

Bremen
12.10.38

Dear Brother Bill,

Want to give you a "sign of life" right away. I can hardly believe that you are still alive. Three times I made inquiries about you, the last time 10 years ago the court in Bremen declared you for dead. Now tell me, how did you get together with this Mr. Pelke? Went to his parents at Fargo yesterday the 11.10.38. They went through a lot of trouble to find me. They were in Amund at Rolfings, but Aunt and Uncle are not alive any more. Uncle died 21 years ago and aunt 4 years ago. Our mother has been dead for 18 years. Right after I got married she went back to her hometown Danzig, left her two sons alone. Johann and Friedrich did not have a home any more and I took the place of mother. It is hard to describe what I went through. Now they are both married, Friedrich in Anhausen and Johann in Hammersbeck. Friedrich has a son 4 years old, Johann a son 2 and a daughter 4. I don't see them very often because, as you will know, everybody has his own worries when they are married. I have been married already 19 years. Had three children, 1 boy 2 girls. My son died after 6 months and my two daughters are alive. One is 21, the youngest 18 years old. The older one has been married

for two years already, has a good husband. The youngest has been engaged for a year. Her fiance is with the navy in Wesermünde - Bremerhaven at the officers school. He will become 2nd Lieutenant in April and then they want to get married. They have a 7 months old daughter already. Just to show you how busy we are here in Germany twice grandmother already. I am not happily married, you see, I married a Pole, but two kinds of blood does not mix well. But it is fate, whatever happens to a persons.

We are renting two apartments in one house and I ran a laundry and press shop for nine years. When I had to give it up on account of my health my husband's idea was that he could not support me. But the court showed him different. The house belongs to both of us, I am not giving it up, because I have to live for my children who still need me. I am going to work in a laundry pressing, earn fairly well and I am quite satisfied. Never forget, God does not leave you, even if everything makes.

And what are doing, dear brother? Are you married, do you have children? How about sending me a picture of you? I hope I'll have a surprise at Christmas with a letter from you. I still have the picture of you as a sailor hanging in my room. So many times I was asked who it is. I had to answer, my missing brother. And now you are alive, what joy.

Dear brother, do you remember our youth?