Volemispediti eggi-18/12/52

odinasiano qui maggior risalto par la

Milan December 18, 1952

Dear Mr. Papa,

Caro Fapa.

I have great pleasure in sending you, today via air mail, two of the first copies of "Il vecchio e il mare" which appears today, December 18, triunphantly, in all the shopwindows of the Italian booksellers.

ho il granda piacere di mandarti per via aerea

whe delle prime copie de Ils VECCHIC E IL MARE recebt

te indrolume chelongi, 18 dicembre, e brioufalmente in

le illiustrealles, di un geniale disegnatore mostro.

You will like the edition, I am sure.

And the illustrations too, which were made by one of our most intelligent painters and which, although good in EPOCA, have now in the book a splendid vividness because of the greater care we were able to give to the reproduction.

this is a time for presents. You certainly gave us a really tremendous one with the old Man, but the Italian readers, I feel and hope, will rise to the occasion repaying you with great enthusiasm and affection. Above all will be the several new readers who first discovered you on Epoca and who, from now on, will become your most faithful admirers.

A big brotherly hug, dear Mr. Papa, and the most affectionate wishes for you and Mary from

yours very sincerely

(Alberto Mondadori)

Ernest Hemingway, Esq. Finca Vigia
S. Francisco de Paula HAVANA (Cuba)