

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.



The International Group for Historic Aircraft Recovery
2366 Hickory Hill Road · Oxford, PA · 19363 · USA
610.467.1937 · www.tighar.org · info@tighar.org

PAR AVION

White

Orange

Pink

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