

DIARY - Sept. 17, 1958.

Wed. Sept. 17

* (over)
Today is THE DAY that I leave for Japan! Find that I hate to leave MY Islands!.. Helen Cooper and I went to PX to get my pictures and do a little last minute shopping, then we had lunch at a Drive-In. Chieko came by with a beautiful red carnation lei for me, and the girls in our little apartment gave me a lovely white ginger lei!.. Dorothy & Frank came for me, but I took time to run down to tell the Martins and the Words aloha - no time for other farewells. We picked Helen up and all went to Florences for dinner.. Saltie is so excited, and so am I!.. We boarded the S.S. Pres. Cleveland about 8:30 p.m. and took Saltie to his nice kennel first, then to my stateroom. Ruth Keene and Dottie Rammel were in the cabin, and the Goodricks, Borges, Bob Wallberg and Chet came! Sorry Barb is too ill to see me off... I am snowed under with 27 leis and an orchid corsage from Ruth Ogawa!! Received a sweet cable from Paul, bless his heart, and my new dresses were in the cabin.. We took some pictures and had a grand time until the "all ashore" sounded. Everyone threw serpentine until the side of the ship looked like ^{an undulating} rainbow! We moved out promptly at 10: p.m. and I went up to see Saltie to reassure him, but he is taking it well. In the lounge Commodore Eihman introduced himself, and it turns out that he knew Eric Floor real well. He seems very pleasant. To my spacious cabin which I have alone, thank goodness, put away some things and to bed, very tired.

Thurs. Sept. 18

At sea at last!! How I love it!.. Found that I am seated at the doctor's table for eight. My companions are Dr. Galbreth, Mr. & Mrs. Young, Mr. & Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Morgan, all from California, and Mrs. Rothchild from St. Louis. All but the doctor and I are taking a cruise. The Smiths and Mrs. Morgan are old friends and are ^{traveling} together. All seem to be very nice and although I am a newcomer, they are very friendly and so interested that I live in Hawaii.. The ocean is a little rough, but it is sunny and nice. Saltie has nice air-conditioned kennel and his companions are a female cocker and a male boxer. On the deck just above they have a fenced in area for the dogs to exercise and relieve themselves. Russ, the yeoman in charge, is very nice and likes Saltie very much. Said the boxer has been sea sick much of his trip from California.. Tonight was "Hawaiian Night" and the dining salon looked lovely. Grace Morgan and I wore different kinds of muumuu, I gave her some of my leis, and we went in the parade as "Two Wahinies" and we won first prize! Were presented with models of the ship. Everyone seemed to have a grand time.

Friday - 19

The Pacific is living up to its name! A beautiful day and ocean like a pond. The Youngs and I went up to kennels and took Saltie to the exercise section. They have deck chairs there, so we took a sun bath while watching and playing with my doggie. I like the Youngs so much - older than I am, but with so many interests in common.. Dr. G. is quite attentive to Grace Morgan, he shows good taste as she is an attractive widow.. The Smiths gave a cocktail party just for our table and we had fun. Mr. Smith is recuperating from a heart attack, but he likes to dance and is an excellent dancer as so many big men are. He is Pres. of the Cochilla Valley Savings Bank and they live in Palm Springs. After dinner we went to the lounge and I danced with the Commodore several times. As he has a ship's Captain, he has more leisure than most officers, so can be more social than is usual. The Pres. Cleveland is Flag Ship of the Am. Pres. Line and Commodore Eihman is senior officer for the line.

Sat. - 20

Another lovely day. I went swimming before breakfast with the Comm. and met VAdm. and Mrs. Kivette. He is going out to Yokosuka to take command of the 7th Fleet and we learned that we have many ~~friends~~ mutual friends, among them my cousin VAdm. "whitey" Taylor who was a classmate of his... I was invited to the Commodore's cocktail party which was quite an affair and enjoyable, then to an Oriental dinner, ~~with~~

* to join Paul. He left Hawaii July 12 to take the position of Resident Engr. for Erik Floor & Associates, consulting engineers of Chicago. Erik, an old friend of Paul's persuaded him to resign as Planning Engineer for the Navy & take charge of the Makio Dam in the mountains of Japan. It was so sad for us that Erik died in Chi the day Paul arrived in Japan! — I am taking only one of our three West Highland White Terriers on the ship with me. Rita has two babies she will have to take care of for another two weeks & Barb Caldwell has her & will keep the puppies. She will also help Mary to take care of Gae as we left him to try to finish his championship in the spring show, so only Saltie will go to Japan now.

Sat. 20 (Cont'd)

with the waiters all dressed in Oriental costume. Our colored William, was quite spectacular as a mandarin gentleman!. After dinner we danced for awhile.

Sunday 21

Swimming again ^{with coffee} before breakfast, ~~and coffee~~ - the Commodore, Kivettes and me. No one else seems to like to get up that early.. The ocean is the calmest I have ever seen it, and flying fish skipping all over the surface! How I love traveling on a ship!! Saltie seems to share my feeling, and everyone makes a great fuss over him. Today the Kivettes shared the run with the Youngs and me and we all got some sunburn. After dinner - and incidently the food is delicious! - some of us went to a movie, but it was so poor that we left. I played cards with the Youngs for awhile, then the Commodore came and asked me to walk around the deck for awhile. The stars looked so close and huge as the atmosphere is so clear. Quite different from the way I last saw this section of the ocean in Typhoon Ophelia!!

Tuesday 22

We lost Monday by crossing the International Date Line. No celebration on the ship like we had when Paul and I came out last year. It would have been fun to put some "pollywogs" thru what ~~we~~ went thru to become Golden Dragons!... Went for our swim again and later sunned with my Saltie dog. He is enjoying his trip so much, especially as everyone saves steak, etc. for him! Many of us took pictures today, and Saltie was photographed more than anyone!.. I gave a cocktail party in my cabin which was so nicely served by "Husky". Everyone has been so nice to me that I had to return their favors, and we all had a fine time.. After dinner we all attended the horse races and I won \$5.00! Danced afterwards until late.

Wednesday 24

What a trip!! The weather is still so beautiful and the ocean just perfect! Our early morning swim seems to be doing my bad back so much good, and I haven't felt so well in a long time! I never realized people would be so good to a woman traveling alone, and I had rather dreaded the trip! Now I hate to have it end!.. I gave Saltie a good grooming and he looks and feels so fine. He surely has been a good dog! The Youngs had a cocktail party in their nice cabin and we were all dressed up, as it was the Commodore's Sayonara party! I wore my lovely, new white ribbon dress and had so many compliments on it! After dinner we danced awhile, and then many of us were invited to the Commodore's quarters for another party and had such fun. I like the Kivettes so much and hope we get to see them in Japan.. Vi and Jerry Young are planning to return to Japan for a longer stay after they leave the ship in Hong Kong, so we will see them then.

Thursday 25

Went for a last swim this morning. It was lovely early, but rain and increasing wind in afternoon. Many are not feeling so well tonight, but Mrs. Rothchild gave a cocktail party anyhow. She seems a very lonely woman, and I think this trip has been good for her and everyone has been nice to her. After dinner we tried to dance, but just too rough, so gave it up. I had to pack anyhow, so to my cabin early and got it all done.

Friday 26- Japan

Ocean became very rough during night, but I slept well anyhow. We finally were allowed to dock 3 hours late, and were the last ship to be allowed inside the breakwater at Yokohama! Typhoon Ida was in its early stages. I saw Paul on the dock in rain and wind, and how happy I was to see him!! We were held up a long time as the Immigration officials had not been able to board the ship outside and all that work had to be done after we got in!.. Mr. Yamamoto came from Tokyo to see if he could be of any help to us, and indeed he was, especially after Mr. Ogawa came to take Saltie to Quarantine! Poor bewildered little dog in all that rain and wind, and he didn't want to go with a stranger at all!.. We had "brunch" on the ship and Paul

met many of my fellow passengers and Commodore Eihman.. After we went thru customs we went to Paul's hotel - the New Grand. Rain was coming down in sheets and water stood all over the street, so our little taxi drove up on the sidewalk under the canopy to the door!.. We went to the railroad station with our porter - Johnnie who could speak some English, but found that no trains were running to either Tokyo or Nagoya due to washouts and landslides, so we went back to the hotel for the night! Everyone at the hotel seems to know Paul, and were so friendly and nice. We had a fine dinner in their lovely dining room atop the hotel where normally one has a fine view of harbor, ships, and lights, but tonight nothing was visible! Paul looks well, but is so thin!.. So good to see him and he enjoys his work at the dam.

Sat. 27

A beautiful day as if apologizing for the havoc wrought by the typhoon! Damage was terrific, but the loss of life was the irreparable tragedy! So many school children were killed! A horrible thought, but perhaps that is nature's way of cutting down on an over populated country... While Paul went to the station to find out about trains, I had a manicure in the nice hotel beauty shop. No trains out until afternoon, so we had a nice lunch, then the head porter - Mr. Hiki, went to the station with us. He stood in line for tickets for three hours! He managed to get seats for us on the first train leaving for Nagoya at 4:30. ~~It~~ It would have been useless to go to Tokyo as the Chuo line from Tokyo to our place was out. Our baggage did not get on the train with us, so will have to wait in Nagoya for it.. Such destruction as we saw on the way down the coast!!.. We saw Mt. Fuji in the light of a full moon for the second time, and what a splendid sight it is! We had been able to make a reservation at the New Nagoya Hotel where Paul is well thought of it seems. As our train was so late in getting in, we had a late snack and then to bed, so very tired and sleepy!.. My first impressions of Japan this time are much better than when we were here before, as the people we have come in contact with are so very friendly and helpful!

Sunday 28

Another lovely day. I met Mr. Welker, an engineer from Chicago who is here for a few months. After a good breakfast we went shopping at Meitetsu's, one of the largest department stores in the city, and just across from the hotel. I met the two "shoppers", Mrs. Araka and Miss Imoto who help Americans in their purchases. We then had lunch in the "catacombs" under the store, street and hotel. Nagoya is a very crowded city, but when it was rebuilt after the war, they were smart enough to construct fine, wide streets, so it does not seem, nor is it, nearly as crowded as Tokyo! Guess I will get used to the left hand traffic before I leave here if I don't get run over first!.. Our baggage came late this afternoon, so we can leave in the morning for Kiso Fukushima and Mitake Mura.

