

12. sep. 1938

FAKTA

Dato:
12. sep. 1938

Sidetæl:
p. 49-63

Dagbogens placering:
SMK

Ophavsperson/nøgleperson:
Ernest Mancoba

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

Omtalte personer:
J.H. Hofmeyr
T. C. Mehta
Irma Stern

RESUMÉ

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

TRANSSKRIFTION

Sept 12

[/P] Mathu [sic: T.C. Mehta] wakes me and we go to lower deck and there [,] like a dream shadows the horizon is broken by a jagged line of mountain outline – We see more & more – Not so beautiful as Table Mountain says Mahtu [Mehta] – more and more land on horizon [,] then the main prominence – Two lighthouses then [,] as we leave the Cape [,] we see four ships - wrecks on the rocks and by experience we feel safe –

Breakfast & I tell Watson about the sight of land — He tells me about 4 miles from the lighthouse [,] Dakar [capital city of Senegal] — French [,] He says he was at one time in the town [,] equality of races the policy of France — white and black — sit together eat together & play cards together — Dakar Cape Verde becomes for me a symbol of liberty — like the Statue of Liberty for the Americans - I remember Irma Stern description of her experiences in Dakar — how she lived in same hotel as blacks - how she had to use morning bath after a black-man [,] it was news for South Africa — The Senegalese French army -

After breakfast Mahtu [Mehta] asks me to join him in game of Tennis Table — We play & after sometime two SAfricans come along a [sic: and] we give them the bats - & go to upper deck [,] find DN [D. Naidoo]. reading Angel Pavement (Priestley) [J.B. Priestley, "Angel Pavement", 1930] I say Priestley only work of any value [,] rest cheap - A whole colony of South Africans sunbathing and I remember case of racism in SA & I wonder — Also the Dutch reformed church in SAfrica against the exposure of body of white women to Natives [,] but to me the white women aenemic [sic: anaemic] sallow pink and blue skin [,] unattractive and I see it is used to bluff the white-men themselves [,] that their women folk more attractive & shd [sic: should] be considered better than black women so as to keep up the bluff of white superiority — D Naidoo stops reading & looks at me reading French & says the Natives shd [sic: should] all be herded together & driven into the Atlantic with machine guns behind them & shd [sic: should] not be allowed to read French [,] He says this sarcastically —

Man with a beard stands with Abr [Abraham] & speaks seriously on something [,] then Abr [Abraham] comes & tells us that the man advising him against taking on the wrestler [,] because the man might be SAfrican

and might hurt him and disable him for life – The man was old + set and some South Africans expected the other man to be polite & sporting when they themselves were not ready to give advantage to man of colour – Abr [Abraham] pretends that he is withdrawing from the fight because of this man's advice – More tennis & then dinner –

At dinner Mahtu [Mehta] comes when I finish & we go to tennis [,] Mahtu [Mehta] is very keen – We find the court occupied by two people evidently man and wife – we go in and Mahtu [Mehta] plays well but has to take ball & racket to deck Steward till 4 oclock - The cross eyed Stoker comes & sits on the hetch [sic: bench or hatch] a terrible sight. He refuses to go down & Foreman comes & talks him over – He seems a good man but Stoker wait to see doctor – Doctor gives him some tonic.

[/P] We sit and talk, Mahtu [Mehta] refers to the incident at the bridge [,] We laugh over the way he said to the first Class passengers – “business magnets eh”- and he says he does not know why he said it – And “A Short Holiday to England” so simply and innocently [,] I point out that the fellows might have misunderstood him & took him for a sarcastic Socialist or Communist & must have wondered how such a creature got the Passport in SA. We [illegible words] for it but fail – We laugh over it –

[/P] The Cockney comes along and Mahtu [Mehta] asks him straight off whether he will do another trip after 10 days in South Hampton – Says “yes” sadly – He says he is tired & I say he will be in London in a wk [sic: week] – He brightens up and counts on his fingers the days – Mahtu [Mehta] bluntly talks of the Stoker but Cockney not enthusiastic and goes – I tell Mahtu [Mehta] he must not blunder – He shd [sic: should] learn to say what he thinks when he [illegible] to say it – He compares with foolish detective [,] he says [,] wd [sic: would] be shot by criminal – We laugh again –

[/P] I go for a bath - & go for game but find the young jew playing with the wife of the Checks. We see the Checks at the rails with flowing hair – Mahtu [Mehta] had told me he was a journalist and had been to India – So interested Mahtu [Mehta] opens an argument & [illegible words] of with the political conditions of India – Nehru [Jawaharlal Nehru] cannot succeed with his plan – too impracticable as people of India not much advanced – He asks me my destination and says Paris better than England [illegible] but France cosmopolitan – The French Colonial Policy compared with British – He thinks there will be clash in South Africa // Dutch & English – does not think much of Dutch – Does not believe coloureds [illegible] for Non-Europeans United front wd [sic: would] betray because the coloureds wd [sic: would] like to be Europeans –

(Tries to find out if we not Coloureds) [...] He tells of social & political conditions in India — the poorest country in the world — The rich will not do anything for the poor — people sleeping in the streets [...] Nehru's programme too advanced for India but situation will improve with time — He tells his contacts with Indian intellectuals, Bose, Nehru Naidoo etc. Says the same of Africa [...] instance Senegal — Dakar. African editor of my French paper spoke French masterly & leader of a political party — revolutions no good [...] there must be development of political consciousness among the masses & leader must prepare themselves in readiness — SA revival of tribalism, Govt [sic: government] policy — What do you think of Rana Roo [illegible words] — Oh it's difficult to be both Indian & Englishman. If India got national independence wd [sic: would] be colony of either Russia or Japan — Not indentured community [...] Tata steel works — He goes & looks for his wife — We play till dinner time —

Watson pts [sic: points] at N + looks at Eur chd [sic: European child] & says "look is he a nigger — Good old Watson [...] guileless and honest & responses [sic: responds] spontaneously to tender feelings of humanity

I go and look at News sheet on Notice board — Hitler's [Adolf Hitler] speech expected at 12 oclock¹ [...] wild excitement at Downing Street — crowds shout "Hands off Czechoslovakia" — Young SA [sic: South African] comes — same as spoke to me as ship left Cape Town — Do you understand it John?" I looked at him & affect amazement and say yes "it seems as if it can't be avoided. Hell of a [illegible] up" — He looks Confused —

