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	VDA	IV.A.iv.8

Pensione Texas
Via Firenze, 47
Rome
October 27th, 1958

Dear Victor:

Enclosed is Yvonne's report for the October attendance. As you can see, we had full sessions. I shall submit a final report next week, after I receive other reports from Yvonne.

I want to let you know immediately, however, that I have asked Madame Dumont, of Televisione Belge, to send you a film that was made of the center. I couldn't see it myself, because I met her too late. The films had been sent to the laboratory in Brussels from the office at the Exposition. The last time that Yvonne and I went to luncheon at the Education Hall in the Palais we met a young man, from Televisione Belge, who said that he had made a film of the American Pavilion. When I asked him if it would be possible to get a copy of the section on the Center, he said that it would not, but that a young woman whose name I forget had made a film of the center herself. He introduced me to her and she gave me the name of a woman to phone, Madame Dumont, who said that she would send the film to you. If the price is too high, perhaps you can arrange to have it copied and return it. Madame Dumont's address is Televisione Belge, Place Eugène Flagey, Bruxelles.

On the 20th, I was given five men to pack the equipment to be sent back to the Museum. A Miss Gilchrist was assigned to me by Mr Staempfli to supervise the disposal of the material belonging to the government. Mr. Bomsch came over with his list and we went over the inventory and checked everything to his satisfaction

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Charles and Margaret helped sort and pack the smaller materials. The men dismantled the equipment and I had it packed into the cases as well as we could do it. Some things were put into different cases from the ones in which they were shipped from New York - there are Ten cases being shipped back, #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #7, #8, #9, #20, #23. I went over these with George Herremans and the customs men - I stapled a packing list inside the cover of each case and left a copy of these lists with Herremans. I am bringing copies back. I doubt mail them as the cases won't arrive before I do. I shall arrive at Idlewild on November 3rd. I certainly hope that everything will arrive in good shape. I have felt that its a terrific responsibility. We worked from 8 A.M. until 6 P.M through Friday, October 24th and I went to the Expo. for the last time on the 25th for a final check-up. Everything went smoothly enough. The Pavilion was in a great mess. George Herremans said that, if everyone had been as well organized as you were, the whole job would have been much easier. You certainly did everything to make packing up the center as efficient as possible. The drawings were indispensable! I had given away, unofficially, most of the expendable material to Teachers during the last three weeks, so there isn't a great deal of that left. Miss Gilchrist talked to Yvonne about schools or orphanages to whom to give the rest, but what Mr Linthicum will decide, I don't know. He came to the center with the lawyer who is advising him and they looked at the government property. All of them have the best will in the world but there is the problem of Belgian Customs and Tax, as well as the question of what they are allowed to do with government property.

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Mr. Staempfli congratulated me on doing an excellent job. He said that a letter would go to you officially but he wanted to congratulate me unofficially.

I am bringing photographs of the center. I thought it would be safer than including them in the last batch of publicity that I sent off last week. I hope that the latter reached you. I discovered later that I didn't have the right to send it official mail.

And now the job is finished. I'm staying here in a pleasant room next to Dorothy Wilkinsons in this comfortable pensione. We've been to the Roman Forum and the Coloseum and tomorrow will go back to the Palatine and Capitoline Hills. I'm ignoring a terrible cold which I am sure the sunshine here will help to cure. The past month in Brussels was rainy and cold. What a climate! The weather here is perfect: cool and sunny and clear. It's fun to be with Dorothy, too.

I can't tell you how delighted Yvonne was with the book. The inscription is beautiful. She showed it to Staempfli and Caroline Pollins and all the Belgian Educators with much pride. They were all impressed.

Perhaps by now you've seen Charles and Margaret and have heard first hand news of the Center. I'll see you next week.

Affectionately

Jane

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ACTIVITIES: CHILDREN'S CREATIVE CENTER. OCTOBER ;1958.

October 1 : 127 children.
20 students: Ecole no.2 Uccle.
20 " : Ecole no. 2 " .
25 " : Ecole no. 13 , Bouval.
25 " : Boys scouts, College St. Pierre, Bruxelles.
+ 47 individuel children.

October 2 : 136 children.
27 students: Ecole no. 32, Bruxelles.
34 " : Ecole de Notre Dame, Bas Soivre.
25 " : Maison St. Joseph, Charleroi.
+ 37 ind. children.

October 3 : 120 children.
25 students: Ecole Normal de Laeken.
25 " : Ecole no. 32, Bruxelles.
25 " : Rijksmiddelbare School, Kalmhout, Antwerpen
25 " : " " " " " .
+ 20 ind. children.

October 4 : 125 children.
30 students: Ecole no. 37, Bruxelles.
+ 95 ind. children.

October 5 : 127 children.

October 6 : 125 children.
20 students: Ecole Notre Dame de Lourdes, Jette.
20 " : " " " " " " .
30 " : Institut St. Victoire, Bruxelles.
30 " : " " " " " .
+ 25 ind. children.

October 7 : 114 children.
25 students: Gemeenteschool, Bauval.
25 " : Ecole de la Providence, Bruxelles.
25 " : Ecole de Notre Dame de Lourdes, Jette.
15 " : " " " " " " " " " .
+ 24 ind. children.

October 8 : ~~142~~x 142 children.
25 students: Ecole no. 1, Bruxelles.
25 " : Ecole Berlaymont, Bruxelles.
25 " : " " " " .
+ 67 ind. children.

October 9 : 125 children.
30 students: Ecole no. 37, Bruxelles.
25 " : Ecole Berlaymont, Bruxelles.
25 " : " " " " .
20 " : Gemeenteschool, Opwijk, Antwerpen.
+ 25 ind. children.

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October 1o : 125 children.
80 students: Rijksmiddelbare School, Wilrijk, Antwerpen.
+ 45 ind. children.

October 11 : 84 children.
25 students: Ecole Normale , Jodogne.
25 " : " " , " .
+ 34 ind. children.

October 12 : 119 children.

October 13 : 13o children.
3o students: Ecole no. 37, Bruxelles.
25 " : Institut St. Victoire, Bruxelles.
25 " : Ecole Communale de Vilvoorde.
25 " : Institut Reine Astrid, Bruxelles.
25 " : " " " , " .

October 14 : 125 children.
3o students: Ecole no. 37, Bruxelles.
25 " : " " 32, " .
25 " : Gemeenteschool, Vilvoorde.
25 " : Institut Van Wayenberg, Bruxelles.
+ 2o ind. children.

October 15 : 13o children.
3o students: Jardin d'enfants, Cateau, Bruxelles.
25 " : Ecole Singelyn, Bruxelles.
3o " : Ecole no. 3o, Bruxelles.
25 " : Notre Dame de Lourdes, Jette.
+ 2o ind. children.

October 16 : 125 children.
3o students: Ecole no. 37, Bruxelles.
25 " : " Singelyn, " .
25 " : Ecole Berlaymont, Bruxelles.
25 " : " Notre Dame de Lourdes, Bruxelles.
+ 2o ind. children.

October 17 : 123 children.
3o students : Ecole no. 37, Bruxelles.
25 " : " Berlaymont, Bruxelles.
25 " : " no. 32, Bruxelles.
25 " : Notre Dame de Lourdes, Bruxelles.
1o " : Ecole no. 13, Bruxelles.
+ 8 ind. children.

YT/yt
cc: Mr. Victor d'Amico-Mrs. [illegible]

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October 18: 116 children.

2218 children.

previous report: 14254 "

total: 16472 "

+ 2036 Teachers.

18508

YT/yt
cc: Mr. Victor d'Amico-Mrs.Toebosch-BRE/reading file

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Press + Televisionlist.

Dutch newspaper: De Vrouw en het Kind, Beverijk, Holland.
Belgian Television: Children's Program, Bruxelles.
N.Y. Television, New-York, U.S.A.
Rusian Television Program: World's Fair Mouvie.
Femme d'Aujourd'hui, Belgian Magazine, Bruxelles.

Royal visitors:

Queen Elizabeth from Belgium.
Princess Margaret from England.
Royal Family from Denmark.
King Leopold from Belgium + his daughter Princess Marie-Christin
from Belgium.

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Park Residence
21 Avenue de L'Yser
Brussels
Belgium
October 12th, 1958

Dear Victor:

It is hard to believe that we are almost at the end of the Fair. I've been so busy during the past weeks that I've little time or energy for writing.

I enclose Yvonne's report for September. Also a letter from a Mrs. Reynolds in Portland, Ore.

The center is like a beehive. We had five schools yesterday. As usual there are many visiting teachers as well as press & T.V. I enquired about a kinescope of the T.V. taken of the center and was told that, because it is only a part of a film of the whole Pavilion, it would be impossible for me to obtain it. I haven't had a chance to see the film, but as soon as I can I will try to do so.

