

★ Air
Mail



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

14 February 1956

Dear Mom and Dad,

There is very little to report from Spence; nothing much has happened since I last wrote. Nothing new has happened with my elimination; when news does break, as promised, I'll inform you immediately. This will probably be later in the week when the Col. returns to the base. In the mean time I continue being a student. We have started one new course, Navigation; this is a very interesting course and the most worthwhile one taught so far; the very first day I got hold of a section map of Los Angeles and plotted my flight home....I landed in the backyard of 614.

Today and tomorrow are busy days...President Eisenhower lands at Spence tomorrow....all is hussle bussle to get things in proper protocol for his arrival..as yet they haven't told us but I suspect we will stand review for Ike. If he asks for me I'll go visit with him for a minute or two otherwise I'll just stand and watch....maybe he'll be interested in a Republican from Calif.....then again maybe they're causing him too much trouble already. If he says anything about Dick you can be sure he's refering to me.

I received the toothbrushes and the magazine...thank you. Now I can clean my teeth and read at the same time.

Drove down to Bainbridge AB yesterday and visited with an old friend from Menlo....I met him accidently when we were down there playing basketball last Friday. We had along talk on Tech schools....he washed out on physical reasons...we decided we would apply for Personel school at Scott Field in St Louis...I'm unable to do this right now as I haven't been finally eliminated. After our long talk we picked up Dave's (Dave Powell from Idaho) wife and had dinner at the O'club...it was an enjoyable day and I look forward to going down again in the near future.

On these Tech schools...they last anywhere from a month to three months depending on the school you go to. You apply for the school you want and then the AF sends you where they want. I think I'll apply for three schools(I have three choices), Personel(~~St~~ Louis), Finance(Denver) and Intelligence(San Antonio). From the Tech school you can never tell where they will send you...maybe I'll get to London before you do..."you take the high rode and I'll take the AF rode and you'll get out before me"

That does it for now.....will write later

*all my love
Richard*

AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO

Lt Richard Orgell
AO 3050952
Box 172
Spence AB
Moultrie, Georgia



Mr and Mrs Spencer Orgell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, California



2-29-56

Dear Dad + Mom,

Things are still the same here at Spence, I continue my non-flying activities - not at least disappointed that I'm no longer flying; the relief from school and studies is wonderful; this working a normal day is really good. For some unknown reason my days go quicker and I seem to have more to do.... maybe the nights to myself and not to studying is the reason. It's hard to explain but now that I'm not flying it feels as a huge weight has been taken off my shoulders.

With no flying I have had more time to read & do some of the things I've wanted to do. I've begun reading The Fifty Minute Hour; an excellent book; psychiatry is quite interesting. I've also become interested in an article written by a hypnotist - The Seneck for Bridie Murphy - this hypnotist claims he's taken a subject
(over)

from childhood, to another life and into a limbo world; this limbo world sounds like purgatory. It's quite fascinating; personally I think he's playing with fire when he delves into reincarnation and an after-world. Nevertheless some of his facts and statements are astonishing if the article is true it proves that fact is stranger than fiction.

Along this same line I've been reading about Flying Saucers; in an expose by Major Keyhoe; the author relates facts that the AF, up to now, has kept secret from the public; to sum it up he cites incidents and relates facts that ~~are~~^{are} hard to disprove; he & some AF people believe the "saucers" to be visitors from

another world; the AF has imposed a fine of \$10,000 + 10 yrs in prison on any A.F. officer who has ^{had} contact with these "saucers" and discloses info on them; the A.F. has also issued orders to intercept, if possible, the saucers but not to fire on them, they don't want to anger the "strangers".

This is an interesting phase of AF work that I would like to get into. . . . I doubt if my background is good enough but I've applied anyway.

Anyday now I should hear where I'm going; my Mentor friend applied for Personnel school a week before I did and he just received orders to report to Cheyenne Wyoming and supply school. . . . ^{this} (over)

could happen to me.

If you do visit me I'd like you to bring the typewriter that is in my room.... it needs repairing but possibly Eric could get it repaired for me before you bring it.... I was going to buy a new portable typewriter but either they're too expensive (\$70 to \$150⁰⁰) or the PX's don't sell them.

Nothing much to report - everything is calm and peaceful here

Take care of yourself

All my love

Richard

P.S. from your letters it appears that all the experts are trying to second guess the AF, I gave this up three months ago - try not to believe their drizzle, I'll tell you the straight ~~story~~ when it's available to me otherwise I won't say anything - No Fakes

St Richard Orzell
A03050952
Box 172
Spencer Air Base
Moultrie, Georgia



Mrs Spencer Orzell
614 North Poole Drive
Beverly Hills, Calif.

March 1, 1956

Dear Mom & Dad,

Great talking to you tonight;
immediately after our conversation
I ran out to the car and
checked my maps; these are
my findings:

1. Moultrie to Miami is over
500 miles
 2. Miami to St Louis is 1800 miles
 3. to go to Miami and then
return to St Louis means back-
tracking through Moultrie - 1000
miles extra driving
 4. Moultrie to New Orleans is
550 miles (approx 10 to 11 hrs drive)
 5. New Orleans to St Louis
(mapped by my roommate) is 600
miles or about 12 to 14 hrs driving.
- After looking at these facts,
talking to fellows who have
driven from St Louis to New Orleans,

and figuring my travel time I have decided it is best to meet you in New Orleans. You have to fly there and I have never seen the famous spot; from my envious friends I hear it is a wonderful spot to visit.

I estimate that I can drive to New Orleans from Spence in about one day; also I figure it will take me about two days to drive from New Orleans to Scott Field (a little less distance & different route than St Louis)

I am going to apply for five days delay in route; I'll leave here about March 19th and you can meet me when ever you want or can - maybe I'll pick

you up at the airport in my Ford³,
just like J.A. International. I'll leave
New Orleans about the 24th for Scott.

Will you make hotel reser-
vations? Will write and tell
me your plans - I think that
this is the best bet. Anyway
write your ~~disposition~~ and will
compare notes.

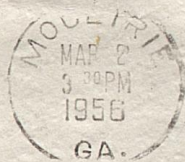
Nothing else to write -
it's late - bed time - have
several sets of tennis tomorrow.

All my love
Richard

P.S.

I would appreciate any
introductions in St Louis; I'm
picking up a few tips from
the boys around here but I'm
sure David or you can do better.

Lt Richard Oyell
AO 3050952
Box 172
Spence Air Base
Moultrie, Georgia



Mrs Spencer Oyell
614 North Rodeo Dr.
Beverly Hills, Calif

Monte Leone

3-5-56

Dear Mom and Dad,

Received your letters on where and when to meet; here are my plans....see if yours fit into them....if not they can be partially ammended.

I have applied and shall receive a five day delay in route....this will give me a total of eight(8) days between leaving Spence and reporting into Scott. If I do not wish to take the full five day delay in route I may remain here at Spence longer.....these five days are credited against my leave time....I am allowed thirty(30) days a year leave...this does not include weekend passes and three day passes....at the present time I owe the Gov't ten days this is part of the time I was home Christmas.....by June I will be clear accross the boards...however at this time I wish to take a five day leave....my C.O. has okayed it and I will now owe the Gov't fifteen(15) days....this time will be paid back by the end of Sept. and I will then be even with Uncle Sam and ready to owe him more leave time. The whole set-up isn't worth a hill of beans...the only thing it is necessary for is when you are discharged.. if the Gov't owes the individual leave time they pay him extra....I rather take my leave.

I plan to leave Moultrie on the 18th of March and drive to New Orleans, it should take me a day and I will arrive on the 19th;between the 19th and the 24th we could visit and then on the 24th or the 25th I would leave for Scott. By going to Scott this round-about way I only add 200 miles to my journey....according to fellows who have made the trip it is well worth the extra time....as for days travelling, I shall drive one day, rest in N.O. for four and then drive two more days to Scott.

To drive from Spence to StLouis entails a boring drive I have driven before, leaving my car and clothing with strangers and then spending money, no matter be it yours or mine, to fly to meet you. This is one thing I'm pretty sure of, where ever we meet I will take my car...I do not want to pack and repack; when I have my car I have a years supply of everything and need no more.

I was in Atlanta last weekend(more later about the trip); it is a very nice city and I enjoyed myself emendely; with experts as guides we ran out of places to visits in under two days. Has Mom ever driven in the South..I know she hasn't when she suggests we drive through the Confederacy..... if you like dirty motels, gro-horrible roads, grits and black eyed peas then take a motor trip through the South but without me....anyway with a long drive up to Scott ahead of me the last thing I want to do is drive.

I've never been to New Orleans so I don't know what ther^e

is to do there....I have never been to Miami either but from what I hear New Orleans is more the interesting place.

Well make your plans and if you decide for certain what you want to do make reservations and tell me about them. I leave Spence the 18th and report to Scott the 26th.. please remember to allote at least one day to meet you and at least ~~three~~two to get to Scott.

Drove up to Atlanta last weekend... I was the house guest of Raiford Hodges....the fellow who leaves accross the hall from me....we became quite good friends when it turned out we were the only two in the BOQ who knew anything about Law and Business Law.....he's a graduated lawyer from Emory University.

Raiford took me to every conceaveable sight in Atlanta, most of which are pictured in the postcards I'm sending you....incidently will you please save these cards I'm sending home...therely be good for cluttering up the house and who knows someday I may put them together and have me a scrapbook of my AF adventures.

Atlanta is interesting for one thing....it's a Southern city loaded with Negroes.....Bert should see the car washes here....when the car comes out to be dried it is attached by twelve and sometimes more Negroes....they still do a lousey job of whipping the car off. The sight of this many Negroes swarming all over and inside the family car often infuriates many of the WHITES down here... Raiford and I have launched off into many an hours discussion on thas present problem.....to tell the truth the people up North are making a hullabulo over a little... it is this constant noise and "campaign Americanism talk" that is starrng up the trouble....the tension is growing especially in small towns like Moultrie where the average citizen isn't the greatest intellect and oftener than not speaks with violence rather than calm words.

I think that Stephenson hit it on the nose when he said, at his speech in Minnosota, we ought to clean up our own backyard...the segregation in the North and even in the West is as bad as in the South.....in the South it is a common sight to see large and beautiful motels that are strictly for the negro....in Atlanta there are Negro Colleges and negro schools that are the equal of ~~the~~ white schools, at least from the outside.....their Southern propaganda hasn't made me think the Southerner is right but it has made me stop and think and wonder how I could critizes before I saw what the story was....it's quite an education down here.....it's simple to see the reason why people like Ruthie rush to Calif....life is a paradise to them in L.A. compared to the South, but then again for the poor and middle ~~class~~ white Calif would be a better place.

*All my love
Richard*

Scott Air Force Base

29 Mar 56

Dear Mom & Dad,

Illinois

Well today things went better - at least I'm settled and ready to start school tomorrow.

As there was no room in the BOQ's the AF issued me a non-availability slip and told me to look elsewhere for living quarters. A kind, attractive secretary heard of my plight and told me of an instructor who needed a roommate. I found this Instructor - who later I find will be my instructor - and ask to see his apt. I liked it, so now I live with Capt Burt Clift.

We have a nice modern apartment; two bed rooms, ample closets, a living room, a kitchen, a T.V. set, phonograph and records, and a good size bathroom; for all this I pay \$50.00 a month - the joint pays me \$9.00 a day so I come out \$20.00 ^{ahead} plus my salary. Not a bad deal!!

Well hate to give you such a short letter but that's the news for today; will write later in the meantime, you write

all my love
Richard

H. R. E. Oregell
#03050282
~~3337~~ Student (off) Sqd.
~~Box 204~~
Scott AFB, Ill.

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE



Prov Sq

APO
San Francisco
California

MAR 28 1956

Mr. Mrs Spencer Oregell

~~Myrtle Bank Hotel~~

~~Kingston, Jamaica~~

~~Unclaimed
Return to Sender~~

2353 PERP99

PARKS AFB LAH 104

6023 RAD EVAL ECM FLT
YMC 9/10 56 APO 994



MYRTLE BEACH
JAMAICA
AP 2
56

ARMY AIR FORCE POSTAL SERVICE
OCT 9 1956
APO
OCT 4

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
LT = International Letter Telegram

1201

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of (14) ... STANDARD TIME at point of destination

60A136 SSV614 0 SFN127

(UH1059) 22 PD=0 SF HONOLULU VIA MACKAYRADIO 29 1224PM=

LT MR AND MRS SPENCER ORGELL (DLR 30)=

1956 JUL 29 PM 6 33

614 NORTH RODEO DRIVE BEVERLYHILLS CALIF=

THREE HOURS DETAINED THREE DAYS MIGHT LEAVE FOR TOKYO

TODAY=

:DICK=

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

HAWAII . . . loveliest fleet of Islands anchored in any ocean.
Depicted here are photographic highlights from four
major Islands . . . Hawaii, Maui, Oahu and Kauai.

NU·NUI^{*} natural color CARD

Say "New New-y" — It's Hawaiian for "Very Big"

Number 48



Dear Mom + Dad

My "three" hour stop over has turned into a 3 day delay; a real rough way to spend my time of duty.

We've rented a car and ~~are~~ touring the island as well as shopping the stores. Outside of being a tourist trap & very expensive (\$3 for lunch at the Royal Hawaiian — we didn't eat lunch there!!) this is a beautiful paradise, across between Florida & Southern California. were I not so cheap I would like to return (as McArthur did, at Govt expense) and visit all the islands.

Take care & visit for yourselves. Two to three days adequately covers the island of Oahu (Honolulu). Write again from Wake or Tokyo. All my love,
[Signature]

Mr & Mrs Spencer Oregell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, Calif.

NU·NUI TRADEMARK REGISTERED 1947, TERRITORY OF HAWAII, U. S. A.

HAWAII

Loveliest fleet of Islands anchored in any ocean

BIG ISLAND

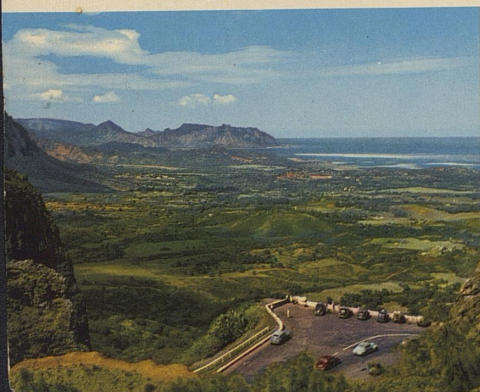
KAUAI



HAWAII CASTS ITS SPELL



OAHU



HAWAII CALLS



MAUI



9 August 1956

Dear Mom + Dad,

Please excuse the unglamorous stationery but I'm in my new office and of yet haven't moved in important items like note paper, envelopes + stamps.

Actually I'm not due on the job until Monday morning but rather than be bored to tears I ~~spend~~ ^{start} up early and come to work. In my way will this surprise my new "boss" (Lt Col. Smith) because he isn't here today - possibly this is why he told me to take off until Monday.

My job here may turn out to be a simple one as I seem to have a very good crew of men working for me. I call them "men" not because of their age, most of them are nearly 20, but because they are experienced in the real type of the A.F. As I look out of my office (a glorified Cubby hole equipped with light, desk, & phone.) I can see my senior non commissioned officer laboriously going through piles of paper while next to him a young fellow who looks somewhat like the athlete hero of any local high school is studying AF regulation. While they work, I write, when I need information, mostly concerning what the heck I'm signing my name to, I call out into the office and get it from their wealth of knowledge. I'm really pleased with "my boys," they're

really a nice bunch of guys. One of them just asked me about Business Courses in college; seems he wants to leave "our" Armed forces and pursue an education. My college degree makes me a thing to look up to; I believe that in our Squadron only three of us possess the "secret" paper. The truth is that about a year ago this outfit had a legal graduate who really was a shister; he worked all sorts of deals, all legitimate, among them a TDY trip to Hawaii, a 30 day leave around the Orient and many assorted unheard of arrangements. He made this Squadron the only outfit in the Far Eastern Command that was fully manned, he did this for a Squadron that has low priority. This "genius" has made all the men in the outfit respect and admire college men. So I say "Praise be him". He has certainly helped me in my job. I have an idea that he used the mission of this outfit to help him succeed in his endeavors. Nobody knows much about our mission, we are located away from the rest of the outfit (on the other side of the runway) and our name 6023 Radar Evaluation ECM F1T mystifies other AF personnel. People think we are a high priority, ultra secret outfit; my theory is out to dislusion them. We talk in hushed voices of our mission.

In other words, we set very clock and
diggery.

I was planning to go into Tokyo this
weekend but an hour ride by train
is far from appealing at the moment
and anyway we work 1/2 day Saturday.
I think I'll lounge around Johnson AFB
this weekend and possibly go into town
next week. (it will probably be that time
before you receive this letter.)

In a day or so my back mail will
be getting to me so I'll know what's
going on in the world. Remember my
new address.

Lt Richard Dracell
AO 3050752
6023 Rdn Etnl ECM FIT
APO 994
San Francisco, California

Keep well + give my love to the
family, I'll start writing them when
I get better settled; right now most
of my spare time is spent getting
acquainted.

All my love
Richard

H. R. E. Orrell
A03050752
6023 Rd. Eual Ecn Ft
APO 994
San Francisco, Calif.



Mr + Mrs Spencer Orrell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, Calif

Alemic 1.

