevertheless you will
be greatly compensated by God
some day.

Meanwhile wishing

your assistance will be available
to me, as a fatherless young man.
Please excuse rough writing
led pencil and mistake in haste.
I'm wishing you a good
and healthy trip throughout
your journey.

Respectfully yrs,
William B. Brown.

Gumata
31/3/40.

REF: 295/A-2/'40.

14th March, 1940.

To all District Commissioners,
Paramount & Clan Chiefs,
Liberian Hinterland.

Gentlemen:

This is to introduce to you, Doctor William M. Mann, Director of the National Zoological Park, Washington, D.C. This gentleman is travelling through the Liberian Hinterland, for the purpose of securing live animals, reptiles and any type of forest life that would be valuable for the Institution which he represents. You are hereby requested to give him every legitimate and legal assistance, as and when required by him, with a view to facilitating his mission.

2- The following gentlemen are associated with Doctor Mann and they will either travel individually or with him: Ralph Norris, Roy Jennier.

Faithfully yours,

V. J. F. / beat:
Varny Jakema Fahnbulleh,
(Chief, Bureau of Tribal Affairs),
ACT'Y. SECRETARY OF INTERIOR, R.L.

VJF/beat:

*Seen at this office,
J. Elwood Davis
Superintendent,
Robertson
May 22. 1940. Grand Cape Mt. Co.*