

15. sep. 1938

FAKTA

Dato:
15. sep. 1938

Sidetæl:
p. 63-67

Dagbogens placering:
SMK

Ophavsmand/nøgleperson:
Ernest Mancoba

Generelle kommentarer:
Regler for transskription:
Stavefejl bevares, efterfulgt af
korrektion som [sic: korrekt stavning]
Nødvendig indsættelse af manglende
tegnætsætningsmærker tilføjet som [,]
Nødvendig opdeling af afsnit som [/P]
Utydelige ord angivet med [utydelig]
Strøgne bogstaver og ord ikke
transskriberet
Fulde navn på nævnte person
[Fornavn + Efternavn] translated
2025-02-06

Omtalte personer:
T. C. Mehta

RESUMÉ

Den 2. september 1938 gik Ernest Mancoba ombord på et skib, der sejlede fra Cape Town, Sydafrika, til Southampton, Storbritannien. Det ankom den 19. september 1938. Mancoba førte en rejsejournal over rejsen.translated 2025-02-06

TRANSSKRIFTION

// Sept 15th /

[/P] Madeira in sight as I go to upper deck – “The Pearl of the Atlantic” – lying in harbour German man o war [illegible] – the Swastika very much in evidence – also German passenger boat General Arteges Hantung [presume: General Artigas, a German passenger boat] Funchal well inhabited – beautiful villas on the mountain side – as we stop [,] small rowing-boats containing 3 oarsman and two drivers – boy & man. Shout up to us Hullo Mr Brown [s] throw [illegible] Small boy dive etc. Some throw coins – & I look uneasily at German war ship – as we stop [,] many more rowing boats come up & climb the ship [,] All sorts of merchandise – Photographs of Island [,] transit agents – 10/ to be shown round island and back – English newspapers & English launches – Germans look on suspiciously – One man comes furtively to ask if I want French photographs – shows me one specimen – I don’t want them – the 3 [,] N + W [Watson] join the party [illegible] the Island – Mehta [T.C. Mehta] & I go down to the launch & go to town on our own – Artist + soc worker [sic: social worker] same launch – say they don’t see much of us – we say we see a lot of them - They fear to mix with Natives –

[/P] we land and set foot on Madeira [,] My first experience of a country without the colour bar [,] I am thrilled and grateful at once [,] I am in love with the Portuguese [,] Honest readjustment to things – of course as alternative [to South Africa] – Guides & loafers offer to show us round – The streets are cobbled with rough stones & wheelless carts drawn by oxen [,] men attired in white – Old fashionable motor cars as taxis – open. Someone with guide badge comes along and offers to show round but we refuse & looks unhappy. Mehtu [Mehta] restless – disagree with my [illegible] method – buy matches & my change – Walk through the park -Statues [sketches of statues] + Swans – a loafer comes along & Mehtu [Mehta] worried & asks to take us to see the Signorita – I tell him off again [,] turn back through narrow streets – Driving seems wreckless [sic: reckless] to me – Too many old women in the Streets, they seem to have resigned themselves broadly to things, unlike the old women in SA (poor classes) Perhaps the many churches a/c [sic: account] for it. A small soldier in uniform stalks up to us & attaches himself without speaking – Small shops & tinsmiths & carpenters – He makes signs [,]

queer noises to make us understand – Mehtu's [Mehta's] anxious [,] does not know how to be rid of him – We see railway-station – go past Castle & [illegible] less station down a narrow street & up we see a shop & buy Some drinks & fruits. Man gives Portuguese money so we use up whole 2/- Wine at back of shop – a crowd of children crowd at shop – we go down the street again past the Casino & the Gardens

[note in margin:] two Mulettos [,] black boys with blue eyes! Well dressed father negro

[/P] We see a black girl – She greets me and farther on buy ice-cream [,] delicious. Down the jetty [,] flower girls in Portuguese national natural dress selling flowers – Human butterflies skimming silently over the cobbled streets – a maze of colour

[/P] We go down to the Jetty & I do not want to leave Madeira – Many hangers on & exchangers of money etc – we pay for the launch to get on & find 3, Wat. [Watson] & N. Watson not talkative [,] abrupt [,] so get on launch with many German sightseers from General Artigas & interesting to see the glances of the Nazis especially from the crew of the ship as we get off passengers – We return to our boat & I am struck by the hugeness of the Bal. Castle [sic: Balmoral Castle].