7 AUG 56

Dear Mom & Dad

Sorry I haven't written prior to this but the AF has done its' best to thoroughly confuse me. As you know I was originally assigned to Yokota AFB but things happened; they started happening the day I left California; what happened is too confusing to tell & to be honest I doubt if I could; anyway the ~~result~~ ^{result} is that I am now assigned to Johnson AFB, Japan; my new mailing address being: Name, serial number, 6023 Rd. EVal EC17 FH ~~Box~~ P. O. 994, San Francisco, Calif. Probably this sounds pretty simple to you but today I was suppose to report into my new assignment like a good Lt I started out to find my assignment all day I looked and asked the where



Mt. Fuji at Lake-side

about of my duty station everybody
 + nobody knew resulting in my
 going home (to the BQ) and going
 to sleep. Tomorrow is a new day,
 I tell myself, and perhaps if I'm
 good I'll find my C.O.

Very little to report on Tokyo
 or Japan except that it's exception-
 ally hot here now. Later when
 I'm more in a letter writing mood
 I'll tell you about Tokyo (after
 all I only have 24 months here!!)

Johnson is a nice Air Base
 with facilities for the Generals
 who reside here; the golf
 club is comparable to Hillcrest +
 is ratio as
 expensive. I live
 in a nice BQ
 although not
 equipped with
 air conditioning. I do have a house boy
 who washes my clothes daily + shines
 my shoes for 2000 Yen a month (5.00).



Heian Shrine, Kyoto

Please forward & write all mail to the new APO number; don't bother with these 3 boxes to be mailed to me yet. I'm not sure, as of now, how long I'll be here at Johnson; for all I know next week I maybe on Formosa or Guam not to mention Korea or Hawaii. In a day or two I'll know my situation better & will advise you of the same.

I'd call home but \$12⁰⁰ for a garbled-up 3 min. hardly seems worth it!! So I'll write & telegram any urgent news.

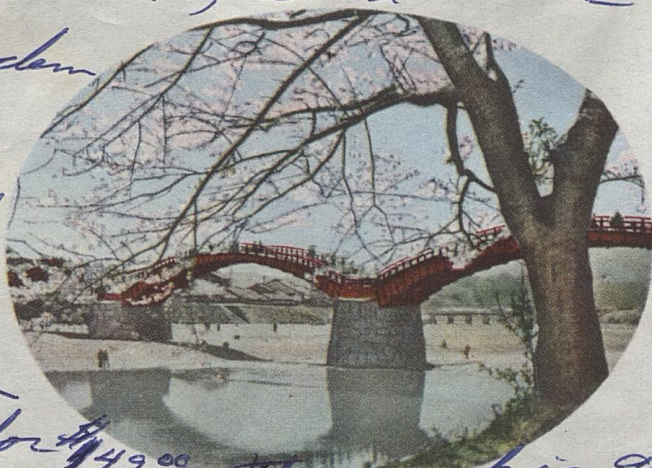
I have, in the PX's, seen some fairly nice modern silver - complete

copies of Danish work

A four pcs coffee

& tea service in

950 silver sells for \$49⁰⁰. The work is good & the handles are insulating. So far I've seen very little good oriental art. Will write later



Kintai-Bridge at Iwakuni

all my love Richard

Lt R. E. Orbell

AO 3050952

6023 Rdn. Eval. ECM, FH

APC 994

San Francisco, Calif



VIA AIR MAIL



Mr + Mrs Spencer Orbell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, Calif.

Monday
August 13, 1956

Dear Mom & Dad,

Very little to report from this side of the world; I'm still getting settled in my new job and as of now I'm doing nothing; I'm so bored I'm anxious for work; things will pick up when my car arrives and I'm no longer stranded at the squation. I'm told this is the slack season so maybe things will pick up in a month or two; if they don't I think I'll plaster the walls and windows with "For sale" signs.

Sorry to hear Marguerite is leaving; actually I'm quite disappointed but I guess it's not fair to stop a person from getting ahead. I hope that the new girl will take care of my affairs as well as Doll did. Would you or perhaps Harry continue to send my check to the Bank of America and then forward the deposit slip to me. Doll has been sending the checks by mail.

Please keep those boxes in my room or in the store house; as of yet I don't need them & possibly I won't need them at all. Anyway I'll keep you posted on what to do with the three boxes.

Went into Tokyo last weekend. We stayed at the Imperial; it's a good hotel and the service is fairly good. I introduced myself to the assistant manager and we became acquainted so if and when you want rooms let me know. According to him April is a very busy month so we better make the reservations in advance. Possibly it would be better for you to make your own reservations and for me to confirm them. I really don't know why I'm worrying about this now in August if I'm to believe the many rumors that are flying I may not even be in the Orient in April. One rumor has us transferred to Hawaii, another to the U.S.A. and still another has our squadron being disorganized; please don't pay any attention to these rumors. We, in our multitude of spare time, make up rumors and spread them; it gets so that when the rumor returns to its originator he usually believes it as a "hot tip".

That's it for now; I'm off to the Officer's Club to make up some new "hot tips" and to hear some of the old ones.

All is well over here, I hope the same is true over there.

All my love
Richard

Lt. R. E. Oregell
AO 3050252
6023 Rd. Eval Elm FH
APO 994
SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.



VIA AIR MAIL



A Portable Shrine
at Festival

Mrs + Mrs Spencer Oregell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, Calif.
U.S.A.

CRESTVIEW 6-3168



Spencer Orgell
SILVERSMITHS

IMPORTERS & MANUFACTURERS AGENT

9672 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF.
U.S.A.

Thursday
August 16, 1956

Dear Mom and Dad,

Very little new news to report; all that happens around here during the week is pretty cut and dried. Now that my "bosses" have a "ground-pounder" they are away from the office most of the time either on leave or flying. This makes me top "honshaw" (Japanese word for boss-man.); being a big guy certainly hasn't increased my work load; all I do is sit around and look official, occasionally I sign my name to a document or two but that's about it.

The weather is still miserably hot and I wouldn't advise any one to visit the orient during this time of year. Speaking of visiting brings to mind a thought: at the moment it is doubtful if I will be able to meet you in Hongkong in April. My present C.O. has a unit policy of not allowing any one to borrow leave time; if I were to come to Hongkong I would have to borrow leave as I'll be in the hole and have no time accrued until July 1957 (this is because of my two leaves home this past year.) A year from next April I will have plenty of time accrued - almost 36 days. Because I can't take leave does not mean that I wouldn't be unable

to spend lot of time with you in Tokyo. I have much (TAXI in Japanese) time that I can waste in the Tokyo Area. Every evening I either go to a movie or go up to the club; once I get better settled I may start taking some classes and also in a month or two I'll have Basketball practice to keep me busy. The love situation that I mentioned earlier may be non-existent after my new C.O. arrives; he's due to arrive in March of 1952. Anyway keep me informed of your plans and I'll tell you how I can fit into them.

I mentioned the club before; the officers club over here offer excellent entertainment; once or twice a week we have floor shows, a dinner dance a week (now all I need is a dance partner), casino nights (my luck has been Texas good). Johnson is blessed with the best O'Club in the far east so I'm further lucky.

Have I told you about my houseboy yet? I'm really being spoiled; one day laundry, room shining clean, shoes shined everyday, car wash if necessary and anything else I might need all for 2000 yen a month (¥20.00) so far the "boyson" has done a very good job on my clothing, shoes, & Room. That's about it for now.
All my love
Richard

VIA AIR MAIL

Mr & Mrs Spencer Orgell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, Calif.
U.S.A.

August 17, 1956
Friday

Dear Mom & Dad,

Today has been a fairly busy day, a welcome change, but I'll try and dash off this letter before more work comes in.

My work is fairly simple; all day long I sit at a desk and sign my name. Every once in a while a day like today comes around and I have to sit and ponder over schedules and rosters. This scheduling is fairly involved but in general what I do is arrange the duty roster so that it is fair to all men in the outfit; the duties range from Officer of the day to Carrier Officer to Parent of the day. The main work involved takes place after the duty roster is published and the men come seeking me with their quipes; it's rather difficult to tell a Captain, politely to go to hell and that his assignment will remain the same as it was published. The interesting thing in this job is the many ways men approach you; some are very friendly (after inviting you home to dinner, they casually mention "why don't you change my duty day!!"), others are belligerent ("It!! if you don't change my duty day I'll go talk to the Col!!");

and still others are whiskey-wake ("See, it would be nice if you switch my assignment but if you can't I guess I can change my plans to climb Mt Fuji, incidentally would you like to come with us.") On the whole, my job is a lot of fun and good training for future use against returned male and complaints. With a smile on my face I can tell them where to go. Monday I sit on a promotion board and in the afternoon I have my first staff meeting. Well that's a general picture of what I'm doing; at times it's interesting and at times it's boring.

About the Neuman's antique pieces: have the new secretary write and see if they are home from their safari, if they are send it to

Mr Eric Neuman

6450 Cecil Ave

St Louis (Clayton)

Missouri

They were so nice to me that if it's not too expensive I'd like to take care of the shipping costs. I'm sure that it would be good. public relations. Please let me know what happens.

That's it for today - will write later
Take care of yourselves. All my love
Richard

morning at division I convinced all that I was
a coward. that I was "too valuable to
Johnson's basketball ball team to risk being
injured at football" (this last is ^{quite} from
the base athletic director who as yet has
not seen me play basketball). I finally
"signed" my "contract" & agreed to get in
shape for basketball in return I don't play
football & if I'm in shape I go with
the basketball team T.O. to the Philippines
for ten days. I just sent Gail a letter
asking her if she could get me a
movie contract similar to Bonnie Rusk
after all I'm as big a celebrity out here!"

Enclosed is our "Bumie Butt" messenger; I
thought you might enjoy the military
interpretation of the blowing of the shofar. I
gather from the descriptive story that one
"rushes to the assembly spot in the temple,
grabs a temporary position, ready for any
battle, charges out the door as soon as
possible & thus wins his "revolving door
Jew" title.

Say, check & see that your rooms at the
Imperial are in the new wing; those
are the more modern facilities & also
air conditional.

All's well here will write more
later - very tired now!
All my love
Richard

Lt. R. E. Oregell
No 3050952
6023 Rdme Eval Ech Fit
APO 994
San Francisco, Calif.



VIA AIR MAIL

Mr + Mrs Spencer Oregell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, Calif.

Sunday
19 Aug 1956

Dear Mom + Dad,

Another weekend has come to an end; this one was spent in relative relaxation. I did not go far from the Base.

Saturday night I went to Shelly + Pat Schager's for dinner; Shelly had his boss, a Col Thornberg, over also and all through Cocktails and dinner we talked about silver, oriental art, etc. Later after dinner another Beverly Hillman arrived, a Dick Winterquack, with him was his newly arrived in Japan wife (Sandy Turbow), a girl I use to date. It was 2:30 in the morning before any of us left for home after all we had to settle the election problems plus the Suez Canal. It really was an enjoyable evening and I'm looking forward to repeating it.

Today Joe Martone (my official guide and the fellow I'm replacing) went for a drive in the country side in his car; my car is not due to

arrive until a month or so. It was²
a nice ride and the country side
was interesting but more important
was that I think I talked Joe
into entering U.C.L.A. a year from
June; He's quite an accomplished
pianist (had his own combo before
entering the AF as a cadet.) and I
think he'll enjoy U.C.L.A., the surround-
ing pleasure spots, & the people
he'll meet.

I have a favor to ask: would some-
one please call the passport
division downtown and ask for the
following:

- 1) my passport number
2. date of issue (some time in
1952)
3. date of expiration
4. anything else necessary to
obtain a new passport.

To get a passport to travel outside of
Japan I need this information, my pass-
port is in with my clothes in the
little house, I think I left it in my
latter suitcase (marked R.E.O.) but the
case is locked and I have the key
here. If you call I'm sure they'll
give you the information - the passport

is expired and no good to anyone so I'll
tell the Embassy in Tokyo. I have lost mine.
Just put the information you obtain in
a letter and mail it to me. Thank You!!

One of your letters mentioned golf - I
may play my first round in a month
this week if the fellow whose guest
I'm to be doesn't have to fly. It's quite
difficult to get on courses around here;
membership is limited and although not
as expensive as Hilleust just as difficult.

My present address is as permanent as
any AF assignment can be. My office
phone (from Tokyo) is Johnson AB - 55340
my BOQ (room) is 628 (room) + 56120 (phone)
the rest of the time I can be reached
at the O'club. I'm at work from 7:30 to
4:30 P.M. every day except Sunday; Sat. + Wed
I work 7:30 - 12:00. These are where I
can be reached but probably the best
method is to write me in advance
at the address you have: 6023 Rd. Eval. EOR.
Flt. APO 894, S.F. Wonder why Posberg
was interested ?? I still haven't
contacted his man & would appreciate
it if his man contacted me as I
rarely get into Tokyo during business
hours; and also doubt if I'll be going to
Tokyo too much; Tokyo is alright if you're

visiting people or going to see a specific¹⁴ show but to go in to sight see & partake of night clubs is quite dull after you've done it several times & I have; also until I have my own car I doubt if I'll travel - trains are crowded & are losing their glamor & taxis are too high priced unless you barter them down.

Rdr. = RADAR, Eval. = Evaluations ECRT = Electric Counter Measures, FIt = Flight. We are the cog in the machine that checks all radar stations; we have radar sight throughout the Far East & Pacific. Our men are constantly flying 8, 12, 16 hour missions, while others are out on TDY visiting, checking, repairing, etc. our units. My job is to account for all men and to see they are paid their extra money for TDY & long flights, occasionally but not as yet or in the near future, I go out myself and pay the "troops".

All is well and I'm enjoying myself in this new culture; the Japanese are quite interesting and as far as I'm concerned the greatest imitations & copies of any age. More on this later - it's late & I'm tired. Keep well. All my love

Lt R. S. Dregell
AO 3050752
6023 Rde Eval Elm Flt.
APO 994
San Francisco, Calif.



Mrs Mrs Spencer Dregell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, Calif.
U.S.A.

Airmail

August 21, 1956



Dear Mom + Dad;

I just arrived home from a very interesting day of work although all I actually did was sit & talk to people.

Today we ran our squadron promotion board and I as Adjutant sat as the non-voting President of the Board, naturally as a new man at the job my replacement was there doing most of the work & allowing me to sit and supervise.

In the AF a squadron is allowed to promote all men up to the grade of staff sgt. From staff sgt. up to master sgt we merely select & recommend men to our next higher boss (41st Air Division).

A promotion board is made up of qualified non coms & officers (usually 5 or more) with a non voting pres. (me.). No man of equal or lower rank is allowed to sit on a board that is promoting. (i.e. S/Sgts can't Judge M/Sgts.)

The board, as we run it, is quite similar to a job interview - questions concerning their work, their family, politics, national & international problems, whether or not they intend an AF career & how long they've worked in

their career fields is asked the applicant. It was very good and I was doing fine when we were judging men in the lower ranks but when the old boys who were up for M/Sgt came before us I felt sort of funny. One of them when asked about civilian work experience began to tell of ~~the~~ the days of the early 1930's & how it was working under N.R.A. My pet question to all men was what was their educational background & were they trying to further their education with the many high school & colleges courses the AF offers. Many hadn't graduated from H.S. & the majority was doing nothing to help themselves. Probably the most fun for me was questioning the applicants from the supply field. I continually thought of Eric; had I have seen a real sharp boy I would have tried to sell him on S.O. Silversmiths. After a full day of interviews I'm convinced these boys have found themselves an excellent career & I am wise to be leaving the career in two more years.

My last letter should have explained the "Greek" symbols that represent the name of my "home" away from home.

Lt R. E. Oregell
AO 3050952
6023 Rdn Eval BCD FIT
APO 994
S. F., Calif.



VIA AIR MAIL

Mr + Mrs Spencer Oregell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, Calif
U.S.A.

H. B. M.

* backside of last page

24 Aug 1954



Dear Mom + Dad,

Another ~~day~~ day is over but today was a little bit unusual I was busy from 7:30 to 4:30 and would not have left at 4:30 had not my boss told me it was time to go home. I spent the entire day devising a defense plan for the area that we occupy; when my project is complete I'll submit it to the Col. and then he'll make his recommendations. Aside from this defense plan which I worked on between interruptions I had many complaints; so many that he is going to buy me a big Turkish towel and have printed on it "Crying Towel". I'm not complaining, their complaining keeps me busy + I'd rather be busy than idle.

Mom's last letter had many questions, so I'll try + answer a few.

1. I'd take the boat over; a plane ride even if broken up by a three day stay in Hawaii is long + tiring. If you have to fly get a berth - remember you gain a day coming here + it's that long time that makes the flight boring; even if you can see the Pacific it's only water.

2. I'm glad Mom received her gift, I hope she likes it; it's a scarf-~~scarf~~ affair. Yes it is from India; one of the stores in our Officers Club represents an Indian firm, another represents a Hongkong firm and many little Japanese dealers come every so often to sell their goods; there is always three or four dealers each night. They sell silver, pearls, paintings, etc. It's very convenient for a "shut-in" like myself. My car should be here in several weeks so my "shut-in" days are limited.

3. Possibly Dave hasn't seen many other spots in the world & therefore considers Japan pretty; Japan is pretty but it is quite similar to Hawaii, Oahu, etc. & can't rival Switzerland or Southern Calif. Possibly I'll agree with him later when I see more of Japan.

4. "My new group of strangers" are a very good lot; I was lucky to be assigned to a flying group. The fellows are all about my age & full of fun; one in particular, a Joe Martone, has been especially friendly. He's taken me under his "wing" and showed me the ropes. There is never a dull moment during our non-duty hours. Aside from my "work" friends, as I told you in

previous letters, we have a little Beverly Hills group; we try & meet at least once a week. As for my travelling friends we commute over the phone regularly - on our office phones we can call anywhere in Japan. Two of the fellows are about an hour away & the other is 2 days train ride. As this base is their headquarters they quite often find it necessary to come over & straighten things out - namely visit me.

Give my regards to Mike (Harris); tell him his prediction in his last letter was not too far off; we fly mission in the vicinity of Attu.

