



Calcutta High Street, Nachdruck verboten.

g. N. de Roerich,
"Coocaly"
Khalimpung
W-Bengal
INDIA

27. III. 53

Very best regards to you and yours
mother

from
Dora de Roerich-Dyking

At the moment, I am for a short visit to old
Sofburg, to see some friends, give a few
lessons and talk on the radio. I hope to be
here in future Europe will be out of my mind
instead to go there to Holland for a few months
I was with Tami on the same boat and he
showed himself from his nearby bed side. Next
month I intend to go to Vienna, to look after
my collection. Europe is a most exciting place
what he most intend to live, how the plan will
be. I wish to see you soon.

S 804



Salzburg im Lichte des Scheinwerfers

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Leiden, 6.VI.1953

Dear Dr.de Rörich,

Many thanks for your kind letter, which I found at Traunstein, after returning there from a two-week's visit to Vienna. At last I have now the necessary time to write you a more explicit letter, ~~since~~, so far I found scarcely any time to settle my correspondence, since the work, which expected me in Austria and Germany, surpassed all my worst expectations. During the past weeks, I delivered a considerable number of lectures, mostly over the radio, and managed also to put my Lepcha material on exhibition. The exhibition was opened a week ago by the Austrian Minister of Education, but unfortunately I could not be present, since I had to hurry on to Munich, to deliver there another lecture and to record two more broadcasts for Radio Munich. Since a few days time, I am in Leiden and settled down to the routine of work at the Museum.

It is a very interesting and pleasant activity indeed, since there are at least some 500 prints and manuscripts of van Manen, which have to be looked through. From time to time one finds a really interesting work. My activity, which absorbs only a few hours a day, is rather well paid, only one third of the sum sufficing to cover my lodging and food. I live rather comfortably, in the same house as Dr.Pott, right opposite the Museum.

I wonder how the project of the Institute is progressing, a matter, which you unfortunately forgot to mention in your letter. I heard the other day something about it in Vienna, when having tea with the Indian Charge d'Affaires, who seemed to be informed about the whole matter, since he claimed, that also the financial side of the project has been settled now as well.

I am very anxious to receive some news about Their Royal Highnesses. About one and half months passed since I sent them my last letter, to which unfortunately no reply came and thus I wonder, whether my letter got perhaps lost. I wrote subsequently two postcards, one from Vienna and the other from Munich and I hope that at least those arrived. Further, I sent, as requested by His RH, a copy of Harrer's book, by registered book-post. It left more than five weeks ago and I hope that it arrived in the meantime. Since you are interested in this book, have a look at it first and please let me know afterwards, whether you are still interested in it and whether I should get it for you. - Please be so kind and convey my best wishes to TRH and mention please how sorry I am to be without news from them. Maybe, however, that the absence of HRH is the reason, since I heard in Vienna that HRH was supposed to go to Afganistan.

I expect to go in September or October for a jump to Paris, if possible just at the time when Prof.Tagore will be there, since we discussed last time when we met, that we would try to see each other again in Paris.

Please let me know the news from Kalimpong, if there are



any. How is young Macdonald, he was rather ill when I left. Is Miss Barclay still there and how is she getting on? Please give her my best regards, and also to Tschampa Sangda. Is Tentong Pimpoche back from Santiniketang? I hope he had a pleasant stay there; I am sorry I did not meet him once more before I left. There is not much news to be reported from here. A new book is out, by David-Neel, containing translations of various Tibetan texts. I hope to hear from you soon again. My address for the next six months will be: Dr. R. de Nebesky-Wojkowitz, Leiden (Holland)

Please convey all my best wishes also to M. Devika Rani, to your brother and especially to your mother, whom I always grate-

Morsweg 14

LUCHTBRIEF

Dr. G. N. de R ö r i c h,

"Croocaty"

K a l i m p o n g

W-Bgl.

PER LUCHTPOST / PAR AVION

INDIA

AFZENDER

Dr. R. de Nebesky-Wojkowitz,
Leiden (Holland)
Morsweg 14



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PER BOOT/TREIN VERZONDEN

fully remember for her very kind hospitality.