[/P] All round the small craft-like flies round an elephant in the jungle. Still the diving boys weaving their way in and out the scene of jesticulating [sic: gesticulating] & vociferous merchants – Hello Leetle boy Hallo [,] The little boys dive –

[/P] the Ship is ready to move & all on board get out with their bundles – ropes dangle from the boats to the Ship [,] passengers & goods & pulled to & fro by ropes – as the ship goes the small craft dwindle – the last to leave the ship are the two leetle boys [,] They leap from from high up the Bal C [sic: Balmoral Castle] & make spectacular dives into the water below – we take the bend & leave Madeira with its beautiful [illegible] Callers in vain – It is the sunlit end of island that's most populated – We pass the statue of Xt [sic: Christ] with its outstretched hands – there off to open sea

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We exchange experiences & I hear 3 [,] W [sic: Watson] & N enjoyed a fine 10/ trip – They saw a Bos Shebeen [South African term for bar or speakeasy] - & flimsily dressed girls who beckoned but they merely saw – Abr [Abraham] seems stunned [,] He says he is horrified but I don't believe it – He speaks of mothers & sisters etc futile. We eat bananas & grapes Madeira. The sunset is beautiful [,] molten gold [,] the sun sinks

like a ball of fire – They tell of the Madeira-man speaks French – We drink
Madeira brought on board by Watson & N & 3 –

OVERSÆTTELSE

// 15. septh /

[/P] Madeira i sigte, da jeg går op på øverste dæk – “Atlantehavets perle”
– liggende i havnen, tysk krigsskib [ulæseligt] – svastikaen meget synlig –
også tysk passagerskib General Arteges Hantung [formoder: General
Artigas, et tysk passagerskib] Funchal er velbefolket – smukke villaer på
bjergsiden – da vi stopper [,] små robåde med 3 årdamer og to førere –
dreng og mand. Råber op til os Hej Mr. Brown [s] kast [ulæseligt] Lille
dreng dykker osv. Nogle kaster mønter – & jeg ser uroligt på det tyske
krigsskib – da vi stopper [,] kommer mange flere robåde op og klatrer op i
skibet [,] Alle former for varer – Fotografier af øen [,] transportagenter –
10/ for at blive vist rundt på øen og tilbage – engelske aviser & engelske
bådture – tyskerne ser mistænkeligt til – En mand kommer snigende for at
spørge, om jeg vil have franske fotografier – viser mig et eksempel – jeg vil
ikke have dem – de 3 [,] N + W [Watson] slutter sig til selskabet [ulæseligt]
øen – Mehta og jeg går ned til båden og tager til byen på egen hånd –
Kunstner + socialarbejder [sic: social worker] samme båd – siger, de ikke
ser meget til os – vi siger, vi ser meget til dem - De frygter at blande sig
med de indfødte –

[/P] vi går i land og sætter fod på Madeira [,] Min første oplevelse af et
land uden farvebarriere [,] Jeg er begejstret og taknemmelig med det
samme [,] Jeg er forelsket i portugiserne [,] Ærlig tilpasning til tingene –
selvfølgelig som alternativ [til Sydafrika] – Guider & lømler tilbyder at vise
os rundt – Gaderne er brostensbelagte med ru sten & hjulfri vogne
trukket af okser [,] mænd klædt i hvidt – Gamle fashionable motorbiler
som taxaer – åbne. Nogen med guidebadge kommer forbi og tilbyder at
vise rundt, men vi nægter & ser utilfredse ud. Mehtu urolig – er uenig med
min [ulæseligt] metode – køber kampe & mine penge – Går gennem
parken -Statuer [skitser af statuer] + svaner – en lømler kommer forbi &
Mehtu bekymret & beder om at tage os med for at se Signorita – jeg
fortæller ham af igen [,] vender tilbage gennem smalle gader – Kørsel
synes hensynsløs [sic: reckless] for mig – For mange gamle kvinder på
gaderne, de ser ud til bredt at have resigneret sig til tingene, i
modsætning til de gamle kvinder i SA (fattige klasser) Måske de mange
kirker a/c [sic: account] for det. En lille soldat i uniform nærmer sig os og
knytter sig til os uden at tale – Små butikker & blikkenslagere & tømrere –
Han laver tegn [,] mærkelige lyde for at få os til at forstå – Mehtu's nervøs
[,] ved ikke, hvordan han skal slippe af med ham – Vi ser jernbanestation –
går forbi slot og [ulæseligt] mindre station ned ad en smal gade og op ser