Monday 29

Paul had to go to the Nagoya office of ^{his Chicago engineering firm,} Eric Floor & Associates, early this morning. I had breakfast, and then wrote a letter to Arnett and Sarah.. A porter from the hotel went across the street to the railroad station and got seats for us on the train so we did not have to hurry. Left at 10:20 and had a fine, interesting trip, though somewhat dirty as there are 34 tunnels in the 75 mile trip, and the train is a coal burner! I had my first glimpse of Ontakesan, the second most sacred mountain in Japan, from the train, and had a fine view of "Nezame-no-toko", a famous gorge of fairytale fame near Agematsu.. Our maid, Sachiko-san and Miss Ito, Paul's cute little secretary, were at the station in Kiso Fukushima to meet us with the car and driver. I like our pretty Sachiko-san very much and she speaks English even better than Miss Ito.. The 8 miles to Mitake Mura and our house, are over a very narrow, unpaved road where to pass, it is necessary for one car to back up to a wider place in the road! No guard rails, and a tremendous drop to the river on one side and a mountainous wall on the other, and always climbing!.. When we arrived at our cute little western style house, I met Mrs. Beezley and she is very nice. They have the same type house next door to us and Mr. Beezley is Paul's foundation engineer. I

am surprised and very pleased with our home. It is small, but nicely furnished, and the largest bathtub I have ever seen! The yard is large and all in beds of flowers and one large bed of strawberry plants, all bordered with gravel walks and stones. In front of us there is a steep cliff down to the river far below, and large trees grow on the cliff-side. We have a lovely big stone fireplace which promises to be of good use! There are also radiators for steam heat - such a luxury in Japan! We also have a lovely glassed in front porch where the view up and down the river is lovely, and up the mountain on the far side. The elevation in our valley is 3,500', but mountains tower all around us and in the distance we can see the top of Ontakesan about 20 miles away and rising to a height of 10,825'... We had such a good dinner cooked by Sachiko-san. As we have only one bedroom, she has a rented room not far from our house..

Days were spent in getting used to my surroundings and the people in our little group as well as some of the villagers.. Paul has an office in the two story Kodan building just down the hill from our house. This side of the office is a building called the Staff House, built for visiting engineers and their families if they should come to see the dam. It consists of three bedrooms, bathroom, a large lounge and dining room, kitchen and the maid's room. Chyo-san is the maid and cook. The two houses for the Resident Engineer and Foundation Engineer are up the hill and on a point, with a high, solid fence around the back and side of the property toward the village houses and the one road. Our valley is entered thru a vehicle tunnel, seen from our house, and across the river is a narrow gauge logging railroad.. Between our house and the Beezleys are two fine, big cherry trees.. Flowers now in bloom are lovely dahlias, cosmos and huge roses, but it is getting chilly now, and the trees in the forests are beginning to turn to reds and yellows. It has been many years since I have seen the change of foliage in the autumn.

Mr. Welker came to stay at the Staff House for a few days, and I went with Paul and him to see the dam, and then we drove on to the village of Otake and ~~up~~ up to the end of the road on the slope of Ontakesan. Colors are brighter as one climbs up, and I have never seen so many shades of red and yellow, with the lovely greens all mixed in!

I am quite impressed with the size of the project Paul has charge of. It is located at the little village of Fudakamochi, about 4 miles up the river from our house. They have had their troubles with unusual floods and extensive damage from them including the washing out of the coffer-dam and damage to the diversion tunnels.

The Beezleys have been married just a short time though both have been married before and Ed has married children. They have known each other since childhood, but it seems rather an odd marriage to us as He is rather crude, and Frances is such a lady and quite social minded. We invited them to dinner, and their nice little maid - Kinoi-san, helped Sachiko-san to get the meal, then we played cards afterward.

October 9

Our household goods arrived from Hawaii and we think it made very good time! We had lots of fun unpacking and all the maids were so interested in what we had brought with us..

October 10

Kodan had a holiday to celebrate three years since the dam was first started. They had a good movie of the first days, then dancing of the folk dances in Fudakamochi.. The Beezleys left for Nagoya and Kyoto at noon, but we stayed to enjoy the tennis matches and a party at the office. The Langfords came up from the Nagoya office for the weekend, and Paul and Cecil played tennis with the Japanese engineers.. There are two nice clay courts next to the office and they are used

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often. The game is played the same as our tennis, but the ball is a smooth rubber ball, inflated ^{with} by a thing that looks like a hypodermic, and the racket is a little larger in the head and strung further apart. The ball does not bounce as high as ours and has to be hit with great force, flattening it out in flight. It is nearly always played as doubles... There are very few of the Kodan people who can speak English, but many understand it a little and read it even more. Paul has two very nice interpreters, Toyama-san and Nino-san. Mr. Toyama is married to a very lovely girl and they have an apartment across the road from the tennis courts in a building constructed by Kodan for the married engineers. Mr. Nino, as a bachelor, lives in the barracks at Fudakamochi.. Toyama-san is an unusual looking Japanese as he has such beautiful eyes with long lashes! He is an excellent tennis player too.

Oct. 17

The weather is so beautiful and colors are becoming very vivid now. The atmosphere is so exceptionally clear that it brings the mountains very close it seems. There are trails all over the mountains and I can hardly wait to get our Saltie out of quarantine to take him for long walks and explore the trails!.. Mr. Ralph Rubins came up from Nagoya and we had dinner for him ~~at~~ and the Beezleys at the Staff House. All three girls helped out in preparing and serving the fine meal... Should say here that Sachiko-san and Chyo-san have worked for Americans in Nagoya and cook our western style meals ~~easily~~. Kinoi-san is a country girl, but has worked for Ed long enough to know how to cook for him, and is bright enough to learn from Frances and the other girls quickly.

Oct. 18

Our first rainy day since I have been in Mitake Mura, so a good one to spend writing letters. Find that I look forward to receiving mail more than I have ever before! Also like to write as I can express myself in English and have little opportunity to do ^{as otherwise} that here. I am learning some Japanese from the girls and they have a hilarious time teaching me!.. The Japanese language is even more mixed up than English I believe. I tried to ask Sachiko if we could get some oysters and she could not make out what I ment. We tried looking it up in her food dictionary and the word was "kaki". She said "oh yes" and then, as I did not believe she had the right word, she drew a sketch of a persimmon! Upon looking that up found it also was "kaki", whereupon, Sachiko got so tickled that she laughed until she collapsed on the floor!.. I also find it rather difficult to get used to the fact that yes means no and vica versa!.. I had never imagined that the Japanese people had any sense of humor, but how rapidly I am having to change my mind!! It is truly wonderful! I don't believe I have laughed so much in years! Their pantomime is so funny and they are born actresses I believe. We have gotten so that we act out anything we can not understand otherwise, and it often ends with everyone ~~tearing and rolling~~ ^{collapsing} from laughter! How anyone could ever be bored in such circumstances is a mystery to me!

Oct. 19

Rainy day, but we left for Yokohama to meet the Pres. Wilson with Rita on board, and to bring Saltie home from quarantine as she goes in!.. This was my first trip on the Chuo line north thru the Japanese Alps one hour to Shirojiri where we had to change trains for the ^{five hr. ride to Shinjuku Sta. in Tokyo} ~~one to Tokyo~~, then five hours to the Shinjuku Station, and another change for an hours ride to Yokohama. People on the train were so kind to us, helping with baggage, etc. The trainmen at Shirojiri were so helpful too.. At Kiso Fukushima we caught the train which had a second class coach on it (no 1st class coaches except on the Tokaido line), then another at Shirojiri. These coaches are reasonably comfortable, but any of them get tiresome after such a trip.. The weather cleared up when we reached Kofu, and we had another lovely view of Fujiyama from a different angle, but it always has the same shape as it is so symmetrical.. The scenery was lovely, with the mountains and then the vast plains along the river, with rice and wheat fields every where. However, Kofu is the center of the fine *whom we had left with her two pups,*

grape vineyards, and there they grow as far as possible up the mountain slopes, and often form a canopy right on the houses. The grapes are grown on wires high enough for a man to walk under and clip the bunches off from overhead. They are so well kept and neat looking.. We were met in Tokyo by Mr. Yamamoto, who drove us in a company car to Yokohama, to see if he could be of help with Rita, who also had to go to the quarantine station, but she is not due in until the 21st. He had dinner with us at the New Grand Hotel where we are staying.. Mr. Yamamoto is the head interpreter for the Aichi Corp. in their Tokyo office, and is an Oxford graduate, so speaks English with an English accent which is at times hard to understand! He seems to think a great deal of Paul and is so nice and very thoughtful.. The help at the hotel are so cordial and make one feel very much at home. The owner and chairman of the board which owns the New Grand and the Silk Hotel, which is not quite finished yet, is Mr. Nomura, 90 years old and very active and pleasant. At every meal he goes around the dining room and shakes hands and talks to their guests! We have a wonderful little waitress, Michiko Chonan who is so tiny and very pretty. Think Paul would like to adopt her - so would I! She is a dear!.. We have the same room we had when I first arrived, and it overlooks the fine park and the harbor beyond, which is fascinating with all the ships which call at this port.. As it was a clear night, the view of lights from the dining room was lovely!

Oct. 20

We took a taxi from the hotel to go to Yokosuka. The driver spoke English quite well, so we decided to take a side trip to Kaimakura to see the great sitting Budah stature. Very impressive and interesting.. At the Yokosuka U. S. Naval Base, we shopped at the Exchange and got many needed things. Peggy DeBenedictis, the mgr. and our good friend, was so cordial and it is ~~so~~ good to see her again.. I talked to Mrs. Kivette for quite awhile and she was so interested in hearing how we liked living in our remote mountains.. Had a fine dinner at the Officers Club and then back to our hotel in Yokohama. *Walked to Motomachi, such an interesting shopping center not far from our hotel.*

Oct. 21

We went to meet the Pres. Wilson when it came in. Rita SO happy to see us, but she had a good trip and we were told that she was the best passenger aboard!.. Thru some misunderstanding, there was no bill of lading nor a health certificate with her and we had a time getting her off the ship and to quarantine!! People at home apparently had not realized the urgency of such! Paul had to go to an official of the Am. Pres. Lines in Yokohama to get permission to take her off the ship, but finally we made it with all sorts of promises for the papers necessary as soon as possible!.. We took her to the quarantine station with Mr. Ogawa, and got Saltie out. They had such a small box to take him in, and he has to go in the baggage car on the train! We took him out of it, got a taxi and went to Tokyo, but missed the train!.. We ~~got~~ ^{found} a room in the Tokyo Grand Hotel which is only fair, but could have our Saltie with us. Paul gave him a good bath in the deep Japanese tub, and he looks and smells so much better!! He is just SO happy to be with us again!

