

Dearest Nell; - just yesterday over
the Radio we heard this beautiful
music. Henry looked at me and I
at him - he asked if you have
this; as I said no; - there was no
question to search for it today.
And: not only is it with the finest
Soloists, - but it is conducted by
the Cantor of the Thomas-Church
in Leipzig - at which Bach was
Cantor himself, - directing and
writing music for the same choir!

It tells of the Birth of Christ -
so simple and beautiful.

Dearest Nell; - as I got back
home today - there was your
letter waiting for me. As I read it
it was as if an Altar had been put
before me - as if I must be on my
knees to thank God and the Angels
- for you being on our side.

No - such words can only come

from one who has entered the utmost depths and heights, - without ever stepping lightly - but slowly, with the heart in God. You know so deeply, - and there was never any time when you did not know. What you have given to me, to those who were in despair, is the greatest gift of all. You have always taken the pain away by taking it straight into your own heart - and when you gave it back, - you had transformed the very agony into something godly.

Surely Chris, as young as he was before he left into the horror of this war, - has had many things so transformed by you. - It is surely now his great protection, just knowing also that you have your strong thoughts over him.

Yet, I know how total selflessness must overcome you about him at moments. But he also, is not alone, - it is not possible. How it is we can not imagine - it is too terrible a

1.) reality. In such unnatural times, the human being itself is also brought into a state of mind which is not as in normal times. My father who went not only through first, but also second world war - an actual hell; told me that he could ~~the~~ reconstruct what at the worst times happened, - but that he cannot even imagine how or by what power or force - he lived it through. Of course, he told of comrades who broke down; but Chris is strong and brave, he has something of a lion who can look beyond the reality on front of him, where he can see an eternity of life.

Although people of most countries are pointing their fingers at Vietnam - as if we should not get mixed up in that, in fact, that we are doing something wrong. Yet I cannot feel that way. There is nothing worse than war; but I don't see what sense it would make to leave there and let it go. I am sure, that then the fight would start may be in Germany,

may be in South America - or
at any point. Communism knows
no limit, - it will want to take one
small piece after another. There was
Hungary, - several times it was
going to be Berlin. It is only if we
can prove that we don't let ourselves
be driven out of everywhere, that we
can stop them. Whoever knows -
what it means to be run by
communism, - as the people of
Berlin; naturally do not criticize
U.S. Politics. Robert Kennedy just
now commended that it should
not only be dealt with through
military power, he thinks some
"regular people" should be sent over to
look into the human situation there.
There may be some points to it, -
but did it ever do much good to
talk with Communists, for words
and promises mean nothing to them.

I know no solution, and surely
nothing about Vietnamese thinking.
But I do know, why the people of

3.) most countries are so ready to
criticise whatever America does.
For the same reason, - for which
~~that~~ Margaret mistrusted the
sincerity of "Mother and Child", when
she saw it, - before she had
met you.

In general, the people of Germany
and France, are very sceptical,
selfish and materialistic. They can
therefore not imagine anything as a
Monroe-Doctrine, or that anyone
or any country could do something
for other than materialistic or selfish
reasons. West Germany, for example,
is so shortsided, - it does not occur
to them that U.S. Forces keep the
West-section of Berlin to keep it free.
When I talk to people about the
fact that the U.S. get nothing out of
Berlin, that it is only West-Germany
where U.S. Business is invested, I can
question that then comes - is - "But then:
why do they stand up for it??"

It is very difficult for them to believe that it could be for pure reasons. -

Additionally, - this is what you said long ago: there always must be a scapegoat. Usually the strong one are used for that, - the cream. Under Hitler, it was the Jews. And there is no doubt, that in Business, Science, Art and Literature; - they were the Cream. America, a world power, and being far away; is ideal to get used by such savage instincts. Surely you found often that J.V.N. was victimised for no reason, as he also had power.

I don't know what I am getting into with all this talking....! Better get out of it again to something else. For it is soon that Christ is born; he must be born in ones mind - it is the only possible birth. Under that sign of greatest joy - your book stands. For the first time I don't

3.) see how the pictures are born: but I can feel them - more then I could ever see them. Perhaps it is just one big unanswered question, what will happen to it when it is there. But something will happen, for the world does need it. It will come and go its way.

