

6 December, 1952.

Chief Inspector,  
General Post Office Department,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Referring to the enclosed letter of the Postmaster at Washington, D.C., and the loss of \$20.00 in a letter sent through the mail to Ocean City, Md., on August 28 last, and also to the water soaked and mud caked envelope to that letter (furnished by me as an exhibit in the case), I desire to add the following.

The loss of that money certainly lies between the substitute carrier on that date and either Mr. or Mrs. Hilgard, --- the Postmaster at Ocean City being incidentally negligent in not informing the mail carrier of Mrs. von Bayer's change of address --- filed with him --- to the Shoreham Hotel, where for about two weeks she had been receiving her mail.

Mrs. Hilgard has stated that upon her return to her cottage the night of Monday, August 29, when the substitute carrier states he placed the letter containing the money under the porch mat, she found only newspapers on the porch. Later, she states she found letters under the mat but mine was not among them. When she returned the letter to Mrs. von Bayer at the Shoreham Hotel on September 2, unsigned, she makes a meager and rather vague statement that her husband found it off the porch, Friday, September 2, but says nothing about condition of contents. Again, still later, she tells the regular mail carrier that she found it under the mat on that date, just where the substitute carrier states he placed it on Monday, August 29. None of these statements agree nor can they be reconciled with the mud-stained, water soaked condition of the envelope sent to Mr. Mooney as an exhibit.

Mr. Hilgard took the inspector at Ocean City to the exact spot off the porch where he says he found it on Friday morning, September 2, after the rain, and in the mud. He states

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To - Chief Inspector, General P. O. Dept.

6 Dec. 1932

further that it contained \$40.00. How did he know this amount before it was returned to Mrs. von Bayer? (Unless he first examined the letter partially opened by the rain.) He must also have read the letter, which does not give amount of enclosure but states "Sufficient to carry you for some time". He was perfectly safe in returning it to Mrs. von Bayer with the amount he states he saw. Mrs. von Bayer would be none the wiser, nor was she until I knew it had not been received and later received her telegram, September 2, saying "Money received. Mislaidd by carrier. Letter follows."

But all this was before Mrs. von Bayer knew the amount and after she had shown it to the Postmaster at Ocean City and told him that the money had been found and was "intact". When she received my letter saying I had enclosed \$60.00, instead of \$40.00 -- the amount I had been sending her, she hastened to rectify the mistake and start a tracer. I keep a cash account and noted the amount as soon as I sent it out. I was too ill that day to go to a branch office and either to register it or send a money order.

When my daughter asked the regular mail carrier on that route how he could reconcile the various statements made by Mr. and Mrs. Hilgard concerning the temporary loss of that letter, his reply was, "I don't know what to say"!

I believe the substitute carrier placed that letter just where he said he did, but I don't believe Mr. Hilgard's story. He states that it contained only \$40.00. During the late world war he, while commanding a company at Camp Meade, Md., several times brought into my house property belonging to the Government for which he was accountable and appropriated the same to his own use. If he would do this it is quite reasonable to assume that if he found a letter partly open in a rain storm, with \$60.00 --- (three \$20 bills) --- and no statement regarding amount of enclosure, he would be safer in appropriating \$20 of that amount than he had been years before in defrauding the Government of property, not his own but of equal or greater value.

*It is my belief that this matter requires further investigation and prompt action.*

Very truly yours,

*R. G. Carter*

R. G. Carter,  
Captain, U.S.A., Ret.

**Post Office Department**  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INSPECTOR  
**Washington**

IN REPLY REFER TO:

34071-C  
FOB:TLR

December 14, 1932.

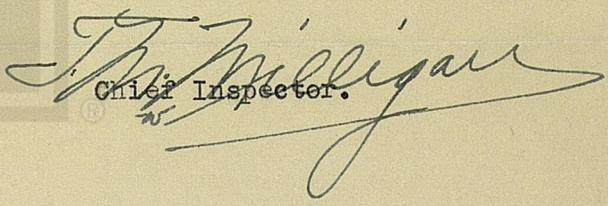
Mr. R. G. Carter,  
The Army and Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Carter:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of December 6, 1932, in further reference to your complaint of the mistreatment of a letter containing three twenty dollar bills mailed by you to Mrs. A. H. Von Bayer, 1111 Baltimore Avenue, Ocean City, Md.