Mr. Bamach has given me permission to give material unofficially to teachers. When I suggested it, he was delighted because apparently they will give whatever is left in the warehouse to a Belgian-American Assn. We all feel that it will be better used by the teachers who have come often to the center and who are enthusiastic about the program. Margaret, Charles, and I worked until 11:30 Sunday night sorting and packing material to give to teachers.

It is now October 14th - We had a group of 35 student teachers this morning and a group of 50 school administrators this afternoon besides

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our regular five sessions. Either Yvonne or I climb up on a stool to explain the program in the play room and then we ask the visitors to watch the children from the balcony. I have had several letters from appreciative Teachers and parents which I shall bring with me. We expect the registration To approximate 17,000 children by the end of the week. Many parents have come To thank us verbally. I have asked Charles To take the photographs that Lois requested and I hope he will do so. If he does, I will have them printed and bring them To the States with me. I'm working on it.

George Herremans, who helped to unpack the equipment in the first place and who does all the work (even though he is not officially in the position of Linthicum or Domich), is a wonderful man. He works longer hours and more efficiently than anyone in the Administration. In fact, we've had wonderful cooperation from all the men in maintenance and supplies. The others all work six days and have three days off, as has everyone employed by the State Dept., and its difficult To contact them. They are always off, either on their three days or on vacation. I run my legs off back and forth To the theatre on some days in order To get things done. But don't think this is a complaint. I'm satisfied with the way things are going and I hope that you will be, as well. Herremans has promised me that we will be packed by the 25th and if that is accomplished, it will be an achievement. Everyone [illegible] and we [illegible],

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is clamoring for an early packing. There is a great deal of confusion. I believe we are much better organized than most of the exhibits. This is, of course, due to your careful planning. I'm sorry that everything is not to be shipped back to the museum. I had no part in the decisions made about this. I will certainly send the new rooster and whatever else I shall be permitted to.

Yvonne and I went to a very special meeting and luncheon at the Belgian Congo Pavilion last week. We were invited by the Belgian Education Commissioner and were the only representatives from the American Pavilion. I'm glad we went, because all the other Pavilions were represented there. The Belgian Education Administrators have been most interested in our program and most cordial to us. I enclose a copy of the letter sent to schools by the Minister of Education. I'll bring a copy in Flemish.

We have had requests from several school principals for the address, in the States, where they can order colored pipe cleaners like those in the Center. I told them that the pipe cleaners were used by florists. Could you send me an address?

Do you want the registration note books returned? We have all of the empty ones for the past six months. I personally can't see any reason for returning them but will await your decision.

I expect to leave Brussels on the 26th (if the packing is finished) for Rome and will return to the States from Rome on November 2nd. I'm looking forward to coming home and will see you then - Sincerely, Jane

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ACTIVITIES: CHILDREN'S CREATIVE CENTER. SEPTEMBER 1958.

September	1	:	77 children.
"	2	:	62 "
"	3	:	82 "
"	4	:	85 "
"	5	:	52 "
		27 students:	Institut des Dominicaines.
"	6	:	90 "
"	7	:	102 "
"	8	:	82 "
"	9	:	42 "
"	10	:	70 "
"	11	:	52 "
"	12	:	30 "
"	13	:	86 "
"	14	:	101 "
"	15	:	71 "
"	16	:	58 "
		25 students:	Cours Reine Astrid.
		25 " :	Cityschool no. 13 Vilvorde.
"	17	:	77 "
"	18	:	84 "
"	19	:	66 "
		25 students:	Ecole no. 23, Bruxelles.
		25 " :	Ecole Com. des garcons, Nivelles.
"	20	:	76 "
"	21	:	120 "
"	22	:	98 "
"	23	:	120 "
		25 students:	Ecole Com. de Vilvorde..
		25 " :	Institut St. Marie, Schaerbeek.
		25 " :	Hollandse School.
		25 " :	Institut des Dominicaines, Bruxelles.
		20 Boys Scouts,	Haublet, St. Pierre.
"	24	:	93 Children.
"	25	:	114 "
		25 students:	Athénée Robert Cateau, Bruxelles.
		25 " :	Cours Reine Astrid, Bruxelles.
		25 " :	Institut des Dominicaines.
"	26	:	105 children.
		25 students:	Ecole Normale de Laeken,
		25 " :	Lietzschule, Buchnau, Germany.
"	27	:	128 children.
		50 students:	Ecole Normale de Jodogne.
"	28	:	113 "
"			

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September 28 :		113	children.
" 29 :		86	"
	25 students: Institut St. Marie Schaerbeek.		
	Groupe of 2o teachers: Ecole Normale de Bruxelles.		
" 30 :		124	"
	25 students: Gemeenteschool, Bauval.		
	25 " : Institut des VIII douleurs, Bruxelles.		
	25 " : " " " " " .		
	total:	2238	children.
	previous report:	12016	"
	Total :	14254	"

YT/yt
cc: Mr. Victor D'Amico-Mrs.Toebosch-BRE/reading file

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September 24th 1958

Dear Victor:

I was happy to receive your letter of the 18th. I'm sure that I don't have to tell you how much I think of you as a person and also as a director. You know that the satisfaction I get from working with you is what keeps me at the museum year after year.

Thank you for sending the information about the poster paint. I have promised to give samples of the paint in the Center To the dealer who requested this information so that he can analyse it.

Thanks also for sending the copies of my book. I have taken the liberty of placing four copies in the Museum Book Shop in the American Pavilion. Caroline Rollins who runs the shop said that she would be glad To take them but she must know the price to her. I hope that this is all right. During the past month, quite a few teachers from other countries were disappointed not to be able To get the book. Perhaps, now that schools are in session, there won't be many teachers who want it. We still have many teachers visiting, however. I'm sure that you wouldn't want me to sell the book at the center.

I have another question. On the 16th a T.V. outfit from the Expo. (Belgian) spent all day at the center. It was my day off so I didn't see them but Margaret and Yvonne said that they were very intelligent and interested and took shots from all angles - long shots and close-ups. I didn't see the broadcast last Sunday but have obtained

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The name of the man who is in charge of kinescopes (sp?) Do you want me To Try To view one with the intention of buying it if I think it excellent?

Queen Elizabeth spent quite a while in the center last Monday. She was charming and most interested. Of course a photographer was there and he took many shots. Tomorrow I shall send you another lot of photographs and publicity.

I have been in touch with George Herremans and he will bring the boxes we need To the Parisian before Oct. 19th and, if we can get packers, we may be able To pack the items belonging To the museum by the 25th. I'm working on it but will just have To wait and see.

I have had some photographs Taken— A very well known photographer from Ghent came a few days ago and asked if he might Take some photographs inside the gave us a beautiful one he had Taken from the balcony. While he was there, I asked him To Take some long shots for me and I hope they will be good.

Jane writes that Mark has been invited To attend a class there. Has delighted and so is she. Thank you, Victor. I can't be thankful enough for Margaret. She has been wonderful! Sincerely Jane

PER VLIEGTUIG
PAR AVION

AERO

AEROG

Mr. Victor D'Amico
The Museum of Modern Art
21 West 53rd St.
New York 19, N.Y.
U.S.A.

AFZENDER (Naam en adres) :
EXPÉDITEUR (Nom et adresse) :
Jane Cooper Bland
Park Residence
21 Avenue de l'Yser
Brussels
BELGIUM

BELANGRIJKE OPMERKING

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Park Residence
21 Avenue de Ly'ser
Brussels, Belgium
September 24th 1958

Dear Victor:

I mailed a letter to you today. I forgot, however, to say one thing that I meant to write. Yvonne, in my opinion, has done more than any of us to make the Center here a success. She not only has contacted schools and made reports. She is wholeheartedly enthusiastic about the whole thing. She has recruited a wonderful Belgian staff and has kept them happily working very hard. She now works continually with us and loves it. She is wonderful with the children and I trust her completely in the capacity of explaining, what we are trying to demonstrate here, to French speaking visiting Teachers. My French is AWFUL!

I know that she would be happy to get a letter from you. She has often asked me what you think about the program and whether or not you are satisfied with the number of children, etc. We have been very fortunate, during the last ~~four weeks~~ month to have had the enthusiastic support of the Heads of Education in the Belgian Schools and Yvonne is, to a large extent, responsible for this. I do hope you'll write her.

I must say that the morale in our staff seems very good to me. I said in my other letter that I couldn't be more thankful for Margaret. She has carried more than her share with the best of spirit. Everyone on the staff loves her and I do too.