[/P] I go to Upper deck and find Watson & the black group watching askance the preparation of the Balmoral Derby — The young woman very excited [...] dress as jockeys [illegible] has steeple [illegible] on her side and She is very talkative [...] apparently a bit drunk — She dances a waltz with one of the young men and talks in a wild voice — She runs towards us and asks the sailor standing behind us if he has no safety pin for her [...] He says no and She asks if his girl never wears safety pins in a suggestive manner — As she goes away the sailor flairs up & says he hated SAfricans and did not wish to be rude [to] the woman — He calls them all sorts of names — ignorant etc. Their attitude to the blacks he condemns and their way of amusements he thinks childish & boisterous — Colonials etc. He preferred to enjoy himself quietly [...] drinks & women of course — Abr [Abraham] bluntly asks why sailors love women & I budge in & say all men like women — We spoke of war + sailor says he wd [sic: would] go to Honolulu [Honolulu, Hawaii] & sell watches if it did break out — He tells of war experience as gun-layer and describes the horrors of the next war.

We talk of the possibility of war [,] Sailor says in 1914 one man murdered today scores men have been murdered [,] enough to cause hundred wars — He says if war comes he will go to Honolulu and sell watches — Englishman every time. Abr [Abraham] speaks of war as nasty, gastly [sic: ghastly] etc — I say war cleans up muck of period and in that sense a necessity — History of Eng. [sic: England] just wars [,] hence democracy — W [Watson] is shocked [,] speaks of little children etc [,] I say in CapeTown chd [sic: child] died in scores of malnutrition & T.B. [sic: tuberculosis] he remains silent & restless [,] expects Hitler's declaration at 10 pm over the radio — Abr [Abraham] becomes hysterical in condemnation of war — SV puts in a timid word against war — Mahtu [Mehta] supports me — He hunts up N & returns to say he put it to N that if someone robbed him of £1000 [illegible] N wd [sic: would] go to police & if they cannot do anything then sit down — Naïve and childish — Mahtu [Mehta] is tickled —

We sit about and drinks and gaiety [sic: gaiety] in the Derby — woman seem to be most noisy — one man is holding woman around the waist — the sailor is excited. Here's a man scratching the woman's back etc [,] he falls into pensive mood + Tappy comes for second time to hide a bottle of beer — Twinkle in eyes. I sit for a little & then go down.

[Sept 13]

// Morning & Mahtu [sic: T.C. Mehta] arrives & get down to Tennis, after then upper deck. 3 arrive dramatically [,] they look confused and "shake hands" all round + wrestle foolishly - I protest they seem to believe more in brute force than in mental strength — I see the boxer and his friends take a photograph

[/P] teatime [,] the band — Watson shows us our names in Cape Times [newspaper] passenger list — We sit + Europeans play deck quoits — SV is restless & go other end & child is playing [,] M [Mehta] talks to her —

[note on margin:] Daar le Die Ding² / We are marching to Pretoria Prelon

I go [to] the Smoking room & read Hitlers declaration and stand there to make uncomfortable — We go down to Lunch then Tennis [,] Wrestling stoker comes along with his crowd [,] he looks a fine study of a man [,] clear complexion striking eyes — honest and straight. Sits and eats dates brought by SA cook's boy — the second squad looks terrible — He looks hungrily at passing women — Mahtu [Mehta] sits next [to] the wrestler —

Mahtu [Mehta] comes and tells us of special supper & that their waiter had prepared their places & he wd [sic: would] be disappointed if not — we

sit & talk – Dinner & afterwards Mahtu [Mehta] comes & says in dilemma [...] what to do to go or not – to dress up or not [it is a costume event] – I say I wont [sic: won't] dress up etc but will walk up & eat – We here [sic: hear] much noise in the corridor as preparations are made – women excited running up & down – We go to upper deck & find 3 talking and having decided not to go & witness as 2 ½ gallery – Abr [Abraham] & SV not decided - they argue [...] DN [D. Naidoo] tries to stop them but when band starts they dash over and look [...] DN goes after them & stays too – looks also [...] I go also - Principle gone to the winds.

I remark cd [sic: could] go as I was & walk off with prize – Commander to judge & Abr [Abraham] wonders he could give the prize with such beautiful spectacle – I say shut his eyes & drag any out – What about the others Abr says – I walk away & one steward [-] as he walks off [-] looks at me and makes gesture of disgust with his hand – so as no one can see – Dick Wittington³ and Chinese Coolie⁴ and Hawaiian girl win prizes – Abr is happy, he also went to look –

[/P] We go to lower deck & return to find 3 talking to Journalist – Abr [Abraham] is fast explaining their position to him (of South African politics) [...] Hofmeyer [sic: J.H. Hofmeyr] resignation in implication – reactionary Col [sic: Colonial] vote threatened – I put in “how can wars be avoided when people behave in this way” [...] Journalist grimaces & speaks of wife and goes after shaking hands warmly -

Abr [Abraham] talks [illegible] the talk started black & white marriages – tells of Indian CapeT [sic: Cape Town] doctor who married white woman + returned to CT [sic: Cape Town] how the paper broke him & how he lost case in courts - DN [D. Naidoo] thinks right to defend dignity – I say it was mere hari kari⁵. He knew the courts & justice in SA too well to have bothered about it.

We go down [to] cabins & SV is so worried about dressing up that he takes off his shoes to sleep but DN [D. Naidoo] prevails upon him – make funny remark about Committee approaching us etc [...] As we wait the Honolulu girl is parting her lips – Abr [Abraham] congratulates her & she is flattered [,] also if she wd [sic: would] like to go there [,] Oh as long as I can remember – I am ashamed & hide myself.

