

Nov. 19, 1972

Tahiti - Papeete

THE PRESIDENT SPECIAL

Dear Keith -

Allah-u-akbar!

My three delightful days in Tahiti are now over, and I'm on the way to Amer. Samoa. Just in case they have a heavy schedule for me I want to be sure and get this written to it can be mailed at the U.S. post office (the best I will see with Mayura.)

Tahiti was rather as I expected it - palm trees, fruits & flowers of all times in great overabundance, 6,000 ft. mountains in the center of the island w/ the population all gathered near the circumferential road. Unfortunately, it is highly developed w/ a thriving tourist business, many cars, etc - lots of drinking, & a materialistic outlook. The French presence - 20,000 soldiers (more than the pop. of Papeete) - is resented & there is frequent trouble.

There are something like 16 believers in Tahiti, & they have their first local assembly - a goal of the plan. But the Bats'ia are very active yet, & don't think in terms of teaching. I was severely handicapped since no one spoke significant English, & my French is limited. But I played French tapes & just my being there seemed to have some effect. What a slow process, though, establishing the faith on these islands! The first believer, TERII PAE, with whom I stayed, became a Bats'ia in

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yesterday, the pioneers, whose name the House sent me, arrived from a trip to Hawaii. They are French, so is a cook, & they live on Moorea, an island next to Tahiti. I flew with them to Moorea ~~for~~ for the afternoon, to show my slides (they have a projector) and meet the other Baha'is there, a Chinese youth & mechanic (the only one on the island, responsible for 600 cars). Moorea is much more beautiful than Tahiti, with deep fjord-like inlets or bays, tall jagged peaks, & unspoiled palm-tree vistas. It is relatively unpopulated, with only a few thousand inhabitants. The three Baha'is there fill another goal of the Plan - to have a group there.

All in all the last three days have been uneventful, & a chance to rest, organize my things and adjust to the climate & to travel. Quite an adjustment from the whirlwind of the last few months! The most eventful thing that happened was yesterday, driving to the airport in Moorea on the bumpy dirt road with the Paulas (the pioneers). They have an old, burned-out French car given them by the Chinese mechanic Baha'i. As we bugged along it came to a screeching halt with the tie-rod for one of the front tires broken (i.e. the connection from the steering ~~wheel~~

THE PRESIDENT SPECIAL

wheel to the tire). It happened that just at this moment a bus came by bound for the airport so I was able to make the last plane. What a site to leave the dedicated, isolated Baka's couple (French chef & wife!) standing beside the side of the road next to a car that may not run again.

So... did you get my card from Tahiti? I have an address for Suva which would be the best place to send my winter things for Japan.

(Mother has charge of that.) It is (again):

46 JUDGE RICHARD BENSON
P.O. BOX 3297
AGANA, GUAM 96910

I would also like you to send to that address:

- ① my copy of the Priceless Pearl, which should be in the box of books in your room
- ② Two Ampex C-60 cassettes
- ③ Three copies of each printed photo in the box of photos & records in your room, except for the two Aldu'l-Baka' photos on one sheet, of which I would like ten.

Everything else is okay for the time being.

I'm sending under separate cover some things I don't need & some curios from Tahiti. Please keep them for me. ~~Be~~ ~~Bye~~

THE PRESIDENT SPECIAL

For tax purposes I have figured the following, assuming I stay on schedule:

1972: Ticket LAX-NAN	\$ 473.60
Portion of ticket NAN-LAX	627.97
(NAN-TAIPEI 7,723 miles out of ~ 26,528 or .344 x \$ 1825.50)	\$ 1101.57

1973: remainder of NAN-LAX \$ 1213.30
(incl. \$ 15.88 U.S. tax)

I will have other travel expenses this year of about \$200. Let me know, when you begin figuring my taxes, whether you will itemize deductions. If not I won't bother to send you in detail a record of my deductible travel expenses.

If you keep this sheet with my tax papers I can refer to it next year too. Thanks.

Did Mom + Dad get the markers from BRACAMONTE in South ~~for~~ San Francisco okay? I hope that was not too much bother.

Looking forward to hearing from you. Be sure to share this with Mom + Dad. May thanks for all your help.

Much love,
Greg

#5

December 8, 1972

Dear Keith, Mom & Dad, ^{Nauru} Allot-n-Abbs!

Greetings from Nauru!

As you can tell from the date, I'm behind schedule. Air Nauru flies when it wants to, & they recently changed their times. So I arrived here yesterday & will get to Majuro, God willing, Monday morning. So I'll probably connect through, if there's space, the same day to Papeete, & then on Thurs. straight through to Suva, missing Truk - unless they feel otherwise. So sad to cut them short! But that's life.

I almost didn't even get here. Nauru is fussy about issuing visas; it turns out, & very slow. Mine came through by cable to Tarawa only at the last minute. No one seemed to care if I had to wait a week for the next plane. Life in the South

Sacific!

I had a lovely stay in Funafuti & Tarawa. Very isolated places, but the presence of British administration assures a few amenities like English-language news on the radio. Helps one feel connected with the rest of the world when on a tiny atoll a few yards wide in the middle of the immense ocean. The Batais throughout Polynesia are beautiful, loving to sing & feast. But they lack initiative & administrative ability, & because they are great talkers, going is a problem & promises with little action. Also jealousy. The foreign presence has taught them to expect hand-outs, & a willingness to sacrifice for the Fund or for teaching is almost absent. It's strange that materialism should be so severe in such out-of-the-way places!

Nauru is a fascinating place. I'm the only guest in the only hotel, a new

and modern one with 27 rooms, ball-^③room, etc. right on the ocean. Tonight, however, I'm moving in with Baka's to save the \$19/day rate. Mauru is now, I'm told, the richest country in the world - ahead of Kuwait. The 4-5,000 residents receive royalties from a thriving phosphate industry, & they don't know how to spend all they have. Unfortunately they have ruined their beautiful island with the phosphate factory, ugly & dirty houses, old discarded cars, etc. And the people are spoiled lazy, since they don't have to work. 2,000 imported Belgians & Chinese run the industry. There are no taxis, & no post cards, newspapers, etc. I've been surprised, though, at the decent food here in the hotel, all flown in.

There are some 4 or 6 Baka's here, mostly from the Belgians - laborers. I've only met one, but presumably will meet

the other room. It's rather lonely being
in a place with no real Balaich
community & no pioneers. I've been
spoiled with attention & service
everywhere else. (4)

One thing I've learned is always
have a good book! I've got very little
with me, & am looking forward to
getting back to greater civilization.

I'll be sending some things from
the Trust Territory: parcel # E
with various papers for storage
(receipts, letters, notes etc.), & one
or two more with other things (I'll
write again when they're sent).

My nice Accutron watch, just
back from the factory in June for the
second time (on warranty) is evidently
not watertight & somehow got wet
inside (though I take it off when bathing;
I think perhaps perspiration) and has
stopped. I'll try to get it repaired
in Japan.

Hope all is well. Much love, Greg

P.S. Urgent!

What was it, Mother, that you ^{in Japan.} wanted me to get for Arthur? I suppose I can describe it, but I don't remember the name.

What news about the Falkland Islands?

#6

Hi!

Page
Dec 12

Everything is just fine. Stay
with Virginia Break. Dad's
letter #2 + Keith's #4
were here okay. May thanks!
The mail seem to be working
okay.

Going to a village this afternoon,
for the night.
Hope all is well.

Much love,

P.S. #5 will reach you late, Greg
from Nauru. Please keep the enclosed
pocket calendar Keith, among my things.
The extra ~~calendar~~ slides from Supercolor likewise.

#8



December 17, 1972
Tokyo, Japan

Dear Keith -

I arrived here in good shape evening before last, from Suva. Your letter # 7 was here, and the books (#6) came yesterday. So far so good! The news in # 7, from the House of Justice, was great! Looks like I'll be spending almost a month in Warfa.

It has occurred to me that in case anything comes to you from an NSA, for instance, that I need to know quickly, you might wish to cable me. I'll try to get you a complete list of NSA cable addresses (they save a great deal of money!). For now, an address in Osaka, % Counsellor Muntazi, is "COUNSELLORS" OSAKA and the NSA of Korea is "BAHA I" SEOUL.

I'm staying in the Nat'l Center here in Tokyo. Cold & very cityfied, after the Pacific. But Japan is fascinating. Unfortunately I won't be able to get up north (they're snowed in) or even much into the country.

Hope all is well.

Much love,

Lry

JAPAN AIR LINES



December 30, 1972
Taipei

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF TAIPEI

18 HSIN YI ROAD, SECTION 3

TAIPEI 106, TAIWAN CHINA

TELEPHONE: 773151-3

CABLE ADDRESS: "INTERHOUSE"

Dear Keith -
your letter # I arrived in Seoul on the 25th or 26th -
pretty slow. Good news it contained. There was nothing
here in Taipei when I arrived yesterday so I hope I
haven't missed anything.

The cable addresses I promised are:

"BAHAIFAITH"	NEWDELHI
"	MANILA
"	SINGAPORE
"	TAIPEI
"	HAIFA

"BAHAI" SAIGON

"NATBAHAI" KUALA LUMPUR

No cables to Lkarland, Indonesia, Iran or Nepal except
as individual without ref. to Faith.