Oct. 22

Everyone so nice to Saltie, but we could not get permission to take him in

^{the} coach with us. He was so nervous when Paul saw him put in baggage car, but the men liked him and I expect calmed him down.. We left Tokyo in a grey, foggy light at 8:30 a.m., but it was sunny and fine when we arrived at Kiso Fukushima. Frances, Sachiko, Kinoi-san and Hara-san met us at the station and all much more interested in seeing Saltie than us! Paul got him out of the box as soon as possible and he proceeded to water every post on the station platform!.. A driver with the pick-up truck was there, so we sent the luggage and Kinoi-san in it and we all went in the sedan, with Saltie the king bee, and so excited over all the new smells and scenes! He was glad to get home and to run around in a yard once again, and Sachiko couldn't let him out of her sight!..

Oct. 23

Sachiko found all sorts of excuses today to go to the little store at the office, and to shop in the village, and took Saltie every where she went!.. I was busy getting things put away, and resting from our strenuous trip.

Oct. 24

Paul and I left Saltie with Sachiko and took the 2:30 train to Nagoya as the Youngs will be here tomorrow.. Had good dinner at the hotel, walked around the city awhile, then to bed.

Oct. 25

Paul had to leave early for the office, but I had breakfast and then to Meitetsu store to shop with Margaret Inoto.. We had lunch in the Tempura Bar with Paul, Mr. Welker and Suzanne Langford. Shopped some more in the afternoon until time to get ready to meet the Youngs.. So good to see Vi and Jerry again and to hear about their trip. Ralph Rubins joined us in the hotel bar and we went to dinner at a fine suikiyaki place where Ralph was well known. Had so much fun with the girls and the "mama-san" so it was late when we left.

Oct. 26

A rainy day, but I made good use of the umbrella I bought yesterday! Had breakfast with the Youngs and Charley Welker, then we went to the Nagaya Castle to see the marvelous chrysanthemum show! Have never seen anything like it with the displays of small mums growing on frames in various forms, the great variety of large, potted mums, and a show where the robes were made of chrysanthemums of all colors.

colors. The exhibit which I liked best of all however, was ~~the one~~ of the loveliest bonsai plants I have ever seen! Some were laid out as a complete miniature Japanese garden, with dwarf flowering trees, dwarf chrysanthemum plants with tiny flowers, and even with white sand and rock gardens!! They were Japan in miniature!.. The castle is undergoing reconstruction as it was burned during the war, so was not a thing of beauty... Back in Nagoya we shopped for a few more things, and I got a lovely young parakeet - white head and wings with a little pepper in the wings, a sky blue tummy, and blue tail! We left Nagoya at 2:30 and arrived at Kiso Fukushima at 6:30 and the bird seemed to enjoy his ride in his little cage.. Sachiko and Saltie were at the station with our driver to meet us, and seemed to be glad to have us home.

Oct. 27

Sachiko, Frances, Kinoi-san, Saltie and I took a wonderful, long hike on one of the numerous mountain trails and it was lovely! Our doggie enjoyed himself so very much and the free running is so good for him. Wish Gae was here to enjoy it too, but am afraid Rita will find it pretty hard going. Everything is up or down steep slopes and it is so rocky underfoot. The foliage is beautiful and I took a number of color slides.

Oct. 28

Took another long walk and enjoyed it so much. After so many years of being unable to do such things because of my back, it is simply wonderful to be able to do them now and with almost no discomfort!!

Oct. 29

This morning Toyama-san took me to our mura (village) public office to file an application for my residence permit. The people are all so friendly and seem glad to have us living here. I find that the rural people are much friendlier and of course, much shyer than city people, but that is usually true the world over.. After dinner tonight we played cribbage with the Beezleys and enjoyed it.

Oct. 30

The Beezleys left for Nagoya again. I think Frances misses the social life of a city, but I love it here in the quite of the country, and there always seems something new to do or see!.. We were not left without company, as Mr. Libner,

Cecil Langford and Charley Welker came up to ~~see~~ the dam. All the girls cooked and served a fine dinner at the Staff House, then we had a long talk afterward.

Oct. 31

Our anniversary and it rained most of the day and night. I wrote letters and did a little mending, and tonight Sachiko cooked us a fine dinner which we three and Saltie enjoyed very much.

~~Sat~~ Nov. 1, 1958

A rainy beginning for a new month! So much to do in the house however, and lots of mail to read and reread! A fire in our nice fireplace feels so good and makes it so cozy and cheerful. Sachiko had the afternoon off, but think she likes to stay here where it is more comfortable. She is crocheting a lovely scarf.

Sun. Nov. 2

Rained most of the day. Paul had to go to the dam this morning, as they work - rain or no rain!.. Late in afternoon it cleared enough for us to take Saltie for a 2½ mile hike. My back is fine, but I rubbed a big blister on my heel! When we got home Saltie was black with mud, so had to have a bath, then dried in front of a lovely fire.. Sachiko off today, so we got our own dinner.

Nov. 3

"Culture Day" and a Japanese holiday.. It is still rainy, so stayed at home as it is cold out and unpleasant.. Chyo-san came up to our house and brought a darling little white puppy which someone had given her! She is a Spitz, such a popular breed in Japan. We named her Ginger for our Ginger at home. Saltie thinks she is pretty cute, but too young!.. After dinner we worked on Christmas gifts as we have to get them off soon.

Nov. 4 - 7

Too busy on Christmas gifts, etc. to write in my diary.

Nov. 8

Cold today! After lunch the Beezleys, Toyama-san and we went to Kiso Fukushima to mail our Christmas packages, and what a job it turned out to be!! Took us about two hours in spite of having such a good interpreter along! Hope that we can mail from the Navy P. O. at Yokosuka next year!.. We also sent a cable to Dr. Furumoto to send us Rita's health certificate at once!

Sun. Nov. 9

While I dressed and finished packing, Paul went to the P.O. to get our mail, and just in the nick of time - Rita's health certificate had come!.. Sachiko and Kinoi-san went to Kiso Fukushima with us. The train was crowded due to the Sunday travel, but Sachiko ran in and got a seat for us. At Shirojiri, the train from Nagano City, to which we had to change, was even more crowded and we had to sit in separate seats until a very nice man offered to change and let us sit together. Again, we had a fine view of Fujiyama and feel that we have been very lucky, as so many people we know who have been in Japan much longer than we, ~~have~~ have never seen it or possibly once or twice!.. We met a nice young sailor from California, who had been in Japan several times and used his leave by seeing the out-of-the-way places. When we got to the Shinjuku station, he showed us a new way to go to Yokohama via the electric line, but we had to make several changes which would have been hard to do without his help with our suitcases. We always take over more than we need going, but know they will be filled when we return. We invited him to have dinner with us in Yokohama and he seemed to appreciate it very much... Our room is the same one and we feel so at home in the hotel and all are so friendly.

Nov. 10

I had my hair and nails done in the nice beauty shop at the hotel, while Paul went to see about Rita.. It was nearly noon when we went to Yokosuka, and at 2:30 when shopping in the Exchange, I thought I was getting dizzy, though feeling so well! It turned out to be my first experience in an earthquake!! Not too severe, but scary to me, and to all the Japanese employees! They are rightly so terribly afraid of them!.. Peggy had dinner with us in a different Officers Club, and then we saw a very good movie.. We picked her friend Steve up at the bowling alley, and then they drove us up to Yokohama.. The highway between Yokosuka and Yokohama at night, reminds me of a midway at a fair! All the ~~bright~~ lights, colors and tiny shops one after another, until one wonders how they all stay in business as so many sell the same things! It was interesting, and I enjoyed it so much.

Nov. 11

We got our little Rita out of quarantine, and how happy she is to be with

us! Took her by Dr. Zahn, the good vet, for a checkup and wish we could give her a bath as she is so dirty, but I settled with giving her a good combing and brushing.. Mr. Tsubouchi, one of the fine hotel clerks, went to Tokyo with us to help with our baggage and Rita. We just caught the train by a hair, and were allowed to take Rita right with us! She got so much attention, and a nice Japanese man who spoke English ~~well~~, was fascinated by her!.. Just before we got to Kamisuwa, our friend was so excited, and pointed out that Mt. Asama was erupting!! Though many miles away, we could see the bursts easily, and when the train stopped in the station, we could hear the cinders raining down on the train! Only those leaving the train there were allowed to get off, and we pulled out right away, so guess they thought there was a real danger!.. We managed to make our transfer at Shirojiri with the kind help of the trainmen at the station, and found Hara-san waiting for us.. When we arrived home there was such a greeting between Rita and Saltie!! We all were so entranced just watching them!

Nov. 12

A smoky pall hangs over everything today from the volcano! ^{are} ~~the~~ news is that there ~~were~~ ^{are} no deaths from the eruption, but it is worse ~~now~~ ^{since 1929!} ~~But~~ Nothing can dim the happiness of our doggies at being together and with their family! Now we will be complete when Gae comes out after the dog show in March!

Nov. 13 - 24

I forgot to keep my diary up, but nothing of special interest happened. The days were filled with writing our Christmas letter and some cards, taking the dogs for walks, etc.. The weather is getting very cold and Rita and Saltie love it. Most of the lovely leaves are gone now and only the green ~~stays~~ ^{remains}.. Work at the dam continues at a steady pace, with many problems to be solved.. I am learning more of the language, but find that the people are much more interested in learning English than in teaching me Japanese, though they do seem to appreciate my efforts.

Nov. 24

A beautiful, cold day. The Langfords and Paul Nickols came up to the dam. I enjoyed a long visit with Suzanne, and Frances came over too.. We all had a fine dinner at the Staff House and played cards afterward.

Nov. 25

Had nice long hike with the dogs and Suzanne. So cold that we finally had

to turn back! How the dogs love it though!.. Dinner again at the S.H.

Nov. 26

Such a lovely day.. We saw the folks off for Nagoya, and then Frances, Sachiko-san and I took the dogs for a long walk up the mountain behind Mitake Mura. We found very old stones put along the trail in honor of pilgrims who had passed that way, some having died on the way to pay homage to Ontakesan. It is all so fascinating to me and I often find myself dreaming of those olden times!

