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Hälsöbackatan 4,
Stockholm Va.,
Sweden

September 16, 1953.

Dear Ruth,

Thank you for your letter last spring. You all certainly wonder why you do not hear anything in relation to the form that you signed. It has been rather a complicated matter. There was an auction sale in the summer, and then his house had to be sold, etc. I am now, on behalf of Kjell Harding, sending you another form to be signed. The background of this is the following rather delicate and sad story.

After uncle Gullbrand's death it appeared, quite to our surprise, that we had got a new cousin, Gurli by name, born 1904. Uncle Gullbrand was her father. No one knew about it; except aunt Klara, but she never knew who she was and where she lived. Now, according to Swedish law, Gurli has no right to inherit her father as she is not what we call a "trolovningsbarn" (husband's betrothal child). This seemed to us rather unfair so we agreed to give her 10,000 kronor as a gift from the real heirs. (I must mention that aunt Klara has given up her share to be divided between the other heirs, so there will be 4 main lots which will be divided according to the number of the resp. family members. The assets are, according to the inventory and as far as can be judged now, around 100,000 kronor, so your share will be about 25,000 kronor to be divided in 7 lots. However, Kjell has no right to make this gift to Gurli for your account unless he gets a proxy from you and that is what the enclosed form contains. The sum will not exceed 500 kronor for each one of you. Of course, it is up to you to decide if you on your part are willing to do this. I might mention that, according to Kjell and Be and others who have met Gurli, she is really worth to be taken up amongst her cousins after having been "hidden" for so many years. It appears that uncle Gullbrand and Gurli have had a certain contact now and then but always very secretly. Apparently, his wife knew nothing about it. He got to know about it through a letter that Gurli wrote to aunt Rya after uncle Gullbrand's death. There she told her, amongst other things, that her mother died when Gurli was only a little child. It is all a very sad story. Poor uncle Gullbrand who has had to carry this secret all his life. Gurli herself is very happy and grateful for this arrangement and for the contact with her relatives. She is married and has 3 children and is, as far as I understand, very well off.

As I did last time I send you 7 forms and ask you kindly to forward one to each of your brothers and sister so that they can mail it direct to Kjell when the form is signed and witnessed. I am also enclosing copies of this letter for them so that they will know what the form is meant for.

With kindest regards to all of you.

Your cousin

Märta Hegnell