So ahead & renew my membership in AEA. I can't
remember whether I prepaid last year or not - probably not.

Where ~~is~~ is Pitcairn island? I'm sure the stamps
were intended for the family, as will be any others I send
(like the enclosed).

There have been many adventures on the 'trips' but no
time now to recount them all. When Sheri sends you the
2 cassette "journal" tapes I sent her you can listen to them
but please only in the family & confidentially.

Much love,
Greg

P.S. - you efficiency in handling my mail is constantly appreciated.

#9

#16

1/9/73

Dear Kent -

Just a quick note at the airport.

Please deposit \$300 in Coady's Account and send confirmation to Singapore. I have withdrawn \$225.

Please also send to Singapore by air 10 rolls TRI-X and 5 rolls KX (yellow boxes), 5 rolls EH (=ER). Also 3 copies each of blue song sheets and white song sheet (together). My press photos are in a brown ~~the~~ manila bag and I need about 5. And I need about 20 business cards. Many thanks.

Will write from Manila.

Much love,

Greg

P.S. Mother's cable arrived fine. If she's still there send my love & best wishes. Does she have an address there?



January 11, 1973
 Philippines enroute
 Manila to Davao

Dear Herb & Sad,

Greetings from the Philippines!

Included are some stamps, and receipts for various things I have sent in case customs overvalues them. The parcels from Hong Kong I forgot to label on the outside. There is a tubular one (#K) which is a Chinese scroll print purchased at Nat'l Palace Museum in Taiwan for \$7.50 US. There are two boxes

(#L) → ECM 21 microphone purchased for \$53.70 US total (doubtable I think) in Hong Kong. And a box (#M) containing Roger's long underwear (for Mother) & some photos you can keep for me. Thanks.

Also enclosed are some American Express slips. In Tokyo I charged about \$115 (one slip). Here in Phil. I have put an air ticket (= US \$65.00) on AmX and a cable value about \$4.00 US. So far nothing else.

The mail here has taken only 5 days from the States for several letters. Christmas must have slowed things up before, it'll wise to leave 10 days to Singapore and two weeks to S.E. Asia countries.

Loud Hong Kong fantastic. Prices on cameras, tape recorders, even Kodak film are 1/2 state-side - The Baba's are very active and we had a great time. 50 people came to the public meeting Sunday with one declaration.

JAPAN AIR LINES

(over)

The Philippines has over 41,000 believers, with 272
USAs if I remember correctly out of 800 communities
with more than 9 Baka's. There are a further 900
groups. Martial law has ~~returned~~ restored order in
most of the country. Manila is much cleaner &
safer than before.

Plane is landing soon. Hope you got my cable
last, sent this morning. I'm not sure if I got
your #9. Check through my last letter to see
if it is mentioned. Also I'm low on money and
hope you have deposited \$500 in my Coahatze Account
so I can get more travellers cheques at Am X in
Manila. Next Am X offices are in Singapore
and Delhi.

Much love,

Greg

#19

January 18, 1973
Manila A.M.

Dear Family,

This will have to be fairly brief, since I also want to write my official report on N.E. Asia thismorning and that is time-consuming.

The six nights until yesterday were spent in Davao, on the island of Mindanao, not far from Marawi where the tragedy with the Iranians occurred, and in Cebu, the second largest city ~~in~~ of the Philippines. In Davao the Baha'is were super-organized and in four days I gave eleven talks and a deepening class with over 2600 total attendance, mostly in the University of Mindanao (Davao) where students could be heard days later singing in rounds "World, World, Why do you reject your Lord, When will you receive your Savior, Baha'u'llah?" A wonderful spirit there, watered by the ~~new~~ blood of martyrs.

On returning I had the biggest pile of mail so far--seven or eight things. Korea was good about forwarding and Keith's #9 and Dad's #5 were here, along with some film I had had developed and despaired of ever seeing again. Dad's #6 and Keith's #12 were here, too. I thought you might be interested in seeing again how you addressed #6, Dad, so it is enclosed. For your information, Keith's #12 mailed 1/8 arrived here 1/13, #9 posted 12/21 was posted Seoul 1/4 and arrived here 1/12, Dad's #5 posted 12/22 was posted Seoul 12/31 arriving here 1/11, and #6 posted 1/3 arrived Manila 1/11. A little irregular, but it's getting faster.

A couple of details. Keith, I have paid Society for Econ. Dev't dues for three years, but their special concession in giving me a student rate considering my draft position at that time (I had paid the full rate). I have a letter from them somewhere. Perhaps I should just straighten it out myself when I return if it's already paid. Keep the cancelled check of course. Dad, I have not received anything from Arthur and would appreciate news of him if you can copy his letter or something.

So good to hear all the news from home. Sorry about Capt'n Hook. He certainly was long-lived though. I hope mother wrote from the Falkland Islands. Probably too late for me to try to write her there or in Barbados since I don't have addresses. where is she staying in Barbados?

So thanks again so many times for the news and thoughts and keeping everything in order.

Much love,

PS. Keith--in light of the request from the house to take pictures of Baha'i endowments, I wonder if you could go ~~through~~ through the three rolls of slides I sent from Japan (#J) when they arrive and pull out any that look like slides of Baha'i buildings and send them to me at Haifa, carefully wrapped, in time to arrive early April.

Also I could use about 30 more business cards, perhaps ten or fifteen at a time in different letters if that's easier. Thanks.

P.S. 1/19 Keith: your #13 arrived yesterday. Thanks for prompt action.

#13

January 21, 1973

Djakarta - Singapore



IN FLIGHT

Dear Keith & Glad -

Hi! I'm leaving Djakarta early since the South is banned, & I couldn't do much. Had good talks w/ Counsellor Peyman, & it looks like I'll spend longer in Malaysia, same dates in Vietnam, 1 day in Cambodia (South banned), longer in Thailand w/ a trip by train to Laos, the same dates in Burma. But the schedule may shift 2 or 3 days so be careful with the mails. Bangkok & Rangoon are the best for mail, since they are on the world routes. No mention of Baka's on envelopes to Bangkok. Otherwise mail is moving freely I'm told.

Singapore has changed its address & I hope that won't be a problem. I'll let you know promptly.

Please pray for me. The Baka's in S.E. Asia have many problems, from repression to Moslem trouble to drought. And the climate and food are difficult. So I'll have to take it easy & may have some problems. Am looking forward to Iran & Harfa, which should be paradise relatively speaking.

Hope all is well. Keep me posted.

Much love, Greg
P.S. No mail rec'd in Djakarta. It will be forwarded to Bangkok or Rangoon if it arrives (which it should eventually).

Letters #12 and parcel N (papers, soap surface) were mailed 7/11 Singapore airport.

Jan. 27, 1973

Singapore

Dear Kent - Allah-u-Abdi!

I'm leaving for Malaysia this morning & the parcel you sent hasn't arrived yet. I've even called the P.O. to no avail. Am making arrangements to have it sent by air express when it arrives here.

(Pardon the writing - moving car.)

Your letter #16 arrived on 1/25. -
The parcel is #15, right? What is #14?
Don't I think I've received that yet?

On the 30th I leave Saigon for Cambodia if all goes well & on the 4th proceed to Thailand for 8 days minus a trip by train ~~to~~ to Vietnam (uncertain days). Anyway I'll be back in Bangkok by the 12th to receive mail. Mail also arrives

in Burma OK I'm told & I think Nepal (Dawn's ^{Edward} box) but no parcels or thick packets to either place & no mention of Bala's to Nepal.

I hope all is well with you & Dad. I'm okay at this end - finishing S.E. Asia a challenge (esp. the heat).

Much love,

Greg



#15

On board Air Vietnam flight

From

to

Date January 20, 1973

Dear Dad & Keith - Larga

Well! The air parcel & Dad's letter #7 arrived (a bit late) in Singapore just this morning. I spend 2 hours with the imperfect phone system between there & Kuala Lumpur trying to get it straight with them what to do. By chance my flight to Larga stopped in Singapore 20 minutes & I managed to persuade them to let me off, & through customs (which was a trick for a transit passenger & took a lot of fast talking) & grabbed the parcel from the Bala's waiting there just in time to reboard the plane. It's been no end of trouble, but I'm happy to have the film - about \$30 worth. Also the pictures, calby cards, etc, which I'm running out of. And the news in Dad's letter, which is always so good to receive.

The enclosed carbon will fill you in on some things.



On board Air Vietnam flight

From to 

Date

By the way, Keith, I think you can save a lot on postage in future if you use Small Packet rate (air). Requirements are: no letters enclosed, no tape, no more than 3 staples, and a green customs label attached. The rate goes by 2 oz rather than 1/2 oz. We also should keep in mind that parcels take longer than letters. I was too optimistic about mail in Singapore.

I'll be writing soon about a few things I'll need in India.

Keith - Did you ever send the Portals to Freedom to MASIPFI in the Selbert Islands? Or was it Mother I asked to do that? Also have you received Selbert Island stamps from Mabel Antiera there? I left them behind by mistake & asked her to mail them.

My stay in Malaysia was both exciting & restful & I'm feeling much better. Hope all is equally well at home. Much love, Jay

January 30, 1973

Saigon

Dearest brother Tony,

Allah-u-Abha!