Nov. 27

Thanksgiving Day, and indeed I have so much to be thankful for!! Especially for the improvement in my back so that I can do all these things which the doctors said I could never do again! I also am so thankful that I am priveleged to live in this beautiful country which I feel I am beginning to know slightly. How much better it is to be living in a remote area than in one of the cities where one never gets to really know the people!.. The Beezleys invited us to dinner and the girls had cooked a fine chicken, as turkeys are unknown in this area.. We took some color pictures, and then played cribbage.

Nov. 28

As Sachiko had a few days off, Frances, Kinoi-san, Chyo-san and I took her to the train for Nagoya, then we did a little shopping and had sweet potatoes bought from a man with a cart. They are sold like our roasted chestnuts in New York from a little cart with a hibachi in it, and eaten with the fingers. They were very good. Think the dogs were afraid I had left them ^{again} ~~too~~, and were so happy to see me come home! ^{so soon!}

Nov. 29

Another lovely, clear, cold day. Paul has no Saturdays or Sundays off on this job, so was busy all day.. I worked in our yard a long time cutting back plants and weeding out some.. We had good dinner in spite of Sachiko being away. Played gin rummy some after dinner.

Nov. 30

It started snowing about 9:a.m! Such large flakes, and not a whiff of air to disturbe them as they floated slowly down to stick to anything they touched! Paul was at the dam until nearly noon, but when he came home we went for a long walk in a vertiable fairy land!! The dogs loved it, but Rita had to be carried before we got

home, as her legs are so short and the snow was getting so deep! Saltie managed to get into and out of deep places all right, and both loved the snow! The trees were weighted down, and each shrub or vine was a picture in itself!.. It snowed steadily until 5:30 and there was at least a four or five inch fall! Wires were so weighted down that our power and water were off for a long time.. Ontakesan is covered and it is sticking to all the mountains around us. My first snow in Japan has been a delightful experience!

Dec. 1, 1958

A wind during the night blew most of the snow off whatever it was sticking to, and as it is much warmer, that on the ground is melting. Our power and phone are off, so we have to cook on the kamra.. Rita is quite lame from her unusual exercise. Sachiko returned this afternoon and was so sorry to have missed the storm! She is from ~~Kansai~~ the southern island of Kyushu, so snow is a novelty to her as it still is to me! It is good to have her home again.

Dec. 2

It snowed some more during the night and everything is beautiful again! Sachiko ran out in it and danced around for joy! Rita rubs her face in it as if loving it, and perhaps remembering her puppy days in Canada! Everyone is happy with the snow except the men who have to work on the dam and it is ~~pretty~~ bitter for them!

Dec. 3 & 4

Enjoying the snow and can't get over the fact that it has been on the ground for this long and is not dirty, as it gets so soon, in the cities we have been in! I don't know which of us enjoys it the most - Sachiko or ^I ~~me~~!

Dec. 5

Lovely, bright day, so Kinei-san and I took dogs for walk around village. In spots it was so muddy as the ground is not frozen. When we got home, Sachiko held her hands up in horror at the black, muddy dogs! She dropped what she was doing and put first one, then the other in their big tub.. How she loves her "Sarti-san" and he can do no evil! If ~~we go to~~ ^{Paul} punish ^{es} him, tears come to her eyes and she says "Gillette-san, whip me instead!".. He has the cute trick of bringing Paul's slippers out of the slipper box as soon as he comes into the house, and Sachiko says "see, Sarti-san Japanese already - won't ret shoes in house!" And she brags about him to all.

Sat. Dec. 6

Lovely and warm again today. The Beezleys returned from Nagoya and Ed is suffering so with his back and one leg! I surely can sympathize with him!.. One of the engineers came from Kiso Fukushima to invite Paul and me to a big party for Mr. Seto and Mr. Oka. I refused, as they usually invite a wife only out of politeness. Paul went and had a fine time. Said there were Geisha girls there, one or two were pretty, but most were not up to the standard of the city girls.. Mr. Seto and Mr. Oka sent me a "presento" of lovely kimona material which I will have made up soon.

Dec. 7

* Our beautiful weather holds, and it is a joy to sit on our nice, glassed in porch in the sun, and look at the view which I never tire of! We now have very few hours of sunshine, as it comes up late over the mountains in the east, and now sets behind one of our higher mountains early in the afternoon, and immediately gets cold! Today is Sunday and no school, so six youngsters came to the house and asked if I would help them with their English lessons! It was hard to do as they are so very shy. To try to get them over that, I gave them some stamps and showed them how to soak the paper off, as they seem very interested in collecting U. S. stamps. Paul had to go to the dam and took Saltie with him, so I took Rita for a short walk. My left shoulder is hurting quite badly tonight, so Paul put some Japanese plasters called "Salonpas" on it after a hot soak in our big tub.

Dec. 8

A rainy day for a change, and some hail this afternoon.. My shoulder is better, so the plaster must be good! The Japanese use it for any kind of pain and I was glad to try it.. Had plenty to keep me busy all day inside, but the dogs miss their walk. Have found that even though the dogs get so black and dirty looking here, it will all brush out of their coats when dry! Quite different from the red volcanic soil of Oahu thank goodness!

Dec. 9

We are all so sad today because Chyo-san's little Ginger was run over by a truck and killed instantly! Chyo-san is heart broken as she did love her little dog very much and she was such company for her when there was no one at the S.E. Paul burried the little one under our big cherry tree with her favorite toy and a small bowl of rice! She had dinner with us, then took Saltie home with her for

The 17th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor! I never thought I could look at the white flag with the red ball without a shudder, but time is a wonderful healer and we surprise ourselves by a genuine liking for the people!

company tonight.. Even though a Japanese is grief stricken they do not want one to touch them! I put my arm around Chyo-san's shoulders when she was crying, but she drew away immediately! They want to be alone in their grief to a certain extent.

Dec. 10

My shoulder bothers me very little today.. Chyo-san brought Saltie home and she seems to feel some better.. Such odd weather - sunshine and snow! We had a near blizzard this afternoon with the sun shining thru, and Sachiko was so excited! I am making a blue and white afghan on weave-it looms, and Sachiko helps with the ones that have no pattern in them.. We both enjoy it very much.. I went down to see Chyo-san for awhile, then talked to Frances. After dinner we played cribbage with the Beezleys.

Dec. 11

A beautiful, warm day today! So changeable. Frances and I took the dogs for a long walk and all enjoyed our outing.. Paul was late for lunch and it upset Sachiko. He has spoiled her by nearly always being on time, but she can not seem to understand that it is unavoidable for an engineer sometimes. She got over it soon and was her usual cheerful self.. Chyo-san offered to make my kimona for me, so came to measure me for it. Frances here, so we had a good time talking.. Our Christmas packages have started coming with the first one from Florida!

Dec. 12

Nice day, so Frances, Sachiko, Kinoi-san and I went to Kiso Fukushima. I got some more yarn for the afghan. I had made a white baby one for my latest great nephew, and we mailed it to him, then a little other shopping and home.. When we go to town the children always surround our car, or us, and it bothers Frances so much! I love to watch their bright, yet shy little faces with their extremely rosy cheeks and talk to them. It surprises me that a former school teacher should feel embarrassed by their interest!

Dec. 13

Our usually cheerful Sachiko has been quite moody this week! Guess the contrast makes it more noticeable.. This afternoon Paul, the dogs and I went to the dam and took Toyama with us. It is always so interesting to see the work, and I always marvel at how the men walk and climb so easily on the bamboo scaffolding!

The bulldozers are run without regard for life or limb!.. As Sachiko had the afternoon off and was invited to eat with her house mama-san and family, she had put out things for us to cook for our dinner.. Then we played cribbage with Frances and Ed.

Dec. 14

Very cold last night, but nice around mid-day.. Paul had to be at the dam this morning, then we went for a walk with dogs, and to our little grocery store to get some things for dinner as Sachiko forgot to shop for us.. I worked on the afghan, but am needing more yarn. So nice that they have such a fine selection of yarns and the price is so reasonable.. Ed Beezley is not feeling at all well. When one gets sick in our remote village, it is a problem as the only doctor in Mitake speaks no English at all and it is hard to describe symptoms thru an interpreter.

Dec. 15

Such wind today! Have had very little real windy weather here in Mitake Mura, that is one of the nice things about it!.. Paul had to go to Kiso Fukushima at noon to meet Mr. Libner and Langford, so he got some more yarn for me. He had to go back later to meet one of the consultants from the U. S., Mr. Gireau, and Mr. Yamamoto came with him.. Sachiko is not feeling at all well and is such a different person, so withdrawn when she feels badly.. We had a dinner at S.H. and Mr. Seto and Mr. Oka joined us and we all had such a nice time.

Dec. 16

21 degrees this morning and very lovely and clear.. Saltie not feeling very good today, and my tummy is a little upset, so stayed at home and worked on the afghan.. The men all left today with the exception of Cecil who will go tomorrow.. We are receiving so many lovely Christmas cards and notes in nearly all of them. How we do appreciate mail here, more than ever before!.. Our parakeet "Kosho" (pepper) is so cute and climbs all over my hand. I hold my hand and finger in a steep slope and tell him to climb Ontakesan! He goes up, jumps over my hand, looks at me for approval and then climbs again. The smallest things assume great interest in our rather lonely lives here in our mountains.

Dec. 17

Sachiko is sick in bed today. I feel better, but Saltie was under par for most of day. He feels better and ate well tonight. Chyo-san took the dogs for a

short walk this morning and then Frances took Saltie for company on another walk. As the day was so lovely, Kinoi-san and I planted daffodil and tulip bulbs in our yard. Things seem to grow so easily in this black, rich soil!