Incidentally if possible why not see if your trip can take you to the Philippines; I understand from the military over here that the P.I.s are very interesting & enjoyable to visit. Also on the must list is Bangkok. I plan to take an Embassy flight there when duty & leave time permits.

That's the babble for today; I'll write again soon meanwhile don't worry about me & keep well!!
All my love
Dit

Happy

Birthday

Mom!!

Location wise I'm 30 miles away from Tokyo - 1 1/2 hrs by train (3rd class) and 1 hour by car. A 80 yen taxi can be hatched down to between 1200 - 2000 yen for the hour drive to Johnson and although 1100 to 1900 yen more than a train by far the best mode of transportation.

If Dave^{Abell} is interested, Johnson A.B. was the headquarters for the Japanese AF during the last war and as I have stated before the best AFB in the Tokyo Area. Even today J.A.B. is helibase for the Japanese defense air force & the Lt Gen in charge of Japanese forces here on base was the fellow who planned Pearl Harbor - of course he's our friend now. I hope "our" friends travel with "chaperons" for there are a few on base that still haven't been orientated.

That's it for tonight - keep well & I hope Mom has a very happy Birthday. 

All my love
Richard

705050952

6023 Rm Eval ELM 111

Ap0 994

S.F., Calif.



"Shi shi mai"
Dance with The Lion's mask



AIR MAIL

Mr + Mrs Spencer Oregell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, Calif.

August 30, 1956.

Dear Mom + Dad;

Just a short letter to show you my new stationery; I really have very little to report as I haven't gone out of the "Great Gate" in nearly two weeks.

My work continues; yesterday I had to go to the base stockade + interview "my" delinquent aviator; I had to record some of his previous history; age: 20 1/2, education: 7th grade, Parents education: None, birthplace: Atlanta, Georgia, ^{this punishment} and so on. As I told you, it is now in Military hands as the Japanese winced their rights. Today my "boss" gave me some more extra work; heading the United Turb Drive; seems I can never get away from this charity kick; the drives no good anyway, they don't put out a "blue-book"; they merely say "those who don't



Samurai Doll
at Boys' Festival

contribute letter have a good excuse."
I guess I'll put a desk next to
the pay agent next pay day +
take their money when it's hot;
the A.F. doesn't fool around, it
publishes an amount each rank
should (!!) contribute: Lt. 2nd Lt = 4⁰⁰
1st Lt = 5⁰⁰ Capt = 7⁰⁰ etc.

Changed my mind about Fortune Magazine,
please have it sent

Add to the list of items to be
sent, my scotch rug; I'm not
sure if it's in one of those boxes
or in my room; it's black + red
tartan on one side + all black on the
other.

Before you mentioned a box of checks
that were sent to ~~my~~  do you
want to forward these now
too.

Thanks for all the help, will
write again soon. Hope Sequin was a nice
vacation + you're rested now!
All my love
Richard

Fishes Flag
at Boys' Festival

Sept 1, 1956

Dear Dad;

Just a real short note to you; I want to get this letter in the mail before the long weekend begins.

Enclosed is a "Statement of Personal History". I wish you would look it over and fill in the numbers I have marked (items 7, 10, 11, 14, & 15); these are things I do not know & need your help. In item 7, I need both yours & Mom's certificate number. Please send this back to me as soon as possible also make it as accurate as possible. Now I've asked you to do this I better explain why. It seems that in the near future when I take over the adjutant's position completely I will need Top Secret clearance; why I need it I don't know, I guess the reason is "top secret". As you can gather by what I've told you in previous letters and from your own ideas on our squawson's title we deal with classified material that is only seen by the wheels, as a minor cog I guess I need to be "secure". The agency check they do on me will take 3 to 4 months & cost up in the range of 3 to \$5,000. They may & they may not contact our relatives

in England; as it is only me & my
history they are concerned with I doubt
if they'd bother as I left England at
such a young age. If you want to find
out more why not call Eddie
Geltman (CR 6-2491) he can tell you
about these security checks as that was
his job; if you find out anything
interesting, please write and tell me.

All is well over ^{here}, I'll write and
tell you my "interesting" life later when
I have more time.

all my love
Richard

P.S.

all I need to know is the
number of the passport; will the
P.P. agency give you this information?

ARD E. ORGELL AO 3050952
R. EVAL ECM FLT
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.



VIA AIR MAIL

Mr Spencer Orgell
9672 Wilshire Blvd
Beverly Hills, Calif
U.S.A

Monday
Sept 5, 1956

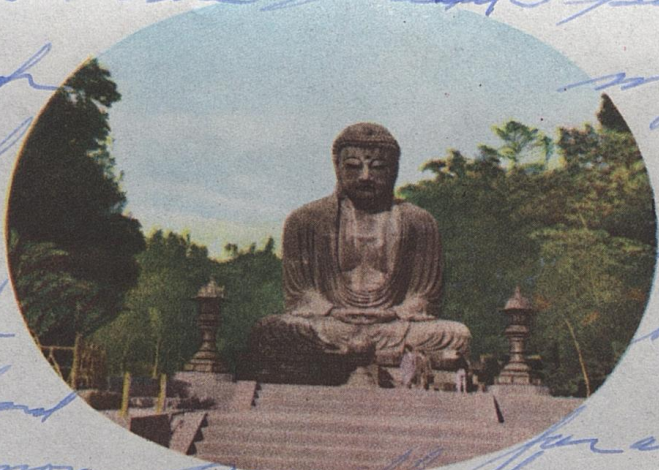
Dear Dad and Mom,

I finally got back to my desk and found my mail; I was terribly sorry to hear about Auntie Miriam; as you know I hardly knew her but I have often heard you speak of her and I'm sure that she was a wonderful person, I'm really sorry I didn't know her. I've never quite known what to say to console a person in time of their grief so I'll merely say I was terribly sorry to hear of her death and I hope that she will find a happy life in the "hereafter" that is spoken of so often. Mom always told me that a person continues to live in the memory of others whenever spoke of him; if be the case I'm sure that Aunt Miriam will live for a long time as a great and wonderful memory.



"Big Torii," at Miyajima

I'm sure that this troubled
period (both in B.H. + Israel) will
soon blow over; time cures many
ails; when people sit down and
think, they realize that there
are two sides to every argument.
I can remember many times when I
let my temper get the best of
me and I spoke hastily and
angrily (usually at Mom because she
seemed to be around at the time)
and a few minutes (or hours, time
is irrelevant) later I felt worse
than ever because I had been nasty.
Usually I let my pride get the
best of me and I refused to
apologize but as time passed I put
my "tail" between
legs and apologized.
Possibly because
getting older, maybe
I'm in a foreign land
from home but more possibly because
in a few years I maybe a parent



Great Buddha, Kamakura

I realize that one of the functions of being a parent is to ^{be} there so your children can "let off steam" at you.

Enough of this philosophizing (I must be getting too close to the Buddhists), I'm beginning to sound like a sage - I have no business writing what I did but after reading some of my mail I decided to "let off steam" - I feel a lot better now I've written.

As you know I've not had too many good things to say about Japan outside of I'm enjoying myself and learning a lot. This past weekend I saw a part of Japan that rivals anything in the world for beauty. (including Switzerland) The Japanese have a saying that goes: "you can not use the word Kikho (magnificent) until you've seen Nipho." I agree one hundred percent.



Cherry blossoms at Narapark

I can't do justice to Nikko's beauty with words; I did however take several rolls of film that are being forwarded to you - I only hope the pictures come out, I'm also sending brochures with history and pictures of Nikko. In a word description I'd have to ask you to remember the St Lawrence river in Fall - remember all the colors well take these colors and throw in several water falls, three lakes and many shrines. I spent three days (Friday, Saturday & Sunday) up there and would go back tomorrow if I could - it's so quiet and peaceful - very much like Lucerne.

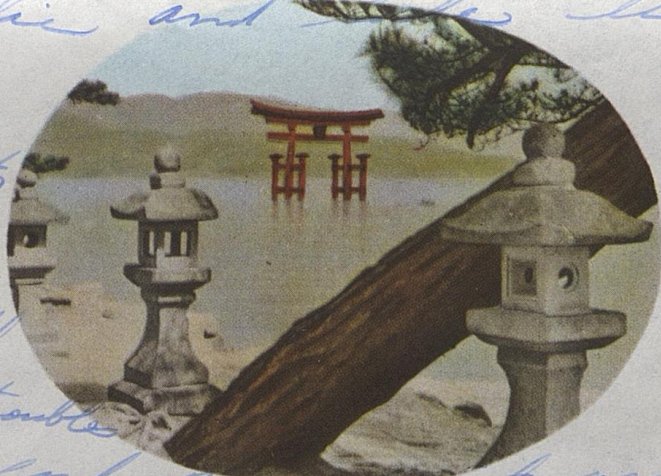
I stayed at Lake Chuzenji which is up above Nikko and the shrines; I stayed in a western room of a Japanese Hotel (the Lake Side Hotel). The hotel was built 60 years



Heian Shrine, Kyoto

age and is modeled after a European hotel all the way from architecture through service to meals. The manager - owner befriended us and with his excellent English told us what sights to see; I don't think we missed anything except possibly a shrine or two because I became tired of the same said shrine. Mr. Blackman was right, Nikko is a wonderful spot - I imagine you could use the peace, quiet + serenity of Nikko right now - it's a wonderful place to meditate. This trip I drove, next time I think I'll follow the advice of Southern Pacific and take the train.

Well it's time to go be official, please take care of yourself and I hope your trouble come to a rapid end. Write again soon. All my love
Rube



"Big Torii," at Miyajima

September 6, 1956
Thursday

Dear Dad & Mom,

Just a quick note from the desk of the "Adjutant." Thanks for your letter of Sept 2; I will keep Zygby's enclosures in my file. As of now I doubt if I'll contact the people in Tokyo; it's too much of a headache to get into Tokyo & because of my distorted work hours I can only go there on Sundays. Things, I hope will be in better shape next April. My job & my additional basketball duties leave me searching for free time.

If it would not be too difficult could Mr Zygby take care of my insurance from his end, I doubt if I'll be able to get into Tokyo before November; by that time I'll ask for a day off & probably get it; now is too early in the game to take advantage of the situation. The only change I want to make in the policy is to ~~increase~~ ^{increase} the deductible from \$50.00 to \$100.00. I don't intend to damage my car but if I do it will be for at least \$100.00. Repair work is cheap here at J.A.B. so the \$50.00 will do me no good. The increase should lessen the cost of the

policy; also if you + Mr K consider it
advisable reduce some of the other
figures, personally I think I'm over-
insured. By Military law I must have
10-20 coverage (I think it might be less)
+ by Japanese law I must carry a policy
that I'll buy over here for 2400 yen.

If people would like to get
in touch with me they can
call Johnson Air Base 55340 during
work hours 7:30 - 4:30 (Mon - Fri) 7:30 - 12:00 (Sat)
or call me at my BOQ Bldg 628
room 9 phone 56120. This is easier
than my finding them; if they can't
contact me through the above numbers
they can write the APO number.

I mentioned basketball duties, well in
case you haven't heard, someone started a
rumor that I was a good basketball
player, the base commander heard it
& phoned my commander who in turn
called me into his office & said "Col
Lessey called me last night & told me
that if I didn't let you play ball he
would have you transferred to where
you'd only play ball." This was follow-
ed by a visit to the base C.O., we shi

the breeze & then introduced me to
the "Athletic Director" & basketball coach;
I now have a additional "non-required" duty
of working-out once a day, losing 10 lbs
eating my meals at a training table &
in general getting in condition. If I'm
good enough & in shape we leave for
a ten day trip to the Philippines
in October; there's a basketball tourney
there. I must admit that life has
improved since the wheels began
turning I was an athlete; I sort of
hate to disillusion them; right now
I ask the moon & they'll give it to
me; the protesting that goes on here
makes UCLA look like amateurs.
Last year J.A.B. team was Far East Champs
& were rewarded with a trip to the
States, we hope to repeat this
year.

Time to sign some papers, will
write again soon.

Take care of yourselves & have a
very happy & prosperous New Year

All my love
Richard

COMDR	
COMM	
EVAL	
MAINT	
OPRS	
PERS	
SUPPLY	
TRNG	
PER EQPT	

Military Lesson for The Day:

Monday
Sept 10, 1956

← This is my distributing
Stamp - all Messages, letters,
publications, etc pass through
my desk - I read them & then
forward them to the necessary
Sections: PERS.

Dear Mom + Dad,

Very little to report today except that this afternoon (I hope!!) I'm going down to Yokohama to pick up my car; it will be a welcome addition to my possessions over here in Japan.

Once again this morning has been a fairly busy one, this being the first week I've had and how long it will last I don't know, anyway I'll try and finish this letter "interruptions be damned!!" Monday is always fairly active, there are always a few disciplinary cases after a weekend; this past weekend one of our "boys" got mad at a Japanese bartender and proceeded to beat him & this place up; the Japanese police caught him on an assault & battery charge; once again I hope they waive their charges & allow the military to punish the man. This time the victim involved has caused me grief, this was the boy I was teaching to be our center on the squadron football team; all my time & effort has gone to waste as now he'll probably be unable to play ball; now not only will I have to teach a new guy the position but as the season begins this week I'll probably have to fill

in and play the position. Such are the
uses of a football coach; Pat Senekis
thinks he has eligibility problems."

The past weekend was rather dull as
I could not leave base, I was Flight
duty officer. I'll have to speak to the
scheduling officer, me, about these
inconveniences.

A weekend on base isn't too bad;
there's always something doing at the Club,
a floorshow or dance, or there's a
baseball or football game to watch, a
movie to go to, letters to write or
at worse books to read. I did a little of
each this weekend.

Nothing much else to write about,
I guess I'll go shoot the breeze with
my C.O."

From David's last letter I gather August
was a good month - congratulations; how
ever expensive. I grieve with you on
your labor problems, wish I could help
you but all the capable men who would
make good shipping decks are staying with
A.F. "security", those that are managerial
experienced and those that lack brains &
ability are the ones looking to be released

from the service. At the moment I'm
well staffed in my own domain but
I'm having a hard time getting any type
of replacement for the good boys I'm losing
next month; the boys I'm losing are all
off for other AF assignments or off to
get released so they can go to college.

Next time you get an ex service
man working for you at the salary
you mentioned in your past letter remind
him his working hours hours than a
2/11, he has less education, less responsi-
bilities ~~and~~ his ~~working~~ ~~hours~~ ~~are~~ ~~more~~ ~~pay~~!! He
should also look at current issues of
Time, Business Week, etc & he'll realize his
employee's pay day is coming to an end
but his expenses are going to increase,
note new car prices!!

A page ago I was going to end this
letter, once again I'll try to do the
same:

Keep well and please don't worry
about me, life is enjoyable and I do
believe that each day educates me a little
more than the last;

All very true
Richard

Friday
September 14, 1956

Dear Mom + Dad

Sorry for the short lapse in letters but I've been "taxed" (very) busy; the past few days have seen many new men added to our flight including two 2d Lts (no longer am I the senior + junior 2d Lt, I am now the senior 2d Lt!!). With all the new men I have to brief them, get their problems squared away (financial, housing, etc), and see that they are introduced around; with the officers I do it myself and also include in the service for no extra charge a quick tour of the base. My car, which arrived Monday, has been a great asset; now that I have my car again I don't see how I existed without it. Immediately the car arrived in pretty good shape.

Before I forget, I wonder if someone could check with the Bank of America + see if I received a check from the AF for \$341⁰⁰; if you've already forwarded a deposit slip please notify me. Also I am still, as of this writing, waiting for the passport and naturalization paper information. As you have no secretary I fully understand the strain the office must be under + therefore even more

appreciate the time & effort that these requests take. Thank you for the notification on English relatives, etc., as soon as the naturalization papers info comes I'll submit my Top Secret application; gee I may become famous and have a program like "A Man Called X" named after me; better yet Clifton Webb can star in my movie as he did in "The Man Who Never Was." So the Japanese say "Ah so Dasha" ("so be it").

I hope you like the little dolls I sent you; one is an "obe-son" (Grandmother) and the other is an "ojii-son" (Grandfather). The Japanese always add "son" (pronounced like "sun") after a name or title. A girl would never call me Richard unless she were related or going to be related soon. She would say "Richard-son" likewise I would never call a girl by her first name without adding a son; "son" is like our English Miss, Mr, Mrs, etc. The dolls are typical of the old oriental "obe & ojii-sons". I thought you might like them for your doll collection.

Tonight I visited with some officers & their wives at their home; one of the couples,

"old-timers" here in the orient, is going to take me to a nearby village to see a man who has old & new silk-screen painting; to the painting, he adds the scrolls at either end. If I see some that have retail or personal value I'll send them home. Also in the same village are some antique stores possibly I'll find something worthwhile, at worse I'll have a educational trip. Immediately, the Japanese sell a item they call "nickel silver"; is this a highly polished metal or is it merely a base metal with silver plating? The items I've seen look like highly polished nickel; it is a big seller over here; very inexpensive as is their 950 sterling.

Once again it's close to the bed stone and I must cord my letter, although tomorrow is Saturday & I suppose to work only half day I have a lot of work & I probably will be stuck all day. Our Squanchon is flying Sunday, were searching for a missing weather plane, so I too will probably have to man a desk Sunday if only to keep the office open. No rest for the weekend, we should have a union - working for

Spencer Ogilf would be a pleasure, there
we only work six days.

As all coaches have, I have problems;
not enough players, players' sketched intelligence
due to pushes with the law, out of condition
players, etc. Now I've told you my retirement
option I can tell you we lost our first
game 0-13. Somehow I don't think I'll be
fired for a losing season, possibly recommended
but not dismissed!! Maybe we'll have better
luck in our next game.