Very sincerely yours,

René de Nebesky-Wojkowitz

Leiden, 31.VII.1953

Dear Dr. Roerich,

Many thanks for your kind letter and for all the interesting news it contained. I was most suprised to learn that Prof. Tagore has resigned, this certainly makes things difficult now. Who has become his successor? Is he going to stay on at Santiniketan? A pity he wan't come to Paris, I had hoped to meet him there. Anyway, I would be grateful if you could continue keeping me informed about the project of the Institute, you know how interested I am in this matter. The news about young Macdonald's death was certainly a sad surprise too; he was quite sick when I left, but I would have certainly not expected that things would go so quickly? Is it known of what he died?

I am glad to hear through you that Harrer's book has after all arrived, I feared it got lost too, just - as it seems - a considerable portion of my mail to TRHS. A few weeks back I sent them a letter, this time registered, but had no reply either; perhaps I shall have to wait until HRH is back again When is he expected to return?

I have asked all ~~Tajound~~ about Spuler's book, and so has Dr. Pott (who is sending you his regards and compliments), but there does not seem to be any hope of getting it. Neither Brill nor any of the antiquaristes in Holland have ever seen a copy of it. Three new books have come out recently, all by Mme. David-Neel. One is a translation of various Tibetan texts, the other two I haven't seen yet. I shall give you their titles and all other details in my next letter.

The van Manen collection is quite interesting, I found a lot of texts for my own use, but so far nothing very exciting, the usual more or less common works like bKa' thang sde lnga, the various kLu hbum, the gSung hbum-s of various Dalai Lamas and Panchen Lamas, some rNam thars etc. So far, I catalogued 160 big volumes, giving all the titles of chapters as well, which is quite a work, since some of the volumes have up to 45 chapters. There are still some 60 big-size volumes left, then come some 800 small books and about 100 Lepcha MSS. I don't think it is really worth making a printed catalogue. I intend to type the whole catalogue, once things are arranged, in three copies, one copy remaining always here with the library and the other two copies being send around to those places, where just somebody wants to see the catalogue; the exchange-system of libraries works here perfectly, so the catalogue would always be easily accessible. I might publish, however, later on a resumé once I see what the collection really contains. So far, there were no medical books, nor books on religious dances, on Bon or anything else out of the common. One thing is here, however, and in this connection Dr. Pott, the Leiden Museum - and myself as well - would have a request to you: there is a book with a musical score in it, and we wonder whether Champa could perhaps sing it (or somebody else, who knows the method), and if Father Eberhard would be kind enough to record it. It would not take much time, there are only 9 folios in the book and a half-hour of sound would suffice. In the hope that it might be possible to carry out this project, we are sending to you photostat copies of the folios by sea-mail, please keep them after the thing had been finished. If the project can be carried out - could you kindly ask Champa how much he would ask for his work?

We got a 'monsou' on him as well, it is raining all the time. Suzuki was here the other day and he was shalito, the Crown Prince of Japan.

Champa and I were the other night "on air" for one full hour on the occasion of the Davaision Festival. I know of how in Holland myself gets used. I was my translation on "Tibet" - heard in Paris' time, which I was told of should be no matter ago.

The Museum would pay then through its Bombay account. As regards tape, Father Ebergard shall receive a package from here sufficing for half an hour's recording. I hope the matter would not cause to you and to him too much trouble, but it would be really nice to have once on record the way in which the Tibetan musical score is read. I shall write to Father Eberhard separately about this, (it shall take anyway some two months until the photostats and the tape reach Kalimpong) but if you see him, could you mention the matter to him?

Then I have a personal request as well. Could you please ask for me Trendong Rimpoche, what in his opinion the dharmapala Yam shud dmar po is? I got quite different answers in regard to this deity; some claim, it is identical with rDo rje grags ldan, a 'minister' of the sku lnga group, others say, it is identical



Dr. G. N. de Poerich,

K a l i m p o n g

"Croocaty"

W-Bgl.