Dec. 18

Our first rainy day in some time and the power was off all morning.. Sachiko is still not feeling well, but will stay in our house and take care of the dogs as we planned on leaving for Yokohama tonight via sleeper to Tokyo.. She came over about 5:p.m. and Paul soon afterward with the information that Toyama had made a reservation on a "tourist sleeper" coach as he could get no other. As this was to be our first experience on such, we knew no better!.. Had dinner at the Beezley's and then to the train. There was a train standing in station, so we got on it, but a very nice man came after us and said it was not the right one, that the deisel engine with one car was the one to Shirojiri at that time of night! It was crowded, but he hurried ahead as only the Japanese can do, and got us a seat! After a two hour wait at Shirojiri our train from Nagano City came in and we found our sleeping accomodations! It was a compartment with six berths in it, three on one side and three on the other and all were taken by men except our two. I was located in the middle slot on one side and Paul had the opposite side, and it was like crawling into a tight fitting coffin!! Small as I am, I could not come near to sitting up, so removed very few clothes. Had to work my way to the head of the bunk and then ease myself down into the futon as it was cold. Only curtains hung over the bunks and I could talk to Paul across the narrow space. He said he could hardly turn over as his shoulder touched the top bunk! The four other occupants of the compartment were undisturbed by their ^{situation} location, and all snored loudly in various keys! I became so amused that I had to hid my head and laughed and laughed! We got no sleep ~~that~~ night..

Dec. 19

What a night! The bunks were harder than any floor and the pillow was a brick!! The train trip which always seemed fairly smooth in the daytime, became rougher and jerkier as we went along! Never was so glad to reach Tokyo as we were at 4:45 a.m.! We had to stay in our berths, as we had no place to sit in the train! While waiting for our train to Yokohama we noticed the sleepers on other trains and

they were very good accomodations much like ours in the U. S. even to fine compartments! At least, now we know what NOT to ever take again!!.. It was so good to get to our hotel and have a good breakfast and change of slept in clothes.. I made an appointment to have my hair done at the Navy Base, so we went down to Yokosuka. Paul did our shopping at the commissary and arranged to have things shipped to Kiso Fukushima via Nippon Express who are allowed to go on Base to pick up freight.. I had my hair done and have never been so sleepy! Don't like their work as well as at the hotel either. Met Paul at the N.X., had lunch there and shopped until time to go back to Yokohama for dinner.. I was so tired and sleepy, but we heard they were having a Puppet Show in the hotel, so thought we would see it just for a little while, but found it so fascinating that we could not leave! Japan's most famous puppetier was the main attraction and we had never seen anything to equal it! It was his farewell performance as he is quite old, so we were fortunate.

Dec. 20 - Sat.

Nice and warm today.. We went to Yokosuka again to finish our shopping for Christmas, etc., and Paul went to a dental appointment at the hospital. We got a turkey for our Christmas party and took it with us as we did not know how long it would be before our other things arrived.. Back to Yokohama, packed, and Johnny~~x~~ went to station with us as we had decided to go home via Nagoya. It was a mistake as the train was so crowded that Paul had to stand for quite awhile! We arrived at our Nagoya hotel at 10:30 and were too late for dinner, so had only sandwiches as we were too tired to go out.

Dec. 21

Had a good breakfast at the hotel, then went over to the station. Our two boxes we had checked had not arrived, so they will have to be sent on later.. Rainy but no crowd on train, ^{is very} nice trip up. Sunshine when we arrived in Kiso Fukushima and were met by Hara-san.. Sachiko much better and the dogs are fine. SO GOOD to get home!!

Mon. Dec. 22

It is nice to go to the cities as it makes us appreciate our mountain home more than anything! So clear and clean up here!.. Someone had brought us a

Christmas

beautiful, freshly cut tree and left it at our door! I think that was a wonderful thing to do and wish we knew who to thank for it. It surely brings the fresh smell of the forest into our home, and we trimmed it with great pride. At the Navy Exchange we had found some most unusual lights for the tree - made of real cocoons with tiny bulbs in them; they are as pretty without lights as with and look like snow! We also have paper cranes and other goodluck ornaments made of folded paper, an art of which the Japanese are masters.. The girls took such interest in helping to decorate our tree and to put our cards up over the mantle on string.. Our house looks so festive and lovely.. The boxes came from Yokosuka today, thank goodness, as we have gifts and candy for the neighborhood children in them!.. We were so happy to hear from Barb today that Rita's little 3½ month old daughter went BEST IN SHOW on Dec. 14 in the A.K.C. Allbreed Puppy Match in Honolulu!!

Tues. Dec. 23

So cold and cloudy today! Hope we have a white Christmas!.. We got a tree for the Staff House and decorated it and the big room for our Christmas party Paul and I are giving there, ^{on the 25th} and for the Japanese engineer's wives and children after Christmas. Wrapped gifts, etc.. The three girls went to Kiso Fukushima to do some last minute shopping for parties.. Snowing real hard tonight!!

Wed. Dec. 24

Beautiful day, but the snow is melting! Worked on party preparation all day.. The Beezleys over and we played cards tonight. Such a beautiful moon!

Thurs. Dec. 25

CHRISTMAS IN JAPAN!! Most of the snow is gone, but it wasaa beautiful, cold day and night.. We opened gifts early and received takasur gifts and cards!! Fine pictures of Chula in Puppy Show from Barb! Sachiko seemed so happy with the gifts we gave her and one or two from my family. Rita and Saltie were well remembered too. For people who do not celebrate our Christmas, all of our Japanese friends are so wonderfully interested!.. Had much to do before our dinner party as the girls had never prepared and cooked a turkey before, so I made the stuffing and got the "noble bird" ready for the oven... Paul and Toyama prepared another first for our Japanese guests - eggnog! They surely liked it! Our guests besides the Beezleys and the girls

were Mr. Seto, Mr. Naito, Mr. & Mrs. Toyama, Miss Ito and her boy friend Mitamura-san, and Mr. Niino. Mr. Seto and Mr. Oka gave me a beautiful Japanese doll in a case, and we were given a lovely lacquer bowl by Chika Ito, Bunya Mitamura, Yasutaka Toyama, Kenzo Niino and Kunizaburo Hara. Paul gave the men cigars and lighters. Everyone enjoyed the Christmas carols which we played on our new RCA record player all during the evening, and all had a good time. It seemed strange to us that not one of our guests (Japanese) had ever tasted turkey before!

Friday, Dec. 26

Rain, sleet and snow today!.. Sachiko left early for Nagoya for a few days.. I finished wrapping gifts for the Kodan wives and children, then down to the S.H. for our party at 2:p.m. Mrs. Toyama, Mrs. Iwamoto who is pregnant, Mrs. Nakagawa and her cute 16 month old boy, Mrs. Kikuchi and her 1 year old girl, Mrs. Hori and baby boy, Frances, Kinoi-san and Chyo-san were there.. Played our Christmas records while we opened gifts, then had tea, coffee and cookies. They all seemed to enjoy it, and the babies with their rosy cheeks and big eyes watching the lights on the Christmas tree, were wonderful!.. As I am learning more Japanese, we got along fine!

Sat. Dec. 27

Odd weather - rain, sleet and snow, then intervals of bright sunshine! Paul went to work early and I slept late for a change.. I wrote a number of our "thank you" letters and got film ready to send to Kodak Hawaii for processing.. Paul took the dogs for a short walk this afternoon and I fixed chicken and started stewing it.. I put the two pictures of Chula in frames.. We received more cards today. Think we have received more than ever before! Am tired tonight and my nose is stopped up!

Sun. Dec. 28

A nice day until evening and then it rained.. Paul worked most of the day, then home with Toyama to make phone calls, as Paul has to go to Nagoya tonight to attend the funeral of Mr. Otsu, Vice Pres. of Aichi who was here not long ago!

Mon. Dec. 29

Weather very nice again after rain most of the night. I wrote more letters until Sachiko returned home with glasses which she is supposed to wear all

the time, and she is in such good spirits. So funny telling me of her trip and me telling her of the party and we laughed at each other!.. Saltie is not feeling to well again today, but think he felt better when Sachiko came home!

Tues. Dec. 30

Another fine day.. The Beezleys left for Nagoya about noon, and Paul got home about 3:p.m. He has a bad cold!.. Rita has a cyst on her front paw and it looks real bad, but doesn't seem to bother her much.. So good to have Paul home, and I was interested in all the procedure at the big funeral. He had to sit on his knees and feet so long that they are sore! Our joints are not trained for it, like the Japanese! Apparently some of them find it uncomfortable too, as he said many of the men changed to a cross-legged position, so he did also!

Wed. Dec. 31, 1958

Last day of the year, and over three months in Japan! I have enjoyed it all so much more than I ever thought I would!! My back is so much better and I have lost weight from being able to exercise so much!.. Sachiko washed and set my hair and did a fine job.. This is the beginning of the most important of the many Japanese holidays and most of the people are leaving for their parents homes for a week at least.. Paul had to work this morning, but took the afternoon off.. It rained all day and so cold! I worked on the afghan and Sachiko crocheted.. We were given a "wild bird fry" dinner, but when Sachiko prepared it I couldn't eat it! The heads are left on and I lost my appertite when they "looked" at me!! We listened to lovely Japanese music on the radio and Sachiko stayed late with us.. The night cleared up and it was so cold and clear at midnight, and not a sound was heard until the "kane" or temple gongs started their deep, mystical booming all up and down the valley!! They are sounded 108 times and all have different, rich tones, but one could not distinguish the actual sound from the echo! It was the most impressive New Years Eve I have ever known!! A perfect ending to my the year and my first months in Japan...

JAPAN - 1959

Thurs. Jan. 1

As I start the new year, I will try to give some of my impressions of Japan after three months of living in an isolated section, dependent upon our rural neighbors and the people brought in by Kodan, with occasional trips to the big cities. Frances Beezley and I are the only Caucasian women closer than Nagoya, but I for one, do not mind this fact at all. As a former engineer, I am interested in the construction at the dam and enjoy talking to the engineers about it.. I have found the Japanese people much more friendly than I had thought possible. The people on the farms seem to be very sorry there was a war with us and strive to make up for it very frankly. They blame their war-lords for it and are afraid of any police activity. They are very hard workers on their tiny farms and content with their ancestral homes, but the second and third sons are leaving for work in the cities as when the "ichiban son" inherits the family place, there is not enough land or work for the rest of the family. Taxi cab drivers, bus drivers and some clerks are from the rural sections, thus overcrowding the already crowded cities.. I have never seen children so eager to have all the schooling possible, and especially to learn English! They will travel miles just to hear and learn conversational English. The school children study English grammar from the 3rd. year on thru high school, and read and write it, but most of them have never heard the words spoken! They are shy about trying to speak our language, but will readily sing many of our songs in English!.. We have ~~found~~ experienced many acts of friendly courtesy on our trips to and from Yokohama, with never an idea of monetary gain.. A slight knowledge of their language always pleases them and is a great help to us.. Apparently all Americans are expected to be great drinkers, but when one refuses a drink, they have the courtesy never to insist! If you really want a drink, never turn the first one down as you will not be urged.. As far as the scenery is concerned, it is as lovely as any we have ever seen, and the intimate feeling it gives one is a wonderful thing!.. .. Paul, the dogs and I start the New Year in better health than for years, and our interest in job, people, and country gives us the greatest pleasure and happiness.. It started snowing hard about noon today and is beautiful out tonight with large flakes

still softly floating down!.. Mitake Mura is like a deserted village with so few people remaining here during this season.. Paul, Sachiko, the dogs and I had a fine, long walk, then we stopped by the Kodan recreation hall where they have two ping-pong tables and played for some time. My first attempt at the game for years and we enjoyed it so much. We had a fine fried chicken dinner and listened to good music on the radio until late. We seldom get such good reception on the radio and we have no television because of the height of the mountains around our valley... According to tradition, the Japanese pay all back debts during the New Year week, they clean house, decorate with pine branches, and generally prepare for a new beginning in life. Western dress, which has become so popular in the cities, is discarded entirely for the far more colorful native costumes. We urged Sachiko to go home to see her mother in Kyushu, but though wanting to do so, she also wanted to stay with us for some reason and we were glad to have her.