We go up dining Saloon

Watson & I [,] then Wats [Watson] goes to call N – He arrives & we eat – bon-bons & odd things come from jackets – Watson gets a whistle & red paper cap [,] puts it on and blows whistle. Someone else blows a whistle

and Watson blows [.] N remarks someone is blowing as if searching helplessly for contacts on the other side at all costs – I eat savagely and get away – There is much excitement [.] singing etc [.] the crooner in his element – a gypsy. Their singing of Sarie Maras – Daar le die ding – Pretoria etc⁶ – A regular SA night. N hits his balloon about aimlessly as if to take part in the fun [.] it looks pathetic – afterward there is the dance and I see N standing alone with his red cap on and his red balloon in his hand – odd & out-of-place

[note in margin:] Mehtu [Mehta] so amused that he goes down a [illegible]

Mahti [Mehta] says let's go & we [illegible] go to every what to see [.] what each saw [.] should I like become [.] We see the Student of the first day as an infant – I remark he is so confused with the world he risks to sink back to infancy – (Freud)

We go down to sleep + C. We speak of the nastiness of education, that produces types of N. N comes in just as I say he might be there – We talk shop of Fort Hare⁷ excapads [sic: escapades] etc – unrest – Wardew + his reaction to Edward VIII incident – McCord Hospital [.] McCord [James McCord] alive [.] shd [sic: should] be dead as no one knew if he wd [sic: would] not do queer things before death etc – Sleep -

[Sept 14]

// Up in the morning and expecting to see Canary Is. & Tenereef [sic: Canary Islands & Tenerife] — Passing of Carnavan Castle while downstairs — On deck reading Aldous Huxley "Beyond Mexique Bay" ["Beyond the Mexique Bay", 1934] on Hitler etc & Nazism [.] interesting but limited in outlook & unfair misrepresentations of facts.

Then excitement and pointing of fingers – Island veiled outline seen above clouds at first [.] I say it's cloud but more & more distinct [.] A mountain on Nothing (Teneriffe [sic: Tenerife]) and I say perhaps it's origin of idea of heaven – Naidoo explains the conception of earth by primitive Indian mythology – resting on four elephants and these on a tortoise swimming on the sea of nothingness –

Band plays Sarie Marais, Daar le die ding Pretoria etc glad I am not in the Smoking room

Watson is unhappy over the rumour of War [.] I try to calm him — poor man — I feel happy I am away from South Africa bec. [sic: because] the Carnavan Castle was held up in S. Hampton [.] Anything to be away from the cursed country — I miss Ronald & Gladys [Mancoba's younger

siblings] — I hate these South Africans & I am tired of looking at them and what they represent — The ship for me is South Africa in miniature — Last night the police-man in fancy dress gave me a shock — I dread physical brutalisation whenever they pass too near me — the Nazi brutes —

Lunch – and after lunch we play deck tennis then the bath – Mehtu [sic: T.C. Mehta] sits with me and talk [,] He dislikes D.N [,] He toys with the balloon and bursts it – He laughs + tells N at tea time - N is sorry & wants it [,] Mehtu [Mehta] promises to buy him another –

I go up to upper deck + sit with group [,] the sea is calm – the sunset wonderful [,] Watson tells me the elderly man wd [sic: would] not speak to him [,] treated him like bit of dirt [,] He asked if anyone occupied deck chair – Poor old man [,] he is disillusioned and muddled – helplessly repeats “He’s a Dutchman”. He’s a Dutchman –

The sun sets, a globe of fire

I am restless & relieved after speaking to Mehtu [Mehta] on the mission of youth in this world – Why I dislike the N type of African.

Argument on stand pt [sic: point] of anthropology. Abraham’s brilliant but from the medical viewpt [sic: view point] – D. Naidoo disagrees – presents Nazi inferiority superiority idea. Sleep.

OVERSÆTTELSE

12. september

[/P] Mathu vækker mig, og vi går til underdækket, og der [,] som i en drøm, bryder en tagget linje af bjergkontur horisonten – Vi ser mere og mere – Ikke så smukt som Taffelbjerget, siger Mathu – mere og mere land på horisonten [,] så den største højder – To fyrtårne, så [,] da vi forlader Kappen [,] ser vi fire skibe - vrag på klipperne, og af erfaring føler vi os sikre –

Frokost & jeg fortæller Watson om udsigten til land — Han fortæller mig om 4 miles fra fyrtårnet [,] Dakar [hovedstaden i Senegal] — Fransk [,] Han siger, at han engang var i byen [,] raceparitet var Frankrigs politik — hvide og sorte — sidder sammen, spiser sammen & spiller kort sammen — Dakar Kap Verde bliver for mig et symbol på frihed — som Frihedsgudinden for amerikanerne - Jeg husker Irma Sterns beskrivelse af hendes oplevelser i Dakar — hvordan hun boede på samme hotel som sorte - hvordan hun måtte tage morgenbad efter en sort mand [,] det var nyheder for Sydafrika — Den senegalesiske franske hær -

Efter morgenmad beder Mathu mig om at slutte mig til ham i et spil bordtennis — Vi spiller, og efter noget tid kommer to sydafrikanere forbi, og vi giver dem battene - og går til overdækket [,] finder DN [D. Naidoo]. læser Angel Pavement (Priestley) [J.B. Priestley, "Angel Pavement", 1930] Jeg siger, at Priestley kun er et værk af værdi [,] resten billigt - En hel koloni af sydafrikanere solbader, og jeg husker en sag om racisme i SA, og jeg undrer mig — Også den nederlandske reformerte kirke i SAfrika imod udsættelse af hvide kvinders kroppe for indfødte [,] men for mig er de hvide kvinder anæmiske [,] bleg rosa og blå hud [,] uattraktive, og jeg ser, at det bruges til at bluffe de hvide mænd selv [,] at deres kvinder er mere attraktive & bør [sic: should] betragtes som bedre end sorte kvinder for at opretholde bluffen om hvid overlegenhed — D. Naidoo stopper med at læse og ser på mig læse fransk og siger, at de indfødte bør [sic: should] alle samles sammen og drives ind i Atlanterhavet med maskingeværer bag dem og ikke bør [sic: should] have lov til at læse fransk [,] Han siger dette sarkastisk —

En mand med skæg står med Abr [Abraham] og taler seriøst om noget [,] så kommer Abr [Abraham] og fortæller os, at manden råder ham imod at tage imod bryderen [,] fordi manden måske kunne være sydafrikaner og kunne skade ham og lamme ham for livet – Manden var gammel + fast og nogle sydafrikanere forventede, at den anden mand ville være høflig & sportslig, når de selv ikke var villige til at give fordel til en farvet mand – Abr [Abraham] foregiver, at han trækker sig fra kampen på grund af denne mands råd – Mere tennis og så middag –

Til middag kommer Mathu, når jeg er færdig, og vi går til tennis [,] Mathu er meget ivrig – Vi finder banen optaget af to personer, tilsyneladende mand og kone – vi går ind, og Mathu spiller godt, men må tage bold og ketsjer til dækkets Steward indtil kl. 4 - Den skæve fyr kommer og sætter sig på hatches [sic: bænken eller hatch], et forfærdeligt syn. Han nægter at gå ned, og Formanden kommer og snakker med ham – Han virker som en god mand, men Stoker venter på at se lægen – Lægen giver ham noget tonic.