PER LUCHTPOST / PAR AVION

AFZENDER

Dr. R. de Nebesky-Wojkowitz,
Leiden, Morsweg 14, Holland



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(or at least an emanation) of Srog bdag dmar po, the las mkhan of lCham string, while others again claim, that Yam shud dmar po is another name for Tse ma ra, the well-known Srung ma of bSam yas I have a considerable amount of iconographic material on this deity, from which I see that this god is more or less similar to all the three figures previously mentioned, but I would like to hear Rimpoche's opinion on this question. Then another question: could you by chance tell me in which year "the second rebirth of the De mo Rin po che" was going to be installed as a regent of Tibet? (Rimpoche told me the story about the Srung ma The h.og chos rgyal po and he mentioned this event; I wonder now whether there is any historical evidence that the DR was really killed as the legend claims). Many thanks, I wan't forget to mention your kind help in the preface of my book! (I am working on its MS all the time, but it will take many more months to get halfway into shape).

*With many thanks and regards to you and your mother
from your very sincerely,
Dr. R. de Nebesky-Wojkowitz*

Leiden, 14.IX.1953 4

Dear Dr. de Roerich,

I had hoped during the past weeks to receive some news from you, but unfortunately nothing came. Since I am afraid, that either a letter from you or from me got lost, I am not further delaying writing you once more. My last letter left at least two months ago, and at the beginning of August a parcel was despatched to you by Air Mail by the Museum voor Volkenkunde, containing photocopies of a dbyangs yig book. The mail connection with Kalimpong is simply dreadful; a fortnight ago I had a card from His RH, sent - to my surprise - to my old address in Germany, in spite of it that I had written to Their Highnesses a registered letter in July informing them about my present whereabouts. What should one do if not even registered mail reaches its destination?!

I hope Dr. Pott and I did not bother you too much by requesting you to arrange for a recording of the book with the musical score, and we are both anxious to hear whether it will be possible to carry out this plan. Father Eberhard has written me in the meantime that he received already the magnetic tape (we sent it by Air Mail to speed matters up) and that he had also written to you with the request to kindly fix a time for making the recording. I hope the matter will not prove too difficult. It would certainly be a unique opportunity to make a study of the interesting musical score the Tibetans have. Please also kindly let us know how much Champa asks, so that we may arrange for the payment. I have now some money in India as well, so things could be settled quickly.

There is not very much news to be told from here. I have identified and registered so far about 550 prints and 300 manuscripts, some 50 prints and about 100 manuscripts are still coming. I do not think it worth to publish a catalogue of the whole collection, since parts of some of the works got lost, one of the boxes having fallen into the sea when being loaded aboard ship in Calcutta. There are nevertheless a few good works in the collection, as e.g. twenty old Bon manuscripts, two more dbyangs yig books, a few medical works - though none of those I bought for Vienna. I am still working full speed at my book (so far I utilised some 160 Tibetan sources, here I found some interesting material as well, especially on early Tibetan deities of the bon srung type) and I hope I shall be able to present much more material on the dharmapâlas and the early Tibetan deities and their cult, than there is to be found in Tucci's Painted Scrolls or in Hoffmann's book, many of the questions they put being now answered. I think, however, it will still take me at least five months of hard work, to get the manuscript of the book halfway into shape. I am getting gradually enough of it and am longing to do for a change something else; Tibetan medicine interests me now more than ever and I have made already a list of books on medicine and chemistry, which I am going to buy when visiting Germany next time, to refresh the memory of these subjects.

The Museum asked me whether I could stay on for some time, and thus I agreed to remain here till the end of January. Then I have to go for some time to Switzerland, afterwards to Austria and Germany. Next months I am going for a jump to Paris, to see Stein and the other Tibetologists and to have a look at the collections. I expect also to go to Britain, but do not know yet when, since I have so many engagements; I hope I shall be able to go there before visiting Switzerland. Tucci wants me to come to Rome for a year, to work on Tibetan medicine together with Dr. Guttuso (an extremely nice navy doctor, who accompanied him to Nepal), but I do not know yet how things will look in summer next year.

Are there any news about the Him. Institute? I wonder how things are progressing.