Fri. Jan. 2

Such a lovely, clear white day! The snow is deep and it is cold. Paul went to his office to work awhile, but there was no heat, so he brought his papers home. Later in the day we all went for a long hike and took pictures. We had a snow fight and all played like kids in it! At least it was one way to keep warm! We saw three cute youngsters playing with a home made sled and what fun they were having, and what red cheeks!! Took some pictures of them and they were so pleased when we had Sachiko tell them we would give them some prints when we got them made... Paul worked and I wove squares for the afghan before our lovely fireplace.. Sachiko went to her room early as she seems to have a cold coming.

Sat. Jan. 3

Coldest day this winter - 16 degrees.. Sachiko has a very bad cold so is very quiet.. The Beezleys returned about 1:p.m. They had a nice time, but I think it was not up to Frances' hopes.. Paul went to the dam for awhile and said it is bitter cold there with the wind sweeping down the river canyon! He worked at home again while I sewed squares together for the afghan. - I also wrote letters and several birthday cards.. We went for short walk, but wind was bitter! We took some flash pictures of our beautiful Christmas tree, the dogs and us.

Sun. Jan 4

Snowed some during the night, and is very cloudy and cold today.. Just a year ago today we saw Erik Floor in Nagoya and he talked to Paul about taking the job of Resident Engineer on the dam. Now he is gone, and we are in Mitake Mura!.. Sachiko came over to house and had some soup for her lunch, but she still has a cold. She does not like to wear the gauze masks which are so common in Japan and are worn as much to keep from breathing dust or the extreme cold air as for colds.. We took our lovely Christmas tree down at last, and packed the ornaments and lights for another year.. Paul cooked waffles for our fine dinner.

Mon. Jan 5

Last night we had what is called a "Siberian" snow storm!! The wind blows from Siberia, and it was accompanied by such fine snow that it came thru every crack around windows and doors! The wind was very strong and shook windows and roared around the house. This is one time I am especially thankful that we live in a well constructed, western style house!.. Today is cold and we had snow and sunshine all day. Paul worked at home, but had to go to an office meeting soon after noon.. We took the dogs to the post office to see if we had any mail, but none there as it is tied up by the holiday and weather.. Paul went to another big party in Kiso Fukushima, and Sachiko and I had a good spaghetti dinner.. I finished the afghan tonight which I started on Dec. 10th and we think it is lovely!

Tues. Jan. 26

Snowed intermittently all day and the temperature did not rise above 20 degrees all day. The dogs had such a good time playing in it and it is so dry that they do not get wet and dirty.. We received so many letters today and I wrote a few. My Kodacolor pictures came back and are so good.. Frances came over to visit for awhile and she is not very happy here.. We received a fine box of tangerines from Niino-san which was very unexpected. Such good ones are grown in Japan near the coast and further south.

Wed. Jan. 7

12 degrees today and more snow until it is quite deep everywhere. We took some pictures, and now that Sachiko has a fine camera, she is so interested and takes such good ones - she has a talent for good composition in a picture and is patient..

Thurs. Jan. 8

First day without snow for some time.. Wrote letters and played gin with Frances this afternoon.. We think Rita is in season and it is a problem up here. We have no outside kennels and we know nothing of the vets in Kiso Fukushima. We do not want to breed her again although so many people want any puppies we might have. They like the breed so much.

Fri. Jan. 9

Very cold last night and cloudy all day.. Paul has finally consented to wear long undies and said they felt good when at the dam! We got our black and white Christmas pictures back today and have some fine ones. When Sachiko looks at the pictures of me she says, "Okusan, you too young girl-san!". My grey hair doesn't show up so much in pictures!.. Most of the engineers and their families are back from visiting their homes, and in spite of the weather, work goes on at the dam. Paul had to go back tonight to check on the flood lights at the job, and he came home almost frozen!!

Sat. Jan. 10

Snow all day, very heavy at times and one could not see across the river gorge! Paul had to be at the dam this morning, but was at home at noon when we had a very heavy earthquake!! It frightened us all, especially Sachiko. The Japanese are so afraid of them and will not even mention it afterwards, as they believe that it is an indication that the gods are angry!.. I played in the snow with Rita and Saltie for quite awhile.. Tonight I started putting our pictures in an album while Paul read to me.

Sun. Jan. 11

One year ago today we were in the midst of typhoon Ophelia on the S.S. Pioneer Mist between Japan and Hawaii!.. Bright and clear today.. Paul had to go to the dam early as they had a big blast.. Our septic tank stopped up and the men had to come and pump it out. It surely needed it!.. Got Frances and we went for a long walk, came home and I fixed a roast for dinner as Sachiko is off today.

Mon. Jan. 12

Lovely, bright day and slushy underfoot.. We received a package from Lucille with toys in it for our bird, but it was so poorly wrapped that all but two

toys were broken beyond repair! We have not been able to get any toys for a bird in Japan, yet most of them bought in the U.S. are made in Japan! Must make them for export only, but seems strange.. Kinoi-san has gotten a knitting machine and does lovely work on it! She is going to knit a wool hood for Paul to wear under his helmet when he is at the dam. I bought the wool and she will make it for his birthday.

Tues. Jan. 13

Dull, grey day, then it started snowing hard soon after noon! I wrote letters, but have such a sinus headache. Sachiko massaged my head, neck and back so good and it made me feel much better. Paul has a sore throat starting!.. I taught Sachiko a solitair game tonight and she taught me a Japanese one.

Wed. Jan. 14

Snow and sun, and very windy in afternoon.. Frances asked us to have Paul's birthday dinner with them.. Paul came home for an early dinner, then had to go back to dam tonight.. Mike Brown called us from Tachikawa to say he and his wife Asako would like to come up to see us on Friday and would have to go back Sunday. We saw them last a year ago just before we left Japan, and they were not married then. I don't remember too much about her, but of course I have known Mike since he was a little boy.. A cabinet maker from Kiso Fukushima came to take measurements for some furniture for us. I had to get Niino-san to come to the house and act as interpreter, as Sachiko was afraid she would not get it right.

Thurs. Jan. 15

Cold last night and this morning - 9 degrees above, but warmed up during the day.. This is a holiday for most of Kodan - Coming of Age Day. "Seijin-no-hi" is celebrated ~~wh~~ for boys and girls who have reached their 20th year to make them conscious of their duties and responsibilities in an adult society. I believe Japan is the only country which has such a celebration.. Mike called again to ask if they could bring anything special from the base.. Rita and Saltie are a problem! The Beezleys came over to play cards.

Fri. Jan. 16

Paul's birthday and a cold one! About 4" of snow on the ground, but a beautiful day!.. We had to use the pickup truck to go to the station to meet Mike

and Asako. The snow had drifted and was very deep in places on the road, but the forest was a fairyland! We have never seen the station so crowded, due to the holiday I expect. Good to see the Browns and Asako is so tiny and attractive. We went into town to do some shopping, but everything was closed up. We had a nice trip home which Mike and Asako enjoyed so much.. We had Paul's birthday dinner at our house and invited the Beezleys. Kinoi-san helped Sachiko and we had a wonderful dinner with a lovely cake! This is the first time we have tried to have any over-night company, but we managed real well with the daybed from the porch and the sofa.

Sat. Jan 17

Cold, snow and wind! Below zero this morning early!.. We took Asako and Mike to see the Staff House this morning, then to the dam this afternoon and we all nearly froze!! Wind blew the snow so hard that it cut our faces and we had to tie scarves over us! Kodan men have a skating rink near the field office and Paul and Hara-san tried ice-skating for awhile, but there was too much snow on it.. We were so glad to get home and thaw out in front of a wonderful fire! Frances over for awhile, then we had another good dinner. Paul has an upset stomach tonight and is not feeling too good.

Sun. Jan. 18

Snowed most of last night and today.. Paul was real sick during the night and could not eat any breakfast. I made him stay in bed while Sachiko, Chyo-san and I took the kids to the train. Snow was so deep, but packed solid and we got thru all right. Sazuki-san was our driver and he is so funny. On our return trip he and the girls sang all the Japanese songs they could think of and had such fun.. Paul was asleep when we got home and seems some better. Gave him some bullion for his lunch.. Sachiko and I took Saltie for a short walk, but too cold to go far or to take Rita, and the snow is so deep..

Mon. Jan. 19

Cold and bright today.. Paul much better, so went to office, but not to dam. Received my color slides and have some fine ones.. Kinoi-san brought over the hood which she has finished knitting for Paul. It is like one of the war time knitted hoods, and I am sure it will keep him nice and warm on his head and neck.. Frances

and Chyo-san were here for awhile. When Chyo-san comes up to see us, she says "I come upstairs awhile"... Gave Saltie a tranquilizer pill, as he is so excited over Rita and about to make himself sick!