I think \$100⁰⁰ deductible will be fine.
Repairs are inexpensive & the reduced
cost in the policy is worth the
risk, if there be a risk. Somehow I
think adjusting claims will be rather difficult
over here so I rather just carry the necessary
required insurance as most military personnel
do.

Time to close off. All my love
Richard

Monday
September 17, 1956

Dear Mom & Dad,

Here I sit pen in hand with very little to write about; perhaps if I let my hand & mind amble I'll find something to write about.

In recent days I have been rather busy; so busy that I haven't had a chance to write letters or leave the office early. We've been flooded with new officers and part of my job has been to set up a reception for these new boys. The new additions are 2nd Lts and as my boss put it, "You are now the senior second Lt." As I checked the new arrivals in I felt like an old soldier and I found a lot of truth in the statement, "After you've been here a month, you'll feel like you've been here a year."



Dolls Festival
Hina Matsuri

Aside from this additional work with new arrivals I've also been substituting for Joe Martone, ~~my~~ ^{the} boy I'm replacing; he's over in Hongkong vacationing. I hope his meeting with better weather than we are; we've been practically flooded out by the constant down-pour; you complain of heat, I complain of ~~rain~~ ^{rain} "and never the twain shall meet."

Last Friday I had an enjoyable experience and also a return of a long forgotten memory. I went to visit some friends at their home; we sat & sipped while listening to "My Train Lady" on their hi-fi; about 11:30 a memory returned; all present, about 8 people, went into the kitchen & raided the ice box



"Rikisha-Man"

for cheese sandwiches and milk.

Saturday I broke down & went into Tokyo; first I drove over to Teuchu AB and picked up my South Carolina buddy, Bill Pridgen (we were together coming across the Pacific) then we went to Tokyo to eat dinner. I felt quite educated when we went to see a "foreign" movie and I didn't have to read the sub-titles, the movie was the Searchers (Paramount) starring John Wayne. After the show we had dinner and came home; doesn't sound very exciting but it was interesting.

Do you think silk screen painting on scrolls would sell here. I have a line on a man who sells



"Maiko"
Budding Geisha Girl

old (up to 300 years) and new ones. If you could give me an idea of a good price range I could tell better if they'd sell; the paintings are like (in shape only) the ones Eric bought in S.F.

I've come to the conclusion it is impossible to find a manufacturer like those we saw in Germany & England; most of the art objects are made by little artisans who also sell their goods. I think I'll contact my Stockholm friend, "X" Egashira, and see if he can steer me to manufacturers.

This coming weekend, having interruptions, I'm going to try & visit Kamakura, the home of a Buddha shrine. More about this later.

It's late & I've a busy day tomorrow; will write again soon.

All my love
Pauline



Samurai Doll
at Boys Festival

P.S. Received your letter
Telling of Imperial Reservation
& Am looking forward to seeing
you next year.

September 20, 1956
Thursday

Dear Mom & Dad

The days are really passing quickly now; the days end before I realized they've started. For some reason or other there is always something to do; the trouble is that when I stop to try and figure out what I've done I find it an impossible task. It seems I'm doing a lot of little things, all connected with my AF job; for the past few mornings I've been sitting in "taxan" (many) meetings with all the touches (houses). One day we are discussing charities and the next day we're dealing with a Japanese national strike. Yes, they are striking again; seems the labor union leaders were unsatisfied with their last strike; it didn't get the desired results. The AF is not involved in the strike, we are & we must remain strictly neutral; we're affected by the strike and that is all; the strike is against the wheels who hire "master labor contract" people; it does not affect the Japanese domestics sent as my houseboy & the other minds around the area. Money is not the primary problem, laying off of help is the laborer's biggest gripe.

So you see even over here we have labor problems, the only difference is that half the time the labor problem can be solved with an additional bowl of rice. In the meantime my work goes on, I have to restrict all single personnel to the base, cancel passes & leaves, set up guard duties (to replace the striking Japanese guards) and see that K.P. duties are filled.

Had a very pleasant surprise two days ago; I received a call from Syd Albright (UCLA '54, stationed near me when I was in Texas); he called from one of the southern A.B. & said he was coming up. I picked up ^{him} as soon as he landed & we headed for Tokyo. Syd, an American citizen, partially raised in Australia, educated at U.C.L.A., was born in Yokohama; he is fairly fluent in Japanese & evidently has his eye on the import market; I think he may be able to help me in my search; when you visit here I will introduce him to you, I'm not sure that you haven't met him before. The two of us had dinner & then got Syd a room at the Imperial, I had a meeting early the next

morning or I would have stayed. We talked until midnight & then I left; he flies up here on his "milk-run" every 10 days or so, so I will be seeing a lot of him. He's an excellent contact, as I found out in Texas, so I imagine I'll begin to enjoy Tokyo more.

Japan with the exception of Tokyo fascinates me; there is so much to see & learn. I was going to take a course in Japanese history but believe ^{it} or not I don't have time. Basketball & other duties have even tied up my evenings.

I am interested in those business books you offered; what did you have in mind?? From what I read business conditions sound fairly bad; it looks as if the stock market is having a bad time; one day it drops, the next day it rallies & then the third day it drops again. I don't think the elections are helping business people appear, from this far off vantage point, to have taken a look & wait attitude. Although the Democrats are showing fairly strong I still feel Ike will win, Nixon be damned!! He is still easily the most popular man in the

country; they can slander his administration & the people will still vote for him; look what his name has done for golf!! He will win, the nation will continue to prosper, the draft will be cut or lessened (not done away with), the military will become more & more of a regular service like the old British Army. Military benefits are being added & subtracted; those being added benefit career officers & men, those being dropped favored people like myself - as of 1 Jan 57 my free \$10,000 life insurance is lost!! The AF is really pushing for more regular (career) officers; all day long I'm reading new regs on the subject & also submitting applications for my officers. "C'est la vie", it's good to know that we have a strong military; I'll feel very secure when I'm a civilian again. No, I'm afraid they'll be no Democrat in the White House until 1960 when Ike is no longer capable to run. Stevenson may put up a good fight but I'm afraid it's Ike & Dick in '56.

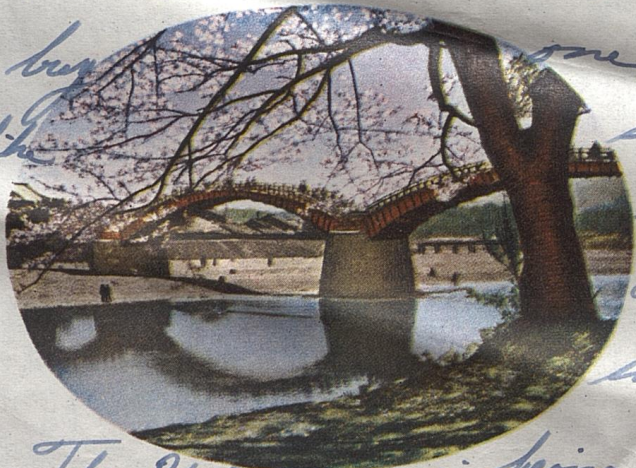
Time to go back & sign some more papers; will keep you informed of my activities again soon.

All my love
Richard

Sunday Morning
September 23, 1956

Dear Mom + Dad

Today I found a salesman that should
be hired by S.O.'s; this man is a
born salesman, his only trouble is
that he doesn't speak English. Needless
to say I went shopping today. I entered
a little antique store in a Tokyo
suburb. and was greeted by a Mamma-
son; I asked for Kokomonis (the scroll
type paintings I described in my last
letter.). I was seated + the family
proceeded to bring forth many
Kokomonis for my view; All the time
the Papa-son through the Mamma-son
is describing + telling me their history;
finally after two hours + several cups
of tea I had to buy one,
my conscience unlike
of our customers
let me take the
many courtesies
making a purchase. The Kokomona is being
shipped to G.H. This briefly is its history:



Kintai Bridge at Iwakuni

the painting was painted by TUNENOBU
(supposedly a famous Japanese artist) in
1750 in the city of Kyoto (at that time
the capital of Japan as this was prior
to the Meiji restoration and ~~the~~ ^{Commodore}
~~Perry's~~ ^{Perry's} "opening of Japan to the West").
The painting is a mountain view of
a now famous resort near Kyoto called
Ō MI HARUKE. When viewing the painting
do so at a distant as up close it
does not look like much. As a historical
note remember that in 1750 Japan
was a feudal nation completely cut
off from the west; it was a crime
against the govt to have Japanese boats;
no ships were allowed in or out of
the country, Japan was in a "Dark Ages"
era. For a period of 250
years Japan was
sealed off from
the world (1636-1870) &
was during this period that Japanese art &
literature flourished.



Matsushima "Pine Islands"

You'll see that the painting is not
 in "mint" condition but things 250
 years old rarely are. Of all the Koko-
 mona's I've seen this is the first
 of its kind I've seen; it has a dark-colored
 cloth pattern surrounding the picture
 thus setting the painting off well; if
 you could get it appraised I'd be interest-
 ed in finding out the true value;
 the artist's name is on the
 painting. In case you're interested I
 paid approximately \$20.00 for it; only a
 person fascinated by it would purchase
 it & I doubt if you'd get much more
 than \$60.00 (probably \$40.00). As I said I
 don't really know its value - it
 maybe worth a \$100.00 or more;
 (the more the better!) If
 you don't sell it keep
 it for me or your- selves.
 Incidentally please ^{Show} ~~show~~ it
 to Jackie - she may want an oriental screen
 in her English home.



Heian Shrine, Kyoto

At this same store I saw some beautiful
screens - rice panels & about 6 foot high
although there were smaller ones; he
wanted \$35,000 (approx \$100⁰⁰), they'd surely
sell for 300⁰⁰ or more in the states
but I didn't have \$35,000 or an inclination
to purchase. Shipping large screens maybe
difficult & I think I'll wait until you
arrive unless you have further suggest-
ions. I'm also tracing down "Monako"-
crests & insignia off of samurai
swords; old ones are difficult to find although
the Japanese are reproducing them cheaply.
I want these crests & or insignia to mount
on amma or ebony or silver backs & sell
as cuff links. If I find a "good" (ichiban)
pair I'd like you to display
them in the window
with a small history
card beside them; I'll
supply the authentic history.
I'm positive their novelty & conversational
attraction will make them a good seller.



Mt. Fuji

I may, if & when I find them, send them home & have you mount them. I'll know more about their price range letter probably about \$20.00 - \$25.00 - \$30.00 (cost to us approx \$5.00 to \$8.50) If you can't imagine what I'm talking about, imagine an English crest mounted on cuff links - same idea.

I haven't seen any good ivory other than Japanese commercial ivory. Incidentally these handles of the Kokomona are ivory (I hope!!).

Well it's late now (3:00 A.M.); I just returned from Tokyo (1:30 A.M.) & had to write you about my "restoration"; next letter will tell you more about my regular life & activity. Please pardon the poor counting & spelling as the hour is late & Webster's Dictionary is not near.

Keep well & write your honest opinion of the Kokomona when you see it.

All my love
Richard.



P.S. I also bought a brass paper weight shaped like a grasshopper - it was made in China 300 years ago - I'm keeping this for my desk here as I feel you have little use for a bug!!

Sarusawa pond, Nara

Tuesday
September 25, 1956

Dear Mom + Dad,

Thanks for the many letters, I'm doing my best to match your pace; it's really great to get the mail; everyday I set aside an hour for my "state-side" memory period; I read all my mail + try and answer some of it. The Stars + Stripes (our daily newspaper) and the Far East Radio keep us fairly well informed but it never gives news of Beverly Hills, Los Angeles, former Ogell's, etc. If you get a chance I sure would appreciate a few clippings from the sports pages after U.C.L.A.'s football games; this season is nearly as interesting as ours at the 6023rd.

Yesterday, I shipped, airmail to 614, my Xochimilco; when it arrives write me your opinion + also tell me what type of condition it arrived in. If new reproduction list at \$10⁰⁰ my 200 old year antique should be worth something but then again in modern, clean surroundings it may look cheap and dirty.

My first copy of fortune magazine arrived today; they have the wrong mailing address, they're mailing to AP0328; if the subscription is still alive please send them my new correct address.

I received a copy of my policy and a very nice letter from Mr. Zyberg; I'll do my best to answer him, in the meantime if you see him thank him and give him my regards.

Duke Waxenberg arrived in Japan & we had dinner together; he maybe stationed at Truk A.B. so I introduced him to Bill Priggen (my friend from South Carolina). In afraid I put a few dampers on Duke's plans, he has many fancy ideas, as I did, of life in Japan and in the AF in Japan. Mainly because of my job I come in close contact with regulation and so forth and have a fairly good idea what's going on. Take for instance yesterday when my equivalent in the A.P. (air police) called me (we went to personnel school together) and warned me that the local taverns, etc. were to be raided, I was immediately able to warn my "boys" and keep them out of trouble. Little tips & knowing a few people keep me informed. Poor Duke, everytime he came up with "what he thought" was a good idea I had to disillusion him. At the moment he hopes to live in Tokyo, I wished him luck, said that were I in his shoes I wouldn't want to live in Tokyo, and also added that there was little chance of it.

So the "war continues", I'm always fairly busy doing something; physically, except for a few expected football bruises, I'm in excellent condition, even lost 10 lbs. So far I still haven't played any golf, I keep telling myself "tomorrow", sort of like going on a diet.

As of recent I've been increasing my "social desirability", I've been playing bridge; if I can get my billing down to where my partner ~~understands~~ my weird "Guan-Orrell" technique I'll be unbeatable.

Well here comes the Col, he probably wants to talk about Cal's loss to Baylor (7-6) so I better clear the desk.

Will write later

Adonara

all my love
Richard

Friday
September 28, 1956

Dear Mom + Dad

Once again my apologies for the lapse in mail; things have been pretty busy what with incoming personnel, typhoons, football coaching and a few additional duties.

As the newspapers most likely told you the Tokyo Area was hit by a typhoon yesterday. This is not unusual as this is the typhoon season. Actually this was the first typhoon to hit us and it caused very little trouble except for some additional excitement. All planes were grounded and one of our B-29's was forced to spend a day at Ito Jima. As for the unit itself, the good Col gave all unneeded personnel the afternoon off; our area was slightly flooded as the sewerage of the runway runs into our area; it caused little or no damage. About 3:45 a loud siren blared out and everyone in a typical AF manner was terribly confused; I didn't know if I should don a steel helmet, run for cover or load my 45 pistol and go shoot rabid

dogs. Being an officer and supposedly trained to meet such emergencies efficiently I rushed for the nearest phone to find out the siren's meaning. A major beat me to the phone + saved me the concern of worrying over who to call. For ten minutes and five phone calls we worried for no one knew the siren's meaning, not even ground safety; finally a Japanese houseboy told me it was the all clear and the typhoon was over. I was greatly relieved after all an A-bomb might have dropped and there would ^{have} been nobody to tell me I was crashed.

Tomorrow evening, after being here only 8 weeks, the Co and the Squadron are having a welcome party for me which I had the honor of "donating" \$2.00 for. I never realized how kind, considerate and efficient the A.F. could be.

Pardon me if this letter sounds slightly sarcastic, actually I can't help but laugh at some of the A.F. happenings.

All day (7:30 - 4:30) I worry & beat my head against the wall trying to work things in a civilian manner only to find the AF has a more costly but in writing way to do the same thing. My evenings I spend looking back at the days activity and getting a good laugh - also I cross another day off the calendar - Monday marks 2 months in Japan with 21 more to go. As I reread what I've already written, it is plain to see that today was a day full of trivial agitations that make the problems I may face at S.O.'s very minor. A "transfer" is so easy to get in civilian life!!

I'm reading (I started this learning habit again) an excellent book; it is a novel by John P. Marquand called "Sincerely Willis Wayne". If you get a free moment or two read the book - it concerns the business world and has many often stated but seldom written bits of wisdom; it is also interesting because the first part deals with a family

type business; as I said if you have a chance read it; it's very easy & enjoyable reading.

I've probably told you already that I've began to play bridge - before you know it I'll have all the social assets. From Gail's letters I understand she's playing a great deal of golf; I'm afraid Jackie & she will have to re-teach me the game; it's a jinx, I can never get out to the golf course.

From Eric's letter (that I shall reply to as soon as I can) I gather he came home rested and full of the love of American Indians. Please thank him & yourselves for the packages that were sent off; immediately was my rug in the boxes.

I'm forced to buy an overcoat; it gets chilly over here; could you recommend a good English material to a Californian; don't worry about expense, all our material is from England, Scotland, etc & made by Hong Kong tailors (a coat will run me about \$30 or \$40). I have no idea what is a good

durable, fashionable material and you of English stock are much more versed than a "nearby" native Californian. I have already purchased a military trench coat with detachable liner; it's a good regulation gabardine, cost me \$39⁰⁰ and will be retired when the AF does likewise to its owner.

I had an opportunity to go to Hong Kong next week but I turned it down. Too near Christmas and no available leave time. These flights schedules come through my desk every month so I'll probably take advantage of it in the future; if my bud holds out possibly I can fly to H.K. while you are there; for me to go civilian it would cost about \$210⁰⁰ from Tokyo (no sky-coach)

Well I work tomorrow so I better say sayonara for now.

"Kon Banwa" or "Oyasumi nasai"
(good night)

All my love
Richard

Monday
Oct 1, 1956

Dear Mom + Dad;

Believe it or not I have quite a bit to write about today, if I get a chance to finish this letter; I've had nothing but interruptions today.

Trist: The car accident sounds fairly serious. I hope you were not banged up badly; did the fellow who hit you have insurance and is he worth suing (Blackman did a good job once before.) [Two interruptions already and I'm not even two paragraphs through - excuse me the third just entered the room.]