I hope you and your mother are keeping well. Please kindly convey my

very best regards and wishes to your mother. It would be really nice to pay you and your mother again a visit at your hospitable home and to have one of the interesting chats we used to have - really a pity Kalimpong is so far away. It must be nice there now, the rains coming to an end and the air getting cool and refreshing. I miss the place and all my friends there a great deal, but I cannot think of returning as long as I have not published the result of my last journey and as long as the necessary financial arrangements, the question of better equipment etc. have not been settled.

In the hope to hear from you soon, I remain with best wishes and regards - also from Dr.Pott -

Yours very sincerely,

R. Nebesky-Wojkowitz

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Dr.G.N.de Roerich,

Kalimpong

"Croocaty"

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INDIA

AFZENDER

Dr.R.de Nebesky-Wojkowitz
Leiden, Morswég 14, Holland



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Ontv 21 Sept

Hollandse Molenserie

D. D. de Molenserie Kalimpang

[Handwritten signature]

from Amsterdam
de Molenserie

1953

Post-reports from a meeting
in Leyden - July - August



afgeversmij. Rembrandt Amsterdam

5
LAAT VOOR DE
GEHELE BOVEN



Dr. N. Roerich

"Kroocaty"

Kalimpang

W. Bengal

India



Rp. 28 XII. 53.

16.XII.1953

6

Dear Dr. de Roerich,

A few weeks before my departure I learned at last why I did not hear from you for such a long time. I was wondering why I did not get any reply to my last two letters and only later, through the communication you sent to Dr. Pott, I learned that one of your letters must have gone astray. Since no mail gets lost here in Europe, I have no doubt that the letter must have "vanished" right after you had posted it in Kalimpong. Really a pity that we remained for such a long time without any news from each other.

I tried to find the corresponding chho-ga to the dbyangs yig we sent you, unfortunately, this text is also not contained in the van Manen Collection. But perhaps that it will be possible to record some other work, for which both text and notes could be procured, either in some collection here in Europe or in Kalimpong.

Towards the end of October I went to Paris. It was a short, but very pleasant - though hectic - stay. Next time I shall have to stay longer, this time I could not even accept all the invitations I received. Stein gave a lunch and a dinner, both in Chinese style, where I had opportunity to meet a number of very interesting people, among others also our old acquaintance M. Landy. Mlle. Lalou gave a tea-party, to which even Prof. Bacot came.

I finished my work in Leiden on the 1st of December, having identified and registered some 1.500 works, (including the titles of their chapters in the catalogue; the latter is now being typed).- Afterwards, I went to Köln, Bonn, Frankfurt, München and Salzburg, to record radio-broadcasts, and just yesterday I reached Traunstein - where my parents are staying and where I shall spend the holidays - after delivering a series of lectures in the Salzburg County. In January I shall stay for some 2-3 weeks in Vienna and afterwards I shall have to deliver some more lectures in Austria, Switzerland, Germany and possibly also in Northern Italy. To all probability I shall return to Leiden from the 1st of April on, for further five months, this time in order to work through the Lepcha Collection of van Manen, which numbers about 100 MSS.

My work on the Dharmapālas is still under preparation and I think it will take at least another six months to finish the manuscript.

I would be very glad to hear from you again, please kindly use for the time being the following address: Traunstein/Obby., Leonrodstr. 11 1/2, W-Germany. From there, mail will be send on to me.

Just today I received an invitation to come to Japan, to teach at a University in Tokio; if nothing better turns up here in Europe, I might consider this proposal.

Enclosed I am sending you a Christmas Card, with all best wishes to you and your mother. Simultaneously, a letter with an enclosed Christmas Card is being send to TRH. Would you be so kind to mention this to them, just to make sure that in case my letter gets lost they would not think I forgot to write and send my wishes. It is really not possible to send every letter by registered mail.

Under separate cover I am sending you the offprints of two papers

22.11.50

which I published recently in Switzerland and Sweden. I hope you will find them of some interest.

