

onboard "Outward Leg"
at Larnaka, CYPRUS.
November 11th 1985.

Printed Jones,
S/Y "Outward Leg"
C/o Euan Cameron,
The Bodley Head,
30, Bedford Square,
LONDON WC1B 3RP,
ENGLAND.

"Auld Lang Syne...!"

Dear. MARGE & JOHN

If, from my writings, you know anything about me, you won't be surprised to learn that your name has been carried half-way around the world onboard the 38 foot trimaran "Outward Leg" since she left San Diego, CA, in October 1983. By your patronage in buying a mobile or books, or both, you helped me to start off on my voyage to bring hope, encouragement and an example to other amputees, and especially youngsters, the world over. Thus we, my boat and I, have now done in 24 countries in North America, South America and Europe.

"Outward Leg" made her way three thousand miles to Panama, then visited Colombia, Venezuela and Santo Domingo. She called at New York for supplies in May last year, then crossed the Atlantic to England. From London she crossed the North Sea, and, after I had been hospitalised for two weeks with three broken ribs and a collapsed lung, ascended the river Rhine with the intention of hauling across a river-less gap in Bavaria to reach the Danube. The fierce winter of 1984-5 trapped the boat in thick ice for six weeks, and I had a tremendous struggle with the German Authorities to make the haul. Eventually, I succeeded, and after dragging the boat sixty miles along the roaring cataracts of the Upper Danube in very swift currents, navigated almost 1500 miles to the Black Sea. This leg took the boat through the Iron Curtain. On the way she was guest of honor of the city of Vienna, almost sunk by machinations of the Czechoslovakian frontier police, and again given place of honor in Budapest, the capital of Hungary, then arrested three times in Rumania for "straying off" the bewildering maze of "international waterways".

During the course of traversing a thousand miles of Communist territory, three thousand people visited the boat, and were told about the most individualistic activity known to man - ocean voyaging in small craft. Eight hundred handicapped people, mainly youngsters in wheelchairs, were taken for day-trips on the river Danube in the summer of this year. I like to think that we made a lasting impression on their minds.

The Black Sea was reached in July of 1985. Since then I have been making my way to Cyprus, finding the place, the means and the wherewithal to repair the ice-damage from last winter and the wounds sustained by our encounter with the frontier police in Czechoslovakia. Now the boat is ready to be hauled out tomorrow, and repairs should take about two weeks. Then we shall prepare the boat for passing through the next great obstacle on our course east about the world, the Suez Canal, the Red Sea, Indian Ocean, to Singapore.

The events described above will be featured in the January issue of "Cruising World", available at your local paperstand. The whole voyage has been made, until now, completely unsponsored and unsupported, except by various good people who have helped us locally at ports-of-call. By the time I had paid for my amputation, my false leg and for fitting out the boat with safety gear, I had exactly \$300 in the world. Since leaving San Diego two years ago I have supported the voyage wholly through my writings. I have written two books, so far, on the voyage - not an easy thing, by any means, in a small confined cabin, sometimes in rough anchorages. The first book, "Outward Leg" will be published by Wm Morrow in the USA in the next few weeks. It has already been published in the UK, by Bodley Head, under the title

"Sailor to Steer Her By". The second book, entitled "The "Impossible" Voyage" (about the trans-Europe leg) will be published by Bodley Head next year (U.S. publisher as yet unknown).

Apart from the books, I have also written twenty eight magazine articles which have been and will be published in nine countries. The co-ordination of all this work is most difficult, made so by my being badly let down by a London agent last spring. I have now recovered the situation caused by his neglect. Thus my message, of self-help wherever possible, is getting through to many sailors and handicapped people the world over.

BUT I NEED HELP AND THIS IS WHERE YOU COME IN.

In return for a contribution (tax deductible) to the Atlantis Society (details below) of \$10.00 (or more) I will send you each quarter (commencing December 31st) a newsletter about the voyage. I will also send you signed labels for any of my books which you might purchase and

I will engrave your name on a brass plate fitted on "Outward Leg's" main beam,

and
I will include your name in the acknowledgements in the next book, "The "Improbable" Voyage" (to be published in 1987).

Your \$10.00 will keep "Outward Leg" afloat and seaworthy for one day.

\$20 will purchase one average sea-chart.

\$30 will be one tenth of the cost of transiting the Suez Canal.

\$40 will pay for the inspection and overhaul of the liferaft.

\$50 will buy two new sail-halyards.

\$60 will pay for the postage of this mail shot...and etc, etc....

I intend to pass through Suez at the end of this year, and to be in Singapore by the end of May. From there I will head up to Hong-Kong and Japan, ready to make the long ocean passage back to San Diego in 1987. Thus, the first ever U.S. ocean vessel to visit the Upper Danube, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary (post 1918) and Danubian Yugoslavia, will return home, with the help of some good American people, and the first ever east-about passage of the world, north of the equator, will have been accomplished, and by an amputee in his sixties, at that. - - - -

Please make your contributions to the Atlantis Society,
a/c No. 043-III4440
Chemical Bank,
204, West 4th St.,
New York, NY 10014.

and if you would like a note of acknowledgement, write to the address at the top of this letter and let me know. I shall reply, but it may take a few weeks, as I shall be on the move in remote sea-areas.

Note for your tax-accountant: The Atlantis Society Inc is certified in the State of New York under Section 402, as a non-profit organisation to research means of ocean-voyaging for handicapped people. President Tristan Jones. Date of certification 22nd January 1981. Under Section 803 of the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law of the State of New York.

NOTE: If you receive this before January 20th you may write to me direct
C/o Sailor's Bookshelf, Box 643,
HILLSIDE, NJ 07205.

Thankyou, sincerely,

Tristan Jones