Thanks for the information on the Kockorowas (scroll paintings); as you know I've already sent you one antique one, this weekend I ran into a painter who makes new + reproduction "scrolls"; I tried my darndest to get a wholesale price or at least a discount but the old "papa-son" kept saying "price sumo-sumo". I did my best to explain the laws of economics as were taught to me at UCLA; I still couldn't show him that "a bird in

hand was better than two in the bush"; the end result was that the venerable old man taught me a game in patience, I walked out of his store with three new "scroll paintings." Personally I think that these three paintings are pretty good; they are painted by a ~~well~~ famous painter called Hideo (this man demands a fair penny for his work); the scenes represent the seasons (could I have afforded it, I would have bought "autumn"). The paintings were painted & purchased in Kalagawa (about forty miles from Tokyo). The painting is on a silk background, the silk is paper-thin; the handles are made of bone; each painting costs 1900 yen (approx $\$6.00$; i.e. $1900 \times 3 = 5700 \text{ yen} = 16.00 + 2.00 \text{ postage} = 18.00 = 6.00 \text{ each}$); could these scrolls sell for 20.00 or more; you could sell them in sets or in single form. As I said I think these are pretty good; a lot nicer than those you sent me the list price of ($\$10.00$). You know better than I, how easy it is to lose perspective of what things are like

in L.A. when you're 4,500 miles away. I certainly would appreciate a few well chosen words about my "art works"; do they have a selling possibility or do I have a few Xmas gifts on my hands. In the meantime I will continue my safaris into the villages of Japan. Have any of my purchases arrived (1) ash trays 2 antique scroll 3) new scrolls).

The latest weather report is that of a slight earthquake yesterday (Sunday); it's the first time an earthquake has ever woken me up.

Social news: after 8 weeks I finally had my welcoming party - it was very nice. The next morning the Col. had all of us bachelor officers over to breakfast - actually brunch as we had fried chicken, rice, biquets, etc. Excellent!!

Drove down to Ubusaka Naval Base to visit their "Ship's Stores"; ran into all sorts of people from UCLA & L.A.; one was a visiting mother-in-law (a Mrs. Kafka or Abramson, I'm not sure which) who

claims I use to take care of her in the store;
I blamed the whole thing on David!! In the
mails I sent you a few sample catalogues of
useless Japanese china, crystal & swords;
the stuff is of little value but I thought
you'd be interested in seeing a preview of
the oriental stuff which may flood the
May to etc. bargain basement. The "ships
store" however did have some bronze
flatware from Bangkok; it was very
good looking and sold at 1²⁵ per knife and
or per fork. I made my day complete & bought
a Californian "store-made" shirt - merely pushed
as a morale booster!!

That's about it for now except it took
18 hours to finish this letter; I started
when I arrived at work this morning & I'm
just finishing as I go to bed; I'm really
loaded with work & things to do so
please don't be too disappointed if my
writing drops to three letters a week
All my love
Richard.

Monday
October 8, 1956

Dear Mom & Dad,

An amazing thing occurred; a weekend has gone by and I didn't buy a single Kokoona or art object. Actually I was too busy doing nothing; Saturday after work I had basketball practice for three hours and after that I was too tired to care; Sunday was spent reading, shopping and sight seeing; I drove smack into the center of another ceremony; camera in hand I snapped pictures but once again because of the light I doubt if they'll come out.

Thanks for the advice on an overcoat - costs are much less here & I can get a cashmere or camelhair tailor-made coat for \$30⁰⁰ to \$60⁰⁰; as for suits I don't need any so I shall not buy any. I do have to buy two overcoats - one civilian & one military - the military one will be an inexpensive "horse blanket" G.I. issue - the civilian coat maybe a wool-cashmere mix, I think the material will last longer than pure

Cashmere.

Thanks for the sports page - just the Times sport section is enough - I think Saturday, Sunday & Monday's will be sufficient; I just want the recaps of the football games.

That's about the news for today - maybe tomorrow will bring some new news - now is the time I must work.

Take care; my love to the family.

All my love
Richard

LT. SPENCER ORGELL AO 3050952
602 REPAIR YDR. EVAL ECM FLT
APO 994, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.



VIA AIR MAIL

Mr + Mrs Spencer Orgell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, Calif.

Tuesday
Oct 9, 1956

Dear Mom & Dad,

Received two letters from you today, both full of useful advice; these letters being my most recent & interesting news I shall comment on them.

Mom's words quoted from a travel book on Japan are very interesting but as is always true of youth and often true of people living in foreign lands I can not except this woman's words. Possibly in Hong Kong you barter price but in Japan it is difficult to do; first the language barrier gives the seller an advantage and secondly the Japanese have had U.S. "visitors" (guests, etc.) over here since 1946, they have memorized the saying "Price samo. samo!" I find that when I'm polite, interested in their art and don't barter, they'll offer a discount. Remember this is retail buying that I'm discussing.

As for things to do in Japan I agree with the female traveler but I also think, as I told you in a recent letter, the average tourist sees nothing of the real Japan. Could

a traveler who had seen London, Sheffield on the Iron and possibly Edinburgh describe & know the English; how would he know about Wales, Sheffield or Moulton Mowby.

Tokyo is like most any capital - it is a large westernized city - its charm is the mixture of oriental & occidental culture but the real Japan is dirty little farm village or cities like Hiroshima or Osaka. Japan is hard to explain & even harder to learn about; there is seldom an auto trip that isn't caught in the middle of a Japanese festival; it is easy to describe the ceremony but very difficult to explain what all the conversation and activity are about or what it symbolizes.

The experts can tell you to go see sumo wrestling or Kabuki but they can't explain the action or history of the event. To really learn you must live with the people (English is taught (compulsory) to all Japanese children) especially those that

have enough knowledge of our language to explain what's happening.

Thanks for the restaurant advice but once again I prefer to stay away from "tourist" spots. Tokyo has its "Crisis & Moments" & the prices (in yen) are higher (350 ¥ a drink or \$1.00). With the help of "natives" & my own culinary tastes I have discovered a half dozen or so good eating places that serve American through German to Chinese food.

Yes I have lost weight (despite the above statement); I'm down to about 185 still striving for 180.

As I said yesterday overcoat prices over here are cheap; material is good and as in most "feudal" countries labor is cheap. I don't plan to go to Hong Kong (I turned down a trip last weekend) for some time so I'll settle for a Japanese overcoat (English material)!!

Korea was the intermediate between China & Japan; their culture is a long & glorious one; their dishes

for the Japanese knows no and -
never call a Korean, Japanese.

I'm sure that the places
mentioned in your authentication
book are not "off bounds" (~~nothing~~^{nothing}
except houses of prostitution are
~~off-limits~~^{off-limits} to officers), however
many places are restricted to "natives"
(Japanese) and tourist are kept out.
I have been fortunate enough to be
allowed into several of these
clubs ~~with~~^{where} I was with a Japanese
national, they are very nice
and quite different from the "only
for Americans" night clubs.

Don't worry about a X'mas present.
There is very little I need or rather
want to spend money on now.
There is a tremendous mild-lew
problem with clothing over here
therefore I'm restraining from purchasing
additional clothing until I'm ready to
leave Japan. For the two of you, I'll
travel light, you can buy practically
you need over here except for some
of the more regular tooth pastes.

It's time to go coach the team -
I'll write more later - please keep (SUGS)

writing me informative letters like
Mom's letter of the 3rd + Dad's of the 5th;
they give me something to write on;
eventually I'm having fits waiting to
see if my Kokomona is a "hut" or
a "miss".

All my love
Dakota

LT. RICHARD E. ORGELL AO 3050952
6023 RDR. EVAL ECM FLT
APO 994, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.



VIA AIR MAIL

Mr + Mrs Spencer Orgell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, Calif.
U.S.A.

October 11, 1956

Dear Mom + Dad,

Just a short note to let you know all is well. The news around here is the same as usual, nothing new!!

Yesterday in the mail I received the enclosed letter; the envelope is rather interesting; it shows the many places the letter went before I got it; I hope this is evidence that I wrote more often than you received my letters.

I just enrolled in a stocks + bonds course; probably it will be a repeat of the course I took at UCLA but this time I may learn more - I have way more time to study. Also to keep my mind active I've been tutoring algebra (possibly some day I'll take a course in how to spell). What I would like is some pamphlet on life insurance (ordinary + term); the AF has, as of 1 Jan 57, discontinued + cancelled its' free insurance; personnel now have to buy their own; my office is where they seek advice + even the A I got in the insurance

course doesn't make me an expert,
therefore any material that Marty
Kozberg could forward would be
welcomed. I suppose I should drop
Mr Kozberg a line but every time I
start to write him I get pulled
away for some reason or other.

From my legal office friends I find
that I may be missing the boat;
according to them any pay that
I receive from Spencer Ogell's is
tax-free if I'm out of the
country for 18 months. Ask Paul
Shaw about this - if I'm right, you
ll continue to withhold the tax
money & at tax time I'll pay my
taxes but after being here 18 months
I can file for a refund - every bit
helps & there is no reason I should
pay taxes ~~off~~ ^{every} ~~month~~ month if I
don't have to; my service pay is
still taxable so what I want
to know from Paul is how? why?
and wherefore?

Time to work - take care
All my love
Richard

Officers Open Mess

APO. 994

San Francisco California.

Lt Richard E. Orgell

AO 3050252

6023 Rde Eval ECM Flt

APo 994

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.



Mr & Mrs Spencer Orgell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, Calif.
U.S.A.

October 19, 1956

Dear Mom + Dad;

Not much to report; my activities are the same as usually; things are getting boringly routine.

Did I tell you I bought a big Japanese quilt (comforter); it's really a God-send; I put one of my two blankets between the mattress + sheet and now sleep void of bumps.

I received the three boxes and nearly had to move out of my "phone-booth" size room; I'd better not buy any more clothing or I might have to sleep in the hall. I'd have kept the antique Tokonoma I sent home but it was too tall for the room; see the decorator's problems I have!!

Basketball practice has formally started and I'm now convinced I'm getting old; I'm looking for a graceful way to bow out. The darn practice takes too much time and interferes with my social and educational life.

Enclosed is an American cartoon from the Nippon Times; thought you might

enjoy the humor.

You mentioned examining the old
Tahomona closely; I hope this was a
figure of speech; actually it is best
seen at a distance; up close it's
compared to European art, crude; at a
distance the colors blend magnificently.
Incidentally did you ever find out a value
for that particular Tahomona - is it as
old as I was told?

That's about it for now;
will write later - hope there
is something to write about when
next I write; if my "wealth" of
material remains so low I may
resort to fiction writing, "Richard
Dickens" etc.

That's all for now.

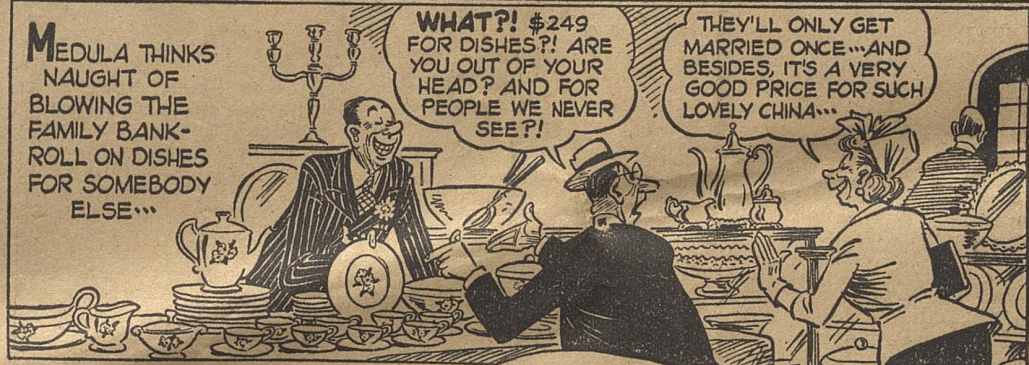
All my love
Richard

They'll Do It Every Time

Registered U. S. Patent Office

By Jimmy Hatlo

MEDULA THINKS NAUGHT OF BLOWING THE FAMILY BANK-ROLL ON DISHES FOR SOMEBODY ELSE...



BUT WHAT DOES HER FAMILY EAT OUT OF? GIVE A LOOK-SEE...YES?

THANK AND A TIP OF THE HATLO HIT TO J. ROACH AND P. EASTWOOD, 533 E. 12TH ST., OAKLAND, CALIF.



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GREAT BUDDHA, KAMAKURA

P.S. Please Send Address of Kodak
Film Processing Center Nearest to Beverly Hills Sunday Night
8pm. Film Processing!!

October 21, 1956

Dear Mom + Dad

I finally got to Kamakura, home of the Buddha shrine; to be honest I was very disappointed; there are only so many ways one can take pictures of one Buddha. I contented myself on taking pictures of people taking pictures of the Buddha. Possibly I was feeling a little under the weather after a long grueling drive but to me a 42 foot Buddha is not too interesting - possibly because I'm not a Buddhist?? From the Buddha we drove over to a nearby shrine that was fairly interesting; at least the view was pretty as it looked over the ocean. I can see why Kamakura is the average tourist a novelty; after it is the first



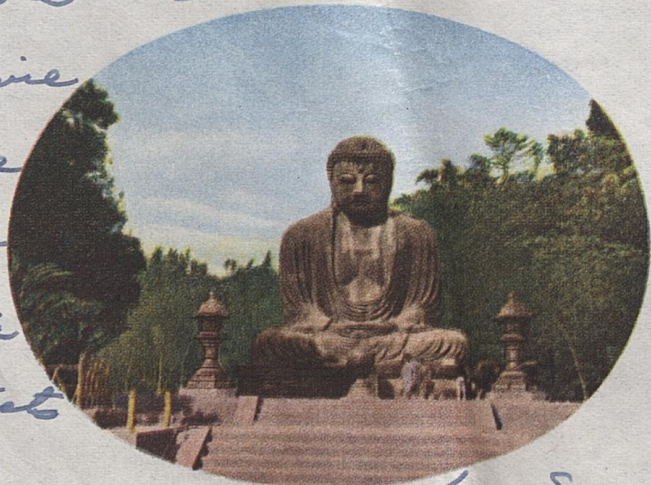
Sarusawa pond, Nara

Japanese village they have visited
(one of the local store owners nearby
the Buddha shrine is a Stanford
graduate!!). For me, Kamakura was
merely the end of a miserable drive
that found me lost more times
than I knew where I was going -
I traveled dirty roads constantly
and seemed always to be swallowing
the dust of a big bus!! I did,
however, for posterity sake take
a movie travelogue of this
"odyssey" (is the "i" ending the right
gender in Greek or should it
be the latin ae ??); whether or not
the film will come out I don't know;
the film was that which
was left in the
camera when the
camera changed
owners (the new owner
only a 2/4t and slightly clapped.)



Miyajima "Inland Sea"

I will forward the film to the nearest processing center with directions to forward to 614 and with that will ~~carefully~~ ^{eagerly} await your word of whether it's a "hit or a miss". I might mention that this film was shot in a similar manner to how modern art is painted - it was shot at random with no concern being given to the subject or lighting; it may become the latest Hollywood fashion!! I had such great faith in my moving camera ability that in case the film never came out I also had my slide shots - I took both cameras!! The movie shots show Japanese country side without benefit of their odors, Japanese streets



Great Buddha, Kamakura

← Speak of the Devil!

and their drivers without benefits of
gray hairs and nervous jitters, Japanese
school children, a busload, tourists
and possibly me!! All this if the
film comes out!!

The last couple of pages cover what
I've been doing of interests since I
wrote last; here on base we're
still playing soldiers and spending
most of our "busy" hours thinking
up ways to keep us further
busy.

I have a request: could you please
please send me one pillow
(there should be a couple in my
room including one I bought when
I was at Scott) Please
send the pillow
airmail!! My presence
is a farce & I've
to succumb to
and beg of you to send me one white
pillow
decided
heavy



Heian Shrine, Kyoto

comfortable pillow. Thank you.

Incidentally could someone around
Spencer Ogall's find out if there
is a duty on those new Kokomonos.
I'm allowed to send through \$50⁰⁰
worth each ^{time} I mail home
a package; ^{from my APO NUMBER} this is duty free but
is supposedly for my use or
as a bonafide gift. I can send home
things through the Japanese mails
but as I asked, what are the
duties?? Are there any??

That's about the letter for tonight -
keep well and remember that
I'm always thinking of you; just
yesterday when I was at Kamakura I was
thinking of how it won't be so long
until the three of
us view the
dorm buds together.

Til then

All my love

Richard



Imperial Palace, Tokyo

LT. RICHARD E. Oregell No 3050952
6023 RDR. EVAL ECM FLT
APO 931, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.



VIA AIR MAIL

Mr + Mrs Spencer Oregell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, Calif
U. S. A.

October 23, 1956

Dear Mom + Dad;

Greetings from the desk of the "new insurance advisor of the GO23rd"; why just ten minutes ago the Col and I were discussing the values of a term type insurance policy issued by a group in Washington exclusively for the protection of military personnel. Actually its one of the better policies I've heard about, after refunds \$10,000 insurance costs a flyer ^{\$8.00} 8⁰⁰ a month or a non flyer 3²⁰ a month; the policy also has many additional advantages; its' one disadvantage being the policy is a term policy & it terminates when the individual leaves the military. Enough ship talk!! I must write & thank Marty Koberg for his booklet; it arrived yesterday & I've been consuming it in my spare time.