vi en butik og køber nogle drikkevarer & frugter. Mand giver portugisisk penge, så vi bruger hele 2/- Vin bagerst i butikken – en flok børn samles ved butikken – vi går ned ad gaden igen forbi Casinoet og haverne

[note i margen:] to Mulettos [,] sorte drenge med blå øjne! Velklædt far neger

[/P] Vi ser en sort pige – Hun hilser på mig, og længere fremme køber vi is [,] lækker. Ned ad molen [,] blomsterpiger i portugisisk nationaldragt sælger blomster – Menneskelige sommerfugle, der stille svæver over de brostensbelagte gader – et labyrint af farver

[/P] Vi går ned til molen, og jeg vil ikke forlade Madeira – Mange tilhængere & pengevekslere osv – vi betaler for båden for at komme ombord & finder 3, Wat. [Watson] & N. Watson er ikke snakkesalig [,] abrupt [,] så vi går ombord i båden med mange tyske turister fra General Artigas & interessant at se nazisternes blikke, især fra skibets besætning, da vi får passagererne af – Vi vender tilbage til vores båd, og jeg bliver slået af størrelsen på Bal. Slot [sic: Balmoral Castle].

[/P] Hele vejen rundt svømmer de små både som fluer omkring en elefant i junglen. Stadig dykkerne drenger væver deres vej ind og ud af scenen af gestikulerende [sic: gesticulating] & højlydte købmænd – Hej lille dreng Hallo [,] De små drenge dykker –

[/P] Skibet er klar til at bevæge sig, og alle ombord kommer ud med deres pakker – reb hænger fra bådene til skibet [,] passagerer & varer & trukket frem og tilbage af reb – da skibet sejler, svinder de små både ind – de sidste der forlader skibet er de to små drenge [,] De hopper fra højden af Bal C [sic: Balmoral Castle] og laver spektakulære dyk ind i vandet nedenfor – vi tager svingen & forlader Madeira med sine smukke [ulæseligt] besøgende forgæves – Det er den solbeskinnede ende af øen, der er mest befolket – Vi passerer statuen af Xt [sic: Kristus] med sine udstrakte hænder – derude til åbent hav -

Vi udveksler oplevelser & jeg hører 3 [,] W [sic: Watson] & N nød en fin 10/- tur – De så en Bos Shebeen [sydafrikansk betegnelse for bar eller speakeasy] - & letklædte piger, der vinkede, men de så blot – Abr [Abraham] synes chokeret [,] Han siger, han er rædselsslagen, men jeg tror ikke på det – Han taler om mødre & søstre osv, men det er nytteløst. Vi spiser bananer & druer fra Madeira. Solnedgangen er smuk [,] smeltet guld [,] solen synker som en ildkugle – De fortæller om Madeira-manden, der taler fransk – Vi drikker Madeira bragt ombord af Watson & N & 3 –

He asked if anyone occupied deck chair -
Poor old man he is disillusioned and
muddled - helplessly repeats "He's a Dutchman".



