Dear Mother.

We are safely back for our visit to the Red Sea Rad a simply gorgeous time. We started to sid as Soon as we could get all the baggage packed on to Jour. we took out the back scal + put our budding in its place, then there was our bags food, water, pechot o oil for joy o chucken wire in case we stuck in the sand. Sandie sal in the midst of it with his gun (Have made a copy of our map hue.)
If you look at the map xyou may be able to follow our route, I repect Badaka would give The names of the various places, we drove South along the Mike valley as far as gift (This is spell various ways) There we lest the cultivation & shuch into the matian descrt, we had to stop at the camp of the frontine Police + They tooked over our Equipment, enquired about our destination to They also asked us to delive some Pettas to the sheet of the Tribe of Bedown who are living biside the well on The route

Arabah el Madfunah. March 4th 1936.

Dear Mother.

We are safely back from our visit to the Red Sea had a simply gorgeous time. We started Feb $21^{\underline{st}}$ as soon as we could get all the baggage packed on to Joey. we took out the back seat & put our bedding in its place, then there was our bags. food, water, petrol & oil for Joey & chicken wire in case we stuck in the sand. Sardic sat in the midst of it with his gun.

If you look at the map <(Have made a copy of our map here,)> you may be able to follow our route. I expect Badaker^{sic} {Baedeker} would give the names of the various places, we drove South along the Nile valley as far as Qift (this is spelt various ways) there we les/<f>t the cultivation & struck into the Arabian desert, we had to stop at the camp of the Frontier Police & they looked over our equipment, enquired about our destination etc They also asked us to deliver some letters to the sheikh of the tribe of Bedouin who are living beside the well on the route

To Quester, our outward journey started atong the way we went on our first trip to the Redsia. We camped for the first night or some nice fine sound a little vay of the track, we cal our supper. cold chicken o nice pudding by slow light, then cented up in our blankets , slept until dawn. Then Sandie made hold tea for hearfast, we cal our hand boiled eggs & head (no butter) & chank our Tee & slarted of or our journey. We came to the old Roman will that we had seen before but Lad no time to examine, this time we Explored it throughly & climbed down the circular stair can that runs all round it till we reached the water level. The water was quite chean , warmish. it looked so strange to look up the shall of the well , see Sandie looking down al us, we seemed such a very long way down. o we were both vay much out of heath when we reached the top. We stopped at the Bidouin creampment and

to Qusiersic, our outward journey started along the way we went on our first trip to the Red Sea. We camped for the first night on some nice fine sand a little way off the track, we eat^{sic} our supper. cold chicken & rice pudding by star light, then curled up in our blankets & slept until dawn. Then Sardic made hot tea for breakfast, & we eat our hard boiled eggs & bread (no butter) & drank our tea & started of^{sic} on our journey, we came to the old Roman Well that we had seen before but had no time to examine, this time we explored it thoroughly & climbed down the circular stair case that runs all round it till we reached the water level. the water was quite clean & warmish. it looked so strange to look up the shaft of the well & see Sardic looking down at us, we seemed such a long way down. & we were both very much out of breath when we reached the top.

We stopped at the Bedouin encampment and

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delivered the letters to the sheikh & had a little chat with some of the men. Then once more on our way, about 20 miles from Qusseir we left the route we had followed formerly & took the track that branched off to the left this passed along the foot of a range of mountains they were decorated in horizontal stripes of red & orange rocks I took a distant photograph of them the first trip perhaps you remember it. we noticed this time that there was quite a lot of the curious desert herbage growing in the wadys. we crushed some of it under our wheels & coun/<1>d smell its aromatic perfume. how these plants survive with only the moisture from the air & perhaps an occasional sprinkle from a rain cloud in the early spring is more than we can understand, there seems to be no earth, only stones, rocks, & sand.