Sorry to hear tea pots & sets are not selling in Beverly Hills; I could have sold two or three sets over^{here}; lately several people have been prodding me for information on sterling (950) sets. Being in Japan

I answered "dome, dome" (meaning, bad bad!! - the Japanese like to repent themselves); nevertheless never being too good at telling Co's, "no"; I finally told this particular man (thank God his not my boss) to go ahead & buy a Japanese set for \$250⁰⁰ but to look out for insulation, leaks, handles, etc; I may open a store here yet!!

The elections are getting a little more interesting now; last Friday I heard Ike's Hollywood town speech (it's a shame he wasted so much time slamming the Democrats - I don't like his remark about not mentioning rope in the house when a man has been hung). I have a hunch people are a little weary of what's ahead and therefore money will remain fairly scarce; possibly X'mas will bring it out but why spend it now when the banks are paying such good interest rates (even I'm counting my interest!!) The scariest thing I've seen lately is the stock market; it reminds me of a elevator stuck between

the second and third floors; one day it starts up, one day it starts down and all the while onlookers expect it either to start toward the roof or crash to the basement. Elections have weird effects on people; especially those people that spend money.

If you could sell the old Kokomona for \$100⁰⁰ or \$200⁰⁰ go ahead - don't save it for me - I'd rather save the money!! Of course if you'd like it or Jackie would like it, keep it but as for me I'd rather sell it - after two years in the orient I'll have all the memories I'll need of this country. Maybe if you don't want the Kokomona & Jackie really likes it, she would accept it as a birthday gift; I'd gathered from her letter that she preferred the new scrolls & I had planned to send her a set.

Please don't worry about gifts for me - I can handle everything over here nicely & believe me I'll "parasite" off of you when you come to the orient. As for socks

I'm not too desperate if I start to
need some argyles or heavy socks I'll
write - my supply is pretty good.
Incidentally did I have any socks at
home, warm socks?? If I did
why not forward these!!

If I could ever learn to under-
stand my houseboy I'll be glad
to teach him to wash socks -
underwear & shirts too. Don't
worry about Woolite - Cheer is
as good!!

Time to go to a meeting -
keep well - love to all

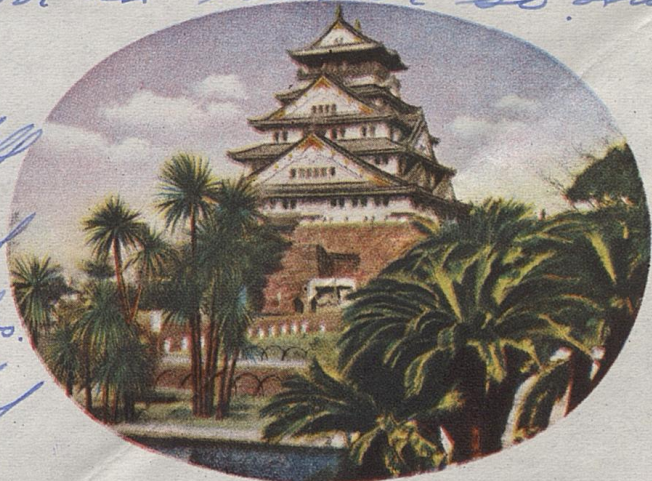
All my love
Dickard

October 28, 1956
Sunday

Dear Mom & Dad

This has been a hectic and busy three days; starting Friday and still not ending yet.

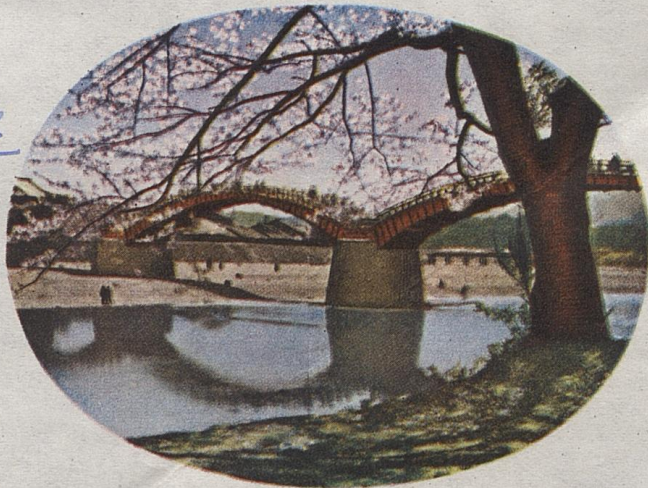
Friday as I was getting up (6:30 A.M.) the damn rains started blowing, so before breakfast and the all important coffee I was down at my duty station playing "soldier"; the base was under practice alert for an hour; finally after the all clear I managed to get coffee and begin my days duties which included several meetings, an insurance lecture and coaching the squadron basketball team for an hour or so. Finally I quit the base basketball team & still haven't heard the end of it from the "honchos". Friday finally ended



Osaka Castle

sometime early Saturday morning.

Saturday, although a day off, was again busy; the day included all types of shopping & hunting in Tokyo and the seeing of the movie "The King and I". The movie made me very nostalgic; I kept thinking of when I saw the play; remember it was the night before Dad & I left for Europe. Sam and I seems to mean that I am going or I am away from home. Anyway the movie started me thinking of home "etc, etc and so forth" (a quote from Yal Brimmer). To get back in the Nippon mood, after the movie we went to Sukhio Restaurant for Sukiyaki and Saki (saki is served warm and tastes like a



Kintai Bridge at Iwakuni

warm wine - very good for
colds, sore throats and what ever
ails you.

Now, ~~actually~~, I am sitting with
my ear pinned to the radio -
the Stanford - S.C. football game is
the game of the week. I'm wearing
black because they've already announced
that UCLA lost to Oregon State.
The game (Stanford - S.C.) is so exciting
I'm about ready to put on my Marb
jacket and lead cheers (for S.C.). A
few minutes ago Virginia Lee called.
I'm meeting her at the Osaka Hotel
at two this afternoon; in the
meantime I hope the hot water
comes back so I
can shave - last
week on Sunday
our electricity went
off for several hours;



Matsushima "Pine Islands"

I guess each week one of our convenience
takes the day off - well I guess
everyone should go to Church

How do the revolutions effect your
trip plans or is it too early to
worry. These revolutions are the
big news over here; Stars and Stripes
(our one opinionated paper) is playing
them up big. Japan itself doesn't seem
to worried; at the present they
are trying to get their islands and
men back from the USSR. Russia
evidently, acting very old fashioned,
feels they ~~won~~ ^{won} the war and should
make a peace treaty in their favor.
How unlike the U.S. who gives more
to the losing nation
than they had before
the war.

The newsreels
are giving old the



Heian Shrine, Kyoto

a big part on the pack; these are the Japanese newsrels; all they do is tell what he has done in the last four years, how he's brought peace & prosperity (?) to the world and what a great man he is. There is no iota of a word about Stevenson.

This letter should arrive before Dad's birthday so I'll take this time to wish Dad a very happy birthday; I'm sorry I can't be with you but Japan & its economy would collapse without me. As the Jews say "Next year, Beverly Hills!!"

I must leave this letter now - as I read it I think it's one of the most incoherent pieces ever written

but that is due to my tired and upset (Stanford is beating S.D. mood; keep well and have a wonderful birthday



Osaka Castle

All my love
Richard

Enclosed is our Jewish
Chaplin's idea of religion!!

Monday
Oct 29, 1956

Dear Mom + Dad;

I'm slowly recovering from a very exciting weekend; I believe yesterday's letter brought you up to my Sunday's activities.

Sunday, after I wrote you and ate breakfast, I drove in ~~the~~ Tokyo and the Osaka Hotel (the military hotel in Tokyo for transients and incoming dependents). Virginia Ben (known as Allen) was waiting for me; after having coffee and meeting most of her 2450 troop we went sightseeing. It was very exciting for a "veteran" of three months to show off Tokyo. On one part of our journey I was paid a cruel blow, we were getting into a taxi and in my best Japanese diction I was telling the driver to take us to the Tai Ku Ku (if you remember my previous letters you'll know that the Tai Ku Ku is the Imperial Hotel); Virginia was very impressed with my "wide" knowledge (20 words) of Japanese when the damn taxi driver turns around and says "Would you like to go to the Imperial

"Hotel, Sir"; the so and so must have been a Japanese spy or P.O.W.. I refused to let this spoil my day so I answered "He" (Japanese - yes).

Virginia & I had a good time shopping and then after visiting the Ginza, Michimoto, Donjaku Mart, etc. we went back and watched Virginia & her USO tour; after the show we had dinner and went to a club & then I came home early to have to get up early this morning.

Tonight I have a birthday party to go to so I probably won't see Ginny until she returns from Korea.

In several days, if not already, Dad will receive his birthday gift. Not wanting to buy the usual I bought the ridiculous - the coat is a "happy coat"; it is to be worn to lounge in - put it on & be happy!! The images are the seven gods as is the design on the happy coat (real silk!!); these gods represent:

1. Benten (with a lyre) goddess of beauty & art.

2. Jurojin (god of long life) - he has a deer under one arm & a fan in the other.

3. Daikoku (god of good luck - every time his hammer strikes gold coins roll out)

4. Ebisu (god of fishers) - has a red & white fish in hand.

5. Bishamon (god of courage) - spear in hand

6. Hotei (god of optimism) big bellied & broad smile

7. Tensho (god of learning & noble character) has a stick & scroll - this is my favorite god - he looks like a good fellow as does Hotei; I think these boys have the right idea.

Oh, it's time to leave, I have to go coach the basketball team - will write later -

Don't worry about the book of the month - it's easier to chuck them out of our excellent library.

I'll write later about Hong Kong & Bangkok - write me & ask about December - I'll know more then - right now I'm up to my ears in little bits of time consuming work.

All my love
M. J. Peterson

Wednesday
Nov 14, 1956

Dear Mom & Dad

Wow!! Do you have an effective intelligence outfit; according to your letter dated Nov 10th all overseas units were alerted, this information must have reached you prior to the 10th; it wasn't until Sunday November 11th that J.A.B. was put on alert (this happened right in the middle of our three day Armistice weekend!). I congratulate you on your fine spy system.

The situation over here is *cum se cum sa* (or however the Spanish spell it.). I really don't think there is much to be alarmed about. The situation is too open, everybody can see what's happening & no-one is anxious to start a full scale war, a small one doesn't bother the "honchos"



Mt. Fuji at Lake-side

conscience. I think the only thing to worry about is some nation getting desperate - should the U.S. oil supply be endangered (in the middle-east) I don't believe Uncle Sam would hesitate ~~at~~ moment - still ~~the~~ U.S. would find some excuse to rationalize the war & off we'd be. Personally I feel Russia tried her bluff, we tried ours (ours had a few better cards behind it) and Russia backed down.

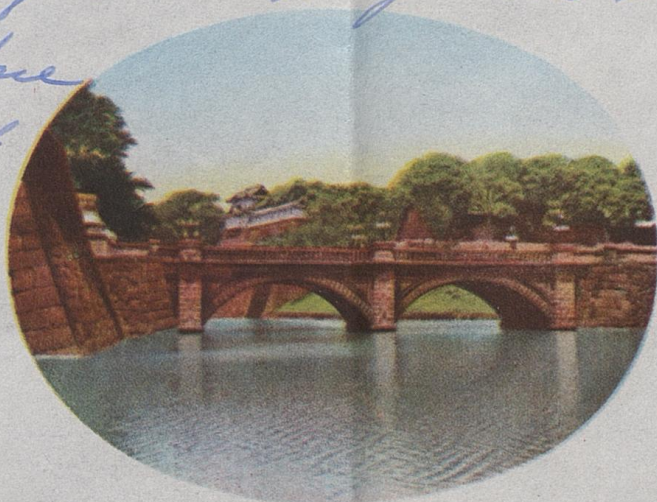
Over here there has been troop movement in North Korea - we are fully aware of it and at this moment the jets from JAB & ten surrounding air fields are loaded & ready to go blast these troop movements. The Communists being



Osaka Castle

no fools know this and therefore
are not moving - it's Hitler
moving into the Saar, 1933, all
over again but this time we're
not sitting on our T-zones, we're
sitting with a big stick ready
to poke the first one that
moves too far.

Whether the Russians wanted
it or not, I believe their move
in Hungary & England - France - Israel's
move was what elected Ike.
The people felt he would keep
them safer than Stevenson could.
I honestly wonder what would
have happened if the Hungarians voted
& England didn't force
her way into Egypt.
Would Ike have helped
the Hungarians?
If he had, he



Imperial Palace, Tokyo

doubt if he'll be in office today.

On this type of figuring we can thank the British & Mr Eden for their move -

But once again over - there is nothing to worry about - don't let the rumor spreaders & panics lead you to believe we'll be at war before the new year - I grant the situation is critical but for once we hold a trump card & I honestly feel Eisenhower & his boys will keep us out of war but at the same time militarily strong - all hopes of an early discharge are dashed!! Over here we are combat ready & will stay that way on immediate call but once again I reiterate, I doubt



Kintai-Bridge at Iwakuni

if we'll ever use our combat
ready status.

I hope you're still planning your
trip to the orient - I wouldn't
let this detour your plans -
make your plans & at the time
you're ready to leave then
worry about this "local" situation.

Nothing much to report except
that I'm quite busy - this letter
is being dashed off rather hurriedly -
I, like you, am a secretless!!

One thing that is annoying about this
alert is that it's curtailed my travels
but on the good side I'm catching
up on my sleep, studies, reading
& correspondence - maybe also
my golf if it lasts
long enough

Take care of yourself
& please don't worry
about me - I'm sure
I'm a lot safer than you - I'd hate to cross
Wilshire Blvd during Christmas time



"Big Torii," at Miyajima

all my love
Silent

LT. RICHARD E. ORGELL AO 3050952
6023 RDR. EVAL ECM FLT
APO 994, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.



VIA AIR MAIL

*Mr + Mrs Spencer Orgell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, Calif.*

18 Nov. 56

Dear Mom and Dad;

Very littlenews to report....this alert status is keeping me quite busy....seems that with this new preparedness many problems crop up such as how many of the men may have over night passes or leaves, who's to decide which of the men may leave, how do you keep the men who are forced to stay on the base happy, and many other little problems....to top this off I myself am on constant call....although so far no one has called....not exactly like the old days when I use to sit down to dinner...thank God, Eddie is not in Japan.

As far as this war news goes I continue to think that it will slowly resolve itself.....the police force in the canal zone was a good idea an even better idea when they suggested it was better to leave the U.S. troops out of this job. Russia seems to be less anxious to start anything as does her friends in China and North Korea.....for this I sigh a short sigh of relief.

From your letters I gather the news at home is a little different from ours over here.....the papers at home seems a little more scared and a little less sure of a peaceful outcome.....here in the orient we are guided by our one newspaper...the Stars and Stripes.....this newspaper never even mentioned the activities in Korea that alerted the bases in Japan on 4 hour call.....the coverage of the rest of the world leaves us to believe that Ike and friends are taking excellent care of our interests....but the most promising sign is that the Gov't is not holding up or stopping dependent travel to the Far East....when they do this then we will know that the situation is getting tense.

Business news doesn't sound too bad.....I imagine the rush will begin when people realize that X'mas is near and that this talk of war is mostly talk. The Rosenthal line sounds good(also good with two O's).....if you are still looking for a source of funds I may have a little proposition, as you know I have a few dollars(quite a few), these dollars are being guarded(I hope safely) by the First Federal Savings at an interest rate of 4%(as of the first of the year)now I don't have 5,000 but I can offer over half of this figure to Spencer Orgell Silversmiths to be paid back at say some date in 1958(or earlier) at a fair interest rate. This way S.O. wouldn't be pushed by outside creditors to pay back it's debts and I would be gaining a fair interest rate in return for the loan/loan rather than say the Bank of America. I have the greatest faith in the Silver or should I say gift business and would rather invest my "hard earned" money into a venture that I know something about rather than into some oil or other type business.....anyway I have the greatest faith in the management of this Corporation. Anyway this is just an idea...think about it and let me know.

On the China side of the question, have you ever looked into this Noritake china line over here...I understand that quality wise some of the line is as good as some of the Rosenthal they make now days.....the line is very popular over here....the general populous can't tell the difference between this cheap stuff and good china...if this would be true of our price conscious customers I don't know.....it may be a good line to wholesale



Dolls Festival
Hina Matsuri

at least one or two of the good patterns.....

Sloanes pillow arrived yesterday and immediately took it's place on my bed...this was exactly what I wanted....it's a good size and makes an excellen prop for when I read in bed....and bed is the only place I can read as there is no room in my glorified phone booth for an easy chair.....the next purchase I think I'll make is some tatami mats(soft straw padded mats for the floor... this along with my kokomonas and futon(quilt Japanese style) will really please my house boy.....he may awake me some morning with a bowl of rice and some chop sticks(incidentally I'm fairly proficient in using these wooden eating utensils...tell Eric that they are the greatest for camping...so easy to carry and if you forget them you can carve yourself a pair from the nearest tree.)Once again(returning to the original subject of this paragraph) THANK YOU FOR THE PILLOW.

So Jackie distributed by "chuanaka" gifts early.....I hope the young nieces and nephews don't expect more....I can't afford them.....incidentally have you forwarded the two deposit slips for this month...I received my monthly bank statement but no deposit slips....I'll probably get them in Mondays mail.

I received so many invitations for Thanksgiving dinners that I didn't know what to do with them.....the festive season is upon us(it began this weekend) and from now until a few days after the new year, there will be much partying ...seems that when people are away from home they like to surround themselves with lots of other people.....being part of that group of Other People I'm only too happy to oblige and allow myself to be invited to parties. This alert status only enhances the party situation...being restricted to the base(and most of the time the Club) there are more people to party...an ideal situation.

Have I mentioned that I've finally succumb to the game of bridge...Mr Goran may not recognize me but I do have a lot of fun laughing my way while annoying my partner through a game or two.

