

# Noonan-Palette Letter.

Reproduced and transcribed here is a letter sent by Fred Noonan from Dakar, Senegal, French West Africa on June 9, 1937 to movie actor Eugene Palette.

The letter ended up in the possession of Noonan's widow and was released by her family after her death. It is not known whether Noonan sent any subsequent letters to Palette during the world flight.

PAR AVION

*On the*

*On the*

*Petersen*

Mr. Eugene Pallette  
Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel  
Hollywood  
California  
Etats - Unis.

F. J. NOONAN  
P.O. Box 162  
Hollywood  
CALIFORNIA

GAGNEZ DU TEMPS  
RÉPONDEZ  
PAR AVION





barged through okay.  
We anticipate taking-off  
for Niamey, French Niger,  
Central Africa, to-morrow  
morning, then to  
Khartoum, Egypt and  
Aden, Arabia.

With kindest personal  
regards, and looking  
forward to a highball  
to-gether in the not  
too distant future - I am

Sincerely  
Fred Noonan

Dakar - Senegal  
French West Africa  
June 9 - 1937

Dear Gene:  
Having trouble  
sending messages such as  
I promised you - but I  
am doing the best I can.  
Facilities are not always  
available, and therefore  
I am sending one message,  
when possible, naming stops  
made since the previous  
message. Tried to get one  
off last night but some  
trouble developed at the  
cable station. As I had  
sent the cablegram to the  
cable office by messenger

blind flying for ten  
of the thirteen hours  
we were in flight. To  
add to our woes the  
African coast was  
enveloped in thick  
haze, rendering objects  
invisible at distances  
over a half mile, when  
we made the landfall.  
And our radio was  
out of order - it would  
be, in such a jam.  
However - with our  
usual good luck, if  
not good guidance, we

I have not yet ascertained  
the cause of delay in  
transmission - but will  
do so later to-day.  
So far we have had a  
pleasant and uneventful  
trip.

With few exceptions  
the weather has been  
splendid. The flight  
from Natal, Brazil to  
Africa produced the  
worst weather we have  
experienced - heavy rain  
and dense cloud  
formations necessitated

Dakar - Senegal  
French West Africa  
June 9 - 1937

Dear Gene:

Having trouble sending messages such as I promised you - but I am doing the best I can. Facilities are not always available, and therefore I am sending one message, when possible, naming stops made since the previous message. Tried to get one off last night but some trouble developed at the cable station. As I had sent the cablegram to the cable office by messenger I have not yet ascertained the cause of the delay in transmission - but will do so later to-day. So far we have had a pleasant and uneventful trip.

With few exceptions the weather has been splendid. The flight from Natal, Brazil to Africa produced the worst weather we have experienced - heavy rain and dense cloud formations necessitated blind flying for ten of the thirteen hours we were in flight. To add to our woes the African coast was enveloped in thick haze, rendering objects invisible at distances over a half mile, when we made the landfall. And our radio was out of order - it would be, in such a jam. However - with our usual good luck, if not good guidance, we barged through okay. We anticipate taking-off for Niamey, French Niger, Central Africa, to-morrow morning, then to Khartoum, Egypt and Aden, Arabia.

With kindest personal regards, and looking forward to a highball to-gether in the not too distant future - I am

Sincerely,  
Fred Noonan