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COLLEGE FILES  
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Stuart, J.L. 1946-1949,  
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THE FOREIGN SERVICE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Nanking  
Sept. 4/46

Dear Alice,

The little Committee of Five, of which there has been so much in the papers and on which the pathetic hopes of the nation for peace are now centred, is meeting with another exasperating and somewhat puzzling delay. I am idly waiting for some one else to make the next move, being perfectly certain that I should not. The whole problem of future American policy, with its tremendous consequences for human affairs not only in China, must be faced if my little Committee fails. It is in this perplexity that I wish it were possible to have an evening or to take a walk with you, and talk it all over to one so intelligently and so intensely sympathetic. This sense of need was stimulated by the tantalizing visit last Sunday night when there were too many others present. But it reminded me how freely I used to talk to you about university affairs, knowing that you would listen and understand - and help.

0528



THE FOREIGN SERVICE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

I have been so incessantly busy that a day like this one when the time had been reserved for a meeting that does not take place is causing a sort of reaction. I think wistfully about life at Yenching with you and others back there again and all the deeply-rooted associations. And yet I am perfectly certain that I made the right decision. The haunting anxieties and almost insuperable obstacles make of this one more exhilarating adventure of faith. Yenching was such an adventure always - and never more so than the coming session. It is good to know that you at any rate will be there. You must keep me informed as in the past. I shall try to slip back for an occasional visit - if things ever get less tense.

The enclosed from Brank may be of interest to you and some others. Be sure to let Stephen see it. Lots of love and longing,  
Leighton

0529



April 24 1948

Dear Alice,

Yours of the 11<sup>th</sup> reached me on 21<sup>st</sup>. Curiously what concerns me most is the idea that you may be leaving this summer, in any case half a year or a year later. This is wholly selfish and illogical on my part. I do not know when, if ever, I can get back to Yonkers, but I cannot think contentedly of doing so without you and Sunday evenings or hill trips etc etc together. I am glad you have an occasion for returning to the States though awfully sorry about Lydia's serious mishap. Our turn is beginning this morning as I write - very quick so far - except for fairs, shooting etc all last night. Yesterday I had my summons "for consultation" as soon as the take over is finished. I replied asking that I have at least two or three weeks from now. Can I ever get back? Many puzzling questions.

0530



April 24 1948

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My remembrance to everyone as always and my usual style of signing off to you - stronger than ever in view of changes.

0531



April 24

Dear Sir,  
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th inst. in relation to the matter mentioned above. I am sorry that I cannot give you a more satisfactory answer at this time, but I am sure that you will understand my position.

Written Apr 24  
Received May 18  
Answered May 25

I have had some communication with the authorities, and I am sorry to say that the result is not such as I could wish. It appears that there is some misunderstanding on the part of those concerned, and I am sure that you will sympathize with me in this respect. I am, however, confident that the matter will be settled satisfactorily in the end.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
J. C. [Signature]

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Sunday May 15<sup>th</sup>

1948

Dear Alice,

Your letter of Apr. 24 reached me a few days ago, almost the only letter I have had from anywhere since the date of your writing. A few local ones and perhaps two from Shanghai are all. So that we are in postal communication when all other localities are not. I was glad to have the account of your Easter and of the flowers then in bloom. Also the further news about your own plans.

I realize very reluctantly what you describe with your characteristic scientific frankness about my future on that campus. I fortunately care far more about what goes on there than whether I am a part of it or not. So that your continuing presence may not benefit me as much as I have fondly thought. None the less I can go on fondly thinking. It is too early to be entirely certain about many things.

0533

One of these is my own departure which is dependent on many complicated factors. Still more vague is what will happen to me after my arrival at the other end. It would be nice to have dinner with you this Sunday evening and talk about all such issues. No one could be more intelligently sympathetic. My last years of active life are not taking form as I had anticipated - nor is the environment.

Because there are reasons why I should not write more frequently will you give messages to those concerned of my interest in Commencement, in the special problems of your own racial group, and in all those affecting campus life etc. Please tell S.D. I have been unable to locate Pi - he left here before I could reach him and had no forwarding address.

For the rest my love and constant remembrance to those you can name, and my unwavering hope that something is coming out of all this better than we can see.

Affectionately as ever,  
L



June 26. 1948

Merkey

Alice dear,

Your letter of May 25 with its birthday card reached me June 8. This was forehanded even for you. The one written 9<sup>th</sup> arrived 17<sup>th</sup>. The news about campus affairs is reassuring and is confirmed by other sources. Thus far the troubles in Christian colleges have been largely the outbursts of internal strains under new conditions rather than imposed from without. Our solidarity and liberal policies have helped us to stand the shock.

