

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING
NANKING, CHINA

13 Feb. 1938.

Dearest:-

Last night got your last letter (undated) with appreciated valentine, and a little other mail. Your No. 9 of 6 Dec., also clippings posted on a French boat which have gone via Hongkong and Hankow and back.

Here are blanks and so forth requested by Claude. His "advisors' blanks" is ambiguous, so I have tried to cover the full ground. Don't see any chance for permits for him or others at present. A possibility on the one doctor normally resident here - that's the net result of many, many efforts by us and by the diplomats. Kearney is here as a French agent for three days only, and they very soundly slapped him (in words) when they found he was American.

Please tell Timperley, Mrs. Millican, and yourself, that the statements by the official spokesmen denying program of forceful expulsion from Safety Zone are absolutely contrary to elaborate declarations by a high officer to our camp leaders, which were then emphasized by individual visits to camps and by violent posters including details of tearing to pieces all makeshift shops on the new marts of Shanghai and Ninghai Roads. However, through a combination of influences they decided not to carry out the threats for the time being. Meanwhile we had terror and great misery among large numbers of people who went home under very difficult conditions. Fully two hundred women have come back after being raped, and many others return grimly without saying anything. *They & we are contradicting orders thereby.*

Now the long-foreseen problem appears. A woman has brought her daughter to the University today, asking for abortion to relieve the engaged girl from continuing a pregnancy resulting from Japanese rape.

Here is a program of an army band concert used as the excuse for elaborate newsreel pictures to exhibit us among Japanese officers and geisha -- friendly international relations in Nanking. The music was good. Military Officers' School band brought here for Matsui's two-day visit.

Kearney has come for lunch, but I have had to spend so much time unexpectedly on Intern. Com. budget problems that I'm weak for the Lincoln service this afternoon, and can't do much apart from last licks on my utilization of reading already completed.

Received papers with satisfaction, and will hope to read them tomorrow.

Army authorities will not let us land the beans which the Navy permitted to be shipped from Shanghai, and there is much rushing about in a desperate effort to save the day. Shanghai army people suggested that they should be turned over to the Self-Government Committee instead of being consigned to foreigners. Actually we are in cahoots with some of the Self-Government men, and are arranging that they will receive the beans, give us warehouse receipts, and release them to our order only -- if the J's' will accept that. But they may refuse to let the beans come into the Zone in any way whatsoever, if they carry out former regulations which we have beaten only by stealth in small quantities. Meanwhile the big scrap over supplies continues.

A note from Aunt Eunice Nov. 29.

*Thanks a lot for all your efforts on the typed materials and other jobs.
With much love and thought, Searle*

Matsui probably slept next door. But I did not know he came to Nanking till 5 diplomats yesterday answered inquiries by saying that he was here less than 3 days and was being busy. Official insulation considerable, I think. S.