It looks like the postcard from Saigon you requested will turn into a letter. Hope that's all right.

Fate finds me seated at a Royal typewriter (that doesn't work too well) marked "Property of U.S. Gov't AID", in the home of an American dental surgeon Baha'i in the middle of Saigon (near as I can tell on my first night here). He himself is in Kuala Lumpur, where his wife is (member of NSA of Malaysia) and where I stayed, with them, last night. Behind me on one of his ~~many~~ beds are a few hundred color slides, all spread out, showing the most horrible deformations of human faces with growths, tumors, wounds, etc. Flares ~~continually~~ continue to light the Saigon sky without interruptions and the feeling of a country at war is very obvious as you pass by brightly lit compounds, barbed wire fences, check points in the dark, and armed guards everywhere. It will be a long time before the country knows any real peace.

Having just arrived, I haven't yet contacted the Baha'is. In the morning I shall phone the Center and hope to catch Aux. Bd. Member Van Loi who knows English (one of the few around who does, I'm told) and who was recommended to me both by Counselor Peyman in Indonesia and Hand of the Cause Collis Featherstone (whom I saw in Singapore a few days ago). Both of them warned me to expect some problems here; ~~confidentially~~, the House found it necessary a few months ago to remove four members of the NSA who dominated things, and the community is evidently still divided and having problems. Korea had two removed this year, and I'm told the whole Indian NSA was dissolved and reelected last year. It's wonderful how much on top of ~~the~~ things the House is these days, but its actions are sometimes rather much like a good whipping in the back shed. Needed, but painful.

This kind of problem is sad, but not nearly as sad as the plight of the Moslem countries where the Faith is persecuted and banned. In Indonesia the Faith had perhaps 10,000 followers when the Faith was banned and now there is hardly any activity. The star community of East Asia, Malaysia, has to tiptoe very lightly so as not to attract attention and the wrath of the Moslem gov't. In Africa Baha'is persecuted (i.e. in the Moslem countries) but they are unable to go to Israel as well, diplomatic relations having been severed. It's really heart-breaking to see these countries left behind and deprived of the Light by their own inevitable folly.

But you'll be happy to know that there are many exciting things happening, and even your own efforts have had a very real impact here. In a Center near Kuala Lumpur I couldn't help but see your little deepening cards and the ~~first~~ fold-out pamphlet prominently displayed on their bulletin board, and a stack of the card packets there to be used. (Did you see the French version in France?) And in Mindanao, Philippines (where the Iranians were killed), three days after I sang for an hour for about 800 students, the classrooms of the University of Mindanao were heard enlivened with the sounds of "world, world, world, world" in rounds, for fifteen minutes, while the students were waiting for their teacher. That was the first of several songs I taught them. It is also being sung in many other places, being an ideal thing for people to learn in a group (as you know). So I often think of your spirit here enjoying the ironies of the Baha'i world.

Will have to save other news for some other time. Too much to put here. Thanks ever so much for your letters, and be assured of my prayers.

Baha'i love and greetings,

January 31, 1973,
2:00 P.M. - Lanyon

Dear Keith & Dad -

Erecting from the B. Center in Lanyon!
I've just eaten lunch here with 3 of the
Baka's - salty fish, cabbage & rice
Chinese style - & I'm wondering whether
the extremely unsanitary conditions will
affect me. I hope not....

It seems that one or two letters may
have arrived here for me, but the NSA
see's has them & he is away for Ted.
God willing, he will come back before
I leave, but no telling for sure.

The war still continues in the country
areas & I cannot leave Lanyon. Perhaps
in a few weeks, things will have
quieted down somewhat, but not in
time for my visit. The B. here have
many problems, to say the least.

125,000 believers, 650 USA's but the
nat'l leadership has been decimated
by disunity. The strong leader became
irresponsible & had to be removed &
now it will be a slow process to
rebuild confidence. This is confidential
of course.

I am well & happy & hope you are too.
Much love, Greg

No. 16

February 6, 1973
Bangkok

Dear Dad and Keith,

Well! Here I am in the Baha'i Center in Bangkok, after an eventful day in Cambodia and a few in Saigon. Perhaps you have received my number 15 from Saigon, mailed 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 30. Keith, your no. 17 was one of the two letters in Saigon when I arrived, being held by the secretary. (They finally found a key to get at them, even though the secretary was away. Close call.) Haven't received anything here yet, but they say the mail is slow.

I think I described a little about Saigon in the letter I sent from there. Hope it reaches you alright, since mail is censored in all these countries. (I'm giving this to a friend who is going to Hong Kong in a couple days so it will reach you faster.) So sad to see what I'm told was once a beautiful city ruined by so many years of war. Really a junk heap now, dirty and unpleasant, and horribly congested. Fighting continued in the country but it is hoped that things will get more peaceful in a few weeks as the observefs get into ~~mixixi~~ position.

Khmer was most interesting. I stayed with American pioneers who have been in these countries and in Tchad for the past 15 years. While they were away in Africa, in 1966, Sihanouk decided to make the Baha'is a scapegoat and on a pretext of meeting without permission (which had in fact been granted verbally) he arrested three of the Baha'is and threw them in his loathsome central prison, where something like a hundred criminals were in one room with big bugs, pig's food to eat, etc. They were there three or four weeks and following that were followed everywhere by secret service. The Baha'is were accused of being linked with the CIA (here in Thailand the authorities are afraid it is communist!). So the two or more thousand Baha'is all went underground or disappeared and of course the 9 assemblies vanished. One of the Baha'is who had been jailed escaped to Vietnam dressed as a Buddhist monk.

Now that Sihanouk is in exile the Baha'is have petitioned for recognition again, and the pioneers are back (one family only). So far no recognition so no activities, but hopes are high. We ~~was was~~ went to visit the ~~xx~~ ryyal palance and were granted a special visit to Sihanouks chambers. So strange so see his bed, dining room, office, etc., which he is not free to return to, ~~whxxx~~ while with us was one of the Baha'is whom he had thrown into jail and whose life he had temporarily ruined. Strange the way Baha'u'llah works sometimes.

Here in Thailand the Faith also does not yet have recognition though certain activities, like a Baha'i school, assemblies, feasts, etc. are legal. So I have decided to go up to Laos by bus tonight and will return on Friday for a couple days here, then proceed as scheduled to Rangoen. By the time you get this the next place to reach me will be Delhi. Mail is slow in India, I'm told. Where isn't it?

By the way, if you don't get a bill for the enclosed cash advance within a month and a half or so you might ask them to check on it. They may not have the new address right, and finance charges will accumulate if unpaid.

Hope all is well there. Thanks for the letter, and write when you can.

Much love,

Greg

P.S. If you need know then you might look over the enclosed and tell me what you think of all that. I am on floor etc. I don't look like a workaholic of the law. I could probably get a Baha'is on that in some way.

#17

February 10, 1973

Dear Dad & Keith - Bangkok

Thanks so much for your letters, which arrived here safely. So far I have all of yours up to Dad's #8 and Keith's #18. You can tell Mom I also received her letter from L.A. airport, forwarded here from Djakarta.

The trip to Laos was most interesting. 12 hrs. by bus, ferry, ~~taxi~~ taxis + ~~by~~ bicycle overnight going up & during the day returning. Venturing is quite primitive & very French. I had my first solid non-rice meal there in a long time - big fillet mignon, shrimp, green beans, salad etc. for US \$2.00, cooked French. A rare treat for this traveller. I'm also enjoying the luxury & rest afforded by a newly purchased mosquito net that I now carry with me.

Oh, Keith, you #19 arrived yesterday so I'm complete through #19.

If you could, send each of the slides you mentioned showing Baker's buildings, to Haifa, & wrapped in cardboard or something hard so they won't be damaged. Dad can help. The slides you have are all seconds, by the way - I have kept the best with me.

Could you send 10 PX36 process mailers (the yellow envelopes) to India registered. Any merchandise to India must be registered.

Hope all is well, as it is w/ me.

Much love, Greg

P.S. #16 was sent from Hong Kong courtesy of a friend going that way. Hope you have received it.

CARMEL CAL

SFA356 SFF214(2132)(1-216370G051)PD 02/20/73 2134

ICS IPMIIHA IISS

ZCZC IISS FM ITT 20 2134

PMS OAHL POBOX CARMEL CA

AWC373 VIA ITT CNY661 CBS468/20

UINX HL INCA 036

CALCUTTA 36 20 2300

LT

KEITH DAHL

POBOX 3713

CARMELCALIFORNIA

PLEASE SEND DELHI AIRMAIL REGISTERED WELL

PACKED INSURED TEN EH FIVE KODACHROME TEN TRIX

TWENTYFIVE PK36 TWO TDK C-120 TWO BASF

C-120 FOUR AMPEX C-60 FIFTEEN PASSPORT PHOTOS LOVE

GREG

1277

Sp 915
2

ade
mbd

#68
25 February 1973
Kathmandu

Dear Brother Keith, Allah-u-Abha!

I'm here in Kathmandu now, staying with Dawn and April (who is visiting for a few weeks from Vancouver with little baby daughter). Both are well and send there love and greetings. ~~It's~~ It's like old times in Carmel again, except the setting is somewhat different.