Tues. Jan. 20

This morning the temperature was 4 above, but bright, and at noon it was 40 !! Too much of a change!.. Sachiko cut my hair for the first attempt and did a fine job of it. She says she would like to train to work in a beauty shop and I think she would be excellent at it!.. They had a big blast at the dam at noon time, so Paul had to be there, but then went to Kiso Fukushima to meet Cecil and Mr. Bowman, the new equipment engineer from Nagoya office.. We all had dinner at the Staff House and a good time. We like Mr. Bowman; he is a typical Westerner, and very nice though quiet. The girls call Cecil "Nopasan" meaning tall and thin as near as I can get from them, though I can not find it in the dictionary..

Wed. Jan 21

Nice day, though cloudy at times and a few snow flurries.. I wrote several letters and sent some pictures to the family.

Thurs. Jan. 22

Cold, bright day.. Sachiko washed and set my hair this morning and it looks so nice.. The Health Dept. man came today on a routine check of the dogs. He was so interested in ours.. Mr. Bowman came to dinner with us and we had an enjoyable evening. I am looking forward to meeting Mrs. Bowman as he said he was sure she would love it up here.

Fri. Jan. 23

Some snow and the windiest afternoon we have had! Didn't go for a walk as it was too unpleasant.. Sachiko felt so good today, and sang many cute songs. One which I like so much is called the "Baseball Song" and is done with gestures, and when two of the girls do it together, it is as funny as can be!! Took Rita over to see Frances for awhile.. I worked on my album some, and pleased Sachiko so much by giving her a color film to try in her camera... A gorgeous moon tonight, so big and brilliant...

Sat. Jan. 24

16 degrees early, but went up to 60 at noon, so everything is muddy!

This afternoon Paul and I went to Kiso Fukushima, picked up Mrs. Horibe who went with us to a man who could make my back-brace smaller, as I have lost so much weight. She interpreted very well, and he said he could make it only an inch smaller, but that will help.. We went to camera shop and to P.O. before going home.. Such a lovely, full moon tonight.. The Beezleys came over to play cards.

Sun. Jan. 25

Rita is all right again, though it takes some persuasion on her part to convince Saltie!.. Paul was at the dam most of the day.. Sachiko came over to see if I could help her to learn to use her new light meter for her camera.. My favorite little boy came to get some stamps. When he left, he said, "sank you verri much. Goo-bye", so I feel I have at last gotten him to talk!.. Took dogs for a short walk, then gave Rita a much needed bath..

Mon. Jan. 26

So dark and gloomy all day, rained in afternoon, and poured tonight! The river below us has ice in it, and the rain is breaking it up with a roar!.. Sachiko was very moody all morning, but cheerful this afternoon and tonight. Wish I knew better how to cope with her, but guess the best treatment is to ignore her moods. She was happy over the results of her fine pictures, so that helped.. Paul and I played gin tonight.

Tues. Jan. 27

Our first fog this morning -- very dense, but sun finally came thru and was nice and warm this afternoon.. Sachiko is all over her "mood", and was happy and lots of fun.. The Beezleys and Toyamas went to Tokyo today.. I have been writing so much and by hand, so have a big callus on my little finger! I plan to get a typewriter soon.

Wed. Jan. 28

32 degrees this morning and bright and warm at noon.. Took the dogs out without a jacket on!.. Sachiko does not like her house "mama-san" and wants to move. In such a small community it is very hard to find another suitable room however.. Received several letters and wrote some.. Paul had to go back to the dam after dinner.

Thurs. Jan. 29

Snowed hard all morning and was beautiful, but then it turned to rain and

came down hard all afternoon and tonight.. Wrote more letters, as I have to write for Paul too, it keeps me busy!.. Played gin again tonight for awhile.

Fri. Jan. 30

Looked like we would have more rain, but had some snow instead.. The gates at the small dam in the river below us, are open for the first time this year as the water is so high. They nearly had a flood at the dam, highest water was at 2:a.m. and it caved in two of the holes for blasts.. Paul wrapped a package for me tonight, and then worked on papers.

Sat. Jan. 31

Cold and snowing most of day.. The Beezleys came home early this afternoon. Brought me a lovely, dark blue scarf, and some seed for the 'keet. They had a nice time.. Paul and I took the dogs for a walk to the P.O. and it was bitter cold! Beezleys over for awhile.. Again we are having a "Siberian wind" storm! Howling like "banshees" tonight!

Sun. Feb. 1

23 and bright day, when it warmed up it was like spring!.. Mr. Tanaka, a school teacher who speaks English quite well, came to see us for a couple of hours this morning. He is an odd fellow.. This afternoon, Paul and I went to the dam in the jeep. Everything so muddy, but much progress has been since I saw it last.. Sachiko came and wanted to fix dinner and I was very glad! After dinner I taught her how to play double solitaire and she liked it so much. We made so much noise that Paul had a hard time working on his papers!

Mon. Feb. 2

Snowed hard all morning, then turned to rain! Gates are open on small dam again tonight.. We decided to go to Tokyo and Yokohama to celebrate my birthday on the 4th, so Sachiko washed and set my hair. Chyo-san came up and kept us laughing. The Beezleys invited us to dinner to celebrate my birthday ahead of time, then we had good game of cribbage.. Finished packing when we got home and late to bed.

Tues. Feb. 3

Today is the annual bean-throwing day, and they say it means "fortune in, devil out!" We left home at 9:20 and just made our train! Nice weather, but hazy and we could just see Fujiyama like a water-color painting!.. We had no trouble in

going from Shinjuku Sta. to Tokyo Sta., then to the Imperial Hotel where we have a lovely room in the new building. We had bathes and dressed for dinner in the Phoenix room. Good dinner, but we did not think it was as good as served at the Hotel New Grand.. After dinner we went to our first movie in a long time - saw John Wayne in "The Barbarian and the Geisha" and it was especially interesting to us. We walked back to the hotel and had coffee in the Terrace Cafe. The music was very good and we enjoyed the dancing.

Wed. Feb. 4

My birthday, and so different in every way from last year!.. It is also the Beginning of Spring according to the lunar calendar and called "Risshun", and the day was beautiful and warm.. After breakfast we shopped some in the hotel shops where prices are nearly twice as high as in the small stores in out-of-the-way places! They cater to the tourist trade of course. Then I got a manicure while Paul got a haircut. Had lunch in the grille then to the National City Bank to see Mr. Ball, the pleasant manager whom I had met on the ship coming over. He was so cordial and we had a nice chat. He gave us the name of a furrier as Paul wanted to give me a mink stole, and we went to see what he had. He was very nice and the prices were surprisingly reasonable, but I told Paul that we should wait until next winter and get it early so I could use it all year. I am a little concerned about getting one, as what would I do with it in Hawaii?.. We walked along Ginza Street for many blocks, then got a taxi back to the hotel.. Paul had ordered a lovely rose corsage and it was in the room when we returned. Made some phone calls to friends, then had dinner on the Terrace. Such a nice birthday which I will always remember!

Thurs. Feb. 5

There are so many festival days in Japan. Today is called "Festival of Inari" or the first Horse Day of the lunar calendar!.. We left Tokyo at 10:20 and caught the train direct to Yokosuka. Took our bags to the Officer's Club and then to the Exchange. Peggy so cordial as always and had lunch with us there. Paul went to the commissary to shop, while I shopped in the Exchange.. It has been such a lovely, warm day.. Peggy met us at the O. Club for dinner, then we got a taxi to the New Grand in Yokohama and are tired out!

Fri. Feb. 6

Warm and hazy today. Went to Yokosuka early and Paul had a dental appointment while I went to the eye clinic.. Had lunch at the C. Club then shopped and Peggy was so helpful.. We returned to Yokohama earlier and shopped some in the hotel. Had a fine dinner, nice music and a beautiful view. Paul had a massage after dinner and I packed.. The Pres. Cleveland is due in tomorrow morning.

Sat. Feb. 7

Very stormy morning and the Cleveland arrived late. Almost like Typhoon Ida!.. As we are going back via Nagoya, we caught the "Subami" at 9:25 and had a good trip down. We had lunch on the train with a Mr. & Mrs. Hess of Portland, Oreg.. They were with a group going around the world on a World Market Survey and were very pleasant people.. We arrived in Nagoya at 2:p.m. in bright sunshine.. Shopped at Meitetsu store with Mrs. Araki, then had dinner at the hotel. After dinner we watched sumo wrestling on the T.V. then played gin for awhile.

Sun. Feb. 8

We slept late and well. After breakfast we took it easy as one of the boys from the hotel went to the train to save seats for us. A good thing he did, as the train was crowded.. Lovely day after leaving Nagoya, and we arrived in Kiso Fukushima about 1:p.m. Guido-san met us in the pick-up and went straight home. Such a greeting as we had from Frances, Sachiko and the dogs, and even the bird seemed so glad to see us! It is wonderful to be home again! Paul went to the office for a little while and I unpacked.. We had a letter from Barb saying our Gae Garry is so very ill with distemper!! There is an awful epidemic of it on Oahu and so many fine dogs have died! Saltie pupped through it, so we hope and pray that Gae will also!

Mon. Feb. 9

Cloudy and rain all day! Good to be home anyhow!.. Had lots of letters to read and some to write. We are so worried about Gae.. Paul received such a fine dark blue nylon car-coat from Mike and Asako, and we had a package of things from the Nogles which they thought we might not be able to get in Japan.. After dinner the Beezleys and Mr. Bowman came over and we showed slides. Sachiko and Kinoi-san enjoyed them too, and we all had a good time.

Tues. Feb. 10

30 and snowing some when we got up. Frances, Sachiko, Kinoi-san, Chyo-san

and I took dogs for a long hike and just made it home before a blizzard!.. Saltie is having trouble with an ear and shakes his head and scratches at it so much.

Wed. Feb. 11

So cold and bright this morning and didn't go above 30 degrees all day! I was cold during the night!.. We went for walk thru the village and a bad section of the road was so muddy. Frances got so cold, but I managed to keep warm. The dogs got so dirty that Sachiko washed them.. Paul went to the dam tonight with Dick Bowman and said it was very cold.

Thurs. Feb. 12

Lovely, bright day, but still cold.. Saltie's ear bothers him so much, but it was better after Paul put some drops in it.. The cabinet maker brought our furniture we had him make and they are lovely. A corner piece for our record player, and two book cases with slide doors on bottom shelf - and all cost us only \$35.00!! Mr. Tanaka sent us a wild rabbit, but we didn't know how to fix it. Frances came to the rescue and dressed it for us and it was delicious!.. Paul went to the dam again tonight and is very tired.