[/P] Vi sidder og taler, Mathu refererer til hændelsen ved broen [,] Vi griner over den måde, han sagde til de første klassepassagerer – "forretningsmagnater, hva'?" – og han siger, at han ikke ved, hvorfor han sagde det – Og "En kort ferie til England" så enkelt og uskyldigt [,] Jeg påpeger, at fyrene måske har misforstået ham og taget ham for en sarkastisk socialist eller kommunist, og de må have undret sig over, hvordan sådan et væsen fik pas i SA. Vi [illegible words] for det, men fejler – Vi griner over det –

[/P] Cockney kommer forbi, og Mathu spørger ham lige ud, om han vil gøre en anden tur efter 10 dage i Southampton – Siger “ja” trist – Han siger, at han er træt, og jeg siger, at han vil være i London om en uge – Han lysner op og tæller på sine fingre dagene – Mathu taler direkte om Stoker, men Cockney er ikke entusiastisk og går – Jeg siger til Mathu, at han ikke må lave en fejl – Han bør [sic: should] lære at sige, hvad han tænker, når han [illegible] vil sige det – Han sammenligner med en dum detektiv [,] han siger [,] ville blive skudt af en kriminel – Vi griner igen –

[/P] Jeg går for at tage et bad - & går efter et spil, men finder den unge jøde, der spiller med konen til Checks. Vi ser Checks ved rækværket med flydende hår – Mathu havde fortalt mig, at han var journalist og havde været i Indien – Så interesseret åbner Mathu en argumentation & [illegible words] med de politiske forhold i Indien — Nehru [Jawaharlal Nehru] kan ikke lykkes med sin plan — for urealistisk, da folk i Indien ikke er meget avancerede — Han spørger mig om min destination og siger, at Paris er bedre end England [illegible] men Frankrig er kosmopolitisk — Den franske kolonipolitik sammenlignet med den britiske — Han mener, der vil være sammenstød i Sydafrika // Hollandsk & engelsk — mener ikke meget om hollænderne — Tror ikke, at farvede [illegible] for ikke-europæere forenede front vil [sic: would] forråde, fordi de farvede gerne ville være europæere — (forsøger at finde ud af, om vi ikke er farvede) [,] Han fortæller om sociale & politiske forhold i Indien — det fattigste land i verden — De rige vil ikke gøre noget for de fattige — folk sover på gaden [,] Nehrus program er for avanceret for Indien, men situationen vil forbedres med tiden — Han fortæller om sine kontakter med indiske intellektuelle, Bose, Nehru Naidoo osv. Siger det samme om Afrika [,] for eksempel Senegal — Dakar. Den afrikanske redaktør af mit franske blad talte fransk mesterligt & var leder af et politisk parti — revolutioner er ikke gode [,] der skal være udvikling af politisk bevidsthed blandt masserne, og ledere skal forberede sig i beredskab – SA genoplivning af tribalismen, regeringspolitik – Hvad synes du om Rana Roo [illegible words] – Åh, det er svært at være både indisk & englænder. Hvis Indien fik national uafhængighed, ville det være koloni af enten Rusland eller Japan – Ikke indgået samfund [,] Tata stålværker – Han går og ser efter sin kone – Vi spiller, indtil det er tid til middag –

Watson peger [sic: points] på N + ser på Eur chd [sic: European child] & siger “se, er han en nigger – God gamle Watson [,] naiv og ærlig & reagerer [sic: responds] spontant på menneskehedens ømme følelser

Jeg går og ser på nyhedsarket på opslagstavlen – Hitlers [Adolf Hitler] tale forventes kl. 12¹, vild spænding ved Downing Street – folkemængder råber “Hænderne væk fra Tjekkosllovakiet” – Ung SA [sic: South African]

kommer – samme som talte med mig, da skibet forlod Cape Town –
Forstår du det, John?” Jeg så på ham og udviser forbløffelse og siger ja
“det ser ud til, at det ikke kan undgås. Helvede af en [illegible] op” – Han
ser forvirret ud –

[/P] Jeg går til overdækket og finder Watson & den sorte gruppe, der ser
mistænkeligt på forberedelserne til Balmoral Derby – Den unge kvinde er
meget begejstret [,] klædt som jockeyer [illegible] har spir på sin side, og
hun er meget snakkesalig [,] tilsyneladende en smule beruset – Hun
danser en vals med en af de unge mænd og taler med en vild stemme –
Hun løber hen imod os og spørger sømanden, der står bag os, om han
ikke har en sikkerhedsnål til hende [,] Han siger nej, og hun spørger, om
hans kæreste aldrig bærer sikkerhedsnåle på en antydende måde – Da
hun går væk, bliver sømanden vred og siger, at han hader sydafrikanere
og ikke ønsker at være uhøflig [overfor] kvinden – Han kalder dem alle
mulige navne – uvidende osv. Deres holdning til de sorte fordømmer han,
og deres måde at more sig på, mener han er barnlig og larmende –
Kolonister osv. Han foretrækker at nyde sig selv stille [,] drikke og kvinder
selvfølgelig – Abr [Abraham] spørger direkte, hvorfor sømænd elsker
kvinder, og jeg blander mig og siger, at alle mænd kan lide kvinder – Vi
talte om krig + sømanden siger, at han ville tage til Honolulu [Honolulu,
Hawaii] & sælge ure, hvis det brød ud – Han fortæller om krigserfaring
som kanonér og beskriver rædslerne ved den næste krig.

