

Chu Lai
February 25

Dear Family -

I'm afraid that this is going to have to be a very short note, again, typed up between bouts of work. Really isn't very much to report; I got the package with the Galsworthy books yesterday. (I'll have to check the way they fit into the cycle. I know that A Man of Property is first - but these volumes have two in each, so I think they're something like the first, second, fourth, and fifth - or first and sixth - or else some other variation.) As you can see, I really haven't had time to look at them too closely; my new job has kept me rather busy getting used to it - and, of course, reading during lulls is simply "not done." Anyway, I haven't finished Emma, yet, although I'm enjoying it immensely. It's rather odd to realize that it was written so close to Waterloo, yet there's absolutely no sense of events outside the limited society about which she's writing. I was half wondering if Jane Austen's prose might be taken as one of the most highly-developed (not just highly-polished) examples of English around. Not because of complexity or uniqueness of style, or anything along those lines, but because of lucidity and expressiveness. Although I do wonder if any one has ever spoken with quite the organization, etc., of her more sympathetic characters? Anyway, I think I'm quite well-supplied for the time-being, so you might hold off on shipments until I'm better adjusted to my present hours.

May I suggest that you try numbering your letters? I'm not sure that they are all actually arriving. Especially since I haven't gotten any from Mom recently, which is rather unusual, and rather a worry. I'll have to start doing the same, myself. I've tried to write at least once a week, but of course there's no way of knowing if they all get through. However, until it's proven otherwise, I will do my best to think the best of the U.S. mails and the people who handle them at this end of the line.

In regard to Lois' query about the WW I book, the title is Sagittarius Rising. It's by Cecil Lewis, and it's in paperback by Collier Books. Humblest apologies for not supplying data. It is extremely purple prosy, though, however, I must admit that it was fun - probably for that reason. I don't think there are too many representatives of that pure-bred form of adolescent romanticism around, anymore, and it's valuable in a way for that reason. Adolescent romanticism seems to be around in a rather inverted form, these days - but I suppose, after all, it's the same thing.

There's really not much more to tell. Everything's coming along fine, here. And these days I do get to see an occasional movie, although nothing particularly remarkable or memorable as yet (they did show The Fixer, but that was one of the two movies I got to see at Ft. Ord.). I love you all very much, and I do miss you - but not too much (and I've explained that any number of times - I'm glad I have you all).

Love,