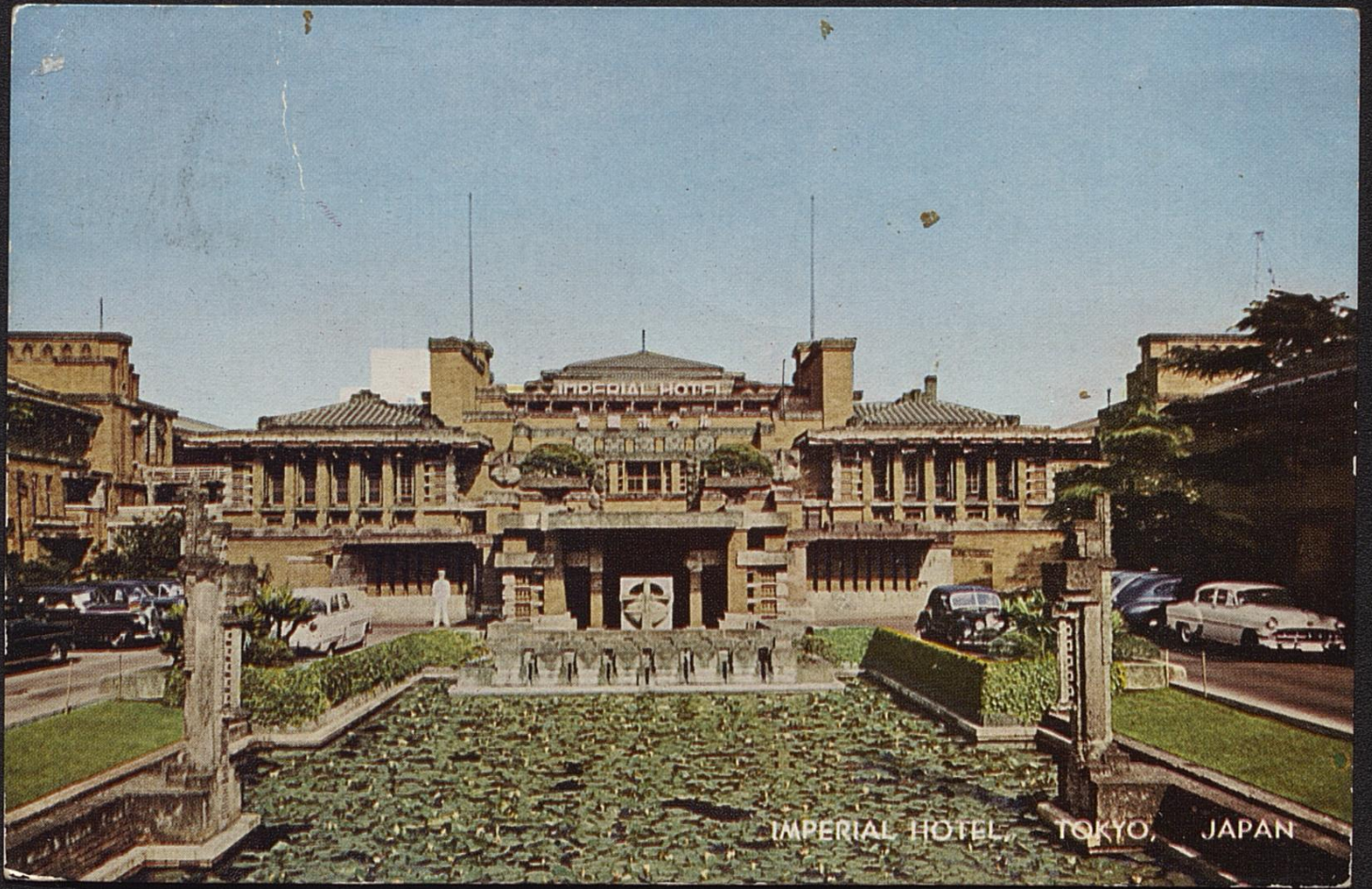
Well the fingers are tired so I think I'll leave this little excuse for a typewriter and say goodbye for a short while....keep well

all my love

Richard



Maiko
Budding Geisha Girl



IMPERIAL HOTEL, TOKYO, JAPAN

my new address:

Lt Richard Orzell

AO 3050952

6023 Rde Eval. E. 17 Flt

APO 994

San Francisco, Calif

POST CARD

IMPERIAL HOTEL

CORRESPONDENCE

Cable Address

"IMPHO" TOKYO

ADDRESS



Airmail 1

Dear Mom & Dad,

Am staying the weekend at the Imperial; we have a Large Room with two single beds in the New Wing; the price is 3400 yen a night (approx 5⁰⁰ each). Tomorrow I'll know if the beds are comfortable. Right now we're dashing off to Japanese Restaurant for a Steak dinner.

All is well; I start work officially Monday but doubt if it will mean much work. #153 (1/2) on in English. All my love Richard

Mr & Mrs Spencer Orzell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, Calif.
USA

AIR MAIL

Dear Mom & Dad

Until your letter today I hadn't realized that my letters ~~some~~ were dwindling off; things over here have been very busy (similar to a Christmas rush) and I've been on the go constantly. If it's not a promotion board it's a lecture, if it's not a lecture it's a basketball tournament (I'm official scorer - this was what I was stuck with when I told the CoI I didn't want to play for the base team - thank God it's only for this weekend!!). and so on read my list of activities. Don't get me wrong - I'm complaining actually I'm very thankful for my busyness & often times ~~am~~ the cause of my hurried activities.

Today is Thanksgiving & I'm giving thanks that our alert status has been



"Samurai Doll"
at Boys' Festival

lifted; this will once again permit me to explore past a 100 mile radius & will relieve some of the morale problems that the alert status caused among the aviators.

Yesterdays experience as President of a promotion board was quite an ego raising event. From 2:30 to 4:30 I and a board of five questioned & listened to men that were eligible for up grading. After hearing them we make our recommendations to the Col who promotes them or depending on what rank they are up for recommends to our next higher headquarters. Our general questions run like "what reg governs promotions" what do you do in your job "who do you think is most fit for promotion to corporal" (if they answered themakes we gave them points if they.



"Buckwheat Shop"

recommended someone else we accused them of being unsure of themselves!!
My questions however were a little different - I asked about education level, morale factors, etc - it helps me to get a better understanding of the troops & especially the younger ones, & also helps me on my latest assigned project "doing away with co-habitation with indigenous persons" - we are trying to stop an other occurrence of what happened in Germany. Anyway my latest project is to better the swimming Club & get the younger boys to go there instead of the clubs outside the gate. When I get tired of knocking my head against a brick wall I'll find a new project like special service tours!!

One thing I'm doing for myself now I have my T.S. Clearance is to try & get a courier assignment home. I can use the P.D. money & I can also sneak home via S.F. & see you & Earl. Everytime I'm introduced or get friendly with a senior

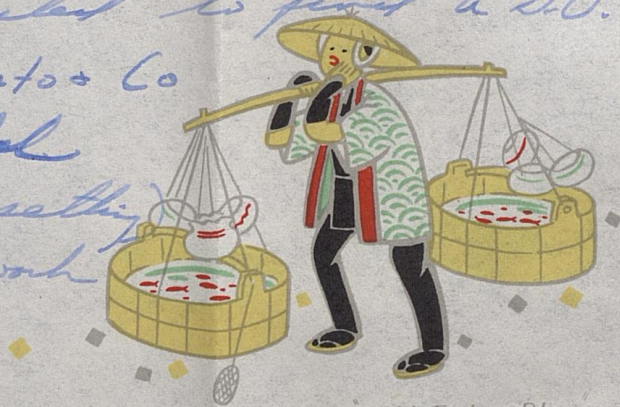


Fishes Flag
at Boys Festival

officer I ask if he knows about a courier job. My boss, Col Smith, says it's okay to go if I can get the duty - it should be good for a 10 to 20 day trip & then back to the 6025²⁵ + J.A.B. Anyway this whole idea & trip is mostly in planning stages & I have nothing definite - it's somewhat similar to your trips you take then eventually but in the mean time you make big hypothetical plans.

With the world situation easing I guess I can expect to see you in Japan in April or May. I still have no information on apartments.

Last weekend I visited a silver factory - his sterling is 950 but he can make 925 - I've never seen such copying - he has a scrap-book of ads that he copies his items from & as I thumbed through the book I half expected to find a S.O. ad. The Company Hiraato Co makes a copy of gold wheat (120⁰⁰ a piece setting) for 26⁰⁰ retail. The work



Gold Fishes Shop

isn't bad except for the thinness of the
950 silver. He had some plate
trays & vegetable dishes that were
worth looking into. If the company
could supply a sufficient amount
and the duties weren't too high
this could be a good mark-up item
in our store - the workmanship is
good & even the made in Japan stamp
shouldn't deter some of our bargain
seeking customers. This man also had
an excellent & large stock of trophies
that he supplies to Japanese country
clubs (these clubs rival Hillcrest in
dollars & cents worth of members!!)
Well I'll show you the place when
you get here; did I mention that
I may have found us a guide to
the China & silver industries here in
the Tokyo area, a man called
Banji-son who owns a small
store of his own carrying these
lines.

Wow, I'm late to a thanksgiving
dinner - time to run -
will write when time permits

All my love

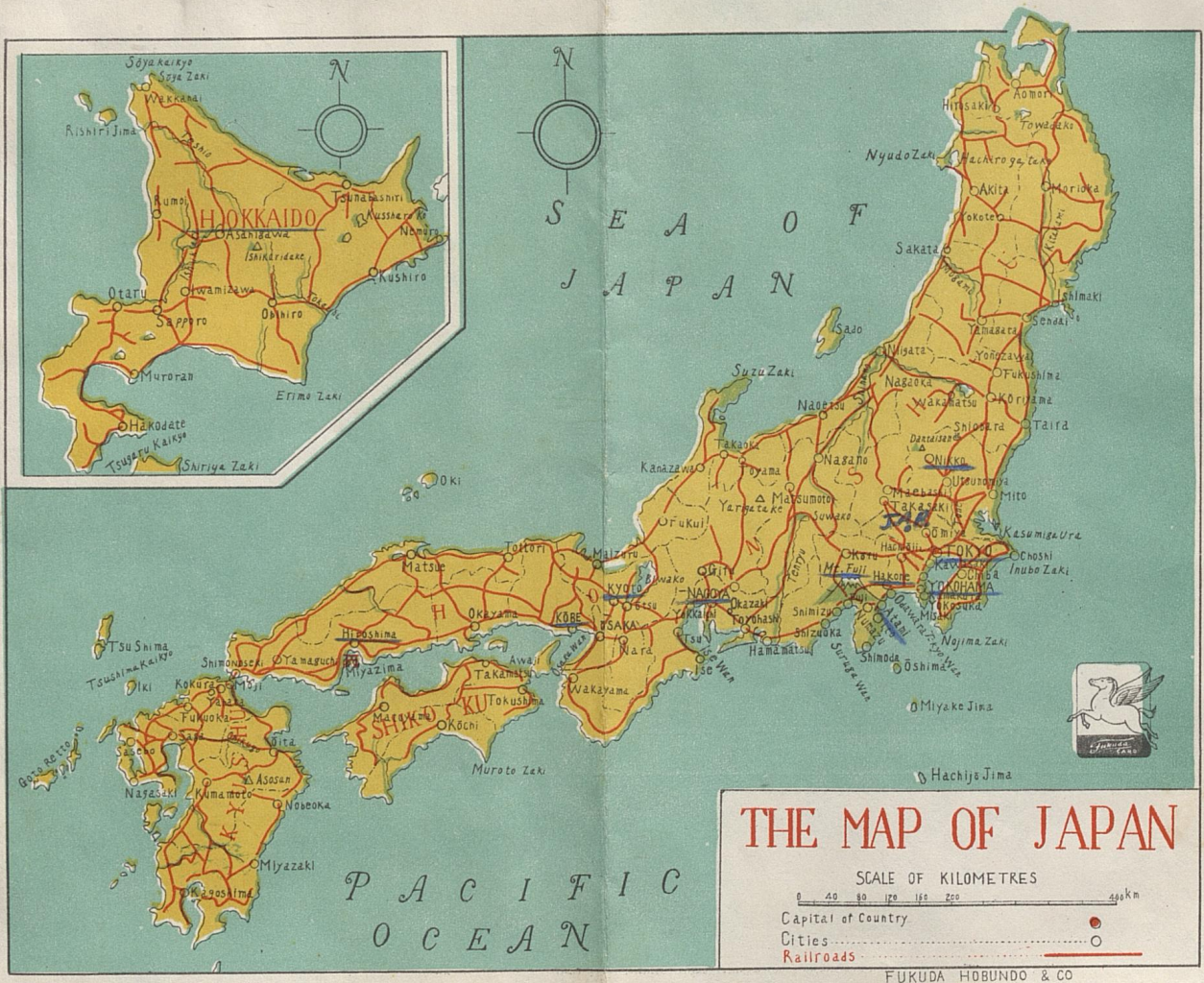
P.S. enclosed is a small
map of Japan.

Richard



"Maiko"
Budding Geisha Girl

underlined was the spots of interest in Japan!!



LT. RICHARD E. ORGELL AO 3050852
6023 RDR. EVAL ECM FLT
APO 994, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.



VIA AIR MAIL

Mr + Mrs Spencer Orgell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, Calif.
U.S.A.

Dear Mom and Dad;

Let's start this letter off by telling you I am in good health, good mental condition and still thinking clearly (or as clearly as I usually think) despite the current events.

I'm sorry that you were confused by my intentions....this I am afraid was my fault.....my intentions have been to marry Gail for sometime but after a short stay in Japan I altered the date from June 1958 to sometime in February or March of 1957.....as I changed my timing and as time to break the news to you was limited I decided to break the news gently, not because I was afraid to tell you but because I felt that if I dropped the news slowly it would not worry you as much and when I did say that I was going to marry Gail it wouldn't shock you this is why my letter home said "I'm toying with the idea"I did not mean to deceive you this was the last thing I desired to do.... I remembered only too well your feelings toward David and Teddy when they elopedbut they are not the discussion, I am although it is ~~their~~ event that has shaped how I wanted to break the news.....realizing I was the youngest child and the so called baby I thought it might be a little harder for Mom to realize I was getting married..... I refuse to use the term leaving home for I feel that I will never leave home.....nobody but a fool would ever leave the happy and wonderful home life that I have and certainly appreciate and can never thank my Parents enough for. So back to where I started....I wrote this first letter so as to break the ice and to prepare you for the latter news....Gail as I can understand couldn't wait to tell her Parents and call you (or was it her Parents).....her excitement and my bad timing was the main cause for your thinking I was being "pushed" into a marriage.....please forgive me, for I never intended to deceive youthat is the last thing I ever want to do...I always try and be honest with you.....it's too easy for you to catch me in a lie so why get caught.

Maybe I am misinterpreting your letters but I feel that there seems to be a bit of disappointment in them...is it disappointment with me or what..please tell me as if there is anything that I can remedy I most certainly will....

In choosing Gail there were many things I was looking for...and I imagine there were many things that she was looking for in me....first of all I wanted an intelligent girl who would give me the companionship I see that my Parents have in each other, secondly I wanted a girl that would remind me of Jackie and her virtues.....and finally but definitely not last I wanted a girl that I could always be proud of, somebody that I could brag about.....also in my quest for a wife (and I'm still convinced that the male is merely allowed to think he is searching for a mate and when he gets in deep enough it's really the female that closes the web.) I was looking for a family that would be similar to mine and would prove to be as good a friends with my family as the Briskins are.....as with you at first Mr Karp was no shining knight in my opinion but as I got to know the man I certainly got to respect and like himafter awhile I found he wasn't so bad as I had pictured him.....but that is neither here or there what I'm trying to say is that I hope that the Karpes and Orgell's could become as good a friends as the Orgell's and Briskin and not have the relationship that the Fleishmans and Orgell's have.....

Now to the monetary situation that you spoke of....I thank you for the continuing of the S.O. check...it certainly is helpful....that plus what the AF pays me plus the additional money that I will receive for being married I'm certain will tide me over...that is if Gail and I take the advice of our elders and don't try and live above our income....this I don't think will

happen as Gail has never been a squanderer and you know how at times I hoard money

...money I don't think will be too much of a problem...as for that 1500 you speak of I thank you but I don't think I will accept it at this time I realize only too well that that money when it was put aside was money that could have been used to bring more things to you and add to your comfort....you are giving me the monthly money from the store and I think that will be sufficient.... if it isn't well then we will have to do without something....and at this moment it looks like an engagement ring for Gail.....actually she doesn't need one over here and by the time we go home I should be able to afford one...at the moment I need the money to buy a house...a purchase that I feel more important than a ring....when we go home and we have sold the house then she can have her ring but then again this is more of my problem with Gail than it is yours. As for money to come home with, I think I have enough in my checking account, I refuse to come home commercial air ...if someone sends me a ticket I will cash the ticket in and use it for something worthwhile like home appliances.... I can fly MATS(Military Air Transportation Service) home and if I can't finagle a ride home through them then all my careful planning and friendships is gone for naught. As for Gail coming back over here....sea travel is out....I can't be away from my job that long and I don't want to take that much leave.... according to Gail she is being given a free ticket on commercial air if she does not receive this gift then she can fly over here via the gov't service, MATSit may take longer for her to get here but it won't cost us any 500 as for those gifts that you said we might receive....I hope that we can put this money in an account and use it to buy a home when we get back to Calif....I'm sure that we can live adequately over here on the sources of income that I mentioned before...the purchase of a home requires a down payment of 1000 dollars and the rest can be financed over 18 months....when I was at Scott A.B. I received 9.00 a day for about 90 days...this money was not spent as I lived on my ordinary income.....all of this amount was put in the bank drawing interest(3 1/2% at that time)(also please don't tell the income tax people that I didn't spend this per diem)...anyway this money amounts to nearly the amount needed and the remaining 200 dollars can come from my savings.... all these finances have been carefully calculated and if the best laid plans of mice and men don't go astray then the monetary situation is dijebu(alright in Japanese) .