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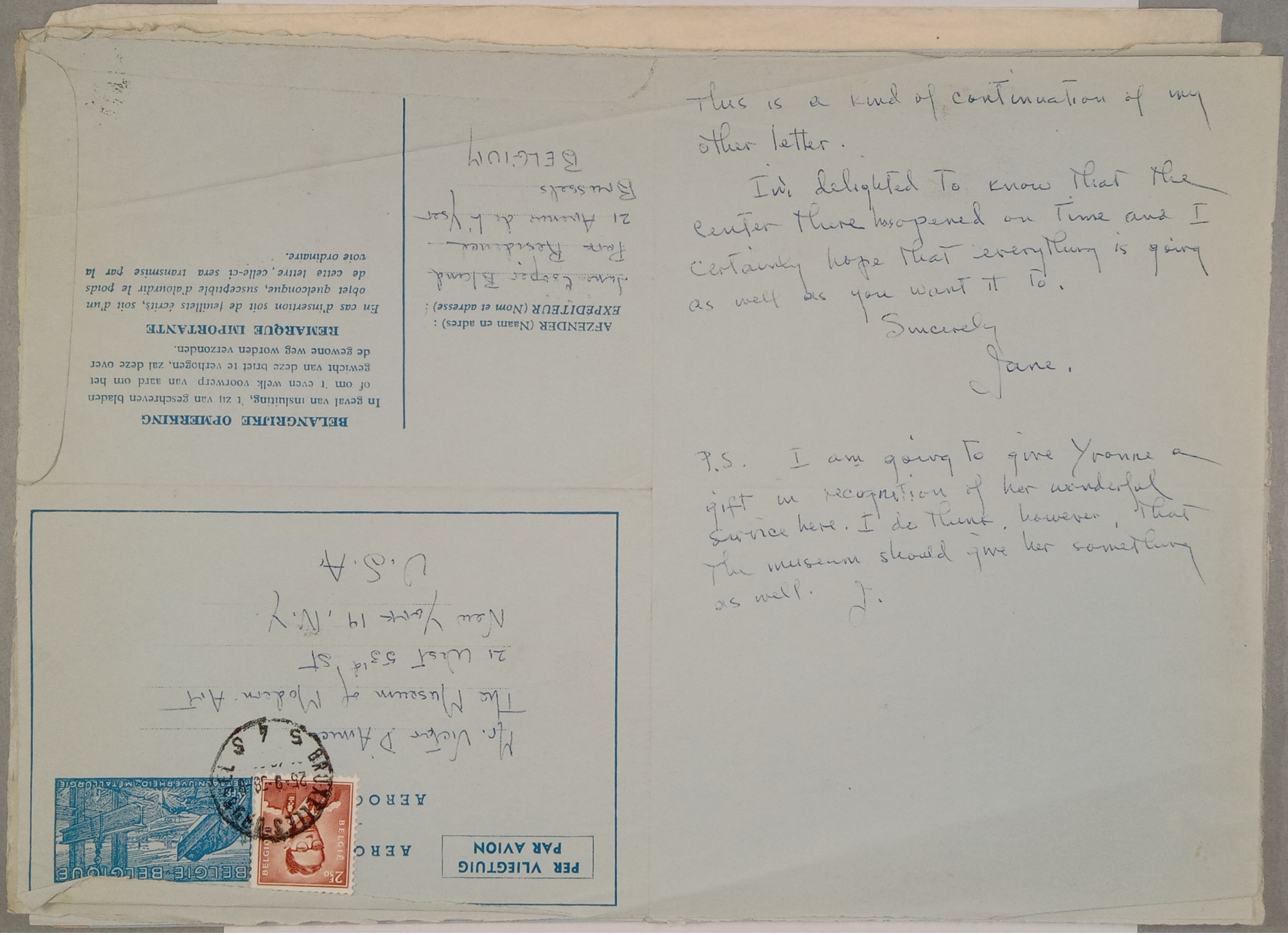

Mr. Victor D'Amico
The Museum of Modern Art
21 West 53rd St
New York 19, N.Y.
U.S.A.

PER VLIEGTUIG
PAR AVION

BELGIE-BELGIQUE

AFZENDER (Naam en adres) :
EXPÉDITEUR (Nom et adresse) :

Jane Harper Bland
Parc Résidence
21 Avenue de L'Yser
Brussels
BELGIUM

BELANGRIJKE OPMERKING

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This is a kind of continuation of my other letter.

I'm delighted to know that the center there has opened on time and I certainly hope that everything is going as well as you want it to.

Sincerely
Jane.

P.S. I am going to give Yvonne a gift in recognition of her wonderful service here. I do think, however, that the museum should give her something as well. J.

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The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
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August 16 1958
Park Residence
21 Avenue de l'Yser
Brussels, Belgium

Dear Victor:

I talked to George Staempfli yesterday about packing equipment to be returned to the museum. Nothing has been decided as yet but he believes that it's unlikely that the government will send everything back to the museum at government expense. He asked me if you wanted all empty cases returned, in case the government will not send all the material to the museum gratis. I told him that I could not answer that question myself but that I would ask you to let me know as soon as possible whether you want all cases returned or not. I figure that approximately thirteen cases will be needed to return equipment owned by the museum. I am hoping that these can be sent to the pavilion from the warehouse before October 19th so that we can begin packing as soon as possible. Everyone anticipates a great deal of confusion. Id like to clear our material before the big bottleneck.

One item not listed is the gun stapler. Does this belong to you? Apparantly the customs men are going to check very carefully. Or, at least, it looks that way at this point.

I have informed Charles and Margaret that they should have receipts for their extra baggage. Im not sure whether either of them has kept these.

Im sure I haven't all receipts for the small amounts I've spent out of the contingency fund. I've spent so very little, however, that I can easily carry it myself.

I have finally been able to get copies of all photographs made by the Childrens Center by

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De Flandre and the Belgian Press. I'm sending these under separate cover.

The center continues to run smoothly and is certainly well received by the public and the press. We have a fine staff and work well together.

Last Sunday there were 300,000 people at the Fair, the largest one day attendance so far. The American pavilion was jammed and we had full groups all day that day.

All the personnel at the pavilion is looking forward to the end three days and I can't say I blame them after five months. The Fair is very exciting, though, and its a wonderful experience for all of us.

I certainly hope all is going well with you. My best to you and everyone there —

Sincerely

Jane

PER VLIEGTUIG
PAR AVION

AERO

Mr. Victor D'Amico
The Museum of Modern Art
21 West 53rd St.
New York 19, N.Y.
U.S.A.

BELGIE 2fr50

BELGIE BELGIQUE

AFZENDER (Naam en adres) :
EXPEDITEUR (Nom et adresse) :

Jane Cooper Bland
Part-Residence
21 Avenue de l'Yser
Brussels, Belgium

BELANGRIJKE OPMERKING

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Oct 2nd 1958

Dear Victor:

I think your idea of sending Yvonne a copy of Masters of Modern Art is a wonderful one. I hope you'll send it to me so I can have the pleasure of presenting it to her from you.

I've started another report but we've been swamped with schools. The other day we had 25 children and 22 visiting student teachers. Needless to say, we showed the students the Toy room after the children had come into the painting area and then asked the student teachers to observe from the balcony.

I'll get this off - I'm on my way to the Rue de la Loi for the bus —

Sincerely

Jane

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	VDA	IV.A.iv.8

PER VLIEGTUIG
PAR AVION

AERO

AERO

Mr. Victor D'Amico
The Museum of Modern Art
11 West 53rd St.
New York 19, N.Y
U.S.A.

BELANGRIJKE OPMERKING

In geval van insluiting, 't zij van geschreven bladen of om 't even welk voorwerp, van aard om het gewicht van deze brief te verhogen, zal deze over de gewone weg worden verzonden.

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AFZENDER (Naam en adres) :
EXPEDITEUR (Nom et adresse) :
Jane Cooper Bland
Park Residence
21 Avenue de L'Yser
Brussels, Belgium

because we have easels here, I
To the Director Today although I did To the principal
day before yesterday. No special reason why.
The Womens Club of Brussels invited me To
speak to them on Oct 21st. I accepted tentively, but
on second thought, I believe I'll say I can't. I have
a feeling we are being asked because another
speaker has let them down. They haven't made a
gesture before now.

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Park Residence
21 Avenue de l'Yser
Brussels, Belgium
~~Aug~~ Sept 11th, 1952

Dear Victor:

There is a dealer in art materials here who carries a Tempera paint and we have given his name To Teachers. He phoned Yvonne yesterday and said he had had numerous requests for paint. He also said that the paint he carries is dangerous for children. (It must have a lead base) and he asked if we could give him the name of a company in the states where we buy Tempera paint, in order that he could contact them and perhaps import a paint that he could recommend To schools or make some arrangement in regard To it.

