

Dear Eric

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ARABAH EL MADEUNAH

BALIANA, UPPER FOURT

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY. TEMPLE OF SETI I. ABYDOS EGYPT EXPLORATION SOCIETY AND THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

Oct 29<sup>th</sup> 1929.

EGYPT EXPLORATION SOCIETY'S CAMP ARABAH EL MADFUNAH **BALIANA. UPPER EGYPT.** 

Dear Eric.

Knowing you have an enquiring or shall I say an acquiring mind where unusual stamps are concerned I am sending you one that has just come my way, I hear it is to have a very short issue, so may be worth sa<del>y</del>/<v>ing. I also thought you might like to have a sheet of our nice camp note paper.

My adventures so far are briefly as follows. voyage very enjoyable. jolly day ashore at Gib. two days at Marseilles, visited gardens Zoo, museum, bathing beach, Chateau d'If & an operetta. (was bitten by an unmentionable insect) Nothing else of interest until I arrived at Cairo, there I was drawn into the social whirl. I went to the consulate & was presented to the British Consul. had several teas at Gezira Sporting Club. saw a thrilling game a/<of> Pilote<sup>sic</sup> {pelota}, the most skilled ball game I have ever seen I think you would have loved it. I went to several luncheon & dinner partys<sup>sic</sup> & aired all my best frocks. then, armed with all necessary documents & permitts<sup>sic</sup> we came on here. 12 hours train & from Baliana station a journey of 12 miles to our house in the desert.

The beauty of this place passes description, a great sweep of pale gold desert, rolling sand hills & distant limestone cliffs in one direction, in the other more desert fringed by a line of palm trees marking the cullivated area of the Aute Vally. Every how of the day the colours change & morning & country the shaddows take fortastic shapes. I surrise & sunset flood everything with rosy light. I have seen a jacked field by at night & have seen the food prints of wolves & hycnas. We have an armed quand stationed out side wery night. Gen day is divided like this. yet up 5:15 start work in the tempte by 6:15. relian for lunch 12. rish during the heat till 3. then work till sunset. The Tempte is 3/4 mile from this house it was great fim. I don't know how Istuck on when

it was great jun. I dont know how Istuck on when it nose. back ligs up first, then post, it sat down in nouse adre. it was wondaful being preched up or such a great hast i the motion of its long shids across the sand was fire. but when it trotted !!! any way I am glad to say I conducted myself without loss of dignity.

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atso sont the the Just lit of snaps. Bost niskes to you a your people yours Mystle. PS. It really does tongs how to be hot fire.! P.S. dettus are much appreciated MB.

## **BROOME LETTER 35A**

the cultivated area of the Nile Valley. Every hour of the day the colours change & morning & evening the shaddows<sup>sic</sup> take fantastic shapes. & sunrise & sunset flood everything with rosy light.

I have seen a jackal flit by at night & have seen the foot prints of wolves & hyenas. We have an armed guard stationed outside every night.

Our day is divided like this. get up 5.15 start work in the temple by 6.15. return for lunch 12, rest during the heat till 3. then work till sunset. The temple is  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile from this house & we go backwards & forwards on donkeys.

A few days ago I had my first camel ride it was great fun. I dont<sup>sic</sup> know how I stuck on when it rose. back legs up first, then front. it sat down in reverse order. it was wonderful being perched up on such a great beast & the motion of its long strides across the sand was fine. but when it trotted!!! anyway I am glad to say I conducted myself without loss of dignity.

If you would like to read a longer account of my life out here just call in at Avalon & ask Mother to let you read the letters I have sent her. I have also sent her the first lot of snaps.

> Best wishes to you & your people Yours Myrtle.

PS. It really does know how to be hot here.! P.P.S. Letters are much appreciated MB.