Vi taler om muligheden for krig [,] Sømanden siger, at i 1914 blev én mand
myrdet, i dag er scores mænd blevet myrdet [,] nok til at forårsage
hundrede krige – Han siger, at hvis krig kommer, vil han tage til Honolulu
og sælge ure – Englænder hver gang. Abr [Abraham] taler om krig som
grusom, rædselsfuld osv – Jeg siger, at krig rydder op i tidens skidt, og i
den forstand er det en nødvendighed – Englands historie [,] kun krige [,]
derfor demokrati – W [Watson] er chokeret [,] taler om små børn osv [,]
Jeg siger, at i Cape Town døde børn i skarer af underernæring & T.B. [sic:
tuberculosis] han forbliver tavs & rastløs [,] forventer Hitlers erklæring kl.
22 over radioen – Abr [Abraham] bliver hysterisk i fordømmelsen af krig
– SV kommer med et forsigtigt ord imod krig – Mathu støtter mig – Han
finder N & vender tilbage for at sige, at han stillede det til N, at hvis nogen
stolede ham for £1000 [illegible] N ville gå til politiet, og hvis de ikke
kunne gøre noget, så sidde ned – Naiv og barnlig – Mathu er meget
underholdt –

Vi sidder omkring og drikker, og der er glæde [sic: gaiety] i Derby –
kvinderne synes at være de mest støjende – en mand holder kvinden
omkring livet – sømanden er spændt. Her er en mand, der klør kvindens
ryg osv [,] han falder i en tænsom stemning + Tappy kommer for anden

gang for at gemme en flaske øl — Glimt i øjnene. Jeg sidder lidt og går så ned.

[13. september]

// Morgen & Mathu ankommer og går ned til tennis, derefter overdækket. 3 ankommer dramatisk [,] de ser forvirrede ud og "giver hånd" rundt omkring + bryder sig dummeligt - Jeg protesterer, de synes at tro mere på rå styrke end på mental styrke - Jeg ser bokseren og hans venner tage et fotografi

[/P] te-tid [,] bandet - Watson viser os vores navne i Cape Times [avis] passagerliste - Vi sidder + europæerne spiller dækkets quoits - SV er rastløs & går til den anden ende, og barnet leger [,] M [Mathu] taler med hende -

[note i margen:] Daar le Die Ding² / Vi marcherede til Pretoria Prelon

Jeg går [til] rygerummet og læser Hitlers erklæring og står der for at gøre ubehageligt - Vi går ned til frokost, så tennis [,] Den brydende stoker kommer forbi med sin gruppe [,] han ser ud som en fin studiemand [,] klar teint, slående øjne - ærlig og lige. Sidder og spiser dadler bragt af SA-kokkens dreng - den anden gruppe ser forfærdelig ud - Han ser sultent på de forbigående kvinder - Mathu sidder ved siden af bryderen -

Mathu kommer og fortæller os om speciel middag, og at deres tjener havde forberedt deres pladser, og han ville blive skuffet, hvis ikke - vi sidder og taler - Middag og derefter kommer Mathu og siger i dilemma [,] hvad man skal gøre, gå eller ikke - klæde sig op eller ikke [det er en kostumeaften] - Jeg siger, jeg vil ikke [sic: won't] klæde mig op osv., men vil gå op & spise - Vi hører meget larm i korridoren, da forberedelserne gøres - kvinderne er begejstrede og løber op og ned - Vi går til overdækket & finder 3 talende og har besluttet ikke at gå og vidne som 2 ½ galleri - Abr [Abraham] & SV er ikke besluttet - de argumenterer [,] DN [D. Naidoo] prøver at stoppe dem, men da bandet begynder, dash de over og ser [,] DN går efter dem og bliver også - ser også [,] jeg går også - Princippet er forsvundet i vinden.

Jeg bemærker, at jeg kunne gå som jeg var og gå væk med præmien - Kommandanten til at dømme, og Abr [Abraham] undrer sig over, at han kunne give præmien med en så smuk spektakel - Jeg siger, at han skal lukke øjnene og trække en hvilken som helst ud - Hvad med de andre, siger Abr - Jeg går væk, og en steward [-] når han går væk [-] ser på mig og laver en gestus af foragt med sin hånd - så ingen kan se - Dick Wittington³ og kinesisk coolie⁴ og hawaiiensk pige vinder præmier - Abr

er glad, han gik også for at kigge –

[/P] Vi går til underdækket & vender tilbage for at finde 3 tale med journalisten – Abr [Abraham] forklarer hurtigt deres position til ham (om Sydafrikas politik) [...] Hofmeyers [sic: J.H. Hofmeyr] afgang som implication – reaktionær kol [sic: kolonial] stemme truet – Jeg lægger ind “hvordan kan krige undgås, når folk opfører sig på denne måde” [...] Journalisten gør grimasser & taler om sin kone og går efter at have givet hånden varmt –

Abr [Abraham] taler [illegible] samtalen startede om sorte & hvide ægteskaber – fortæller om indiske CapeT [sic: Cape Town]-læge, der giftede sig med en hvid kvinde + vendte tilbage til CT [sic: Cape Town], hvordan avisen brød ham, & hvordan han tabte sagen i domstolene – DN [D. Naidoo] mener, det er rigtigt at forsvare værdighed – Jeg siger, det var ren harakiri⁵. Han kendte domstolene & retfærdigheden i SA for godt til at have bekymret sig om det.

Vi går ned [til] kahytter, og SV er så bekymret over at klæde sig op, at han tager sine sko af for at sove, men DN [D. Naidoo] overtaler ham – laver sjov bemærkning om komitéen, der nærmer sig os osv [...] Mens vi venter, er Honolulu-pigen ved at dele sine læber – Abr [Abraham] lykønsker hende, og hun bliver smigret [,] også hvis hun ville [sic: would] gerne tage derhen [...] Åh, så længe jeg kan huske – Jeg er flov og gemmer mig.