There have been some real experiences for me since I last wrote, from Bangkok. I'll try to describe them more fully elsewhere. Burma is a unique experience, having been virtually isolated from the rest of the world under communist rule for the past 15 years or so, and with almost no material progress made since the British left the once large and cosmopolital city of Rangoon in, I believe, 1948. So one has the feeling there of stepping back in history, in a very strange way. Through various means it was arranged for me to visit the Baha'i village of Dedainow some two hours from Rangoon. (Foreigners are technically not allowe ~~ed~~ to travel outside three tourist cities.) Never have I seen such beautiful village countryside. Took many ~~pic~~ pictures which I hope came out and I can share with you sometime.

Then I was three days in Calcutta, the worst city in the world. That I shall have to describe at some other time--too much for here. Also squeezed in two days in Dacca, Bangladesh, a most interesting visit to an absolutely beautiful community of Baha'is in a country momentarily very open to the Faith since they are Muslim but just fought a war with a Muslim country so they are not at the moment very attached to their religion. At least this is true of the youth, especially those I talked with at the university. And the Baha'i Center in Dacca, purchased just before the war at the request of the House, is one of the most beautiful anywhere--very spacious, with living quarters, patio and garden, and a pond in back shared with neighbours.

Now Nepal, home of the greatest of all mountains anywhere. This is truly one of the ideal tourist spots, rivalling Switzerland, and I am thoroughly enjoying my stay (which I think of as something of a rest). I arrived late, and they were already under way with their first deepening institute with friends having come from some distance by bus. Lovely native people here, with a quaintness that can only be conveyed by pictures. And Dawn's restaurant is a delight, just like it was plucked from ~~Carmel~~ Carmel--somewhat incongruous here but a real treat. There's a whole army of about 15 young Baha'is working there, and the place is always packed with hippies and legits eating the only decent food in town (outside of the expensive hot~~els~~as).

So on to business, since the hour is drawing late and I'm off with April and a couple other Baha'is in the morning to go "trekking" near Everest. Your numbers 20 and 21 were here when I arrived which makes me complete to 21. Also a letter from Mom from Falkland Islands, very nice and good to share with the friends here.

I hope you received my cable from Calcutta asking for film and stuff. The price here for such things is twice what I paid, so the value to me of the stuff requested is about \$200. I hope you insured for about \$100, which is the cost value. If you didn't get the cable the stuff requested was 10 rolls EH, 5 KX, 25 PK36 mailers total (incl. 10 already requested, I think), 10 TX, 2 TDK C-120 cassettes, 2 BASF C-120, 4 Ampex C-60, 15 passport size photos from the envelope. If this stuff has not been sent to India it should be sent to Iran at the following address, which is the best to use for all mail:

c/o Foad Katirai
 Lord Electric Corp.
 494 Naderi Ave.
 Tehran, Iran

cable: Katirai Teheran
 tel. 310-990 or 312-959

If you can tape things together before putting them in the mailer they will get banged around less and are more likely to survive. Mails are rough in this part of the world. Also parcels should be well ~~sealed~~ sealed to all countries except Israel, which probably means you can't use small packet rate. Registry is a must for valuable packages like these.

To Haifa, c/o House of Justice, I shall need the following:

remaining KX (about 5 rolls)
 15 ER-36
 15 TX
 5 PX
 20 PK36 mailers
 2 BASF C-120 cassettes
 2 TDK C-120
 3 Ampex C-60
 3 Ampex C-90

[6 each English song sheet]
 remaining passport and press photos

By sea mail, printed matter rate: (or small packet rate)

10 copies of each printed B&W photo
 10 copies press release

Cable me if any of this is not clear. I'm running low on film and the cost of buying it here is very high (\$8.00 per roll with processing).

As for your questions about the taxes:

Sorry about the lack of ~~more~~ documentation of my fall work with EPA. It was paid by EPA and not Interior whatever form they used (EPA has old forms still, I guess). The work was done in October but I don't know exactly what days they paid me for or how many because I worked different days: so just put temporary employment in October. If you think more documentation is required you can contact my secretary Eva Lloyd or my old boss John O'Connor, at EPA, OAP, SSPCP, SDID, Research Triangle Park, N.C. 27711 tel. (Durham) 919-688-8146 and they can have it cleared up.

The June 30th break for N.C./Cal. residency is what I intended.

Cancelled checks are in storage in Mass. The figure of \$105 from the stubs sounds right. All contributions (I think) were to "Local Baha'I Fund" (Raleigh). I was saving for the trip.

U.S. PHS Officer will do, I should think, for occupation.

Enclosed are itemized deductible expenses for the present trip up to end of 1972. Your breakdown of income and deductions looks good. Check my past forms, in the tax file in your box, for prepayment last year towards excess tax. I think I may have had a refund coming and used it toward the quarterly payment, but I'm not sure.

If you haven't received both an AmX and a BankAmericard bill by the time you get this write me again and I'll write them directly to be sure they have the address. It's been given to both.

Enclosed are some Burmese stamps. They didn't have any sets.

I hope all is well. My love to everyone.

Ery

March 1, 1973 New Delhi

Dear Keith, Mom and Dad, Allah-u-Abha!

Hello, everyone! I've made it in one piece to India again, and now I'm banging around alone (actually, with the ~~saxafak~~ caretaker) in the great old Baha'i Center here in New Delhi.

Enclosed (with the carbon of this letter) are some stamps from Nepal for the collectors. The Mongolian stamps are a gift from Dawn for Keith, and the Bhutan stamps are from me for whoever needs them most. The newspaper you can pass around to the community; I have kept a copy for myself. (Note the ads.) The photos are proofs, with numbers on the back, and so should be kept there, as should the address sheet (in case I lose the copy I have with me). The postcards I would like to keep but you can all look at them, of course. Naturally it was cloudy while I was in Nepal, like it always is in Switzerland, so I never really saw the full grandeur of the mountains. But the valley scenery is remarkably beautiful, with thousands of terraces sometimes taller than they are wide, growing wheat this time of year. And as I was taking off this morning I caught a glimpse 80 miles in the distance of Everest.

Keith, your numbers 22 and 25 were here today when I arrived (the latter mailed the 23rd--very good time), as was the parcel with photo process mailers (no. 24? The corner got obliterated). That means I'm missing 23, I believe, since it was 20 and 21 I got in Kathmandu. If it was anything important you can write pronto or cable here to New Delhi. I'll be coming back through here for two or three days, very likely, before leaving the 17th or 19th. I'm expecting the parcels 26 and 27 any time.

A letter dated Jan. 25 arrived from you, Mom, from Part Stanley. I think I can empathize with some of your tests in the Islands, since all islands share some characteristics. The stamps were carefully peeled off your letter when it arrived, as were those on Keith's package. Typical of India. Any letter with bulk, or parcel, should be sealed with wax (or stickers and tape) and registered to prevent pilfering. All the parcels sent out from here are stitched in cloth.

This morning I sent number 18 to Keith, with answers to your tax questions, a better address for Iran (c/o Foad Katirai, Lord Electric Corp., 494 Naderi Ave., Teheran, Iran tel. 310 990 or 2 312 959 cable KATIRAI TEHERAN), and a list of things I need in Haifa (remaining KX, 15 ER, 15 TX, 5 PX, 20 PK36 mailers, 2 BASF C-120, 2 TDK C-120, 3 Ampex C-60, 3 Ampex C-90, remaining passport and press photos all airmail; also sea mail printed rate 10 copies each of printed B&W letter size photos, 10 copies press release, 6 copies both English song sheets).

Keith: why should I have sent something to India and Iraq? Did they spend time in Burma? Wish I had known. And yes, that is Toni Mantel. Thanks also for all the continuing news.

I've already sent and will send some more parcels, all surface. Will send the particulars when the next ones are sent from here.

Hope all is well at home, and that Arthur finds some way to get out West. Roger sent me a lovely well-written letter to accompany a compilation of quotations he typed for me as a gift for Ayyam-i-Ha. Very nice and right on time.

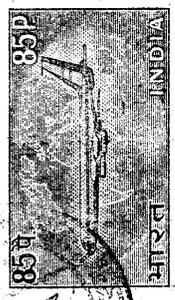
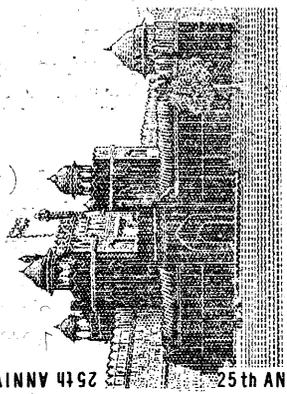
Much love,



25th ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE 1972 स्वतंत्रता की 25 वीं वर्षगांठ

25th ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE 1972 स्वतंत्रता की 25 वीं वर्षगांठ

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION
हवाई पत्र
AEROGARME



Mr. Keith G. Dahl
P.O. Box 3713
Carmel,
Calif. 93921
U S A

पहला मोड़ FIRST FOLD

25th ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE 1972 स्वतंत्रता की 25 वीं वर्षगांठ

दूसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रलिये NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता: SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

G. Dahl c/o Babali House
P.O. Box 19
New Delhi, -1 INDIA

भारत INDIA

2 March 1973
New Delhi

Dear Family,

I was just wondering now whether the two letters I sent today were numbered properly. They should have been number 20, since 19 was a post card sent from ~~the~~ Kathmandu to Pebble Beach. This number 20 was sent in duplicate, one an air letter and the other in a registered air ~~parcel~~ packet, so you're sure to get one or the other quickly.