We had another director of schools in the center Today, making notations of our equipment. I am always ambivalent about the center, because I think our children in N.Y. prefer Tables To easels. Sometimes I am reluctant To say so however, because we have easels here, I didn't mention this To the Director Today although I did To the principal day before yesterday. No special reason why.

The Womens club of Brussels invited me To speak To them on Oct 21st. I accepted tentively, but on second thought, I believe I'll say I can't. I have a feeling we are being asked because another speaker has let them down. They haven't made a gesture before now.

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Will you, if you think it advisable, send me the names of supply houses in the states to whom the Belgian can write regarding paint? He is anxious to recommend a paint safe for children, which certainly seems commendable to me –

Please excuse this beat up stationery Iis my last one.

We all send our best regards.

Sincerely

Jane

PAR AVION
PER VLIEGTUIG

AEROG

AERO

Mr. Victor D'Amico
The Museum of Modern Art
21 West 53rd St.
New York 19, N.Y.
U.S.A

EXPÉDITEUR (Nom et adresse) :
AFZENDER (Naam en adres) :

Jane Carpet Bland
Park Residence
21, Avenue de l'Yser
Brussels
Belgium

REMARQUE IMPORTANTE

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BELANGRIJKE OPMERKING

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Park Residence
21 Avenue de l'Yser
Brussels, Belgium

Dear Victor:

Enclosed is Yvonne's report of the attendance at the Center for the month of August and a list of the press, radio and T.V. that have been here, as far as we can determine. Occasionally representatives of the press have come in, taken a photograph or two, and have slipped out before we could ask them to sign our register. This has happened seldom, however. The guide at the door has instructions to admit persons with press cards and sometimes we are too pressed to get to them immediately. One day we had twenty-six teachers during the last four sessions which kept us pretty busy.

Last week we had a great deal of publicity when we admitted our 10,000th child. The Belgian press and radio were here. We asked Thurston Davies to present a little certificate to the little boy.

Photographers were here also, when the Little Princess from Holland visited us. She loved the center and spent two mornings here. She told Yvonne that she was going to come again, after the first morning, in order to make a birthday gift for her grandmother! She said it was much less expensive than buying one.

I am sending, under separate cover, some photographs and copies of press reports along with other items (publicity). I assume that you received the press reports about the center that I sent about ten days ago.

I'm also enclosing a note from George Staempfli re the visit of the International Jury. Yvonne had arranged for a class of five year old boys and girls to be here when the jury came as the Pavilion was closed to the public. I must say that we put on a very good exhibition. The children were absorbed in what they were doing and their work was original and interesting.

To date, about seven hundred teachers from all over the world have visited the center and have shown a great interest in our methods and the materials used.

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I believe that I have written about our visits to the Hall of Education in the Palais in the Belgian Center. M. Van Wassenberghe, the Director, has been most cordial. He has insisted that one or all of us go there for luncheon meetings every week. We haven't been able to go every week but I have been Twice, once with Yvonne, Margaret and Yvonne went once and Charles, Twice, once with Yvonne and today, alone. It has been a very good contact as well as good public relations. Yvonne was able to meet supervisors, principals and province Directors, all of whom have promised to send groups of children. Quite a few of them have visited the center and have been very enthusiastic. We have also met representatives from the French, Czecho-Slavkian and Argentinian Pavilions there; also Nederlands.

Today M. Damance, a principal of a school here in Brussels, came to examine our equipment and materials in order to duplicate them as far as possible in an art room in his school.

The question I asked about the Termination of the CONTRACT referred to the contract with the government. However, that is a purely academic question. I have been in Touch with Mr. Linthicum, who is in charge of striking the American Pavilion. He referred me to Mr. Bomrich, who has been given the job of allocating time for dismantling the various exhibits. Mr. Bomrich said that it was extremely unlikely that we would be able to pack the cases in the Childrens' Center during the first week after the fair is closed. The problem of getting Trucks in with all the cases for this pavilion alone is Tremendous and is multiplied by the striking of all the pavilions.

I have an appointment with Mr. Chadbourne Tomorrow morning To go over the list that you gave me on which is marked exactly what belongs to the museum

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and what belongs to the government. I shall certainly keep you informed as things develop. Of course, we will pack whatever materials are here the best we can, but, since all the cases are in the warehouse, I don't know, at this point, just what the picture will be on October 19th. I am enclosing a general statement, dated September 3, which I have just received from Mr Davies re. striking the Pavilion.

I have heard that our Government has presented the American Theatre to the Belgian Government and that the latter has bought the American Pavilion to be used as a museum, but this may be just rumor.

I am sure that all this must seem of secondary importance when you are facing so many problems there and it must be irritating. I do hope that the museum is getting into shape and that the school will open on time. and that you aren't too harrassed.

I have one request. Can you send me four or five copies of my book soon? Or two, anyway? There are no more here or in the Museum Book Shop and I have promised one to a school principal.

Natalie Benson Arachtingi was here today with her mother. We had an aperitif together and she sent her very best regards to you. I went to hear John Browning later at the Theatre. I've heard some wonderful programs here. Also, I've had some good trips - Amsterdam, Bonn, Bruges and I'll go to Ghent this week. I've spent two of my days off at the Fair but have much still to see there.

I'm kind of homesick sometimes and will be happy to be back at the museum in February.

Everything is going smoothly at the Center. I think we should certainly present a gift to Yvonne in recognition of her generous help to us and of her loyalty.

Give my regards to everyone there —

Sincerely

Jane

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ACTIVITIES: CHILDREN'S CREATIVE CENTER! AUGUST 1958.

August 1:	105	children.
" 2:	83	"
" 3:	95	"
" 4:	91	"
" 5:	89	"
" 6:	98	"
" 7:	87	"
" 8:	104	"
" 9:	105	"
" 10:	100	"
" 11:	103	"
" 12:	93	"
" 13:	97	"
" 14:	131	"
" 15:	104	"
" 16:	111	"
" 17:	100	"
" 18:	91	"
" 19:	116	"
" 20:	107	"
" 21:	121	"
" 22:	106	"
" 23:	97	"
" 24:	99	"
" 25:	91	"
" 26:	107	"
" 27:	129	"
" 28:	125	"
" 29:	119	"
" 30:	130	"
" 31:	102	"
	3257	
	8779	
	12016	children.

YE/yt
cc: Mr. Victor d'Amico-Mrs. Toebosch-Reading file.

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On the 27th. and the 28th.of August Princess Marijke of Nederland spent the morning in the Children's Creative Center.

Le Courier de l'Escaut	"	"
La Libre Belgique	Bruxelles	"
La Lanterne	"	"
La Dernière Heure	"	"

YT/yt
cc: Mr. Victor d'Amico-Mrs.Toebosch.-BRE/reading file.

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

List of Press, Radio, T.V.

Oeuvre Nationale de L'Enfance,	Bruxelles.	Belgium.
United Press	Uccle.	"
W.J.W. (T.V.) Cleveland	Ohio, U.S.A.	
Volksgazet,	Antwerpen.	Belgium.
Le Peuple,	Bruxelles.	"
Belgian T.V. (French+Flemish)	"	"
T.V. Oklahoma-City,	Oklahoma	U.S.A.
Radio Philadelphia,	Philadelphia	"
Het Laatste Nieuws,	Bruxelles,	Belgium.
Le Soir,	"	"
Match Magazine	Paris	France.
London Times	London	Great Britain.
Paris-France	Paris	France.
Libelle Magazine	Antwerpen.	Belgium.
Het Rijk der Vrouw	Bruxelles	"
Femme d'Aujourd'hui	"	"
Vrouw en Huis Magazine	Antwerpen	"
Belgian Radio (1o.ooo Child)	Bruxelles	"
Kweekschool voor Kleuters	Apeldoom	Holland.
American Cultur Center	Paris	France.
L'Avenir du Tournaisis	Tournai	Belgium.
Le Courier de l'Escaut	"	"
La Libre Belgique	Bruxelles	"
La Lanterne	"	"
La Dernière Heure	"	"

YT/yt
cc: Mr. Victor d'Amico-Mrs.Toebosch.-BRE/reading file.

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mrs. Bland

DATE: August 27, 1958

FROM : George W. Staempfli GWS (ah)

SUBJECT: Visit by the International Jury

The International Jury for Collective Exhibits will visit the U. S. Pavilion at 10:00 a.m. on September 4 for about an hour, during which time the Pavilion will be closed. Commissioner Cullman is extremely anxious as, of course, I am to show the jury all our best points.

I have asked Yvonne Toebosch to schedule a group of children for this crucial hour and would like it very much if you would be kind enough to give the jury a performance of the normal operation of the Children's Center. I don't think we need an awful lot of children, but I do consider, as you know, this exhibit one of our most important exhibits and, from the point of view of our adherence to the theme, it is doubly important.

