

Olivia Manning

Notes about wartime Cairo

Weidenfeld.

Mr Al Zuckerman
Writers House Inc
132 West 31 St
NY 10001

22 February 78

Dear Al,

I told Don Fine I would do some work on THE LIES OF ALAM HALFA. The enclosed is not an outline - it's my summary of the true story behind the battle. Whether you show it to Fine is up to you.

For the novel, I would change the story in three ways.

(i) The names of all except political figures would have to be changed.

(ii) There would be one man in Cairo who was directing the counter-espionage effort there and finding everything out.

Follett

(iii) The story would have to be considerably tidied-up, so that for example the way Yvette reveals her knowledge is much more dramatic.

Before I go ahead, tell me what you think of it so far.

Love,

Ken Follett
cc David Grossman.

Follett & Yvette fall in love
but do not understand what is
the end.