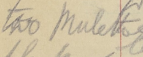
Yes a Dutchman -

The bot sets a globe of fire -

Argument on standpoint of ~~physics~~ anthropology
Abraham's brilliant but from the pedicled
viewpoint - Maidoo disagrees + presents Nazi
inferiority inferiority idea - Sleep

→ I am restless + relieved after speaking
to mehtu on the mission of youth in the
world - Why I dislike the A type of African -
Sept 15th Madeira in sight as I go
to upper deck - "The Port of the Antarctic" - lying
in harbor German man + two Indian - the
Swastika very much - evidence - also German
passenger boat General Artigas Hamburg
Tunchal well inhabited - beautiful villas on
the mountain side - as we drop anchor
small rowing boats containing 3 ~~two~~ men
and two divers - by pairs. Short up +
in Hulls Mr Brown throws ticks small boy
dive etc. some throw coins - I look measily
at German ~~two~~ ship - as we stop many more
rowing boats come up + visit the ship.
All sorts of herderies - Photographs of Island

travelling agents - 10/ The show round
island and back - English newspapers +
English lunches - General look on
curious - One had cores fatwely +
asked if I want French photographs +
showed me some specimens I don't want
them - the 3 N + D on the left middle
block - Nektu + go down the launch
+ go + town on on road - About 100
work same launch - say the don't
know of us - He say be a bit of them -
the fear to mix with Natives - be land
darker, set foot on bediam my first
experience for coming out into labor
has - I am thrilled and grateful and
at once I am in love with the Portugese
Arist. ready to try to change of course is
alternative (~~if it is~~) - Guides + launch
to show us round - The streets are cobbled with
rough stones + wheeling carts drawn by oxen
men attired in white - Old fashioned motor
cars as taxis - Oper. someone with guide
badge comes along and offers to show
round but we refuse + look unappetizing
Nektu returns - message with map of my
method - buy watches + pay. Chap - talk

through the park - Stines  + 
 + Swans - a large tower
 along and Pekki carried us to take us
 to see the Segarita - Still here. Off again
 turn back through narrow streets - Driving
 seems reckless to me. Too many old
 bones in the streets they seem to have
 resigned themselves to death & things unlike
 the old bone - SA (poor classes) perhaps
 the many churches are for it. A small
 soldier uniform talks up to us & attacks
 himself with out speaking - small shops
 & tin smiths & carpenters - He makes signs
 gives noises to make us understand - Pekki's
 anxious does not know how to bend of him -
 We see railway station - go past Castle & come
 less station down a narrow street & up
 two mule 
 black ← we see a shop & buy some drinks
 boys & fruit. Man gives Portuguese money so
 with blue eye! we see up to the 2nd - Wine at back
 well dressed at shop - a crowd of children crowd
 & dress past the Casino & the gardens - we
 father see a black girl - she greets me and
 negro farther on buy ice cream delicious -
 Down the city floor quite in Portuguese National

Natural dress selling flowers - Humant
butterflies skimming silently over the
cobbled streets - a haze of colour
We go down to the jetty + do not want to
leave Madeira - Many barges on +
exchange of money etc - before for
the launch + get on + find 3, but + N.
Not so talkative + abrupt so get a
launch with many German sightseers
from General Dutrig's + interest to see
the glances of the Missis especially
from the crew of the ship as we get off
passengers - We return to our boat
+ I am struck by the hugeness of
the ~~Great~~ Bal. Ca. the. all round the
small craft like flies round an
elephant in the jungle. Still the
dingy boys being their way in out the
scene of gesticulation + vociferous
parade 15 - Hello Little boy Hello
The little boys dive the ship to ready
to move + all on board get out with
their bundles - ropes dangle from the
boats to the ship passengers + pods +
pulled from to + fro by ropes - as the ship
goes the small craft chide - the last

to leave the ship and the two little boys
the leap for for high up the Bal C +
make spectacular dives into the water
below - we take the lead & leave Madeira
with its beautiful pyramids calling in vain -
It is the south end of island that is most
populated - We pass the statue of St. Vit
on stretched hands - there off to open sea -

We exchange experiences & I hear 3
W + N enjoyed a fine 10- trip - They saw
a Pro shebeen - a plump dressed girl who
beckoned but they never saw - Abr seems
stunned He says he is horrified but I don't
believe it - He speaks of Mother & sister etc
futile. We eat bananas & grapes Madeira -
The sunset is beautiful gold molten gold
the sun sinks like a ball of fire -
Hay tell of the Madeira - man speaks
French - We drink Madeira wines - brought
on board by Watson + N + 3 -

Get up + breakfast - after that I go up
to find the 3 with the man from Lyon
he leads for me from the French book
brought by Abr - a fine fellow - He orders
drinks Stake Lager + Madio + small + beer