Please confirm at your leisure that the Children's Center will be operating during that hour.

cc: Subject File

BRE:GWStaempfli:aah

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CCC

TO: All Staff Members DATE: September 3, 1958

FROM: Executive Director Edward F. Plaisted

SUBJECT: Reorganization: October 20

With the Fair closing October 19, a reappraisal of the functions and responsibilities of all officers becomes apparent in the light of present duties versus those required for "striking the Fair" on October 20 and immediately thereafter. With this reappraisal in mind, the following observations are made.

The Performing Arts group will cease its present functions and will exist for the sole purpose of liquidating property in the theatre. Two officers are scheduled to remain for this purpose.

The Public Affairs Division will likewise cease its operations except for one officer who will handle press matters until mid-November. Another officer is scheduled to remain for the purpose of preparing a draft of the history of BRE. It is expected this task will be completed on or about January 1. A third officer will assume the responsibility of special reporting. The scope of this work will include pavilion operation as it pertains for example to use of guides, crowd control, crowd appeal, operating schedules, problems through use of a circular building, reimbursable contractual arrangements, time factors, etc. This report will be drafted with the aim of providing a useful tool for future Government operations of BRE's type.

The Building Construction Division which has been dormant will be reactivated under a new name, to be called Structures Demolition.

For purposes of this review, the Fine Arts, Buildings Exhibits and Science staffs are considered as one and the same. On October 20, the present emphasis will shift and be directed toward liquidation of the pavilion proper, i.e., the dismantling and packing of exhibits.

In addition to the routine administrative services expected of an Administrative Division, historically this group established procedures and implemented shipments from the U. S. to Antwerp to Brussels. Because essentially the same functions must be performed commencing October 20, in reverse, the Administrative Division has been placed in charge of striking the Fair. This activity also includes disposal of property by sale, abandonment and destruction following packing and return of non-BRE property. The foregoing functions will require the direct assistance of all officers and staff.

It may be concluded, therefore, that all staff members held responsible for striking the Fair will be performing essentially an administrative function. Accordingly, and consistent with this administrative concept, a reorganization of staff as noted on the attached chart will apply on and after October 20.

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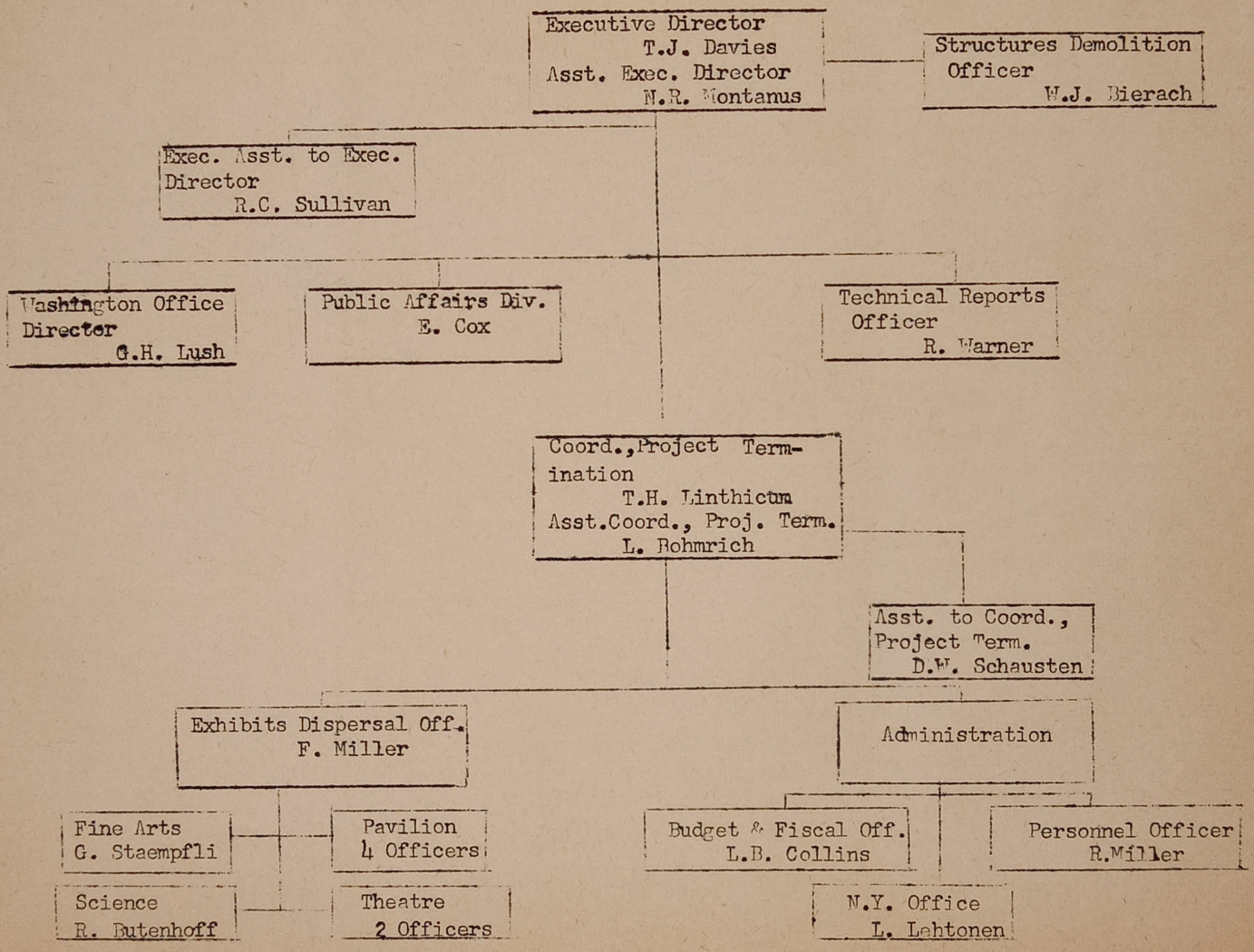
ORGANIZATION CHART

October 20, 1958



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ACTIVITIES: "CHILDREN'S CREATIVE CENTER" (JULY)

Tuesday, July 1, 1958:	119	children.
Wednesday, " 2, "	99	"
Thursday, " 3, "	96	"
Friday, " 4, "	78	"
Saterday, " 5, "	90	"
Sunday, " 6, "	90	"
Monday, " 7, "	75	"
Tuesday, " 8, "	93	"
Wednesday, " 9, "	76	"
Thursday, " 10, "	76	"
Friday, " 11, "	51	"
Saterday, " 12, "	78	"
Sunday, " 13, "	64	"
Monday, " 14, "	88	"
Tuesday, " 15, "	73	"
Wednesday, " 16, "	88	"
Thursday, " 17, "	90	"
Friday, " 18, "	99	"
Saterday, " 19, "	91	"
Sunday, " 20, "	83	"
Monday, " 21, "	76	"
Tuesday, " 22, "	85	"
Wednesday, " 23, "	84	"
Thursday, " 24, "	101	"
Friday, " 25, "	91	"
Saterday, " 26, "	94	"
Sunday, " 27, "	97	"
Monday, " 28, "	80	"
Tuesday, " 29, "	105	"
Wednesday, " 30, "	95	"
Thursday, " 31, "	89	"
	269 4	"
Previous reports:	608 5	"
total:	877 9	"

YT/yt
cc: Mr. D'Amico-Mrs.Toebosch - BRE/reading file.

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August 3rd 1958
Brussels.

Dear Victor: Enclosed is the report of the children's attendance To date. I understand that we should expect fewer children during August because many Belgians go To the seaside this month. One cannot tell, however. The morning classes have been small ever since I got here. We are starting our third week now. As far as I can tell, everything is going smoothly and we are enjoying it very much. We have had many teachers and the little teachers' autograph book is filling up. May I write a simple statement for teachers & Translated into the three languages and mimeographed To and have it give them? Lois told me that the press release was only for the press and, besides, perhaps something for Teachers might have in it just what we are trying To do. I haven't heard from you about the trays for the easels. Eight more would help. They take longer To wash than the flat trays at home and 15 minutes is a short time in which To clean them up between sessions. If the maids could wash and prepare Ten (we have Two extra), during the Time the children work, it would simplify everything. The Belgian group is most friendly but all of them, with the exception of Yvonne, have a much slower pace than we have. I guess I wrote you that the children are darling.

