

# ELIZABETH MOFFAT WHITE

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### Education and Early Years

c. 1910-1920

Attitude toward mobile life influenced by two women  
Years at Miss Chapin's School in New York City  
Chapin first school to mandate bloomers for sports  
Preparedness for social demands of Foreign Service  
Demands of social life in Argentina  
Retreating to bed when "teary" (Mrs. Robert W. Bliss)  
Advice to Congressman Bacon about fatigue  
Pierrepoint Moffat's problems in Protocol Office

Successful dinner with 13 guests in Riga, Latvia  
Value of Latin background for language study  
Entertaining unsophisticated Baltic guests  
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Traveling by horseback into Nepal  
Women and girls dressing to "look pregnant"  
Dances and "dead sheep polo" in Afghanistan  
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### Assignments in India and Germany

1930s

No need for volunteer activities in Calcutta  
Feeding programs for children in post WWII Europe  
Singing in choir in Calcutta, bridge and tennis  
Erroneous assumption of German nobility about Hitler  
Hitler shoots Roehm; tennis in spite of political events  
Incidents with Jewish friends  
White's advice to USG that Germany is rearming is unheeded

Calcutta assignment, Margaret remains in Berlin  
Margaret to India with her grandmother  
Travel experiences in Kashmir and Pakistan  
    man with elephantitis  
    auto accident  
    driving rain  
    cattle in the road  
    hitting an antelope  
Developing tertiary malaria as result of trip

Margaret (15), moonlight and her escort (47)  
How Margaret meets Tap Bennett  
Description of Caracas in the 1920s

### A Personal memories and Assignment Morocco

1940s

Bangkok in the '20s, in the '60s, and change in women's role  
Changes in travel methods to Nepal, Tibet  
Jack appointed Resident Minister in Tangier  
Circuitous travel to Tangier because of WWII  
Berlin to Baghdad railway and extreme heat  
Pierrepont interested in foreign affairs, Abbot in local politics, EMWhite in people and ideas  
Travels in Turkey, Yugoslavia, air raid warnings in Rome  
Three week trip from Calcutta to Tangier, "always a little bit homesick for the last post"

Change in Embassy size after WWII, large staff in Peru  
Only Embassy proper invited to Xmas party  
"From then on it (diplomatic life) wasn't as much fun"  
White learns through local press that Wm. Pauley be his successor in Peru  
Jack White's 1916 letter stating that Consular Service more important than Diplomatic  
as it dealt with trade and people  
Observations about Alexander Kirk  
Comments on state of the planet, conservation, food  
Margaret's education, principally school in Argentina

### Social Comments and Revolution in Venezuela

1920s

Conservative upbringing, using lipstick for first time in Argentina, cutting hair in Riga  
Bo Peep costume in Metropolitan Museum, dislike of her wedding gown  
Blue dress for White House dinner from Woodward & Lothrop  
Her costume jewelry and Marjorie Merriweather Post's diamonds  
Discussion of Henry White house on Crescent Place  
Discussion of Mrs. Henderson and Prohibition  
Revolution in Venezuela

### Haiti in 1930s Peru in the 1920s .

Travel and development of primitive art and handicrafts  
Hiram Bingham and Machu Picchu  
Archaeology in Peru and textile designs  
Embassy politics in Peru  
Accelerated heart rate in Andes, Margaret bothered by altitude (humor)

Change in style of accommodations at Machu Picchu  
"Seating" famous people at dinner parties in Heaven  
Discussion of languages, travel, dance in India

### Conclusion

Social work in India, a tableau vivant for 60th anniversary of British YWCA in India  
"It's what you bring to a thing always. I remember hearing two people talk about the same thing. One woman made it so romantic. Of course, that was my problem -- it always was "ordinary", "everyday".. I said I couldn't write because everything was perfectly "normal".

### White-Meyer House, Assignment Berlin

Discussion of Henry White's Washington, DC houses  
Renting a house in Berlin  
German nobility attitude toward Hitler  
Description of domestic staff in Berlin  
Description of the house in Berlin  
Selecting furniture from Meridian House

Hunts at Count Seherr Thoss estate (brother-in-law)  
Roehm roughs up nobility at Stahlhelm meeting  
Dinner party given by Hitler when he became Chancellor  
Description of Hitler's eyes  
Hitler kills Roehm, reaction of Jewish friends

Only small talk at dinners given by Goebbels, Goering  
Traveling through Germany with her Mother, Margaret  
Story of the governess, Miquette's, wartime experiences  
Problems with liner President Harding  
Description of life at 1624 Crescent Place  
Demands of diplomatic life, need to "self-nourish"

Discussion of Mary Henderson, Henderson's Castle  
Discussion of portraits of Henry White and his wife

Addendum: Notes taken immediately following Interview 3 describing Mrs. White's first flight from Lima to Mollendo, Peru, to arrive in Buenos Aires ahead of president-elect and Mrs. Herbert Hoover.