A few miles along this new track we had a great thrill. two gazelle sprang up in front of the car & went leaping over the rocks until they were out of sight, it was amazing to see how they lept in the air of the pace they went, we stopped a valided intill they had disappeared. skortly after this we stopped for funct. eggs. head & dates & nanges this Time. We natthed i bumped along the rough track the rist of the day, passing through wild mountainous country their outlines are not the gentle swelling conous on mountains, but rough craps like the rocks on our bornist loast magnified huncheds of times, you get a sky line like this my who when whe The highest being over 2 thousand feit. The colours sen close one, the red of jasper, put of grande yellow & mange of sandstone, the sill from them forming the floor of the wadys, + in the distante paling is maisons & blues. after 53 miles from The point where we left the oussie track we came To The Phosphale mines. There were a few sunjatows for the Emopean engeneers + some native desettings, we did not stop as the dust from the mine was horried , we were cape To reach the sea which was only a few miles

lept^{sic} in the air & the pace they went. we stopped & watched untill^{sic} they had disappeared.

Shortly after this we stopped for lunch. eggs. bread & dates & oranges this time. We rattled & bumped along the rough track the rest of the day, passing through wild mountainous country their outlines are not the gentle swelling curves of our mountains, but rough crags like the rocks on our Cornish Coast magnified hundreds of times, you get a sky line like this [\bigot\] the highest being over 2 thousand feet. The colours seen close are, the red of jasper, pink of granite yellow & orange of sandstone, the silt from them forming the floor of the wadys, & in the distant/<ce> paling to mauves & blues. After 53 miles from the point where we left the Qusseir track we came to the Phosphate mines. There were a few bungalows for the European engineers & some native dwellings, we did not stop as the dust from the mine was horrid & we were eager to reach the sea which was only a few miles

of. we were on the 3:2 shore at 4:30. 1 by 4:35 "we were in The sea. it was wonderful. warm six. shelly beach to surrounded by a finge of sugged mountains, it did not seen like a Tenistial fandscape we fell me must be in the moon or Mans. we played about on the skore till dusk collecting skells, comal the also some showns teeth would not verline ord byond 3ft) then we made our camp among some sanddunes o were soon astrop. How it is post time + I will continue our advertise in my need letter

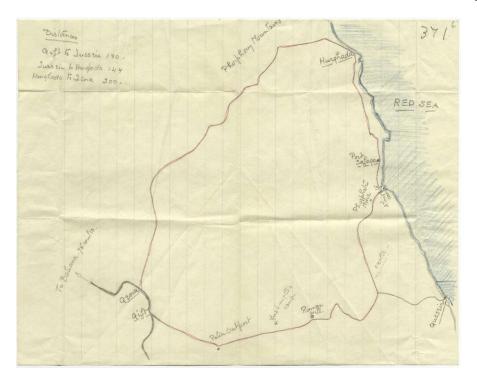
Lots of four to you a father your affectionale daughter.

off. we were on the seashore at 4.30. & by 4.35we were in the sea. it was wonderful. warm sea. shelly beach him surrounded by a fringe of rugged mountains, it did not seem like a terristial^{sic} landscape we felt m/<w>e must be in the moon or Mars. we played about on the shore till dusk collecting shells, coral etc also some sharks^{sic} teeth. (we did not venture out beyond 3ft) then we made our camp among some sand dunes & were soon asleep.

Now it is post time & I will continue our adventure in my next letter

> Lots of love to you & Father your affectionate daughter Myrtle.

BROOME LETTER 371



 $[~\widehat{\mathcal{R}}~]$

<u>Distances.</u> Phorphiry^{sic} Mountains

Qift to Qusseir 180.

Qusseir to Hurgada 144

Hurghada to Qena 200.

<u>RED</u> <u>SEA</u>

Port Safaga

Phosphate 2nd night's Mine camp

To Baliana. 75 miles.

Qena gazelle –

Qift Police Outpost First night's Roman Camp. Well.

Qusseir