One thing I forgot to mention, Keith. Could you deposit another \$500 in my Coolidge account. I'm down to about \$100 there now and will be withdrawing more in Haifa. Please send confirmation of deposit, too, as before.

Today parcels Q and R were mailed. Q was labelled, and is Baha'i books from the Publishing Trust here, plus some other things I had, printed matter. R was unlabelled, and is a big parcel stitched in cloth containing a Nepali drum, two Burmese shoulder bags, a Burmese painting, long underwear, a Burmese wood-inlay ~~picture picture~~ picture, and two Thai wood sculptures. The drum cost 20 rupees or \$2.00, the shoulder bags together were 36 Kyats or about \$7.00, the wood picture was 20 Kyats or about \$4.00, the painting was a gift (value about \$2.00) and the sculptures were about \$3.00 together. Have you had any questions from U.S. customs so far? Do I need to provide this info?

O and P were printed matter sent from ^UBangkok. Nothing very important. O, P, Q and R were all sent surface so it will be some time before they arrive.

I was just talking with the national secretary here. India has about 400,000 adult Baha'is, and over a million if you include the children. There are 5,000 LSA's exceed the Nine Year Plan goal of 4,000. The centres number 22,000. There are 10,000 people taking the correspondence course with only two clerks to correct all the papers. The national staff is about 8 and the national budget 500,000 Rs. (about \$65,000). That comes to less than 17 cents per adult Baha'i. Ah, well.

Tomorrow I leave for Bombay, Poona and Panchgani. Then Ujjain (mass teaching area) and back to Delhi to get visas about the 15th. Parcels haven't arrived yet but should before the 15th (God willing).

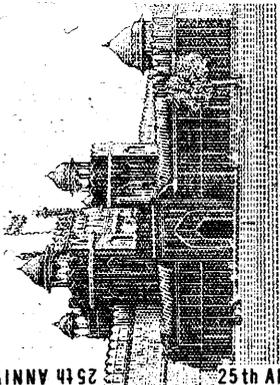
I hope all is well. Keep me posted.

Much love,

Greg
P.S. I'll be leaving on the 17th for Kabul & arriving in Tehran the 20th. I need time in Kabul to take photos as requested by the House. Flight to Tel Aviv is set for April 7th.

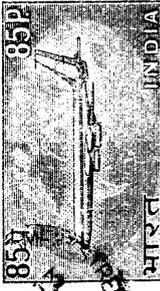
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25th ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE 1972

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION
बाई एअर
AEROGRAMME



25th ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE 1972 स्वतंत्रता की 25 वीं वर्षगांठ

पहला मोड़ FIRST FOLD



Mr. Keith G. Dahl

P.O. Box 3713

Carmel, California 93921

U S A

दूसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता: SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

G. Dahl
c/o Bahai House
P.O. Box 1819
New Delhi 110001
INDIA

भारत INDIA

March 11, 1973
Delhi-Bombay train

Hello, hello!

This is written on the train to Bombay, where I will change for Poona & from there take a taxi or bus to Panhajan where the Babai school is. Unbeknown to me the N'SA bought me a third class ticket which I suppose is an experience one should have once in a lifetime. The seats are wooden, the dust blows in the windows, there are crowds of people, & (unfortunately) it seems there is no food - at least, spicy Indian food is available in the dining car but one can't get there except by getting off at a station. The perhaps your bags will be stolen. The trip is 30 hours to Bombay. I got up at 5:30 this morning after full days of riding Indian buses (worse than the train, on bumpy roads) yesterday & the day before. So far, surprisingly, my health has been fine despite the filthy food & questionable water everywhere, so I expect to survive. Iran & the Holy Land should provide welcome recuperation.

I hope you received #20 (registered packet w/ letter duplicated in an aérogram) & #21 from Delhi. In #21 I mentioned which letters had arrived - 2 from Keith & 1 from Mother in Delhi. (I don't remember the numbers). There seemed to be one from Keith missing. The two packages arrived with all contents intact, somewhat crushed, wrapped, sealed with wax & \$20.00 customs duty. I was afraid of that, but at least everything arrived. The letter w/ tax problem was here as was a letter one, Keith, as mentioned in my #21. (Sorry not to have numbers - this is from memory.) Dad - you #9 arrived a couple days ago. Many thanks everyone for your thoughtfulness.

As requested by the House, I am staying a bit longer in Afghanistan (3 days) in order to photograph properties. This should be interesting. I'll be here the 20th.

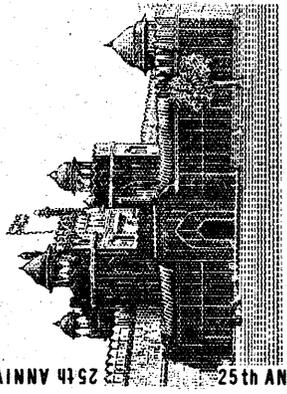
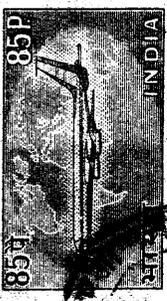
India is an unbelievably country - so vast, so crowded, so dirty & poor, with so many groups constantly fighting, yelling at each other, etc. The Babai is far way different. I hope all is well. Much love, Greg

(all have arrived though #9)

25th ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE 1972 स्वतंत्रता की 25 वीं वर्षगांठ

स्वतंत्रता की 25 वीं वर्षगांठ 25th ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE 1972

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION
बाय एअर
AEROGAMME



P.O. BOX 3713
CARAMEL, CALIF.
93921 USA

25th ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE 1972 स्वतंत्रता की 25 वीं वर्षगांठ 25th ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE 1972

पहला मोड़ FIRST FOLD

दूसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता: SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

G. DAHL % BAHAI HOUSE
P.O. BOX 19
NEW DEHLI - 110001

भारत INDIA

16 March 1973
New Delhi

Dear Mom, Dad and Keith--

Just a short note to tell you that Dad's second no. 9 and Keith nos. 28 and 29 were here today when I arrived back from Bombay. Thanks so much for the clipping of Seals and Crofts, Dad. What number on the charts did Summer Breeze finally get to? Marsha Day told me number 6 in December, but it must have gone up if it sold a million. Are any of their other numbers popular now? Thanks also, Keith, for your notes. The packages here did arrive okay, as I wrote before, though very banged up (no damage though). I hope Israel will not have such customs duty. Anyway perhaps the House can get exemption. It seems I have all your letters through 29 except for 23. Was it sent to Nepal or India? What do you remember from Toni's letter (in case I never get it)?

Perhaps you got my no. 22, mailed in Poona, and you know that the last few days have been very demanding. Actually I've been travelling every day for eight days straight, and travelling in India means very rugged, ~~xxx~~ crowded and dirty surroundings, and practically no food. But somehow I've managed to survive, a bit jarred but in one piece. Everyone says the food is good in Kabul and the weather cold so it should be a good rest before the mad rush of Naw-Ruz in Iran.

My visit of a few hours to Panchgani where the New Era School is was an absolute ~~delight~~ delight. There are some 300 plus students of whom about half are Baha'is, and coming from more than a dozen countries! The school itself is in a little resort village high in the hills overlooking a great valley filled with farms--a lovely scene. And of course the students all love to sing and to hear about Baha'i activities around the world, so we had a great time.

There were meetings in other places too which I won't bother to describe here.

Off to Afghanistan tomorrow, where I'm told the Baha'is can put me up in one of their four Haziras. The friends have to be discrete but they have activities. Should be interesting.

I hope all continues well there. Keep in touch.

Much love,

Greg

P.S. Keith - Was there any return address on the envelope for the letter from Funafuti, Ellice Islands? I'm a little puzzled about who it is from.

25th ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE 1972

स्वतंत्रता की 25 वीं वर्षगांठ

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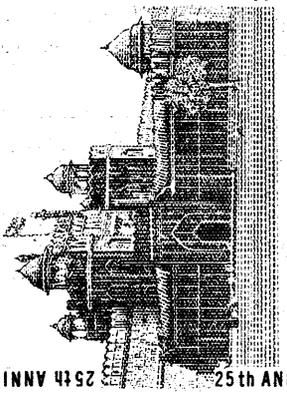
25th ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE 1972

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25th ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE 1972

स्वतंत्रता की 25 वीं वर्षगांठ

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION
वायु डाक
AEROGAMME

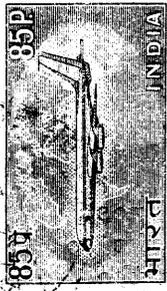


Mr. Keith G. Dahl

P.O. Box 3713

Carmel, California 93921

U S A



25th ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE 1972

पहला मोड़

FIRST FOLD

25th ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE 1972

पहला मोड़

FIRST FOLD

पहला मोड़

दूसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता: SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

G. Dahl c/o Bahai House
P.O. Box 19
New Delhi 110001

भारत INDIA

31 March 1973

Lebra

Dear brother Keith - Allah-m-abla!

