

310 Second Street, S.E.  
Washington 3, D.C.

30 June 1955

Colonel Barton S. Pulling  
Commander, 6910th Security Group  
APO 61  
New York, New York

Dear Bart:

This is Elisabeth speaking. After Bill's many very proper business conversations with lawyers, the Bakers, and others, and reports from the real estate I am speaking up to give you an incomplete, perhaps, report of the situation up to the moment concerning your house. Our friends, Mrs. Bicher and Mrs. Gravens, both Army widows who are interested in your problem and want to do all they can for a Service person have been out to Vienna three times and have seen and talked with the Bakers as well as Mrs. Barney, the Vienna agent whom the Bakers had called in. Our friends heart-felt recommendation is that you would be wise to sell the house now if possible. Otherwise, considerable money would be entailed to put it in condition for rental.

Some time ago Mrs. Barney had spoken with two or three families interested in buying the place. At that time the price was \$15,000 and these families withdrew from the scene. Now she will get in touch with them and offer it for the figure of \$13,500 and thinks there is a chance of selling it at that figure or perhaps an even \$13,000. Your friends, the Bakers, are taking upon themselves the job of mowing the lawn and doing some trimming and pruning, so all in all with all these kind people interested in your situation something should develop before very long.

Mr. Hilton promises to call Bill and also Bill's lawyer as soon as he hears from Mr. Peters, but so far there has been no word. It may be that Peters is scouting around trying to raise some money or perhaps he is on vacation, at any rate no foreclosure action has been taken nor will be taken nor can be taken (the Soldiers and Sailors Act prohibits it or at least makes it very difficult).

As a final word I might add that another prospect which is also in the picture is that, failing purchasers, Mrs. Barney has a combination rental-purchaser prospect: some family who has proposed that they pay \$1000 cash and rent it for a year with the option of buying at the end of that time and the \$1000 going on as part of the purchase money.

This all may seem nebulous and anything but concrete but at least they are the possibilities of which the various persons interested are working and are meant mostly to inform you that your situation has not been forgotten or neglected.

With regard to your check, nothing has been done with it yet. Bill hopes to be able to make some sort of settlement with the Peters which will not involve paying up all the arrears at once at this time, he thinks that he can manage this.

Bill and I both hope that you will enjoy your new habitation greatly. He is progressing slowly but surely and is promised that if progress continues in this manner, he may return to office about August 20.

With regards from both of us to all of you, I am,

Sincerely,

ELIZABETH S. FRIEDMAN