

COPY

Hsiakwan,
August 20, 1937.

Dear Ernest:

Sorry you had such a trying time in the station. Must have made you feel uncomfortable as stations between here and Shanghai have been one of the marks. We heard of Yangchow being bombed and of one Japanese plane being brought down over there. The siren has sounded many times here but most times the Japs seem to be turned back before they reach the city. Last night we certainly had a Fourth of July display when 12 Jap fighting planes showed up over the city. It was at dusk and a lightning storm was about and there were many clouds. But the anti-aircraft guns got busy. You could actually see the shells go into the air, like balls of fire, from one gun all ofred, another greenish white, etc. They brought down one plane out at the stadium. Two bombs were dropped in front of the examination yuan (which is near C.T.S.) but both shells fell in the open. The Central University, I'm told, was hit and rather badly damaged.

Central Theological School →

Have you a radio over there? I hope some one in town has one as they are invaluable things to have nowadays. I'm sending you beginning with today a copy of the mimeographed sheets of the Nanking Edition of the China Press which will tell you something. Billy will send a copy to Wusih. Will you please file the copies which will be an interesting memento some day.

(Smith)

Hollis went through the morning after you left and reported that the Tsingtao incident had been settled between Chinese and Japanese satisfactorily. They caught the man who did the shooting, who is supposed to be a Communist.

(Roberts)

Billy has been having tummy trouble and has had to starve, so could not move towards Shanghai as he had planned to do. He is feeling rather weak but is better today.

(Tao Shang School)

We have agreed to allow the use of our school buildings here for an Emergency Hospital. Several days ago one of the doctors of the Nanking Health Dept. called here and said that the city was establishing five such hospitals and that one was to be at Hsiakwan. He asked whether they might use this place. Billy has heartily agreed. Many of our people have moved away for instance the Ministry of Communications has moved to Hankow. So many have moved away that few attend services. We can get busy and do missionary work among the wounded here.

The English broadcast from Tokyo each night is interesting and often amusing. For instance several nights ago they announced that a serious mutiny had broken out among Chinese troops at Nanking! After the first air raids they announced that all of their planes had returned in safety, whereas we know that six had been knocked down. I have seen a part of one plane brought down outside the walls in the direction of the mausoleum. Last night they announced that now the settlement was much more peaceful owing to the fact that the Japanese planes were now protecting Shanghai! It is really outrageous the way the Japs are using the Settlement for their troops. For instance their troops are now occupying the Cathay Mansions. The British Government has given warning to them that if any damage comes to the building they will hold Japan responsible.

Sun Yat-sen's tomb

This is all at present. Remember me to Miss Bremer, the Kos and the Y.Y. Chen's.

Ever yours,

John (Magee)