When Foad finally showed up from England yesterday (w/ greetings from Marion Kopman, who is furiously working on yet another book) I finally got my mail, (upon return from Khira & Ephata). I had picked up two earlier, one from you (I think #30) and one from Arthur, both lost now (misplaced by my host). In yesterday's batch were your #s 31, 36 + 37 and Dad's #11 + a letter from Mounif/ photos, all much appreciated. #33, 34 + 35 are packages to Hafa; I take it. What about 32? There have been so many things I haven't kept track properly. Hope I haven't missed anything beside #23.

In answer to your question - I thought I mentioned that you should look for that little estimated tax form (with four perforated parts) in my tax file. I think I filed the first quarter only for the full value of the refund, but I'm not at all sure. The record should be there. Can't you append a note + let them find out? The money is due back in any case.

Did you get package #D (unlabelled) - wooden washes I ordered in Tonga? I'm not sure if you've mentioned it in your letters.

Have you received the two suits I had made in Hong Kong? Let me know in Hafa. If not I'll speak to a Bala'i delegate from there to check on them for me.

(I presume that's the printed matter to Hafa.)



Neither rain nor snow nor frost nor darkness could hinder the fast couriers of Darius.



۱۰ ریال

۱۰ R.

Mr. Keith L. Hall

P.O. Box 3713

Carmel, California 93921

USA

نامه هوایی

AEROGRAMME PAR AVION

L' AÉROGRAMME NE DOIT CONTENIR AUCUN OBJET, SINON, IL SERA EXPÉDIÉ PAR LA VOIE DE SURFACE.

نامه هوایی نباید حاوی هیچگونه شیئی باشد. در غیر این صورت پست زمینی فرستاده خواهد شد.

Everything is fine here, I'm addressing a large crowd in a few minutes, showing slides etc. Came back a couple days ago from Shiraz & Isfahan. Truly moving. More about that in another place.

I hope both Dad & Mom are fully recovered. Give them my love & greetings.

I'm sending a carbon of this w/ #25, which is a postcard (in an envelope). Much love,

Ereg

10 April 1973

Harfa

Dear Family - Allah-u-Abdi!

Greetings from the Holy Land!

I hope you have received by now my #25 + #26 from Lehan, mailed April 1. Keith's tax question was answered there as best I could.

After writing, I never succeeded in getting out of Lehan + going north, partly due to cold weather (snow) & partly the jumbled organizing of the friends in Lehan. A few noteworthy things happened, like making a recording for distribution (as a cassette) in their new recording studio.

Now I've been plopped into the World Centre. This is a most impressive place. Well equipped, efficient, most everyone relaxed & happy though very busy. I'm making an exhibit of A-V materials, and will talk with USA members during the Convention about their use, needs, etc. Also will be in charge of PA systems, & in addition may be a special guest for Kiva 'Folks', who will be making some films. Very exciting. And Harfa is perfectly wonderful in the spring.

All your old friends, Mom + Dad, ask about you and send their greetings. Everyone looks well. The Henrys and the Wolcotts have been especially kind, and I'm working closely with Slave Puke. May Hofman will be here on Friday. David is unashamedly proud of her achievements in Africa & read a letter of hers, on behalf of the House, to all the staff this morning.

Keith - you #38 + #39 arrived safely, the latter today. The film arrived (#32-35) about two weeks ago, with #39 dirty. In future we must send only

to safe countries, using small packet rate, and marking "NO COMMERCIAL VALUE - GIFT". Postage + customs on these last packages came to \$70+ which is almost not worth it. I think S. Africa will be the next place to send things, but will let you know after I confer w/ the NSA's later in the month.

Hope all is well.

Much love Greg

P.S. Be assured of my prayers in the three shrines.

תיבת תרומה
PAR AVION

AEROGRAMME • תרומה



To: Keith & Doll
Mr + Mrs. A. F. Doll
P.O. Box 3713
Carmel, Calif. 93921
USA

קפסולת

EXPÉDITEUR — SENDER — תשלום

G. Doll A-11 Calif.
P.O. Box 155
Haifa, Israel 31-000

אירגון שותפים בה דבר תשלום לפי תעריף של פקטת בודאר אוויר.
Un aérogramme contenant un objet quelconque sera envoyé au tarif d'une lettre-avion.
An aérogramme containing any enclosure will be sent at airmail-letter rate.



28 A

E. Stahl - flh

May 7, 1973
Haifa

Dear Family,

Allah-u-Abha!

Things have been extremely busy, as you can imagine, so it has taken until now for me to have six hours off to spend at the travel agent working out my itinerary for Africa. (Six Hands came in in ten minutes, including Bill Sears, Mr. Faizi, John Roberts, etc. Not many places you have such company.) Now the first draft it typed up is ready for mailing to NSAs, and you'll find a copy enclosed. Also a list of addresses, NOT TO BE COPIED OR DISTRIBUTED. Allow about two weeks for mails, and keep in mind that Rhodesia and South Africa are the most developed countries and therefore probably have the best mails. I would expect Accra, Abidjan and Monrovia to be better than other West African countries, too.

I shall shortly be sending a package or packages airmail with original tapes and slides. Will send particulars when they are sent. Please drop me a note to confirm receipt when they arrive.

Keith: please deposit another \$500 in the Coolidge account, and send confirmation.

I trust everything else is in order. Let me know if you have any questions.

Keith: do you have any literature from Harvard which gives the registration date for Graduate students? If they have sent a catalogue for next year or this year it should be in it. I would appreciate knowing.

People keep asking me to remember them to you, Mom and Dad. Ali Nakhjavani was the last.

The almost 40 Counsellors and 16 Hands have stayed on for a week of consultation, and one is constantly bumping into them. Quite an environment. Kiva Films has been here also filming.

I hope, as usual, that all is well. Keep me posted on interesting developments.

Much love,

S. Hall - file

#29 ?

May 9, 1973
Haifa

Dear Folks at Home:

Here's the next installment of my itinerary to Africa, and corrections of the first page. Hope you have received the addresses, sent a couple days ago. If not cable me c/o NSA of Nairobi (BAHAIFAITH NAIROBI).

My flight from Athens to Asmara stops in Cairo, and I have an Israeli stamp in my passport. I hope to unforeseen circumstance arises there.

If you could, please, Keith, take the ~~color~~ film remaining ~~xxxxxxx~~ in your box on a relatively dry day (i.e. not during a storm), wrap it in plastic freezer bags, and put it in the freezer. This arrests deterioration, which is now setting in. Many thanks.

Also it would be nice if you could send ^{five} ~~the~~ press releases to S. Africa when you're sending something else. Or maybe it's better to send them to Rhodesia if you have time.

Many thanks. Hope to hear from you all soon.

Much love,

P.S. Col. Khazeh sends his greetings.

23.5.73

Nairobi

Dear Folks -

Just checking in, so you know I'm alive.

Everything is fine. At the moment I'm awaiting departure for Mombasa for one night (on schedule) and then tomorrow on to Dar.

Nairobi took me by surprise - very modern, prosperous, well-administered, but with a relaxed air like a Southern U.S. town. No hospital available from the Babes, though, so I stayed in a very comfortable British hotel & had a good rest, still much needed after the considerable exertions in Harfa.

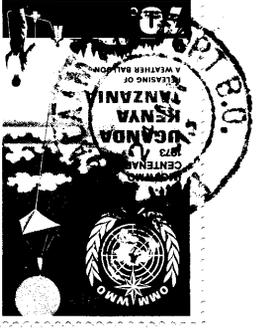
Keith - I have charged about \$60 on my BankAmericard (cash advance) via Barclay Bank, also about \$5 charged here on AmX. Hope the \$500 was deposited in Coolidge, since I withdrew down to \$5 in Harfa & will write a check in Johannesburg for more funds.

Please let me know when you have received parcel #U (which you should already have received) mailed May 11th airmail registered from Harfa. It contains original tapes & slides. Other parcels are:

- #V papers, book sent Harfa May 11th sea
- W photos, present from Pikes sent LOD airport May 13th sea
- X small carpet from Home " "
- Y belt, papers " "
- Z Agdas, slides sent Athens May 15th airmail



USA
CALIF. 93953
PERBLE BEACH,
P.O. Box 566
MR. KEITH & DAHL
Mrs. M. A. Dahl



KUNJO LA PILI HAPA

SECOND FOLD HERE

Issued by the East African Posts and Telecommunications Corporation

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY
ENCLOSURE; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

USA
CHARMEL, CALIF. 93921
P.O. BOX 3713
G. DAHL

Sender's name and address:

KUFUNGUUA KATA HAPA

TO OPEN SLIT HERE

KUNJO LA KWANZA HAPA

FIRST FOLD HERE

± AA	papers	sent Addis	May 15 th	see
DB	two books	sent Nairobi	May 22	see
CC	sandals	"	"	"
DD	papers	sent Nairobi	May 23	"

Hope all is well at home. Look forward to receiving some mail in Rhodesia in a week & a half.

With love,
Guy

#37

8 June 1973

Dear Keith - Welcome back!

Your #47 arrived here June 5, with an X card. Very happy to get it. Already had trouble with my old card (in Langam) because of the approaching expiration date. (Pity, clerks don't understand these things).

