4/29/72

Hail ! Honorable Parents ...

Naturally, the day after I wrote the last letter, I learned that the Israel job had fallen through. It seems the U.J.A. was too broke to send anyone from here and is using someone who is already there working part time for the Times. So it goes. Also got an assignment from above-mentioned Times for two days' shooting which was cancelled the day it was to start, for reasons of text/libel problems! - I did, however, a fabulous job of photographing the president of a large women's clothing store in the Bronx surrounded by busy shoppers!

On the "up" side, I am turning up in all the annuals rather nicely, including an article about me (a series on women photographers - 6 in all) in one of them. I shot a series of old abandoned or otherwise interesting Americana type houses in 3 days in

2/ Rhode Island, where I stayed with the girl in the picture the agency bought for a deodorant ad, which resulted in a probable 6 or so pages in an all-American (subject matter) annual - I am really pleased. it's rather different from most of my other things - no people - I had the beginnings of it in the show - 2-3 things - now there are 30!

Bill & Harriet have written a pair of articles for Vogue (!) on man/woman/women's lib - so Vogue sent Irving Penn up there to photograph the whole gang - all the kids too. The description of the session as told by Alex was a scream. In the end Margot vetoed having her picture used and the other three agreed - so it will just be B. & H. - just as well. it seems the pictures were pretty bad - as Alex said - "He was so boring! and he was much more interested in the light on

3/. our faces than he was in us. and Daddy was doing his fake smile and Amy was drooping —" - Anyway, obviously Vogue should have sent me!! (ha ha!)

My other activities have consisted almost totally of 1) printing and 2) doing therapy on my back at the hospital - it feels great - they put you on hot packs for half an hour so everything steams up & relaxes, then the nursy-therapist teaches me exercises I'm supposed to do daily (!) after a hot bath. it's to uncurl the sway-back in my spine and stretch it, and make all the abdominal muscles stronger to hold it - hard.

Wednesday I go to Washington to show work to the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) which is sending photographers out all over the country to document both the pollution etc. of various regions or waters etc, and also what is being done about it - Could be very

4/ interesting – unfortunately it is all to be in color which is both harder to do well, and also simply doesn't turn me on as much – But! if I am lucky enough to be signed up I will turn myself on to anything!

Lala said you called from Marbella and sounded happy – I hope the weather was nice for you! – Here at last there is a hint of warmth, and today we went on daylight saving, so there will be longer evenings, which really makes no difference at all except psychologically!

My plants are flourishing, sprouting in all ~~diff~~ directions and looking pleased – amazing what they did for the atmosphere here –

Odette called before she left. Have you seen her? How is she doing. Do

5/. Give her my love -

So how are you, already? How goes the tickling of the ivories ♪? How were the concerts in Spain? Is Paris in full bloom of chestnuts and muguets? And is the book finally tucked in chez Alfred? God I hope you don't have to do any more agonizing over it!!

I send you great loovings and kissings - (I am not cracking up, really - just feeling a bit silly. must be the daylight saving!) Also to Nina and of course the Marcels -

love love from the Oldie -

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥

Mama - did you say we owed or could not yet touch that first deposit from Knopf's that we paid taxes on last year already? Since Israel pooped I am trying to figure out the summer and the kiddies - ☺