Vi går op i spisesalen

Watson & jeg [,] så går Wats [Watson] for at kalde N – Han ankommer, og vi spiser – bon-bons & mærkelige ting kommer fra jakkerne – Watson får en fløjte & rød papirhat [,] sætter den på og blæser fløjten. N bemærker, at nogen blæser, som om de hjælpeløst søger kontakter på den anden side for enhver pris – Jeg spiser voldsomt og går væk – Der er meget spænding [,] sang osv [,] crooneren i sit element – en sigøjner. Deres sang af Sarie Marais – Daar le die ding – Pretoria osv⁶ – En rigtig SA-aften. N slår sin ballon omkring målrettet, som om han vil deltage i sjovet [,] det ser patetisk ud – bagefter er der dans, og jeg ser N stå alene med sin røde hat på og sin røde ballon i hånden – mærkelig & malplaceret

[note i margen:] Mathu så underholdt, at han går ned a [illegible]

Mathu siger, lad os gå & vi [illegible] går til hver hvad der skal ses [,] hvad hver så [,] skulle jeg kunne blive [...] Vi ser den studerende fra den første dag som en spæd – Jeg bemærker, at han er så forvirret over verden, at han risikerer at synke tilbage til spædbarnet – (Freud)

Vi går ned for at sove + C. Vi taler om ubehaget ved uddannelse, der producerer typer som N. N kommer ind lige som jeg siger, at han måske er der – Vi taler om Fort Hare⁷ eventyr osv – uroligheder – Wardew + hans reaktion på Edward VIII-hændelsen – McCord Hospital [,] McCord [James McCord] i live [,] burde [sic: should] være død, da ingen vidste, om han ville [sic: would] gøre mærkelige ting før døden osv – Søvn -

[14. september]

// Op om morgenen og forventer at se De Kanariske Øer & Tenerife – Passerer Carnavan Castle, mens jeg er nedenunder – På dækket læser jeg Aldous Huxley "Beyond Mexique Bay" ["Beyond the Mexique Bay", 1934] om Hitler osv & nazisme [,] interessant, men begrænset i udsigt & uretfærdige misrepræsentationer af fakta.

Så spænding og pegende fingre – Øen dækket af tåge set over skyerne i starten [,] Jeg siger, det er skyer, men mere & mere tydeligt [,] Et bjerg på Ingenting (Teneriff [sic: Tenerife]), og jeg siger, at det måske er oprindelsen til ideen om himlen – Naidoo forklarer jordens opfattelse af primitiv indisk mytologi – hvilende på fire elefanter, og disse på en skildpadde, der svømmer på havet af intethed –

Bandet spiller Sarie Marais, Daar le die ding Pretoria osv, glad for at jeg ikke er i rygerummet

Watson er utilfreds med rygterne om krig [,] Jeg prøver at berolige ham – stakkels mand – Jeg føler mig glad for, at jeg er væk fra Sydafrika, fordi Carnavan Castle blev holdt op i S. Hampton [,] Alt for at være væk fra det forbandede land – Jeg savner Ronald & Gladys [Mancobas yngre søskende] – Jeg hader disse sydafrikanere, og jeg er træt af at se på dem og hvad de repræsenterer – Skibet er for mig Sydafrika i miniature – I går aftes gav politimanden i fancy dress mig et chok – Jeg frygter fysisk brutalitet, hver gang de passerer for tæt på mig – de nazistiske brutale –

Frokost – og efter frokost spiller vi dækkets tennis, så badet – Mathu sidder med mig og taler [,] Han kan ikke lide D.N [,] Han leger med ballonen og sprænger den – Han griner + fortæller N ved te-tid - N er ked af det & vil have den [,] Mathu lover at købe ham en anden –

Jeg går op til overdækket + sidder med gruppen [,] havet er roligt – solnedgangen vidunderlig [,] Watson fortæller mig, at den ældre mand ikke ville tale med ham [,] behandlede ham som en smule skidt [,] Han spurgte, om nogen besatte dækstolen – Stakkels gamle mand [,] han er desillusioneret og forvirret – hjælpeløst gentager "Han er hollænder."

Han er hollænder –

Solnedgangen, en globe af ild

Jeg er rastløs & lettet efter at have talt med Mathu om ungdommens mission i denne verden – Hvorfor jeg ikke kan lide N-typen af afrikaner.

Argumentation på stand pt [sic: point] af antropologi. Abrahams strålende, men fra det medicinske synspunkt [sic: view point] – D. Naidoo er uenig – præsenterer nazistisk underlegenheds overlegenheds idé. Søvn.

¹ W. Sze: Hitler addresses a Nazi Congress in Nuremburg on 12 Sep 1938

² W. Sze: Daar Lê Die Ding, a humorous Afrikaans song meaning There lies the thing

³ W. Sze: Dick Whittington, a fictional character in English folk tale

⁴ W. Sze: "Coolie" referred to conical shape hat, the reference was derogatory then

⁵ W. Sze: ritual form of suicide in Japan

⁶ W. Sze: Afrikaans folksongs

⁷ W. Sze: Mancoba studied at the University of Fort Hare from 1933 to 1936.

Sept 12 / Malt walks me and we go to lower deck
and there like a dream shadows the
horizon is broken by a jagged line of
mountain outline - We see more & more
- Not so beautiful as Table Mountain says
Maltin - more and more land on horizon
then the main prominence - Two light houses
then as we leave the Cape we see four
ships - wrecks on the rocks and by experience
we feel safe -

Breakfast + I tell Watson about the sight
of land - He tells me about 4 miles
from the light house Dakar - French
He says he was at one time - the town
equality of races the policy of France - white
and black - sit together eat together
& play cards together - Dakar Cape Verde
becomes for me a symbol of what - like
the Statue of Liberty for the American -
I remember Nora's description of her
experiences in Dakar - how she lived
in same hotel as blacks - how she
had had morning bath after a black -
man it was new for South Africa - The
Senegalese French Army -

After breakfast Maltin asks me to join him

a game of Tennis Table - He play
after forenoon the SAfricans come
along & we give them the bats - & go to
upper deck find SA. reading Angel
Pavement (Prestly) I say prestly are
work of any value not cheap -
A white colony of South African Sunbaths
and I remember case of London - SA
& I wonder - Also the Dutch reformed
Church in SAfrica against the exposure
of body of white women to Natives but
to me the white woman. a genuine
pallor pink and blue skin
unattractive and I see it is used
to bluff the white-men themselves that
their women folk more attractive &
shd be considered better than black
women so as to keep up the bluff
of white superiority - SA Natives stop
reading & looks at me reading French
& says the Natives shd all be herded
together & driven into the Atlantic
with Machine guns behind them
& shd not be allowed to read French
He says this sarcastically - ~~to me~~
Man with a beard stands with.

