

Hong Kong, 7.5.76

Dear everybody,

We are glad to hear the latest news that Moslems and Phalangist are again kissing each other in the streets, and that fighting has hopefully stopped - we really hope this will be the end of the civil war.

It is now one month since we came to Hong Kong - it is a big city with a lot of people, and everything is different from Beirut. Especially in the office I am missing Katia's laughing, Giselle's sweet smiles, Sossy's big stomach (what has come out of it?) Asia's unbottomed jacket and even Ibrahim's Abu Mafi. You would not believe it, but our office boy here; well, compared to him Asia is the cream of intelligence! And even though it took you a long time to make me kissing you good bye, I found it strange that my predecessor, Soren Aarskov, could leave the office without even shaking hands with the employees - no champagne, no speeches, no farewell gifts. The secretary here has been with the company since the start about 9 years ago, but today when I asked her to stencil a circular letter, she did not even know what a stencil or duplication is, and in the $\frac{1}{2}$ hour lunch break, you know what they do? They sit in their chairs, switch off the light ... and sleeps. Of course after they have had their rice-lunch-box from a nearby cafeteria. And the weather here - while you have had nice clear sunshine for months now, we have so far had one day - today - with sun most of the time. Otherwise it is raining, with clouds hanging on the balcony or so foggy that you can hardly see your own nose.

The other day when we had some important visitors from Denmark, I was supposed to take them to a restaurant on the other side of the island, which is normally a trip of 20 minutes. I succeeded in losing my way in the fog (and loose the other car in front of me) and it took an extra hour to find the place. They had started on the second drink when we arrived.

I suppose I will come to like it little by little, but the problem is then that when I eventually might love Hong Kong I am going to be transferred to Tokyo. Why the hell did they start that fight in Beirut? Now our best regards to all of you