With all best wishes - requesting you to kindly convey my best regards to your mother -

very sincerely yours,

Paul de Meulder-Dujlowitz

19.5
7
7.I.1956

Dear Dr. Roerich,

It is really a long time, since we were in touch last, and I wonder, who owes a letter to whom. Most probably I am the culprit, though I think to remember that I sent you at the beginning of last year a letter, which, however, did not bear your full address, since I forgot the name of your house. Anyway, I heard about you from time to time through friends and acquaintances in common, as Dr. de Jong, Stein and also Her Highness, whom I met in Paris this summer. I am very glad to hear that your book on Colloquial Tibetan is coming out soon; I (and also my students in Vienna) are most interested in it. Please, could you kindly let me know its title, price and where it has been published. I also hope, that your paper on Amdo will come out at last. I would have had a possibility to place it with my publisher, Mouton & Co. in The Hague, who would have taken and published right away, but Stein thought (I spoke with him on this) that since the paper has been promised to the TP and also accepted there, it is not well possible to change things now. But if you have some other thing ready for publication, please let me know, I shall get you in touch with my publisher. I have with him really best experiences, the setting of the type etc. is done perfectly and the publishing is done in a most efficient way. He is bringing out my book on the Cult and Iconography of the Tibetan Protective Deities (with the Oxford Univ. Press as co-publisher), which will be about 670 pages strong. Not only that he did not require any subsidy, but I am even supposed to get some money out of it. - By the way, I expressed my thanks to you in the foreword of this book and also later in a footnote, as well as in the popular German book, which has just come out. Of course I shall send you a copy of the scientific book, the popular one would not be of much interest to you. The book on the Oracles etc. will be out in a few week's time.

The time, since we were in touch for the last time, brought also some changes to me. In 1954 I was for another spell of 5 months in Leiden, this time to work on the van Manen Collection of Lepcha MSS. Then I attended the Congress of Orientalists in Cambridge and visited the Scandinavian countries, France, Belgium and went very frequently to Germany, mostly in order to deliver lectures; since my return to Europe I gave more than 120. In summer this year, having passed all the necessary examinations, I was appointed "Privatdozent" for Central Asian Anthropology at the University of Vienna. This Winter Term I am delivering my first lecture (2 hours per week) on the religions of Tibet. The lectures are attended by about 15 students, more than Bleichsteiner (he died in April 1954) had. Next term I shall deliver a series of lectures on the tribes of the Himalayas.

In autumn this year, if everything goes well, I expect to come to India again, mainly, since I cannot finish my work on my Lepcha material - and especially the analysis of the van Manen MSS - without the aid of Lepcha informants. Too many questions crept up in the meantime. I hope that this material will give a new book, which the Museum of Ethnology in Leiden is willing to publish.

Of other news, which might be of interest to you, I may mention the great Tibetan exhibition in Stuttgart (based mainly on the Tafel Collection). There is quite a lot to be seen; they even made a to-scale enormous model of the Potala, which fills a whole room. I shall ask the Curator of the Museum to send you a catalogue of this exhibition.

Well, I guess this would be all for today. Here my new address: Univ. Doz. Dr. R. v. Nebesky-Wojkowitz, c/o Institut für Völkerkunde, Wien I. Reitschulg. 2, AUSTRIA. - With kind regards and all best wishes for the year which just began, to you and your mother,

sincerely yours

Please would you kindly let me know your full address?

Nebesky-Wojkowitz

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Vienna, June 13, 1956

Dear Dr. Roerich,

Thank you for your kind lines of May 19. I am sorry that I heard from you only now, since I had waited with the dispatching of my book, until receiving news from you again, since I did not know your exact address anymore. (I remember you saying, while I was still in Kalimpong, that once a letter which bore only your name and the designation Kalimpong, went back to the sender with the remark "unknown", and this I wanted to avoid happening to my book). Anyway, the book is now, by registered mail, on its way to you and I hope it will reach you soon. In the meantime you certainly can have a look at the copy Prince Peter received.

I was really very sorry to hear at the beginning of this year about the death of your mother. Please, though quite a time passed since that sad event, kindly accept the expression of my very deep condolence.