Margaret has moved. Madame was pretty nasty about it and wrote a disagreeable letter To the Commissioners office. Some man at the Rue de la loi, a Mr Linteom(?) was very disagreeable To Margaret. Madame told her yesterday, however, that she, Madame, would keep Margaret's deposit and reimburse Margaret for every day the room was rented. I don't think that it was made clear To Margaret, Charles or To me that we were obligated To stay here at the hotel three months. I realize that it was extremely considerate of the museum To engage rooms when everyone thought that housing would be very tight. What has really happened is that the Belgians were Too greedy and people haven't stayed here because of the high rates so now there are any number of places that are less expensive. I'll stay here, myself, unless something unusual happens. I'm comfortable and of course I wouldn't want To be far from our transportation which is wonderful. None of us could stand the long hours of concentrated work if we had To ride back and forth on crowded Trams. Charles will undoubtedly stay, Too. He gripes a bit but I'm sure won't expend energy on looking for new accomodations.

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I'm sorry that I wrote with such concern about Gene. He has left and I understand that they planned to stop somewhere on the Continent before returning to the States. He did seem to be pretty sick and he seemed to feel that his insurance would be in effect, even though he was not sick enough to go to the States while he was employed by the Museum.

Charles went to Paris this morning to go to the American Hospital and consult a dermatologist. He has a rash all over his body, which makes him quite uncomfortable. He had consulted a doctor here, a general practitioner, who hadn't done anything for him. I suspect that it may be partly caused by the need for adjustment here. Charles is a darling, but he hasn't had experience with this kind of teaching which requires constant concentration on the children. He became very tired at first and tended To be quite leisurely. He's certainly much better now and does pretty much his share of the teaching. He is sensitive, cooperative, and certainly much more dignified than Gene. He has taken over the care of the equipment and he commands the respect of all the men he encounters. (I believe that its a little difficult for him To have a woman as supervisor although he likes me, I know, and I'm genuinely fond of him) Also its difficult to be one man with seven women about. (For him) He also misses his wife very much.

I'm still waiting for photostatic copies of publicity to date on the center. I asked about them the other day and was told that they would be forthcoming. I am trying very hard to be gracious to everyone in the Administration. I have decided to leave Blaempfli alone as much as possible. He has been cordial but I have a distinct feeling he has some resentment against us, which has carried over to me. He has been cooperative about the one or two requests I have made. There are now signs facing the balcony explaining the center and a very nicely lettered sign on the wall by the gate saying that admission is free.

I have just acquired a copy of Paris MATCH, a special number devoted to the Expo. There is a photograph of the center in it, not too enchanting, but full page. Also I have a copy of WOMANS JOURNAL an English magazine in which is a good photograph of two children painting in the center.

Your letter of July 30th arrived this morning. I have already been among the staff mornings off on an informal basis and I believe that all of us are feeling more rested. Perhaps I haven't said emphatically enough how very happy I am To have such a fine staff. Our relations couldn't be better. I know that Margaret and Charles feel the same way. I couldn't be more thankful for this.

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You haven't said when the Trays were made. I believe that Mr. Herrmans knows some place in Brussels but he is on leave until August 18th. When Charles comes back, I'll ask him to inquire at C.I.T.

About the Norman Rockwell painting. It is on the wall right under the sign beside the contour gate, too close to the sign, undoubtedly. I believe however that a request from the museum to have it moved would be resented. Apparantly Lois wasn't too tactful about it. I believe that I'll be able to take care of it without making too much of an issue of it, if you'll trust me. It isn't a large painting - approx. 12" x 20"

A Belgian Television station is sending a crew this afternoon to make a story film about a poor boy who comes to the center and is enchanted. Kind of sentimental but good publicity. I'll make every effort to see that they don't interfere with the educational standards we have set.

I believe one of the reasons for our being exhausted at first was our struggle with the language. Both Margaret and Charles are more at home with French now.

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I'm still Terrible but have started lessons Two mornings a week before I come here and hope to become a little more fluent.

I can communicate with the German children. Margaret does pretty well with the Spanish and Italian. Yvonne and Mary speak Flemish as well as French and Yvonne can take care of the Dutch. None of us speaks any of the Scandinavian languages and mine had Two Czechoslovaca children - we communicate with them by osmosis.

The 50 years of Modern Art exhibition is Terrific. I've seen it Twice and hope to go again. I didn't take a day off the first week, but last week I took a day and visited the fair with a good friend who stayed with me at the Park Residence for four days. The whole fair is interesting and it is a fairyland at night, isn't it?

I do hope you're enjoying a well deserved vacation. Give my love to Mabel and much to you —

Jane

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Aug 10

Telegraph office became
day To ask how my
sent. I cancelled it and
why I wrote you about
me gathered that it was
which I now know are
letter of last night was
very busy day.
w delighted I am with
the center. I know I've
can't help but be impressed
receive many visitors,
Nursery School Teachers
ave had visitors from
Teacher from Amsterdam
the men, came and
ed with the program.
from the Nursery group.
from the States took
Jersey newspaper. I'm
should ask for particular
udly and interested. but
n. I gave him the press
rged him To read them
anything for print. There
sister from a Catholic School,
a painter and the wife a
her of art. also some people
ators, but I'm not sure. We
To give them the information

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How do you like daily le
like to spend your vaca
our particular problems
to write you again at
Anyhow - I can
seems to be going along s

EXPÉDITEUR (Nom et adresse) :
AFZENDER (Naam en adres) :
Jane Cooper Bland
Park Residence
21 Ave de l'Yser
Brussels
Belgium

REMARQUE IMPORTANTE

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BELANGRIJKE OPMERKING

In geval van insluiting, 't zij van geschreven bladen of om 't even welk voorwerp, van aard om het gewicht van deze brief te verhogen, zal deze over de gewone weg worden verzonden.

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July 25th 1958

Dear Victor:

I got a report from the doctor, via Gene's landlady, Madame Picard, today. He is better. The doctor will see him again today and if he seems strong enough, the whole family will leave tonight for the States. It seems that Gene went to the Theatre Nurse on July 13th She sent him to the doctor on the Fair Grounds. Gene was exhausted and probably was beginning to get jaundice then, but the doctor didn't diagnose it as such. I guess they are somewhat strapped for money and I believe Tommy is worried. You will undoubtedly have heard from her before you receive this letter. I feel terribly sorry for them all. I offered to lend Tommy money but she said that they had enough to get them to the States.

Later — I have just gotten a report from the doctor who has said that Gene is better. For some reason, they aren't going tonight. I'll phone Yvonne Tomorrow and find out what's what. She had arranged through the Embassy to have their transportation changed. I'm sure all this is somewhat confusing to you but we are all worried about Gene.

I saw Stroempfli today and he was very cordial. He said he had received a most friendly letter from you, which has certainly helped in our relations here. I met Mrs. Howard today and had a very pleasant visit with her. I haven't met Mr. Cullman, but perhaps that isn't important.

The center continues to run smoothly. We have had two people from the press — one in Antwerp and one from Le Soir in Brussels and many teachers this past week. I have arranged for an announcement, translated into three languages by

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PAR AVION
PER VLIEGTUIG

AERO

AER

Mr. Victor D'Amico
Museum of Modern Art
21 West 53rd St
New York 19, N.Y.
U.S.A.

REMARQUE IMPORTANTE
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BELANGRIJKE OPMERKING
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EXPÉDITEUR (Nom et adresse) :
AFZENDER (Naam en adres) :
Jane Cooper Bland
Parc Residence
21 Ave. de L'Yser
Bruxelles
Belgium

Yvonne, To be broadcast over the loudspeaker in the pavilion daily, and I have given the supervisors of the guides a pile of ~~the~~ copies of the press release To be included into the instructions given them, so that they can tell parents with young children about the center. I believe that these have been effective because we had a much larger attendance yesterday and Today. The high quality of the painting and construction must be attributed, to a great extent, To the standards that Lois had set before we came. We have a few clichés, of course, but surprisingly few. Most of the children are eager To paint and I wish we had more space for easels. We admit 25 children To each of the afternoon classes because our morning classes are not always filled.

I think that Charles wishes we had the status of State Department Employees, but he is most cooperative. Both Charles and Margaret are wonderful To work with. I am most thankful To have them on our Team.

xo
Jane

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July 19th 58
Finished July 22 58

Dear Victor:

I cant make much of a report right now, but I thought you'd like to know that I am very enthusiastic about the center and I think that everything is going along remarkably smoothly, considering that we are new at the job. Of course, Lois has done a remarkable job in getting everything ready for us and in making it as easy for us as possible. She went to no end of trouble to see that we had everything we would need and she has taken me around and introduced me personally to everyone with whom I shall have to deal — and some who are more V.I.P. than I shall meet except in an emergency. I believe that all of them, secretaries included, were impressed with her good manners in this respect.