Abi & speaks seriously on something then Abi
comes & tell us that the man advising
him against taking on the wrestle
because the man might be African
and might hurt him and disable him
for life - The man was old & set and
African expected the other man to
be polite & sporting when they themselves
were not ready to give advantage to
man of colour - Abi pretends that he
is withdrawing from the fight because
of this man's advice - More tennis & other
dinners -

At dinner Mahli comes when I finish
& we go to tennis Mahli is very keen -
We find the court occupied by two
people evidently man and wife - ~~the~~
We go in and Mahli flaps hell but has
to take ball and rackets & deck steward
till 4 o'clock. We sit and talk Mahli
refers to the incident at the bridge
We laugh over the way he said to the
1st class passengers - "business magnets
eh" - and he says he does not know
why he said it - And "A short holiday to
England" so simply and innocently
over - He seems a good man but Stokes built to be
death - doctor gave him some tonic

The Cross
aged Stokes
comes &
Sib on
the hatch
a terrible
fight. He
refuses
to go down
for man
ages &
talks him

I point out that the fellows might have
misunderstood him & took him for a
sarcastic Socialist or Communist &
must have wondered how such a
creature got the Passport - SA. He
try to ask for it but fail - We laugh
over it - The Cockney ~~and~~ comes along
and Mahtu asks him straight off whether
he will do another trip after Odessa &
South Harbin - Says "yes" badly - He says
he is tired & says he ~~will~~ fall he is
bored in a bit - He brightens up and
counts on his fingers the days - Mahtu
bluntly talks of the Stokes but Cockney
not enthusiastic & goes - Still Mahtu
he must not blunder - He shd learn
to say what he thinks when he hears to
say it - He compares with foolish detection
he says he'd be shot by criminal - He
laughs again - I go for a bath - &
go for game but find the young jess
playing with the life of the ~~Stokes~~ Checks
we see the Checks off the rails with flowing
hair - Mahtu had told he was a
journalist and had been to India. He interests
Mahtu goes on argument & makes rather

of with the political condition of India - Nehru
cannot succeed with his plan - too
impracticable as people of India not much
advanced - He asks the big question
and says Paris better than England Commercial
but France Cosmopolitan - The French
Colonial Policy compared with British -
He thinks there will be clash with
Apr 11 Dutch & English - does not think
much of Dutch - Does not believe
coloureds trustworthy for non-European
United front but the better because the
coloureds feel like the Europeans - Goes to
find out if we not coloureds) He tells of
social & political condition in India - the poorest
country in the world - The rich will not do any
thing for the poor - people sleeping in the streets
Nehru's programme too advanced for India
but situation will improve with time - He tells
his contacts with Indian intellectuals, Bose,
Nehru, Naidoo etc. Says the case of Africa
instance Senegal - Dakar, African editor
of French paper spoke French in past & is
leader of a political party - revolution no good
there must be development of political consciousness
among the masses & leader must prepare them

SA. revival of Tribalism Govt policy
in readers - What do you think of Raza Ras
as a man - Oh it's difficult to be both
Indian & English - If India got national
independence the 1st the colony of the Russia
or Japan - Not a distinct community. Lata
Nedra looks - He goes & looks for his wife -
We stay till 10:30 dinner time -
Watson pt at 11 & looks at Sm. chd +
says "Look he's a nigger" - Good old
Watson guileless and honest expresses
spontaneously his tender feelings of humanity -
I go and look at Mens. Kpelt on
Noble board - Hitler's speech expected
at 12 o'clock held excitement at Downing
Street - Grouds shout "Hail to Off
Czechoslovakia" - Young SA comes - pane
as spoke to me as ship left Capetown -
Do you understand it John? "I looked
at him & affect amazement and say yes
& then ~~don't~~ ~~say~~ it seems as if
it can't be avoided. Tell of a last
sp" - He looks confused - I go to upper
deck and find Watson & the black group
watching askance the preparations of the
Boisroval Derby - The young woman very
excited dress as jockey's or her steeps

playing on her side and she is very talkative
apparently a bit drunk - She dances a
walk with one of the young men and talks
in a wild voice - She runs towards
us and asks the sailor standing behind
us if he has no safety pins for her
He says no and she asks if the girl
never wears safety pins in a suggestive
manner - As she goes away the sailor
flairs up & says he hated Africans
and did not wish to be in the
boxcar - He calls them all sort of
names - ignorant etc. Their attitude to
the blacks he condemns and their
way of amusements he thinks childish
& distasteful - "Colonels etc." He preferred
Kenya himself quietly drinks &
smokes of course - Abr. Jøhansen asks
why sailors love bones & I bridge in
& say all men like women - He spoke of
bar & sailor says he wd go to Honolulu &
sell matches if it did break out - He
tells of Bar Vesperianna as gun-lager and
describes the horrors of the next bar.

Be talk of the possibility of war / Sailor says
→ It is 1914 one has purchased by today's prices

men have been murdered enough to cause
hundred bars - He says if bar comes he
will go to Honolulu and sell patches -
Englishman every time. Abr speaks of bar
as nasty, gasty, etc - I say bar cleans
up much of period and in that sense
a necessity - History of Eng. just wars
hence democracy - ~~He~~ W is shocked
speaks of little children etc I say in
Cape Town chd died in score of polio
+ T.B. he remains silent & restless.
expects Hitler's declaration at 10 pm
over the radio - Abr becomes hysterical
in condemnation of bar - SV. puts in a
timid word against bar - Makin supports
me - He hunk up N & returns the k
say he put it to N that if some one
robbed him of £1000 per N wd go to
police + if they cannot do anything then
sit down - Naive and childish -
Makin is tickled -

He sit about and drinks and gaily
in the Derby - Women seem to be most
noisy - One bar is holding woman
round the waist - the sailor is excited
there's a bar scratching the woman

back etc he falls in persive hood ~~top~~
+ Tuffy cones for second time to hide a
bottle of beer - Sprinkle in eyes. I sit
for a little & then ~~set~~ dead -

Morning + Muttu arrives & get down to business
after then upper deck - Zartine dramatically
they look confused and "shake hands" all
round & wrestle foolishly - I protest they
seem to believe more in brute force than
in mental strength - I see the boxer and his
friends take a photograph featuring the
band - Watson shows us our names
in Capetown's passenger list - We sit & Surfer
play deck quoits - SV is restless
& go other end & child in plays M talks
to her -