Getting married under the conditions that exist is not going to be the best for Gail...were we both at home the situation would be a lot better but as I am living in Japan and under the jurisdiction of the AF there are a lot of things that can not be helped.....I can not take more than three weeks leave...this includes time of travel.....at this time I can't give a permanent date as to when I'll be home as I don't know and won't know until I find a home.....I think Gail understands this...you are absolutely correct when you say that you think getting a house will be no easy task.....it isn't but I've been fighting the "wars of the dependents" in my job so it will be a novelty to do it for my own dependent. I feel a certain amount of responsibility to my job here in the 6023d so that is an additional reason that I can't be gone too long.....if it is absolutely necessary I can get away with murder and take longer but please don't repeat this as I really don't want to be gone from my desk too long....I'd get a certain feeling of guilt.

I hope you won't alter your plans to come to the orient....I think you would enjoy it...and I would enjoy having you here....if it's possible maybe you could stay out here with us and we could hire a chauffeur to drive you around in my car...labor is so cheap over here it is silly not to take advantage of it... did I not consider the call of the road a calling similar to climbing Mt Everest

I don't think I'd ever drive a car over here.

I have a minor problem that can be taken care of when I get home...this is a problem that should not be too hard to combat for as the Col told me I am the expert on the subject....that is insurance...as of the 1st of the year I have no more free gov't 10,000 insurance...I am covered by the military indemnity act but that is not sufficient for my wants...when I get home I would like to take out a 10,000 dollar ordinary life policy with a conversion clause in it that will allow me to switch it to a 20 pay life at a later dateI'd take out the 20 pay life policy now but I feel that I have enough immediate expenses and I'd rather wait....a ordinary life policy should be adequate temporarily.

You mentioned a honeymoon...well at the moment I plan to spend the most of it here in Japan at the Gov'ts expense....I thought that Gail and I would leave for S.F. after the wedding and from there leave as soon as possible for the orient...the possible, depending on air transportation out of Travis Air Base for me, commercial transportation for Gail or if I can work it both of us leave on Military air transportation out of Fort Mason...this last depends on what contacts I can make and if I can trade enough "horses"....

It was wonderful talking to you all yesterday...the ball must have cost Mr Karp and Paramount a small fortune(at least 125 dollars)...but regardless of the money that was not mine it was really appreciate and I enjoyed every moment and penny of it.....your voices were so clear I felt I was talking to a person next door.....please don't worry about me or Gail or the wedding...enjoy it to it's fullest as I plan to do....the problems over here in the orient are mine and for once I am working on problems for myself usually it is this same struggle but always for some stranger..... I thank you for all your help and I'm sure that in the days to come I will be having many new problems and questions to ask you about.....once again let me say I'm sorry about the way the news was broken to you....I had planned to break it slowly and subtly but I guess I timed it wrong.....please don't feel I am being forced into anything I haven't been planning for....as you can see by my letter I have been planning this and preparing for it financiallyI didn't jump in, in haste or in a moment of emotion or lonesomeness... it is something that I have been thinking about and am still thinking about.... I'd be a liar if I told you that there were no momentsof doubt in my mind even now.....but show me any future groom that doesn't have a moment of remorse at the thought of losing his "carefree batchelor" days.....

Well that's about it for now...my fingers are weary from punching the keys and I feel that I am beginning to repeat myself ~~but~~ no matter how many times I repeat it I still mean it when I ask you not to worry and to sit back and enjoy this wedding to the hilt.....the wedding problems are the Karp's....I have no great suggestions to add to theirs....what ever Gail wants for a wedding is fine for me.....or what ever you want....my problems are the orient, housing and money...I feel up to handling them and I willif the AF thinks I can do a good job for them the least I can do is an excellent job for myself. So once again ...settle back and enjoy the festivities.....

Til I write again

all my love

Richard

P.S. an amusing thing just happened....Capt Patterson(Pat) my boss just showed me a map of Beverly Hills and surrounding area that showed the movie stars home....
(over)

and there on the map is number 52614 North Rodeo...the home of Neil Hamilton
...naturally I crossed out Hamilton's name and add added our name...incidentally
if Pat and his family do come through L.A. and call you they do deserve a free meal
they have been very kind to me....I have played bridge at their home and eaten
Clete's(Pat's wife) excellent fried chicken.....

once again all my love

Richard

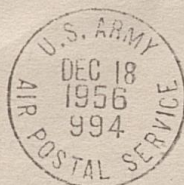
For mentioned a conversation...well at the moment I plan to spend the most of
it here in L.A. of the Gov't expense....I thought that Bill and I would
leave for L.A. after the wedding and from there leave as soon as possible for
the Orient....the possible spending on air transportation out of Texas for
base for my company's transportation for Bill or if I can work it both
of us leave on different transportation out of L.A. soon...this last
depends on what contact I can make and if I can make money...horses!!
it was wonderful talking to you all yesterday...the call must have
cost a lot and I remember a small fortune (at least \$25 dollars)...but
regardless of the money that was not mine it was really wonderful and I
enjoyed every moment and part of it....your voice was as clear as bell I was
talking to a person next door....please don't worry about it or Bill or
the wedding...enjoy it to the fullest as I plan to do....the problems over here
in the Orient are mine and for once I am working on problems for myself
usually it is this same struggle but always for some stranger....
I thank you for all you said and I'm sure that in the days to come I will be
having many more problems and I'll be sure to let you know about them...
I'm sorry about the way a news has broken to you....I had planned to
break it slowly and gently but I guess I found it wrong....please don't
feel I am being forced into anything I haven't been planning for....as you
can see by my letter I have been planning this and preparing for it financially
.....I didn't jump in in haste or in a moment of emotion or loneliness...
it is something that I have been thinking about and am still thinking about...
I'd be a liar if I told you that there were no moments, doubts in my mind even
now....but now in my future from that doesn't have moment of doubts at the
thought of losing his "colored bachelor" days.....
Bill thinks about it for now....my fingers are heavy from smoking the pipe
and I feel that I am beginning to repeat myself but no matter how many times
I repeat it I still mean it when I ask you not to worry and to get back and
enjoy this wedding to the fullest....the wedding problem the one I hope....
I have no great suggestions to add to what you said....what ever Bill wants for
a wedding is fine for me....or whatever you want....my problem are the
Orient, housing and money....I don't go to "meeting them and I will be the
think I can do a good job for them the first I can do is an excellent job
for myself....once again...the best and enjoy the festivities.....

All with again

My love

I'm missing thing just happened....I got Patterson (G.J.) who just showed me
a map of Beverly Hills and surrounding area that showed the movie stars home....
(over)

LT. RICHARD E. ORGELL AO 3050952
6023 RDR. EVAL ECM FLT
APO 994, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.



VIA AIR MAIL

Mr and Mrs Spencer Orgell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, California
U.S.A.

Dear Mom and Dad;

Sorry that the mail has lapsed again but this is the Christmas rush and writing letters only seems possible at such hours when I like to sleep.....

Actually I have absolutely nothing to write about.....the only thing happening around here is typical AF.....men leaving for the US, men arriving to fill our vacancies, end of the year reports to compile, AF changes in the AFSC (job classification system) and complete yearly review of all officer and airmen records.. some ~~off~~ of this work will lapse into next year/ but there is still much to do with an undermanned staff....for somereason I can't seem to get higher headquarters to send me extra Christmas help....who knows I might even have to "wrap my own packages" this year.....

I don't know if I told you or not but I was nearly transferred out of the 6023da name requisition came down asking for 2d Lt Richard E. Orgell...there being no one else in the organization by that name I assumed that they wanted me..... I immediately appealed to the Col and made some wild promises about winning the base basketball championship if I were allowed to remain with my "boys".... so here I was in the position of a losing football coach but instead of the irate alumni and threats of being fired I was faced with a Col and a higher headquarters that felt I might like to be a "wheel" on some sight in the Northern Island of Japan....not too far from the Russians.....the Col came to my defense and went to protest my case.....all was up in the air and I assuming as optimistic attitude as possible had my bags ~~packed~~.....then the shock came.....I was not going ...it might be bad for my morale and they would like me to stay in the service and make it a career....they thought that I might not feel too kindly toward the AF were they to send me to a site just as I was making plans to bring a bride over here.....so what did the AF do.....they shafted poor old Joe Martone...Joe is the fellow who took the time to check me into JAB and Japan when I first arrived and had the Col listened to Joe's advice when I first arrived here none of this would have come about.....naturally I feel pretty bad as Joe and I have become good friends.....he's moving out to the west coast when he is released from the AF....will probably go to UCLA...joe has a lot of talent in the music world...he had his own combo playing colleges on the EAST coast prior to going to the AF.....I honestly feel that if Joe were given the right introductions he could go a long way...he's done wonders working with the Japanese Band here at the club.....incidentally my opinion is not my own, it is shared by a great deal of other people including Patty and Shelly Schragger..... anyway back to my tale of woe.....Joe was re-assigned and I in turn am still playing basketball for the 6023d.....but on the serious side I have now been straddled with all of Joe's duties....his section was never in the best condition so I find an additional burden placed on me.....well I can't argue it's better than a site and the AF should get some work out of me after all they only have my services for another 20 months.... then as the Japanese say....sayonara...or is that a title of one of Mitchner's books.

Just before I started writing this letter I was on the phone trying to reach Julie Cummings.....working the phone over here is a complicated task and requires an OJT(on the job training)course....well I got through to Camp Zama but then I hit a brick wall or in other words a Japanese answered the phone.....much conversation but still no Julie....I'll try again in a few minutes.....

Had an RKO company on the base shooting shots that are suppose to be Manila Airport...only difference was about 40 degrees in temperature...the poor extras came off the aircraft in their shirt sleeves and froze to death....I met the head man....a Mr Snyder....he after being introduced to me by Shelly gave me a good Hollywood snub as I've received since I left home....as usual I refused to let

48 Mother

it bother me....I only mention it because I met the same man again the next day.... this time although he had been briefed....evidently as I was later told he had dinner with Patty and Shelly and my name came up in the conversation....he when he asked was told who and what I was.....now I am considered his equal....so if the bum comes into the store looking for a discount.....be cordial as he was to me and give him the same treatment....he didn't take me to lunch on the RKO budget so we needn't give him a discount.....

Other news is very little...the Christmas season has hit the base....we have all sorts of decorations.....very unmilitaryas a matter of fact we even have some joker who rides around the base at night in a sled like affair and yells... Merry Christmas.....such spirit.....here it is four days away and I don't even feel like it's the holiday time.....the trouble is that I'm used to last minute shopping and I have already bought the gifts that I can send home so there is no way to get that last minute rush.....poor Mildred at Saks....she'll have no-one to pester her...incidentally when you are in Saks exchanging gifts give her my regards.....

Just tried to call Julie again but again met the Japanese or should I say Bambo curtain.....sometimes I think the Japanese can't even speak their own language although I keep telling myself it is my pronunciation....it's just like the time in Vichy when I order Dubonnet and couldn't get anyone to understand me.....

By the time ~~this~~ letter reaches the states the rush should be over and S.O's should be receiving it's annual increase in stock(i.e. returns)....I hope the season has been prosperous and I hope all survived it.....

Not much else to report...the mail from home has been sparse but that could be due to the tie up in the mails over here.....I hope everybody is happy and no-one is worried about me.....despite the below Californian weather temperature I am in fine health...I started to get a cold but a good game of Basketball cleaned it out of the system.....this basketball could be the cure for a lot of things including site-itus.....

In a couple of days I leave for Hakoni Nat'l Park and the Gora hotel...we're spending New Years up there... I understand they have excellent sulphur baths so maybe I'll celebrate the new year in a bath....I can wrap a towel around me and cry happy new year.....naturally I'll write you later about the facilities and also send folders....if you have the small map I sent you you can locate Gora and the Hakoni Nat'l Park off near Mt Fuji.....I hope to get some more good pictures while I'm up there.....

That's it for now...will write later....I have to run off now to clean up for our squadron party...should be as boring as ever...it's like a lot of silversmiths getting together...everyone of the males talks business and all the "girls" sit and chat about each other.....I try to avoid these functions but it is rather difficult when the Col says I'll see you tonight won't I, Lt Orgell, we missed you at our last party(I was safely hidden up in Nikko.....)

Goodbye for now....

all my love

Richard

LT. RICHARD E. ORGELL AO 3050952
6023 RDR. EVAL ECM FLT
APO 994, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.



VIA AIR MAIL

Mr and Mrs Spencer Orgell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, California

Dear Dad and Mom;

Just a brief note before I drop out of existence for the next couple of days....I'm sneaking away from the office and JAB to go up to Gora for the New Year.....

While it's on my mind I have what I hope is a good idea....I mentioned it briefly in my last letter.....the idea of taking these Japanese dolls that I had made and making them into lamps.....well the idea has progressed especially since I spoke to the fellow who had these dolls made for me.... he is going to have an experimental model run off....wired completely, and we'll ship it to the store.....in the meantime I'm having some indoor slides taken of the dolls I have, so you'll have an idea of what I'm babbling about....I re-measured the dolls and find that they are 18 inches tall...a bit too large for what I had in mind so the next doll will be made about 12 inches high.... the main problem now, outside of the wiring the lamps (which I think could be done in L.A.) is to find an adequate protector for the rare and beautiful silks that make up the komon's and other costumes that the dolls wear...I believe that I could have cases made over here that would enclose the doll in glass yet leave it so it could be illuminated by the light.....anyway I'm having a ball working out the production angles and figuring expenses and overheads plus shipping and import taxes....it's the first time I've had a chance to put my mind to business since I left home.....I never had it so good in the way of advisors...Herbie (auditor general's office) is advising on overhead and mark up....Pete (leading tech rep (civilian) for RCA in the Far East) is my contact man...it is his girl friend who makes the dolls..... Pete figures we could put her and some girl friends to work for about 50 yen an hour (360 yen to a dollar),,, silks bought in quantity are cheap and we can get a local cabinet maker and glass blower to do our cases.....we will demand quality work and be prepared to pay the higher price for it....Pete, who incidentally has been in Japan for three years and speaks the language, is pretty sure that we could operate at low costs....as a matter of law... in Japan if we put this type of an operation in a Japanese person's name then we would be exempt from foreigner's tax.....well this is getting a lot deeper than the product...as I stated in the earlier letter this is an idea that I haven't seen before and I hope hasn't been used before...we have a lot of gimmicks to work out but if we can, and I can get the model off to you, I'm sure that you will agree that this type lamp could sell for \$45.00 on up.... I think that this is the Americanized-oriental touch that we are looking for. the product is basically Oriental...the dolls are considered things of great beauty over here and are dressed to represent seasons, festivals, etc..... the lamp idea is American...the Japanese hardly have enough denki (electricity) to have table lamps....plus the production will be U.S. supervised....well more about my brain child later... Actually this has replaced basketball as keeping my mind off my office troubles.....

Meanwhile back in the office I am undergoing minor reforms in what in my opinion up to now has been gross mismanagement...the personnel section is being reformed....both in operating procedure and new personnel...the latter is not my doing but does fit in excellently with my plans.... it is much easier to train new men into my ways than men who have been working under the heretofore



"Samurai Doll"
at Boys' Festival

~~Lonely~~ that has existed.....well, looking at it philosophically, it should be interesting to see the results....anyway it is great fun experimenting with my ideas at gov't expense.....

Received a wedding invitation from Sharon Factor and wondered if the store wouldn't mind sending an inexpensive but nice gift to her and charging it to my "account".....I'd ~~can't~~ think of anything to say on the card as I am not impressed with her future husband and I'd rather of seen her marry some one like Marty Roe who I know would have obliged her ~~a~~proposal at a later date if given a chance...so if someone would merely inclose a card with some time old sentimental saying I would be happy...please sign the card Richard Orgell.....might as well be formal and not use the name Dick.....thank you..

Once again I would like to ask that you do not put off your oriental trip...this would not only make me feel guilty but would also prevent me from having the fun of showing you Japan...do you realize that the three of us have never been in a foreign country together since we left Canada...please come over so I can show off my very poor and inadequate Japanese...there is so much to see over here that I'm sure that once you are here you will extend your vacation....and I mean vacation....over here you could relax and not worry about running all over chasing silversmiths....if I'm home and married by the end of March, back in Japan by April, there is no need that you couldn't be here in May or June.....as I told you in the last letter you could even rent an apartment...why not stay here while they re-do the home in B.H.....with Gail over here to show you around while I'm working and with me taking off from work as much as possible we could have a lot of fun...think how much easier it will be to rent two double rooms than a single and a double.....if my bridge continues to improve we may even be able to play bridge someday.....seriously I would enjoy your company and your counselling over her so please don't stay away merely on account of the fact that I am increasing our family by one more.....

Well I think I'm going to leave you now and see if our old friend Morpheus is ready to welcome me into his arms...it's been a long day and I have a busy day of Japanese driving ahead of me tomorrow.....keep well and let's hear from you.....

all my love ,

Richard

P.S. I wonder now that the rush is over whether or not the secretary could check with the bank of America and find out why I haven't received any bank statements since October....I've been receiving the notification of deposit but I haven't had a check back since the middle of October or November's statement....thank you again....all my love

Richard



Fishes Flag
at Boys Festival

LT. RICHARD E. ORGELL AO 3050952
6023 RDR. EVAL ECM FLT
APO 994, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.



VIA AIR MAIL

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