Voyage of the Vikings, Report #9, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

In the summer 'north of 60' has no night – dusk merely merges into dawn. Now, back down south, the dark night helps sleep. The name **Rotterdam** comes from a dam constructed in the **Rotte River**, but today the **Maas River** through city center is the largest port in Europe. (Once the busiest port in the world,

it has now been surpassed by Shanghai). Starting overcast the weather soon turns





into glorious sunshine as we make our way walking across 'The Swan',(the local name for the beautiful *Erasmus* 

**Bridge**, left) towards the **Pencil** (see the pencil lead on top?) the **Cube Houses** (interesting to look at but hell for interior decorators) and city **Market** (see cruise ship-

style verandas outside and gigantic flowers inside).
Buildings unusual – both outside <u>and</u> inside.











Renewal after destruction during WW II resulted in some strange architecture in Rotterdam. Earlier this year we saw renewal in Berlin, also carpet bombed during WW II. We are soon on our way to *The Hague* the scenic seat of Dutch parliament, and 16th-century *Noordeinde Palace*, the king's workplace. It is also home to the U.N.'s *International* 









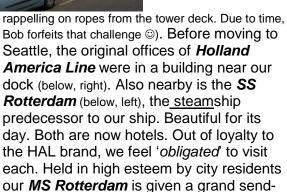






World on the Mayflower), a city landmark, the **Euromast**, gives us a 360-degree view from its observation deck, thence even higher in a rotating donut-shaped

elevator. (Look carefully to see people



off with many loud claxton blasts from numerous ships around the harbor and countless people waving vigorously along the banks of

the river for some distance as we depart. Having a fantastic cruise, 'till next we have the pleasure of seeing you, love to all, Bob and Kerrell, http://lincolnshome.wordpress.com/









