

To from van Doorn from Hilda van Doorn

September
1935

Translated from Dutch
by Tjongha de Boer

4612 5th street N.W. Washington D.C

Dearest Father,

Thank you so much for your telegram. It came at a very good moment, and you said just the right word: "courage"! For we came at 4 a.m. aboard the Washington and I saw we had a very small cabin, moreover with another two ladies in it, cause the boat was full up, and I thought everything would go wrong. But it didn't, although the weather was rather bad, and we arrived all right, but the day we landed the baby got the measles, so this was not so pleasant. Luckily she did not have it very badly, and now she has recovered again. She is such a dote! When she is astonished and interested she has got two expressions. Her favourite one is "Lord, Lord, Lord", and the other: "Tjonge, Tjonge". Both spoken exactly as it should be. Yestersay I gave her an orange to play with. We made the serre (= closed veranda") her playroom so she can play there alone, and she likes to have a ball to roll over the floor. Therefore I gave her that orange. But when I came to look at her about a quarter of an hour later, she only had a very small piece in her hand, and from head to toes she was under the juice. she had eaten the whole thing with skin and all. But she did not get diarrhoea.

She likes bananas best, she simply loves them. She looks very sweet at the moment, fair hair, beginning to curl in her neck and a very sweet face. An attendant

at the grocery store where I was shopping came to ask me if she was my child in the carriage, and when I said yes, he said "It's the prettiest baby I've ever seen".

She is very independent and has the eyes of an eagle. She sees everything and explores as much as she can. She has got a good memory and power of combining.

When she is really thinking, I can see her do it. She becomes suspicious as soon as she sees me trying to hide something and she then wants to get to know everything about it and everything I am using she wants to take in her hands.

Please give Aunt Dien and ~~Don~~ my best regards: I am rather busy at the moment so I cannot make this letter too long. A big embrace from your daughter and granddaughter.

P.S. Jan loved little Olga so much that he became pessimistic about nr.2. He said: it is impossible it will be a very nice baby again. But I keep a good heart about it. What do you think?

Greatings from Spike too!

Hilda

Brid,
X/ born January 1936.