I came yesterday with Counsellor Shaban Latif Aayan (you remember him from Sayreville?) Hooshmand Latif Aayan's brother in his car from Salisbury. Had trouble at the S.A. border because I had no onward ticket (to be purchased here) and they had never seen credit cards before. The S.A. white can be pretty dumb. But when they learned Shaban is a Rhodesian citizen they let me through because I was with him.

Look forward to hearing more news from you and about your job in S.F.

Greetings,

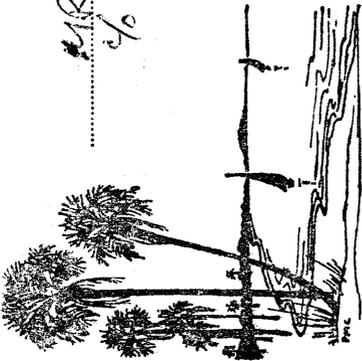
Greg

P.S. If any letters come from the House of Justice please send me a copy & keep the original safe. Thanks. The mails will be a little uncertain from here.



BY AIR MAIL
AIR LETTER
PAR AVION AEROGAMME

VISIT
MALAWI



Land of Lake and Sunshine

MR. KEITH G. DAKE
c/o Mr. + Mrs. A. Z. Hall

P.O. Box 566

Public Beach Club

93253

U.S.A.

← First fold here →

← Second fold here →

Sender's name and address: G. DAK

P.O. Box 3713

Carmel, Calif. 93921

USA

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY
ENCLOSURE; IF IT DOES IT MAY BE SURCHARGED
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.



← To open cut here →

Keith - Please deposit with my things after reading.

June 15, 1973
Mbabane, Swaziland

Dear Toni,

Allah-u-l-Abhá!

Greetings from Swaziland! Your letter of May 30th reached me here, via my brother in California. Glad it got through this time.

Sounds from your letter that things are still slow and patient in Taiwan. God willing, at some point things will really pick up and the snow-ball will begin to grow, like it has in so many other places in the last five years. Really I've been tremendously impressed to ~~the~~ see the world Bahá'í community from the vantage point of having visited many countries, and seeing the International Convention. There have been tremendous strides during the last years of the Plan in really establishing the Faith, on a firm and indigenous foundation, in practically every corner of the globe. Of course, there are still a number of countries that are very weak, including several in Southeast Asia, a sprinkling here in Africa, (and I suppose Taiwan). When we get those buckled in, with native Baha'is mostly at the helm, won't we be ready then for the great calamity? When it comes, as Shoghi Effendi has promised it will be the hour of our greatest opportunities. A lot of the barriers will be broken down and we can really begin to function as we ought.

This last few days I spent with Counsellor Shidan Fat'he-Aazam (brother to Hooshmand on the House of Justice). I joined him at his home in Rhodesia, and drove with him to Lesotho. It was my first experience seeing at first hand what the function of protection vested in the Hands and the Counsellors and their Boards is really all about. Shidan kind of drafted me as a deputy to help (only slightly and briefly) with a horrible mess that has developed in Lesotho, involving electioneering, misuse of Baha'i funds, a completely incompetent NSA, bickering, frauding, accusations, etc. etc. The House has taken action and the Counsellors had to implement. It's of course a long story, but it has been fascinating to see how necessary the Counsellors are in such situations, providing firm implementation of decisions from the House, and accurate reports to the House, while still creating an atmosphere of love and understanding (which ~~is~~ is extremely difficult when the wings of strong and rebellious personalities are being clipped). Throughout this trip my admiration and wonder ~~at~~ the institution of the Counsellors has increased without measure.

Your work seems to be of that special brand that is so difficult: patient self-sacrificial service. I'm sorry to hear that Shahin has gone to Iran; though I'm sure a vacation, change of scene, and maybe new friends will be good for her, if she is sure to escape there again. When I was there I saw a number of people trapped there by one thing or another who could be rendering great services elsewhere (or I should say much greater services elsewhere). God willing you too will have an opportunity for a change of scene, which I should think would be much needed after so long in that part of the world. Africa, by the way, is a fantastically beautiful country, in people and geography, and the teaching here is most uplifting and rewarding, the field immense. Many pioneers have left at the end of the Plan. Wonderful for the soul to come here!

Take care, and be assured of my prayers.

Bahá'í greetings,

#41

29 June 1973
Lusaka, Zambia

Dear Keith, Mom and Dad,

Greetings from central Africa! As fate would have it, my flight this evening to Kinshasa has been rerouted to overfly Kinshasa and go directly to Rome, so Alitalia is flying me to Rome free of charge, giving me a hotel room during the day tomorrow, and then flying me overnight again to Kinshasa. That's fine with me, to have a day in civilization again, and because Zaire has a law that has been worrying me, that travellers have to spend 40 dollars per day while in the country. If I can't arrange something through the Baha'is this could get very expensive. So now I have only two days to worry about rather than four.

Also the Baha'is there have ~~no~~ phone so I just hope they have received my letter and cables, and they get the change straight. If not it will take a while with only a P.O. box address to find them. Ah, well. That's not ~~as~~ bad as connecting through from Kinshasa on Tuesday via Cameroon and Santa Isobel to Rio Muni. The Baha'is in Cameroon have to give me Equatorial Guinea addresses as I whip through Yaounde. And I have to switch from French to Spanish and back to French. Should be interesting. Also in Equatorial Guinea religious meetings are not allowed except in a building for that purpose, so no meetings can be held among Baha'is ~~to~~ or to teach the Faith unless there is a Center. Counsellor Samandari said he hoped they would have purchased a center with funds from the House by the time that I get there.

Sorry about this typewriter. It's rather old and seems to skip a lot. It's a so dark here and I can't see what's coming out very well.

Keith: Enclosed is a check to deposit in my account. I hope you received word all right already to deposit 300 dollars in my Coolidge account. I may be needing to draw on it in Ghana, which is not very long from now. No mail has arrived in Botswana or Zambia.

Here in Lusaka I've been staying with the head engineer for the national TV, an Iranian pioneer. So he arranged a 20 minute national radio interview and 6 minutes on their daily "tonight show". The latter was very successful, and has been videotaped and is going to the House of Justice together with a program May Hofman did while she was here some months ago.

What a delight to have a day in Rome to look forward to! Africa gets a little isolated after a while, and there's worse ahead. I've also had time here, with a better typewriter, to catch up on reports and advance correspondence. Now that I know the House and Baha'i News quote from my reports I have to be more careful. Hope you are all well.

Much love,

Breg

MEMLING Palace Hôtel

#52 rec'd Dalmeij

P.P.S #51
rec'd in Cameroon day.
I may be a week
or more
ahead of
schedule from
now so plan
accordingly.



PROPRIETAIRE

Cie DES GRANDS HOTELS AFRICAINS
B. P. 68 - KINSHASA
TEL. 23260 - à - 23266
REP. DU ZAIRE

Keith: #50 rec'd OK in Kinshasa. Thanks. Coolidge
balance is correct. #738 and 742 are cancelled. Mary Hoffman
has evidently cashed her check.

Kinshasa, le

1 July

19 73

Dear brother Phil - Hello - Hello!
Greeting from the unbelievable
place! I arrived here early this morning
on an all-night flight, and haven't been
able yet to get in touch with the friends.

Last time the trip that I've had was different. It's
Sunday, and all I have is a P.O. Box & cable address. I've
managed to slip a note in the box (no stamps available
Dinards) and tried to pursue the cable address but he
said to come back tomorrow. God willing I'll find some-
one tomorrow, since I'm leaving early the day after.
It's sheer hell not having anything to do. Of course
I'm badly in need of a little rest, but being alone -
without any Baka's around - two days in a row is
unaccustomed and difficult. Then, too, this city is dead
on Sunday & it's very expensive. I heard the cheapest
lunch on the menu & it was almost US \$7.00. My average
expenses are about \$3-5 per day so you can see what
a place like this does to me.

You know, to be of service is a great gift from God.
I can't imagine the torture of being in jail - even for the
faith - or just to be without opportunities to be busy in
service. It's so wonderful to work at the World Centre
or a National Centre & have hundreds good & important
things to do. Travel teaching, one is often frustrated, in
Africa especially, when there are no proceeds to organize &
provide transportation. Sometimes you are just stranded, or
spend most of your time (like I did in India) riding train &
buses. Of course the experiences can be used later in teaching.

MEMLING Palace Hôtel



PROPRIETAIRE
Cie DES GRANDS HOTELS AFRICAINS
B. P. 68 - KINSHASA
TEL. 23260 - à - 23266
REP. DU ZAIRE

(2)

and other services to the Fair, but it's still frustrating and boring at the time especially when you get tired out and have little energy to undertake things yourself unassisted. (And of course one must always wait for the Administration to take action anyway, esp. when one is a visitor.) I wonder how

Kinshasa, le

19

Martha Reed managed to do all that she did by herself? At least she didn't have Baker's committee to deal with, which in some cases would have been an advantage.