Even though my nostalgic promptings could not be fulfilled yet the people here did all they could to compensate to make it a happy anniversary. The Yenching graduates came at 3<sup>30</sup> and were still here when I had to go at 5<sup>00</sup> to my Counselor and near neighbor who had a reception for selected diplomats, missionaries and Embassy staff, then a still more selected dinner at my home of 22 people. The Y. U. people who attended were 25/30, more than I

0535

thought were in the city. Those in official duties did not <sup>attend</sup> but the principal ~~one~~ among them had agreed to come to a family lunch though prevented at the last. Despite my wishes and the times I got a few baskets of flowers and other gifts. Among the cables was one from Warren stating that he will officiate at Jack's wedding tomorrow. They had been counting on me till I cabled advising them not to delay any longer. So Jack after a series of inconclusive episodes seems desperately in love at last with a widow and mother of an 8 year old boy, Dean of a woman's College in his Mississippi pastorate.

A curious letter from C.W. written some 10 days <sup>ago</sup> implies that I am making a trip to Yenching as approved by the top people. A hint of this came from their local man. I know nothing more, except that I should love to do so - and that it would be highly indiscreet. Imagine the rumors. It was bad enough to go to Shanghai. Affectionately  
L



THE  
Carlton  
WASHINGTON 6, D.C.

October 3, 1949

Alice dear,

Your letter of Aug. 19 reached me not too tardily. I have not replied earlier because of uncertainty as to delivery. Also because the same applies to my own affairs. I have a nice office in the new building and my old secretary who was luckily here and thoughtfully assigned to me. She knows all my idiosyncrasies. I have made two trips to N.Y. and am leaving for there again in a few days. Boston & Harvard later on this month. Nashville between these two trips. My bosses still have the ban on any public speeches, but I have off-the-record question-and-answer conferences which seem to go pretty well. Everyone with whom I am supposed to deal is so busy with day-to-day matters

0537

that I must be patient. Since I should not return for a while to the place I want most to be these delays do not matter. But if I ever do it will not be the same without you. I am having a chance to practise my doctrines of faith as an adventure and all that this involves.

Grace will be pleased to know that I saw "Ted" Nash in N.Y. and met the partners. They seem to feel that the book is well worth going on with. He has given me a suggested outline which I shall more or less follow when the time comes.

News from preaching is very cheering and I am proud of all of you, while helping as I can here. Yesterday must have been an exciting day in the city and has stirred things here a-plenty.

Remembrance to everyone and constant solicitous hopes.

affectionately,  
L



Nanking, Sunday evening,  
Nov. 28, 1948

Dear Alice,

At this hour with its many happy memories I am thinking of you and wish it were possible to sit and chat again. Some day it may be on the old schedule. I am hoping that it may be possible to get to yearning for Christmas though recent events are against any such timing. The series of military debacles this autumn has been worse even ~~than~~ could have been expected. The incompetence is unbelievable. The latest one at Hsuechow and South will soon be known and marks the end of the fighting as at present organized. What will follow cannot be foreseen but it will at

0539

best be disagreeable and discouraging.  
I have the grim satisfaction of having  
done my best and the contrasted feeling  
of having been wholly ineffective. However,  
this is only the ending of one chapter and  
I am by no means despondent about  
the next one or the one to follow that.  
The forces in which we believe are too  
right and powerful to be destroyed  
forever. Meanwhile I am very busy. All  
the other diplomats want to know my views  
or to get American help in evacuation. So  
with Chinese. It is a relief on the whole  
not to have to make the trip to U.S.A. just  
now. Dwight will tell of Bd. of Managers  
meeting Thanksgiving Day. I kept them + Stephen  
to a dinner that evening with Embassy staff  
members least likely to be invited elsewhere.  
Get Philip to give news that cannot be written,  
with solicitous but proud affection.  
Rayburn



Dec. 19-  
1948

Dear Alice,

I was just planning to write you when yours of a week ago was delivered. Your previous letter was full of interest but is already somewhat out of date. This last one makes more poignant my tentative decision not to attempt the flight to Peiping. It might be politically unwise even if physically safe. But after the experiences of my military and air attaches who are up there now there would be no slight opposition to my taking similar risks and I might have to get the Department's permission in view of inferences or speculations as to American policy. I know in advance that if I asked them they would disapprove.

0541

Meanwhile I am watching the news about you all with intense interest but surprisingly little anxiety. Both the newspapers and our Consulate keep us informed.

My chief distress is having quite definite ideas but being prevented from expressing these to my Chinese friends, who are terribly baffled and perplexed, because this might seem to involve American policy. It is interesting to see how the Government spins on to its inevitable doom by the will-power of one man. But this is getting indiscreet.

Tell everyone how disappointed I shall be if finally this trip must be abandoned and give them my heartiest seasonal wishes & hopes for the future.

With love  
Lillian



1 1  
Jan - 18 -  
1949

My dear Alice,

A long time has passed since I left Peiping after that visit which you helped so much to make enjoyable. I did indeed find it to be even more so than I had hoped for. The weather was ideal — for that season — including the snow. Every one was lovely to me and it was so nice to be spoken of and treated as the "President." I should have written earlier but waited perhaps for the letter from you which will doubtless arrive promptly

0543

after this has been mailed.