Thomas is getting little special shoes made! He now pulls himself up wherever he can! Of course it is still a long way before he can stand freely, because of a lack of balance, - but this also is being trained.

I must be careful not to get a swollen head: Prof. Luth, who is in Germany one of the leading people of C.P., - told me that the Specialists at the C.P. Center ~~he had been~~ ^{him} informed at many occasions, - that they had never known a parent as cooperative and consistent ^{with them} in treating a child. The same day the physical therapist told me that I have a 6th sense of following up exercise instructions. Of course I told her that at last I now have

some use of those terrible Studies
of Anatomie etc. at the Akademie
15 years back. No question:

I shall put a wreath on my
swollen head, before it swells
more. Already I am not sure
if I will find enough Laurel-
leaves for its present size

Because I was moving once
the wrong way by lifting Thomas,
- I strained my back. So, three days
ago, Henrys sister took Thomas
to Göttingen. But now they have
great trouble, - for they don't know
how to lift him without strain, -
although I showed them. Anyway:
my back is in perfect shape again,
and so I will drive up there the day
after tomorrow. Most of the time since
Thomas is in Göttingen - I slept like
a found dog. Now without Thomas
and not sleeping - I feel like a
chicken without head! Henry will
also come up and we will celebrate
Christmas ev. there and come back here

4.) Christmas day with Thomas.
I have put Pine branches around
the Apt.; and we will play music.
At present, it is hardly ever that I
put on a record; but when the time
comes I will have music all the
time again. At all these months -
I heard in my heart the music
at Villa Serina; here it was music
^{enough} to know how good every minute
of work on Thomas is and to see
the result on him.

To send such a big Check, - or it is
so utterly dear of you.... we can
not express it. But: a small part of
it I will spend on his first shoes!
the soles will be braised and the
braises are already made after a
plaster model of his feet. Also those
I will pay with your money; - for
~~those~~ ^{they} will make his feet to keep in
a down position, rather than turning
sideward out.

You asked about his speech; he
now starts to talk, and there are no
signs that there is a defect - which is

wonderful! Also the Brain waves have been electrically taken, and again there were no unusual signs in it. This would mean that most likely only those Brain Channels have damage which control muscular reflexes. This Checkup has to be made still a longer time to be definitely negative, but I am sure there is no damage at all in the central Brain.

Bolin offers the same treatment - method (of the english Neurologist ~~D~~ Bobath) as the Center here in Marmonheim. But everything will be by far more convenient, that is, - it will be physically more bearable. The burden taken off is more than considerable. - And since at this point for Thomas the Bobath Method is the best by far for him, we will move to W. Bolin and stay as long as necessary. Bobath personally trains the Therapists there, and therefore there is no shortage. We have carefully thought out - that although all other Methods are similar - there should

5) be no charge right now.
It will truly be so much easier
there, and this is important because
I am the way it is now, left too
exhausted, so that I mostly can
not think or plan beyond from
morning to evening. Of course, it
will not become "easy", but that is
not necessary. For as you have
said, - the real supply of strength
comes not from oneself anyway.
It is given as it is needed, and I can
not say that I have not been given
enough strength.

I am wearing that breathtakingly
beautiful red Coat wherever I go.
There never was any Coat which
felt like it! The wool handspun
and handknitted. - No, the Mottrball-
method was a success, the Customs
Officer lifted only the Box cover of both
Boxes and had a good Smell of it
and ~~didn't~~ closed it again, never doubting
my comment - "it's all used".
Such beautiful fabrics - and such

designs! Tina has a great Talent,
she could compete with the best
there is.

Although I had written several
people about Thomas in September,
there is not one who replied or said
something. An almost frightening
silence, - if there would not be
you, I think I could be in despair; -
for I do need response. But this
thought only came to me today, as
with your letter some Christmas cards
arrived; - with just 3 words or a few
more on a ready-bought Card.

As it is, - nobody could possibly
deserve such a great and limitless
friendship as is given to us - by
you. It is the pure miracle of
the grace of God.

Dearest, dear Nell, I embrace
you, and my thoughts and
Lloyd's and Thomas' love are
around you.

Always - Rose.