This matter is receiving attention by a post office inspector but a report has not yet been received, and it is regretted that more information can not be furnished you at this time. Your letter and inclosure are being referred for the information of the inspector.

Sincerely yours,

  
Chief Inspector.

15 March, 1933.

The Chief Inspector,  
Post Office Department,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Some four or five weeks since an Inspector came from your office to see me regarding the money (\$20) lost by mail on or about August 28, 1932, at Ocean City, Maryland, through carelessness in delivery and "pilfer", said letter being addressed to Mrs. A. H. von Bayer but delivered to 1111 Baltimore Avenue, although her address had been changed by the usual filing of a card with the Postmaster at Ocean City, and her mail all sent to the new address for at least two weeks.

This Inspector indicated to me that the whole matter was to be adjusted at once and asked me to whom the money lost (\$20) was to be paid. I named my daughter, Mrs. A. H. von Bayer, Corner Morrison Street and Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D. C. He had her address and upon visiting her soon after, and having her sign an affidavit, gave her the same assurance of a prompt adjustment that he had given me. Nothing has been seen or heard from him since.

Will you please look into this matter and the failure to adjust it, now under investigation during such a long period, and have the same cleared up?

Very truly yours,

R. G. Carter,  
Captain, U.S.A., Retired.

7 December, 1933.

The Chief Inspector,  
Post Office Department,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Replying to letter from your Department of March 20, 1933, stating that further investigation would be necessary regarding the "pilfering" of \$20.00 from a letter mailed by me to my daughter, Mrs. A. H. von Bayer, to No. 1111 Baltimore Avenue, Ocean City, Md., in August 1932, after she had changed her address to a hotel and had filed notice of the same with the postmaster of Ocean City, but without my knowledge, I will state that my daughter died on March 23, 1933, at the Walter Reed Hospital and any further adjustment of this matter should be made through me.

I will further state that an Inspector from your office had already called upon both her and myself and asked to whom this money should be paid, indicating that a thorough investigation had already been made and a definite decision had been reached. Nothing further has ever been heard from him or from your Department.

All affidavits and correspondence referring to the loss of this money should be in your office.

Very truly yours,

R. G. Carter,  
Captain, U.S. Army, Ret'd.

**Post Office Department**  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INSPECTOR  
**Washington**

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
34071-C  
FOB:TLR

March 20, 1933.

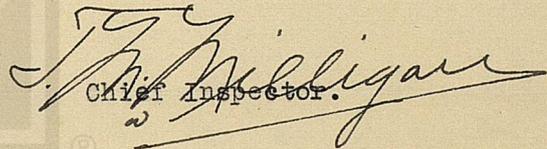
Mr. R. G. Carter,  
The Army and Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Carter:

Replying to your letter of March 15, 1933, a report from the post office inspector relative to your complaint of the mistreatment of a letter mailed by you to Mrs. A. H. von Bayer, 1111 Baltimore Avenue, Ocean City, Md., was received, but after a review of the subject it was decided that further investigation was necessary.

Your letter is being referred to the inspector and upon receipt of his final report you will be advised further.

Sincerely yours,

  
Chief Inspector.

28 March, 1933.

The Chief Inspector,  
Post Office Department,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of 20 March stating that further investigation would be necessary regarding the pilfering of \$20.00 from a letter mailed by me to my daughter, Mrs. A. H. Von Bayer, at 1111 Baltimore Avenue, Ocean City, Maryland, last August, I will state that my daughter died on March 23 at Walter Reed Hospital and any further adjustment of this matter should be made through me.

All affidavits and correspondence referring to this case should be on file in your office.

Very truly yours,

R. G. Carter,  
Captain, U.S. Army, Ret.

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