

WTC103. Handwritten Postcard from Mat Schwitzer in London to Miss Anny Schwitzer, Zrinskeho 5/a, Bratislava, Czechoslovakia. Handwritten date 16th August 1938 at 15.05 Postmarked London NW1 at 5.15pm 16th August 1938.

Liebe Anny, Bitte sei so gut und habe wir diese karte vacht gut auf. Ich fahre am 20 wieder nach Bexhill u m bleibe dort 2-3 tage. Komm etwa am 30 am Haeus an. Servus Matji.

Dear Anny, please be so good and have this card open for the last time. I'm going back to Bexhill on sea on the 20th and staying there for 2-3 days. Coming home around 30th. Bye, Matji.

WPS Notes 15/2/2021

Anny = MKS's sister

Address is where MKS lived with his mother and sisters.

Friend's message not yet transcribed/translated (volunteers please!).

Bexhill on Sea is where MKS stayed aged 21 in the summer of 1938 for about 6 weeks to learn English. His memoirs relate that he drove from Czechoslovakia to Bexhill with a friend in a white Czech registered open top car. The friend did not stay in Bexhill. The card appears to indicate that towards the end of that stay he spent a few days in London (at least 4 from the dates), before returning briefly to Bexhill for the journey home. MKS would have returned to Czechoslovakia by rail and ferry. As related in MFTY, the stay in Bexhill meant MKS had good English, and a familiarity and liking for England, which undoubtedly made Britain the obvious choice when he finally left Czechoslovakia in January 1939.