If things go well, we might meet in autumn this year in Kalimpong. I intend to leave Genova on August 30, and return to Europe in March 1957. I would also attend the UNESCO General Conference in New Delhi as a representative of the Austrian Government. Unfortunately, in spite of four months of waiting and repeated reminders, there was no positive answer yet to my application for an Indian Visa, apparently since I intend to come again to Kalimpong for some 6 weeks, in order to finish my work on Lepcha literature and the Kun tu bzang po'i 'cham yig which I am translating at the moment. The authorities, who support my project, are already rather upset about this unbelievable indolence of the Indian authorities, since, after all, I do not go on a pleasure-trip, but on a study-tour, paid and sponsored by the Austrian Academy of Sciences, the Federal Ministry of Education, UNESCO and the University of Vienna. It is really difficult to understand the attitude of some of the Indian officials, who do not seem to be aware, that cultural relations are after all reciprocal and that their strange behaviour might eventually cause measures, which certainly would cause in future considerable difficulties to the numerous Indian students and scholars, who come here and who expect, to get visas, facilities etc. within a few hours and with greatest courtesy, which on the other hand the authorities

of their homeland are not ready to extend.

Otherwise, there are not many news to tell. Tucci invited me for three months to Rome, a plan which I might carry out next year.

I am very much looking forward for the publishing of your very interesting books which are now in print, especially the Grammar of Colloquial Tibetan, which will be a real godsend.

With all best wishes for your work and with kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Nebesky-Wojkowitz

MIT FLUGPOST
PAR AVION



Dr. George de Roerich,

"Crookety"

Kalimpong

INDIA

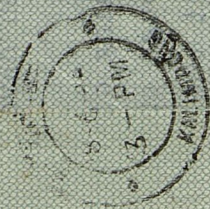
**AEROGRAMM
AÉROGRAMME
AIR LETTER**

NICHTS EINSCHLIESSEN. SONST KEINE BEHANDLUNG ALS AEROGRAMM

ABSENDER: Univ. Doz. Dr. R. v. Nebesky-Wojkowitz

Wien I., Reitschulgasse 2

Institut für Völkerkunde, AUSTRIA



9

Bombay, March 24, 1957

Dear Dr. Roerich,

On the eve of my departure from India I hasten to send you a few lines. Yesterday, at the "Taj Mahal" Hotel, I happened to meet your brother and Mrs. Devika. We had a short talk and they mentioned among other things that your book on Colloquial Tibetan has still not come out. I am very sorry to hear this, it is really most annoying that your Indian publishers are so slow. Please, as regards the copy you kindly promised me, could you kindly send it by Registered Mail to the following address:

Univ. Doz. Dr. R. v. Nebesky-Wojkowitz,
Traunstein/Obby.,
Leonrodstr. 11 1/2, W-GERMANY

As soon as I reach Vienna, which unfortunately won't be earlier than the beginning of June, since I have to deliver some lectures in Germany before, I shall despatch to you my spare-copy of v. Krasinskis book on Tibetan medical philosophy and would be grateful if you could kindly let me have one of your books in exchange. Many thanks.

I hope that you are keeping well and that your work is progressing. My stay in Nepal was most interesting and the results are certainly beyond my expectations. I had been able to undertake extensive journeys, both through Western and Eastern Nepal and I am now taking back to Europe a really valuable collection of ethnographic and art [REDACTED] objects, about 270 items, for the Museum für Völkerkunde in Vienna.

By the way, there was some more trouble with that man Stiegler. A few weeks back I got a very angry letter from T. D. Densapa, he had lend a 'Dzam gling rgyas bshad MS to Hoffmann and Stiegler was supposed to return it for him. Upon

Densapas' request I reminded Stiegler of this, but apparently he never undertook any action. Moreover, Stiegler offered me to buy for me a new Sarat Chandra Das in Calcutta. I gave him 100/- Rs, and he was supposed to send the book to Bombay, but I got neither the book, nor the money back nor a letter explaining matters. I am really fed up and wrote a strong letter about both things to Hoffmann. Stiegler was supposed to come back to Kalimpong, (when I was there he vanished very mysteriously to Calcutta,) was there some more shooting ...?

With all best wishes and regards, and hoping to see you again when I come back to India in autumn 1958,

Yours sincerely,

A. de Selys Longchamps

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To

Dr. G. N. Roerich,



K a l i m p o n g

—
"Croocaty"