Well, since leaving Harfa May 13 I've been in Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Rhodesia, Lesotho, Swaziland, S. Africa, Botswana, Zambia, Rome & now Zaire. Sounds like a lot but it's been very slow paced partly because I was exhausted after Harfa. The highlight was a few days spent with Counsellor Shaban Pathe-Aayan (brother of Hooshmand) on a mission of protection in Lesotho. There had been electioneering, embezzlement of funds, etc. on the NSA & the House removed four members who walked off with the keys, intercepted the mail, etc. The remaining members were still screaming at each other & carrying on. To see the great institution of the Counsellors move into such a situation & put people in their places while radiating unity & confidence was indeed a sight, as you can imagine. The House and its Arms are a mighty fortress for us.

My quirk of fate - leaving Zambia Abtaha decided to fly me to Rome night before last & back down last night since they cancelled my flight Lusaka-Kinshasa. So I had a free day in Rome, w/ 1st class hotel & everything. Two

(3)



PROPRIETAIRE
C^e DES GRANDS HOTELS AFRICAINS
B. P. 68 - KINSHASA
TEL. 23260 - à - 23266
REP. DU ZAIRE

all-night flights is a bit exhausting but it was worth it to be back in Europe a few hours. One really gets to feeling isolated in Asia & Africa, without the entertainments, communication, etc of the West. Of course the materialism is a bit of a shock, but other peoples in cities around the world are at least trying hard to reach the same degraded state.

In Zambia my host was a pioneer who is chief maintenance engineer for Zambian TV (national station). He arranged for a 6-minute interview on their "toughest" show which was extremely successful. He even video-taped it & it's going to the House together with a May Hofman program. He also arranged a 20-min interview on national radio. Look me back to the many times we did that together. I only wish it were possible to be of service like that more often. Such opportunities are few & far between outside the U.S. & Europe.

Incidentally, did I ever write you that to my surprise I discovered Dick & Jane Grover at Panekgan? They were quite happy & swimming in their totally new environment, after some months of transitional problems.

So, from here for me it's Equatorial Guinea, a Spanish-speaking country that may be hard to get to, in West Africa. As I expected, I'm looking forward to settling in one place again, though I have mixed feelings about Harvard and about the thought of Cambridge.

Hope you are both well, happy, and serving continually.
With deepest love,
Fred

P.S. The signal in Lagos. My note was discovered in the NSA P.O. Box & I am now happily enclosed with Belgian pioneers.

#43

14 July 1973
Accra, Ghana

Dear Keith, Allah-u-Abha!

I'm not sure whether I numbered the letter in the Memling Hotel envelope, mailed from Cotonou on the 10th. Anyway, I forgot to write it down, but I think it should have been #42, which makes this #43.

Your numbers 50 through 53 have all arrived with great regularity. To answer your questions: #S was letters, receipts and maps mailed from Delhi. There was, I believe, a map of India which should be distinctive. #EE was papers, sent May 28th from Dar (I presume surface). Other more recent parcels:

GG	sugar bowl, misc.	surface	June 5	Salisbury
HH	slides	surface	June 21	Johannesbg
II	slides and beads	"	"	"
JJ	books	"	"	"
KK	papers	"	"	"
LL	papers	"	June 30	Rome

HH, II and KK were registered. I hope you have also received by #41 from Rome, airmail letter with a small check in it.

So sorry to hear about the Carmel office. Keep me posted on your own prospects, etc. Hope you had a good visit to Wawona. Lovely place. Sometimes while travelling I dream of a little peace, rest and tranquility.

Here in Ghana I'm staying with an American family in a very comfortable, quiet apartment, and since I came early I have a few days to write letters, reports, and just catch my breath. Cameroun, Dahomey and Togo were all very hot, exhausting and somewhat frustrating, esp the latter two. French countries tend to be difficult. Ghana is cooler but sunny, more developed (though you still can't get anything done). The Faith is at early stages in all these countries, and most of the pioneers are leaving at the end of the Plan.

I haven't been able to confirm yet with the airlines, but I'm hoping to move up my schedule as follows: 19th to Abidjan, 21st to Monrovia, 23rd to Freetown, 24th to Bathurst, 26th to Dakar, 27th to Nouakchott, 28th to Las Palmas, 31st to Casablanca, 1st to Lisbon, 3rd to Madrid, 5th to Zurich. After that my schedule depends on consultations with European NSAs, so tentatively leave Zurich the last place for mail until you hear from me.

I hope you, Mom and Dad are all well and happy. Tell Dad to write me if there's any doubt about the condition of my car since I'll want to drive it back to Mass. in early Sept.

Much love,

Greg

BY AIR MAIL

AÉROGRAMME
AIR LETTER



Mr. Keith G. Dahl

P.O. Box 3713

Carmel,

Calif. 93921

USA



OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL
ENCLOSURE; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED.
AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY

Ghana

Accra/North,

P.O. Box 7098

Sender's name and address
G. Dahl



24 July 1973
Monrovia - Bathurst

Dear Mom, Dad + Keith -
Greetings!

Sorry I haven't had a chance to write since Accra. Things have been busy.

Dad's #17 arrived in Monrovia & Keith's #54 & #55 in Abidjan & Monrovia. That makes me complete on Keith's & I think missing #16 of Dad's. You say it was to Faire? Thank you all for your notes & thoughts.

Sorry to hear about the office closing. It certainly has been an up-and-down business.

You will note that I am keeping to my new revised schedule which should put me in Lisbon 1 Aug. There's a chance I'll stay a little longer in sunny Las Palmas since I'm told there are many Baba's activities and it might be a good place to relax, eat, & buy camera equipment (tax free).

I had to hear my #X arrived. The carpet was a gift from the House of Justice & naturally is precious to me. Please put it with my things.

Today I mailed #1111 surface from Monrovia, containing some perfume for Mother (a gift from an Ivory Coast pioneer) and a Liberian shirt for Dad. Also some Keeria Leone or Liberia's tie-die for Mother, if she can use them. (Otherwise let them & I can find use, I'm sure.) The clothes (not the shirt) should be cured 24 hrs. in 1 cup vinegar plus sufficient water, to fix the ~~color~~ colors.

Everything else is well here. Keep in touch to Switz. or Germany.
Much love, Greg

P.S. I'll look like I'll need \$1-2,000 from my investments to pay Sept. tuition. Be thinking what to sell first. I don't do anything until I investigate with William's payment, etc.

#44

#45 Casablanca (Aug. 1973)

LAS PALMAS DE GRAN CANARIA, No 563
Vista parcial del Puerto de la Luz y Parque
de Santa Catalina al anochecer.

Dear Mom, Dad & Keith -
Greeting! Hope you got my letter from
Lambia. Had a very pleasant stay there,
though the diet was worth rice & water.
In Dakar there were no B. to be visited,
so I stayed in a hotel in a questionable
(or rather emphatically not nice) part of
town & had some good food, even took
in a film. In Las Palmas it was two
days (in an expensive hotel on a crowded
beach) before I finally got together one
evening with Baba's. A very tiring
stay in Las Palmas. If I don't find a
good place to visit in Europe I may have to
come back early.

Mom - in Liberia I stayed in a room
occupied by Valerie Wilson quite some
time. Where is she now.

No mail recently. I hope all is well.

Much love, Greg



Mr. & Mrs. A. L. Dall
Keith Dall, ADDR
P.O. Box 566
Pebble Beach
Calif. 93953

U.S.A.

BY AIR MAIL

EDICIONES RO-FOTO
FOTO REUSS - PAGARE MERCEDES, 9 - BARCELONA 12

Reproducción prohibida

3 Aug. 1973
Madrid

Dear Keith - Allah-u-Abba!

#59 was here on my arrival at noon today.
Pretty fast! (4 days).

Unfortunately, the last letter I have record of receiving (it was some time ago - Monrovia) was #55. Nothing was received in the Gambia or Portugal. Was there anything important? They should be forwarded eventually in any case.

It looks now like I'll be here in Spain until the 7th, then to Switz. for about four days. After that things are not certain and won't be decided until I get to Switz. & can call Austria & Germany. If anything urgent arises you can cable to Germany or England, and I'll try to keep you posted. Also Marion Hofman might know my plans since I expect to stop and see May in London. If you want to write you can write to Germany or Marion, but don't send any mail since I may miss letters (depending on whether I continue to East Europe or drop those plans).

Portugal was a real delight - a very scenic country, lovely Bahais, & good facilities for visitors. I recommend it for anyone in the family wanting to vacation.

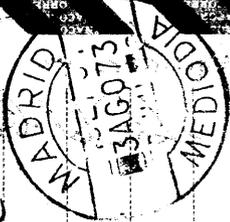
Hope all is not too bad at home.

Much love, Greg

ESPAÑA
12.00
CORREO ECONOMICO

CORREO AEREO
PAR AVION
VIA AIR MAIL
AÉROGRAMME
AÉROGRAMMA

MR. KEITH DALL
P.O. BOX 566
PEBBLE BEACH,
CALIF. 93953
USA



SI EN ESTA CARTA SE INCLUYERA CUALQUIER OBJETO, SERIA CURSADA POR VIA ORDINARIA

Precedo: 0,50 ptas.

SEGUNDO DOBLEZ

Nombre y señas del remitente.
Nom et adresse de l'expéditeur.
Sender's name and address.

6. Dall
Box 3713
Carmel, Calif
93921 USA

PRIMER DOBLEZ