

Home REgent 7-5515

Office REgent 7-3442

John Steinbeck

Office: 206 East 72nd Street

New York 21, N. Y.

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Dear General Smith:

Toward the end of February I am going to the Mediterranean area and afterwards to all of the countries of Europe not out of bounds. I am commissioned by Colliers magazine to do a series of articles - subjects and areas to be chosen by myself. I shall move slowly going on only where interest draws. The trip will take six to eight months.

If during this period I can be of any service whatever to your self or to the agency you direct, I shall be only too glad.

I saw Herbert Bayard Swope recently and he told me that your health had improved. I hope this is so.

Also I wear the "Dov for 52" button concealed under the lapel as that shy candidate suggests.

Again - I shall be pleased to be of service. The pace and method of my junket together with my intention of talking with great numbers of people of all classes may offer peculiar advantages

Yours sincerely

John Steinbeck