I'm very thankful for Yvonne, she is intelligent discreet and most attractive. She has helped us a great deal and will continue to do so, I'm sure. In fact, the whole Belgian group has made every effort to help us and to make us feel welcome.

The center is wonderful! I never cease to marvel at your ability to imagine and design something like this. I have been observing and kind of mulling things over and don't feel that I can write anything definite until I have more of a real knowledge of whats happening. I wish we had more children. Our afternoon sessions have been pretty full but the mornings have been a bit lean.

Margaret, Charles and I have a really good relationship, I believe. They are both wonderful people and its a pleasure to work with them.

I think we should have a few more trays for the easels. I've been trying to find out where these were made. Will you please let me know who made them, if they were made here? It's like pulling teeth, as you know, to find out anything from the men here; and the last few days have been national holidays so many people have been out. I haven't met George Stamps yet. The

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State Dept. people work six days and then have three off, and he's been on vacation. I'll meet him tomorrow, I hope. Lois & I talked over the matter of the Rockwell Kent painting by the entrance and I thought that perhaps, after we've become acquainted, I would have a try at getting rid of it.

I'm pretty weary at night. We're all finding it quite a grind, particularly Charles and Margaret Too. To some extent since they aren't used to this kind of teaching, but it's worth it! The children are darling and the teamwork gratifying.

Give my love to Mabel. By the time this reaches you, there won't be many people at the museum but remember me to Ly and anyone else who is there — Love

Jane

PAR AVION
PER VLIEGTUIG
AERO
AER

Mr Victor D'Amico
Museum of Modern Art
21 West 53rd St.
New York 19, N.Y.
U.S.A.

BELGIQUE-BELGIE

EXPEDITEUR (Nom et adresse) :
AFZENDER (Naam en adres) :
Jane Cooper Bland
21 Ave. de l'Yser
Brussels
Belgium

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BELANGRIJKE OPMERKING

In geval van insluiting, 't zij van geschreven bladen of om 't even welk voorwerp, van aard om het gewicht van deze brief te verhogen, zal deze over de gewone weg worden verzonden.

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October 21, 1958

Dear Jane,

I thought of you last weekend, realizing that the Fair was coming to a close and that you would be doubly busy. Now you have the packing to do and that will be an added burden. I am sure you will be glad when it's all over.

You probably have Yvonne's ihscribed copy of the Masters of Modern Art, and I hope it reached you in time to give it to her. Lois and Susie thought it was a good gift and were pleased, as I hope you were, with the letter I sent to her.

In regard to the two questions you ask. First, we not only do not want the registration books, but they are not our property. So it's up to you to dispose of them. The address for pipe cleaners is; Bonne Economy Narrow Fabrics, 162 West 27 Street, New York, New York. They should write to Mr. A. Rosenberg there; and the price would be 65¢ a hundred, which is the wholesale price.

I have written to Mrs. Reynolds in Portland, Oregon.

You are most likely too tired now to realize and appreciate the magnificent job you have done, you and your staff and, of course, Lois and hers before you. When you come back and are rested, we hope to have a party for you.

I look forward to the 3rd, or any time thereafter, when you return.

Sincerely,

Victor D'Amico, Director
Department of Education

Mrs. Jane Cooper Bland
Park Residence Hotel
21, Avenue de l'Yser
Brussels, Belgium

VED:jfg

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September 29, 1958

Dear Jane,

I received your second letter today and the previous one on Friday. Therefore, I am answering your question about Yvonne first.

I have been thinking for some time about what we should do to recognize her wonderful service. Lois, of course, was as enthusiastic about her as you are and in the few days that I was there I was moved by her understanding spirit. I believe you should buy something for her out of your contingency fund, but, of course, the Museum will pay for it since it is not an item that we can charge to the Fair budget.

I would like to acknowledge her loyalty in something more than a letter that she can show to her family and friends. I will, of course, write her a letter too. The same question arose in regard to the young man who helped me in Italy and I sent him a copy of our Masters of Modern Art with a tribute written to him on the fly-leaf. Do you suppose a publication with some such inscription would be fitting for Yvonne? If so, which of the publications do you think she would like? I am enclosing a catalog of publications to refresh your memory. This would, of course, be in addition to what you might purchase for her personally. I shall ask Lois what she thinks and do what both of you feel would be most appreciated.

In regard to the books which we sent to you, they are yours and you can do what you like with them, give them away or sell them. Whatever you charge Carolyn should go to you since they are your property. I tried to get the Museum to send both your book and Art for the Family on consignment, but they weren't interested at the time.

I am delighted to hear that Margaret is working out so well, although I am not surprised. It was probably the best thing in the world for her to be able to work so closely with you.

I hope you will have no trouble with the packing and that you were properly briefed by me so that your load will be lighter. When I wrote George Staempfli that I wasn't comeing to pack, he said he was sorry that I wouldn't be there to enjoy the chaos and that that was probably the understatement of the century.

The Center did get under way in time with surprisingly little trouble. I am not sure whether I told you that we have some changes in construction which deprived us of space. For example, the four cabinets are down, dismantled, and in storage. I am holding one for you if you still want it. The cost will include storage charges and transportation, but don't bother to answer at this time. I am just telling you that I didn't forget your request. The

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lounge has been eliminated from the third floor and a large storeroom has taken its place. There are no bulletin boards as yet and our two display boxes are gone. The halls are completely bare, but in time we shall correct that. We have several new people on the staff whom I am sure you will like.

Give my best to Margaret and Charles.

Sincerely,

Victor D'Amico, Director
Department of Education

Mrs. Jane Cooper Bland
Park Residence Hotel
21, Avenue de l'Yser
Brussels, Belgium

VED:jfg
enclosure

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September 18, 1958

Dear Jane,

Thank you for your last two letters. I believe you got the copy of my letter to Staempfli telling him that you would replace me and he has written back saying that he was delighted that you were in charge because you have already demonstrated great efficiency and intelligence.

In regard to your question about the boxes. Do not send any empty boxes back. Any tools, including the stapling guns, belong to the Government. There is one minor matter. The new Rooster belongs to the Government and the old one which may never have been used belongs to us. If we could exchange one for the other we would, of course, appreciate it because the new one has gone through a special hardening process and will, therefore, last longer, if it is still extant. If we cant have the new Rooster, Mrs. Vollmer hopes that it can be given to a school or to some institution where children can enjoy it. Of course, these are only wishes. Sinceit is Government property, they will dispose of it as they choose.

In reference to your question about poster paint. We get ours from the Joseph Mayer Co., 5 Union Square, New York City. It is Richart poster paint and we get it at a special rate of $5.75 a gallon. This special rate is due to the fact that we purchased our entire order for the Fair from him. Your man could write to him directly or perhaps to Richart itself. Their address is 31 West 21 Street, New York City.

I keep getting complimentary reports on you and on your work from friends who are returning from Europe. I don't know whether you recall Jim White but he was deeply impressed, as were several others whose names you would never recognize probably. You might, however, recall Dr. and Sylvia Raskin because they are an aggressive couple and often tactless. Dr. Raskin calld me with great excitement saying how impressed he was and how my status had risen in his estimation. Everyone, however, says that the place was jammed and that things were going along beautifully. There are also the timid peekers who just looked in and were afraid to introduce themselves. If you are not too tired to appreciate it now, I think later you willperhaps get the satisfaction of a terrific job perfectly done. I hope you will give my best wishes to Margaret and Charles. Charles is not the writing kind and I guess Margaret's feelings are hurt since I bawled her out about changing her living quarters. I hope that this will not dondemn the high praise and satisfaction she deserves.

Of course, there are no words to tell you how much I think of you as a person and a teacher, but there is plenty of time for me to try. This sounds almost like a last letter, but it isn't. I remember one of my mother's sayings, "kiss children in their sleep." I don't believe in that either for children

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or for adults, but I sometimes do forget when I get preoccupied and become concerned about details.

Do things the best way you can and they will be done the best way. Don't worry about the items for which you don't have receipts. I think you deserve some indulgence.

Affectionately,

Victor D'Amico, Director
Department of Education

Mrs. Jane Cooper Bland
Park Residence Hotel
21, Avenue de l'Yser
Brussels, Belgium

VED:jfg

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July 30, 1958

Dear Jane,

I was pleased to receive your letters and I am grateful that you sent one to Amagansett. I would suggest that you send further letters to Amagansett, especially if there is a problem or crisis. I would not send any there after August 27.

Gene's illness troubles me very much and I think it is tragic that it has ruined his vacation with his family. I looked into the matter of his insurance, but it covers only loss of income and transportation home, both of which he has received.

