

Last-minute note rather than long supplementary  
letter about the war: -

In military achievement Japan is well ahead,  
predominant in artillery, in air power, and navy.  
Yet the Chinese fight actual battles despite heavy  
losses - increasingly far from equal, especially  
in the air. Railway points like Sunghiang  
and villages toward Soochow along the busy  
creek have suffered from bombings including  
<sup>a few</sup> refugees caught accidentally in terrible  
destruction. But the Chinese have a rather  
primitive morale that is of good use in  
defeat. Kiangwan <sup>southwest</sup> to the North Station is the  
defence line vigorously attacked but still  
held precariously by Chinese.  
S.

11 Shuangdung Hsiang,  
Nanking, Oct. 2, 1937  
revised & completed  
Oct. 3, 4

Dearest: - No word from you since leaving Kobe. I realize that you might postpone writing until you were sure I got through; but it seems like a good while now. I'll be very anxious for your response to Hayes' cables and my letter from Shanghai.

Today the last important committee meeting before the opening of classes. Things are relatively quiet in the half-deserted city, especially during so much cloudy and even rainy weather. Mills arrived, Riggs also. Latter family sailing from Kobe for America Oct. 11. Thomson waiting in Kiding in hope University will move there; <sup>but will come now.</sup> Buck probably started for America in the Clipper yesterday. ~~Max~~ Marx coming down soon. Hagman at Hefei, <sup>again</sup> we suppose. Paxton thinks quick and full compensation will be made for Ni's losses. Wilbinson back to Hefei from Wuhu, where she had paused. Our people and many others at Hankow did not get out in time by Canton, and now

plan to stay. Aside from Agricultural Economics re-  
 search, and Cultural Studies same, plan now is to keep  
 school together here. Most of staff here, with out families.  
 I have forwarded to you letters from Mrs. Jack and from  
 a Mary Evelyn Jones of 1104 W. Grand, N. Springfield, Ill.  
 also 2 copies Atl. Monthly; and to Morton 2 Geographical  
 will not forward more until I hear your plans.

Oct. 3

Expect to send this p.m. to E. W. Succock, 64 Route DuSour, a  
 steamer trunk with my initials, containing stuff for you & Bobby; and the  
 big box with bedding, including your brown suitcase with the things for  
 Morton. No idea about time of transit. <sup>Pick up considerable</sup> I will instruct Succock to  
 hold the stuff till we know your plans, except for the suitcase  
 which he will send to Morton if he has an opportunity (e.g. by  
 Mr. Boynton on the M.M. boat Oct. 19).

Could not find boy's scarves, your "better" hats (16 others!),  
 M's blue sweater, perhaps another item which I'll check again.  
 Sorry, but I have spent a total of three full days on inquiries, search,  
 packing, etc., and can't do more now. Things were so scattered  
 wrapped, mixed, that it was really a tough job. Will enclose or  
 send later complete lists.

Remember that no news is good news. Even a slight injury  
 to a foreigner will be reported instantly. Many summer letters lost.

Oct. 4

Baggage went this morning by train, supposed to arrive next day. Receipt, <sup>keys</sup> etc. to Succock. Case for Morton might be sent early with a suitcase for Mrs. Piggas, but Boynton may be relied upon as latest date, I think. Boynton Succock to hold stuff for you till I have word of your plans.

Otherwise no news here. General recuperation proceeds slowly, wondering about possible relapse.

With my best love to Bobby and Morton and you,

Searle