

Sunday evening 16/1/89

Je connais une planète où il y a un Monsieur Cramoisi. Il n'a jamais respiré une fleur. Il n'a jamais regardé une étoile. Il n'a jamais aimé personne. Il n'a jamais rien fait d'autre que des additions. Et toute la journée il répète comme toi : "Je suis un homme sérieux ! Je suis un homme sérieux !" et ça le fait souffler d'orgueil. Mais ce n'est pas un homme, c'est un champignon. Un quoi ? Un Champignon !"

I am not writing to the wrong friend in the other country. In response to your letter, Stuart, about the shake up in the LB organisation I have quoted for you a couple of phrases out of the booklet: "Le petit Prince" by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry. The longer I work for Lloyd's Bank it becomes clearer and clearer to how feeble the bureaucrats in H.O are; NON-Persons

Champions nothing but Champions.

Being a freier working for a British Institution, I have from day one understood my limitations. I had no drive for Career making. But even when you do not want to make a Career the mediocrity in decision making hurts; the lack of a dialogue how fruitful is a discussion with a Champion.

The Netherlands (not Rotterdam!) is not meeting the objectives. After you left all initiative came to a grinding halt. Since two months at long last a senior Dutchman has been hired for Amsterdam. I cross my fingers and pray for him that ^{he} will be successful.

What an absolutely marvellous news to hear about your new job!! We are delighted for you! The last time we met in London, I had a tour through the Lloyd's Insurance building in the afternoon. Fascinating! We were invited by Jardines. Since that day we developed an interesting relationship to mutual benefit ($\pm$ Nlg 100 000 annually).

After eight years Italy for holidays, we plan to travel to the USA in October 1989 to visit the farm of the family in Oregon. I could not avoid the pressure of my father any longer. I pretended that I could pretty well form my opinions from the accounts. Whilst I am addicted to Italian Culture, I had to please my father lest I am forced to make a Career in the bank.

Nevertheless the case may be we will see each other in 1989. I hope to visit the UK tomorrow. You must like a full time in your last period. It is pretty full expensive for a Dutchman without a Career; but we'll manage. Love +吻