You say that you all are tired from the day's activities and that Margaret and Charles are not used to such a pace. At the same time you mention that the mornings are light. Why don't you arrange for mornings off for purposes of recuperation as insurance against possible illness. I tried to get Lois to do this but apparently she didn't. Since all three had the flu, an overworked run-down condition contributes to it. It seems to me that the morning sessions could be manned by two instead of three people of your Museum staff, allowing extra rest time. Saturdays or special days might be exceptions.

I am pleased, however, that you have everything under control and I hope that you are really enjoying it.

In regard to the Norman Rockwell painting, if it is on the same panel with the Museum label it should come off. If you don't succeed in getting Stamphli to take it down with tact, write me and I'll call Mr. d'Harnoncourt and see what he thinks. I do want to be sure, however, that it is on the part of the Center wall and so closely placed as to produce an association in the mind of the visitor. You might make a diagram as to where it is because I think I'll be able to visualize it. In any event don't worry about it and don't press the matter with Stamphli if he seems unwilling or ungracious.

The Museum is a holy mess and I am glad to be on my vacation while it is in this condition. Dot leaves for hers on Friday and poor Liz is left alone to face the chaos. Let me hear from you, however, don't make it an extra burden and don't feel you have to if you are too tired or there is some other pressing matter.

Please give my best to Margaret and Charles and thank them for their friendly greetings.

Affectionately,

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August 8, 1958

Dear Jane,

I'll try to answer all your questions as simply as possible.

I'm sorry about the trays. I meant to write you but apparently it slipped my mind when I was writing about other matters. Why don't you have the number you need made up out of tin or aluminum and charge it to your contingency fund? If we had them made up here and sent to you, there would not only be a delay but the cost of mailing would be greater than what it would cost to make them in Brussels. I really don't see why you need them because Mabel and I managed very well with 25 children an hour and Mickey did too, but if it makes it easier for you, by all means solve your problem your own way.

I do not understand about the fifteen minutes between sessions. We distinctly planned half-hour intervals between groups to avoid the kind of rush you describe in your letter. If Loise has changed it or if you have, I think it was unwise unless you have a very good reason. It makes it seem as if we don't know our business at this end when changes in planning produce confusion. I know that Lois, and I believe, you too feel that you would like to get in every possible child which may account for it, but I feel the overall operation of the Center should not be interrupted for minor details. I strongly recommend therefore that you reorganize the planning according to the original basis. At least I would like to know just how things are organized.

I am somewhat concerned about this because I think I made ample preparations for the efficient running of the Center. Three teachers, two assistants and two maids should certainly be able to take care of 25 children if the plan is adhered to.

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I'm not sure I would write a statement for visiting teachers and have it translated in three languages. The object there is to promote the Children's Center and I would not like to see a separate document handed out. The press release was written to cover both the aims of the Center and our teaching. I certainly wouldn't trust what any one would translate into Flemish since we were unable to get an authentic translation of the title. As a matter of fact, the promotion department of the Pavilion did not want us to hand out anything on our own but we gave out our own release when they delayed. Lois said that they were going to write one and I assumed that either she had it or didn't need it. If teachers want to know more philosophy, I think you ought to recommend your book, Art for the Family, and my own book. I don't believe you can capsule philosophy in a few paragraphs.

What I am most concerned about is Margaret's moving and the problem that resulted from it. I'm not sure whether I told every one that they were expected to stay at the Park Residence but I certainly think that should have been understood since our reservations included the complete dates covering the three months. Madame has cause to be angry and so has Mr. Linthicum. Staempfli and his cohorts tried to make us responsible for getting our own reservations and I insisted that they had to do it. It seems to me that this is a matter of ethics and I didn't think that I would have to tell any one that they would have to stand by an agreement that had been made in their behalf.

When Margaret wrote me about changing, I assumed that she had done it with Madame's approval. I shall write her but I do not blame Madame for keeping Margaret's deposit. We may hear from this at the Museum. I certainly would advise Charles and you to stay put unless you have good cause to move. The management of the Park Residence kept our rents at a moderate figure when other hotels were doubling their fees and I feel that we have every obligation to stay with them now that the pressure is easing up.

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I talked to Rene about the Norman Rockwell picture and he insists that it be taken down immediately. Whatever Lois said, it wasn't strong enough. Had I been there, I would have taken it off the wall on sight. Our contract says that the design of the Children's Center must meet our standards and that is definitely in opposition to it. I'm not too concerned about Staempfli's feelings nor is Mr. d'Harnoncourt. We have held to the letter of our agreement and every request we have made has been in the interest of the success of the Center and to the advantage of the Pavilion. So you can tell Mr. Staempfli that I said the picture must come down and if it doesn't, I wish you'd cable me.

I hope this letter doesn't sound all negative but I'm merely giving my judgment on practical matters. Of course the quality of the teaching and the effect on the public are the important things.

I'm delighted to hear that all is going well and that you are enjoying it.

Sincerely,

Victor D'Amico, Director
Department of Education

Mrs. Jane Cooper Bland
Park Residence Hotel
21 Rue de l'Yser
Brussels, Belgium

VED:ew
Encl.

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July 13, 1958

Dear Jane,

I wish I could welcome you at the Park Residence in person rather than have this piece of paper do it for me. I do so in spirit and wish you not only the same comfort we enjoyed there but the inspiration and thrill of being part of the Children's Creative Center at the U.S. Pavilion.

You will be in good hands under the orientation of Lois and her two able assistants. I hope all goes well and I shall write to you again later.

I want to tell you once more how pleased and confident I am that the Center is under your supervision. I only regret that I am not able to be with you.

Sincerely,

Victor D'Amico, Director
Department of Education

Mrs. Jane Cooper Bland
Park Residence Hotel
21 Rue de l'Yser
Brussels
Belgium

VED:emw

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July 13, 1958

Dear Charles,

I wish I could welcome you at the Park Residence in person rather than have this piece of paper do it for me. I do so in spirit and wish you not only the same comfort we enjoyed there but the inspiration and thrill of being part of the Children's Creative Center at the U. S. Pavilion.

You will be in good hands under the orientation of Lois and her two able assistants. I hope all goes well and I shall write to you again later.

I know that Gene will leave everything in good working order and that you will have no difficulty with the technology of the various devices.

I am so pleased that you will be one of the trio to take over the Creative Center. I hope all goes well. Several of your friends have asked when your Criticism Class begins and they will be welcoming you back.

Sincerely,

Victor D'Amico, Director
Department of Education

Mr. Charles Alston
Park Residence Hotel
21 Rue de l'Yser
Brussels
Belgium

VED:emw

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July 13, 1958

Dear Margaret,

I wish I could welcome you at the Park Residence in person rather than have this piece of paper do it for me. I do so in spirit and wish you not only the same comfort we enjoyed there but the inspiration and thrill of being part of the Children's Creative Center at the U. S. Pavilion.

You will be in good hands under the orientation of Lois and her two able assistants. I hope all goes well and I shall write to you again later.

Thank you for your thoughtfulness for sending me a card en route from Jane's home. I forgot to ask you to give her my best wishes but you probably did so in your thoughtfulness.

I wish you may have an interesting experience and a good time at the Children's Center. We shall miss you here.

Sincerely,

Victor D'Amico, Director
Department of Education

Miss Margaret Stark
Park Residence Hotel
21 Rue de l'Yser
Brussels
Belgium

VED:emw

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August 8, 1958

Dear Margaret,

It is unfortunate that this letter has to begin with a critical attitude. I've heard that your moving from the Park Residence was disturbing both to the management and to Mr. Linthicum who made our reservations.

I had assumed when you wrote me that you were moving that you had secured permission from Madame and that all was well but now I find that that is not the case. Jane says in her letter that she didn't recall my saying that the Staff had to stay at the Park Residence. I didn't believe that was necessary; it seemed to me that it was a matter of policy to carry out an obligation unless some other arrangement is made by mutual consent.

Your reservation listed on the papers I gave you covered the entire time of your stay in Brussels. If the management had decided to increase your rent or put you out, I'm sure you would have considered it unjust and we would have insisted on their fulfilling their agreement.

I understand that they are holding your advance and they may well try to charge the Museum for the loss of rent due to your moving. Perhaps this sounds more serious to me than it really is from this distance but in any event, I hope you'll do everything you can to straighten matters out, even if it means giving up your new place and returning to the Park Residence to cover their loss. I believe your obligation is to them first. I wish you had discussed the matter with Jane before making the change or written me. I feel that this is going to make us justifiably unpopular with the State Department.

Jane tells me that everything is going well and I was pleased to hear that you are enjoying the work and liking both Jane and Charles. I am sorry if this letter in any way mars the effect.

Sincerely,

Victor D'Amico, Director
Department of Education

Miss Margaret Stark
Residence Palmerston
14 Rue Boduognat (Square Marie-Louise)
Brussels, Belgium
VD:ew

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