

29 July, 1949.

JOHN PETERSEN ELDER
LOWELL HOUSE E-22
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Dear Professor Baethgen,

What a thoroughly lovely letter you sent me; I wiggled, I think successfully, through the German, and felt happy and delighted. Now, this is not an answer to it, but merely a sort of business letter. The weather is unbearably hot, and I've much to do about unpacking, and all, and so I'll postpone the letter I'd rather write. Anyway, I'm alive.

This morning I received an invoice from the Library at Leiden, but they fail to say whether they have sent me the microfilm or not. In the end, I thought it better not to confuse them by asking them to send the films to my Paris friend, and now I'm as glad.. This is straighter, thus. I have written Leiden, sending them a cheque in dollars, and asking them to send the films to me, here (omitting, of course, any mention of Germany), if they haven't yet sent them to me, care of Amer. Expr., Paris. I have also written the Mail Dept., Amer. Expr., Paris, telling them, if they have sent the films on to me here, to send me the cost of postage bill, but, if they have not yet sent me the films here, to send them directly to you, at your home, but still to send the bill for postage to me, here in the USA. Thus, one way or another, each front is blocked, and so you shd. get the films in the end. One way or another, you shd. have them in a month at the latest.

In the mad scramble before I left Paris, I ~~sent~~ inquired about sending chocolate to the Russian Zone and found that it was allowed. I therefore did send Herr Piontek whatever the limit was -- about ten bars, I believe, but I do and did have grave misgivings whether he ever got it. I had to mark the package on the outside 'Chocolat', and that seems to