The reference to my old title suggests the successor. The Chinese members of the Board's nominating committee all prefer Y.P. to Y.K. Chu. They are waiting for the vote of Dwight Edwards who would scarcely go against them especially since Chu was associated with Jimmy & him in United Service to China and Jimmy was the most emphatic that Chu was not big enough. I have written all this to William in confidence until

0544



formal action is reported. But I can trust you. I also told him that Y.P. has always been my personal preference but the two objections were the attitude of our Chinese faculty and V.K. If the former can be removed some frank talks with V.K. might even turn her into an asset. If the faculty knew what the alternative was it might incline them toward Y.P. At any rate you can watch developments from the inside.

In the midst of catastrophic happenings and trends, I have been more than usually busy with social events, out to dinner almost every night or with guests here if not, an American wedding this evening eight o'clock, entertaining the departing Admiral & Mrs. Cooke &c. It adds a grim humor to the more serious issues. Whatever lies ahead I hold firmly to my belief in the essential practicability and value of democracy, <sup>①</sup> the basic qualities of the Chinese people, and <sup>②</sup> the reality of the God of Jesus Christ. With faith in these the rest is transitory and incidental. But can I help in bringing the permanent factors to bear helpfully upon the others? Lovingly  
Leighton



"A Paradise Above the Clouds"

## Lookout Mountain Hotel

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN  
TENNESSEE

Aug. 16/49

Dear Alice,

This will reach you somehow, some day, and will then assure you that yours of July 21 arrived at my desk in Washington yesterday. Philip and I arrived here this morning and were met at the station by Jack and his bride. They and her great old boy (she was a widow) had driven here by appointment. I wanted to avoid spending too much time on the railway and being where there were too many people to meet. Also the romantic memory

0546



of having proposed to Aline when she and Kate had joined Lacy and me in this hotel - 45 years ago. The President and Secretary wanted me to have this little outing before getting down to serious discussions next week.

By a happy circumstance Lucius was in San Francisco when I stopped over there 1 1/2 days, staying with the McBydes, and we had two unhurried talks, amid other callers, including of course Yenching boys. This was very cheering and informing for me. What the future holds for me I can only guess. Nor is there reason to speculate about this in a letter which may be long in reaching you. Affectionately L.



"A Paradise Above the Clouds"

## Lookout Mountain Hotel

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN  
TENNESSEE

P.S.

I am very much pleased with Jack's bride. An M.A. in Education + Psychology, formerly Dean of a Women's College, sensible practical, about 5 years younger than he, in every <sup>way</sup> suitable apparently to be a pastor's wife and a homemaker for him. She is attractive in appearance and more so in manner. I can already detect improvements in him. So this is all very satisfying.

0548



THE *Fairfax* HOTEL  
ON EMBASSY ROW

Dear Alice,

Your two letters of Oct. 2 (circular) + 9 addressed to the Carlton have reached me here where I have an apartment with its advantages of more room and continuity when I travel and return. For greater reliability I suggest that you address my office hereafter which is: 370 21<sup>ST</sup> Str. N.W., though I shall probably be staying here for some time. I have made several trips to N.Y., one to Boston primarily to meet John Fairbank's class at Harvard. I also met with the H.C. Institute, saw Wm. & Rhoda (had Sunday breakfast of waffles made by Agnes), a Y.M. meeting on my first trip to N.Y. and one in Boston. I am helping in the plans for raising \$4,000,000. to provide for Chinese students in this country. I made a trip to Nashville to meet the Southern Presby. Board which was a renewal of early connections. Thus far no public addresses though one has been sanctioned next week in Hartford. Others may be allowed later. Meanwhile many off. the record conferences with important people in relation to the subjects of primary interest to me. I may soon go to Atlanta, then out to the Coast. Shall see the Barbours

*La Rue* - FAIRFAX'S FAMOUS RESTAURANT

0549

in their home city soon. Consultations here are not constant enough to keep me engrossed but are moving in the general direction I desire.

Your comments on recognition are valuable, not only as indicating a biologist's ideas on political affairs, but also as reflecting local views. It is an extremely controversial topic here and I have an opportunity to exercise all the objective poise and evaluation of all factors of which I am capable. I am very happy over campus news and am trying to help in the campaigns here for current needs.

If I am doomed to stay on here into next summer - as seems probable at this writing - it will be good to have you near. We must have some long talks. I saw Grace's brother, Ned, at one of my meetings who told of the plans for her. You will know what to say from me to others. So glad Freddie is happy.

Affectionately,

L.L.



Translation of  
two paragraphs from the Constitution  
of Yenching University  
as submitted to the  
Ministry of Education

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Purpose. - To give that type of higher education which develops intellectual, moral and physical strength and equips for leadership, in order to meet the national and social needs of the Republic of China.

Motto. Freedom through Truth for Service.

0551