Daar le
die Ding
we are
marching
to Pretoria
Pretoria

I go the Smoking room & read Hitler's declaration
and stand there to make uncomfortable -
he go down to the lunch then Stearns
wrestling stoker cones along with his
crowd he looks a fine study of a man
clear complexion striking eyes & honest
and straight. Sits and eats date
brought by SA. Cooks by - the second quirt
looks terrible - He looks hungrily at passing
women - Muttu sits next the wrestler -

Maklin comes and tells of special purpose
& that their waiter had prepared their places
& he wd be disappointed if not - we sit &
talk. - ~~Supper~~ Dinner & after words Maklin
comes & says in dilemma what to do to go
or not - to dress up or not - I say I
won't dress up etc but will walk up &
eat - We hear much noise in the corridor
as preparations are made - Women excited
running up & down - We go to upper deck
& find 3 talking and having decided
not to go & to treat as 2 1/2 gallery -
Abr. & S.V. not decided - they argue DN
tries to stop them but when band
starts they dash over and look DN
goes after them & stays to look also
I go also. Principle goes to the winds
I remark cd go as home & walk off with
prize - Commander to judge & Abr
wonders he could give the prize with
such beautiful spectacle - I say what
his eyes & he drags any out - What
about the others Ah says - I walk
away & see Stewart as he walks off
looks at me and makes gesture of
disgust with his hand - so as we are

can see - Dick Dittlinger and Chinese looter
and Hawaiian girl in prize - Abr
is happy he also went to look - We go to
lower deck & return to find 3 talking to
journalist - Abr is fast explaining the
position to him (of South African politics) Hognar
resignation is implication & reactionary Col who
threatened - ~~you~~ I put in "how can one
be avoided when people behave in this way"
journalist grins & speaks of wife and gets
off shaking hands with - (We watch
dancers and start discussing again
on retreat when to go or not Abr talks about how
the Hodelen girl to
Henty he
lips - Abr
appreciable
her & she
is flattered
also of
she told
like to go
there of
as long as I
can repeat
- Dan
exposed
while
myself

the talk ~~signified~~ started black & white
marriage - tells of Adrian Capet doctor
who married white woman & returned to C.T.
how the papers broke him & how he lost case
in court - DN thinks right to defend
dignity - I say it was mere hari kari. He
knew the courts & justice in SA to well to
have bothered about it.

We go down Caban & SN is so worried about
dressing up that he takes off his shoes &
sleep but DN prevails upon him - make
funny remark about committee approach you
etc, I beg up and during saloon

Watson then Watson goes to call ~~the~~ N-
 He arrives & we eat - bon-bons & odd
 things come from packets - Watson gets
 a whistle & red paper cap puts it on
 and blows whistle. Someone else
 blows a whistle and Watson blows
 N remarks someone is blowing as if
 searching helplessly for contacts on
 other side but all costs - I eat
 savagely and get away - There is
 much excitement singing etc. the
 crooner is in element - a gyppie.
 Then singing of Santa Maria - Daar
 he die ding Pretoria etc. - a
 regular A. night. N hits his balloon
 about aimless as if to take part in
 the fun it looks pathetic -
 after band there is the dance and
 I see N standing alone with his
 red cap on and his red balloon
 in his hand - odd & out of place -
 N says let's go & be right & get
 annoyed that he should like to become we see the student
 of the postday as an input & remark
 that he is so confused with the world he

Drop & sink back & lying - (Fred)

We go down & sleep. C. he speaks
of the hastiness of education, that produces
types of N. It comes in just as I say
he might be true - We talk shop of Fort Hare
excursions etc - unrest - Wonder - his
reaction to Edward VIII incident - McLeod
Hospital McLeod alive should be dead as
no one knew if he'd not do queer things before
death etc - Sleep -

Up in the morning and expecting to see
Canary Is. & Tenerife - On deck reading
Aldous Huxley "Beyond Mexico Bay" and
passing on Hitler etc & Nazism - interesting but limited
in outlook & unfair misrepresentation of facts.
Then excitement and pointing of fingers - Then
the veiled outline seen above clouds at first.
I say it's cloud but more & more distinct
down - A mountain or Nothing (Teneriffe) and I say
that perhaps it's origin of idea of heaven - Nardoo
explains the conception of earth by primitive
Indian mythology - resting on four elephants
and these on a tortoise swimming on the
sea of nothingness -

Bard plays Sarru Marais, Daar le die ding
Pretoria etc glad I am not in the Smoking-room

Watson is unhappy over the rumors of War
I try to calm him - poor man - I feel
happy I am away from South Africa bec.
the Carnarvon Castle has held up in
S. Harpton anything to be away from
the ~~land~~ ^{curse} Country - I miss Ronald &
Gladys - I hate these South Africans &
I am tired of looking at them and
what they represent - The ship for
me is South Africa is miniature - last
night the police-man in fancy dress
gave me a shock - I dread physical
brutalisation whenever they pass by
near me - the Nazi brutes -
Lunch - and after lunch we play
deck tennis then the bath -
Methu sits with me and talk
He dislikes D.N. He toys with the
balloon and bursts it - He laughs
& tell M at tea time - M is sorry &
wants it - Methu promises to buy him
another -
I go up to upper deck & sit with group
the sea is calm - the sunset wonderful
Watson tells me the elder has had not
speck to him treated him like his old friend

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

The bot sets a globe of fire -

Argument on standpt of ~~physical~~ anthropology
Abraham's brilliant but from the medical
viewpt - Moidoo disagrees & presents Nazi
inferiority - inferiority idea - Deep

→ Ian restless & relieved after speaking
to Mehta on the mission of youth in the
world - Why dislike the N type of African -

Sept 15th Madeira in sight as I go
to upper deck - "The Port of the Antarctic" - lying
in harbor German man o' War - the
Swastika very much in evidence - also German
passenger boat General Artigues Hamburg
funclal well inhabited - beautiful villas on
the mountain side - as we drop anchor
small rowing boats containing 3 rowers
and two divers - by & by. Short up &
on. Hulls Mr Brown throws ticks. Small boy
dive etc. some throw coins - I look uneasily
at German War ship - as we stop many more
rowing boats come up & visit the ship.
All sort of herderdine - Photographs of Island