Fri. Feb. 13

Another bright, cold day.. Frances and I had been urged to go to the Girls High School in Kiso Fukushima to talk to the girls! So this afternoon Frances, Miino-san and I went in the pick-up. We had to stop at the base of the high hill the school is on, and walk up the steep, muddy, winding trail for about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile! The Assistant Principal and two English teachers met us at the car and escorted us up. Much to our surprise we were interviewed by three newspaper reporters while having tea and cake! I have noticed that in Japan people think nothing of asking one's age when they first meet you, and of course the reporters wanted to know! We were then escorted in to the assembly hall and introduced to about 200 girls! When we first went in, the girls all arose and bowed in unison, then they sang some songs in beautiful harmony. Miino-san interpreted their questions at first, but they just wanted us to talk so they could hear the language spoken. It must have been confusing to them, as Frances speaks with a north-western accent, while I have my southern accent. Of course there are accents in Japan too, and the southern islands differ from the northern ones. Before we left, the Principal and teachers asked us to come

every Thursday afternoon if we possibly could do so! We promised that we would try to do so, as I feel it would be very good for our International friendship in a small way.. We arrived home about 5: o'clock and Sachiko wanted to hear all about our session at the school.

Sat. Feb. 14

Valentine Day.. Rained all night and all today, so there is no snow left except on the highest mountains.. Men were at the dam all day and they had to blow up stop-logs in the diversion tunnel to let all the water thru in order to protect the dam!.. Our boxes came from Yokosuka and a skirt I had ordered from Meitetsu store. A good day for letter writing, etc.

Sun. Feb. 15

Today is the anniversary of the death of Buddah and I am surprised at how little attention is paid to it!.. It was warm and cloudy all day, but no rain until tonight.. The river is roaring so much that it shakes the windows and doors, and now and then a boulder is dislodged and makes such a noise!.. Paul had to be at the dam all morning, but reports that no damage was done.. I have not been feeling good today, and Sachiko loves to baby me, and is so thoughtful and good.. Frances and Chyo-san were over for awhile too.. Tonight Paul and Sachiko gave the dogs a muchly needed "manicure". Rita is so good about it, but Saltie is such a crybaby and it takes two to manage him! Every time he yelps, Sachiko thinks he is being hurt so bad and is so concerned!

Mon. Feb. 16

Cloudy early, but cleared and was a beautiful spring day! Sachiko worked so hard all day to leave everything as nice as possible for us while she goes to Nagoya for two or three days. Her house Mama-san brought some pictures of Oda-san's No. 1 son's wedding and they were fine.. Interesting to see the brides dress and hat, etc. I wish I could have gone to it, but could not as I was at the high school that day. Kinoi-san brought clippings from the Japanese newspapers showing the picture of the two American women teaching in Kiso Fukushima high school! Now I guess we will have to do so!.. So happy to have much mail today!

Tues. Feb. 17

Rained again during the night and all day today! Everyone worries about floods of course, after the disasterous two they had last year!.. Sachiko got off all right this morning, but the car was held up by a small slide, and she missed her train.. We are so distressed to have received the tragic news today from a friend in Honolulu telling us that Barb lost little Chula in the distemper epidemic, Gae is still so ill, and Ginger and Tuffy have it!!.. Paul brought the bad news from the dam that the logging railroad tunnel has bad cracks in it, and the whole thing may slide down on the dam! Engineers are coming from Nagoya tomorrow.. I cooked a fine steak in our new electric frying pan we bought on our last trip to Yokosuka and it was so good!

Wed. Feb. 18

Weak sun and heavy clouds in morning, but turned into nice afternoon.. I wrote some letters and cleaned house between the many interruptions I have.. The men came from Nagoya about 1:p.m. and all had a big conference about what to do about the tunnel which they had to close.. We had dinner at the S.H. and Harry Libner tells us he has had a slight heart attack. He does not look well at all.

Thurs. Feb. 19

Rain again, and break in tunnel is widening until it seems that the whole mountain side may slide!.. As this was the day we promised to go back to the school, Frances, Hiino-san and I had to get a taxi as all our vehicles are busy. Again we had to climb the mountain in the rain, but we were better prepared for it! Even though the English class is a voluntary one and held after school, so many girls are eager to attend that they had to divide the session into two classes. Frances went to one ~~of the~~ for the older girls and I had the younger ones. The girls did their first reading aloud in English and asked me questions. They did so well, but shyness is their greatest handicap. We did not get home until about 5:p.m. and I was very tired. I have never taught anything but swimming in my life, so find it quite a strain.

Fri. Feb. 20

Rained all night, but eased up during the day. Water is very high and the fissure is widening in tunnel, so the engineers from Nagoya are staying another day.. A letter tells us that our Gae is recovering and we are so happy. However, there will be no dog show for any of our Westies and it might be called off entirely..

Sachiko came home this afternoon and we are so glad to see her, and she seems so happy to be back!.. Have learned that "Sachiko" means happy, and she lives up to it most of the time, though her moodiness is unlike most Japanese I believe, and at times is hard to take!.. Kinoi-san took Saltie for a walk to the village after lunch. He is such a favorite with them all due to his high spirits and always wanting to go!

Sat. Feb. 21

44 and raining again! A slide has not occurred yet, but all are worried. The men went back to Nagoya as there is nothing they can do by staying.. I am a little sore in my muscles from the climb up to the school, and the damp weather does not help.. I feel worried about Gae as he will have to be put into a kennel until he can be given a health certificate, which will not be for some time! Have written other friends about him and know all will be done that can be for him.

Sun. Feb. 22

Lovely and warm today.. Sachiko came over for a waffle brunch, and when Paul came back from the dam, we all went for a long hike. Muddy in spots, but we all enjoyed it so much.. Paul had to go back to the dam this afternoon to see the results of a dye test they are making on the slide.

Mon. Feb. 23

Sunny, windy and cold!.. Chyo-san came "upstairs" a couple of times today.. I wrote letters, and received several as well as two Hawaiian newspapers which I had fun reading!.. Two Japanese men who work on a bridge near us, brought a cute little Spitz puppy to our house as they thought it might be ours and had run away! Sachiko said it belonged to a family who live back of us, so took her home.. Frances came over for a visit this afternoon, and tonight Paul and I played gin.

Tues. Feb. 24

30 degrees this morning and dark with some snow.. Sachiko and Kinoi-san took the dogs for a short walk.. Suzanne Langford came up to join Cecil who had stayed when the other men went back to Nagoya. Nice to see her and to hear what they are all doing in Nagoya. In my opinion, they do not lead near as interesting lives there as we do here in the mountains, and Suzanne agrees with me. Their weather is so much more unpleasant too!.. Sachiko fixed our dinner for us, then went to the Oda-san's where

she had been invited to dinner.

Wed. Feb. 25

22 degrees, but lovely out!.. Suzanne, Frances and I took the dogs for a very long hike - the longest Rita has had, but she did so well! We climbed up to a very old shrine and temple on the other side of Mitake Mura where it is so peaceful and beautiful big trees! In an open sided building, the four walls near the ceiling are covered with ancient paintings, most of them painted on wood in the Edo period I believe. Not far from the temple there is one of the oldest buildings in Japan we understand. It is round, the ~~ix~~ shake roof goes down to the ground except at the entrance facing east. Inside is a dirt floor kept very clean, and bunks built all around the building, with a place for a fire in the middle, and a hole in the center of the roof for the smoke to escape. As the temple is on the old trail to Ontakesan, many pilgrims stopped there to rest on their way to the sacred mountain. We know that there are priests at the buildings, but as many times as we have been up there, we have never seen any one!.. We hiked on over the mountain to a trail leading to the road which we followed back home along the river. I think all of us were glad of the excuse to let Rita rest often, so we could stop and rest also! A cold wind came up toward the last part of our journey, so we were mighty glad to get home!.. We all had dinner at the Beezley's and then we showed some slides.

Thurs. Feb. 26

Cold and cloudy.. This morning Suzanne and I took dogs for another long walk and we saw some of the largest, most beautiful crytomeria trees I have ever seen except in Niko! Growing way down in a gorge, yet we had to look up at the tops towering above us! They are so straight and splendid looking - quite different from our cedar trees.. I had to go to the school alone this afternoon as Frances is not feeling well. I got along just fine, the English teachers are learning more conversation and are not as timid about using it. The class was much too large for one person, but I read to them and then they asked questions, so think they got some good out of it. They are so very appreciative of my efforts!.. Tired out when I returned home, and for the first time in a long while, I have a nerve ache in my back!

Fri. Feb. 27

20 degrees and bright day. There is so much frost and it is the strangest I have ever seen; it comes up from the ground in clumps of tiny, individual strings of ice and is quite beautiful! The clumps are five to eight inches deep above the ground and when the sun shines on it, takes on a prismatic effect!.. My back is much better after a good, hot soak in the tub, as the water seems to have a mineral effect similar to the many hot springs.. I did not go walking today, but Frances and Kinoin-san took the dogs for a short walk.. Our bulbs are doing so well, and most of them have buds on them in spite of the cold weather. A lovely white hyacinth we have grown in the house is in full bloom and so sweet.. The Beezleys came over tonight and we played cribbage.

Sat. Feb. 28

Cold, but lovely, bright day.. The girls and I went with Paul this morning to see a big blast at the dam. They used too much powder and some damage was done to the core trench.. Paul had to attend a meeting all afternoon, so Frances, Sachiko and I took dogs for a walk. I made a side trip up a steep slope while the others waited below. I was not surprised to see Saltie follow me up, but surely was when I saw Rita coming along too! I was a little worried about getting her down, but she made it just fine! I had to go down on the seat of my pants in several places, but the view from the top had been worth it! I couldn't help thinking, "I wonder what the doctors would think of their patient whom they had said could never even walk in soft sand, go up and down stairs, swim in surf, etc." if they could see me imitating a mountain goat!!

Mar. 1

Cold and snow this morning which turned to rain, and came down the rest of the day!.. Sachiko cut, washed and set my hair and I feel very dressed up!.. We had a visit from Mr. Soshu Nishikawa, quite a well known sculptor and owner of a nice Japanese Inn in Otaki. He had read in a magazine about an American girl living in Matsumoto who is a very able artist and lives among the people to draw and to study the folk dancing. He wants us to write to her and issue her an invitation to visit at his hotel near Ontakesan. His wife is a poetess and she also would like to have

Miss Waite visit them. He speaks no English at all, but Sachiko interpreted well..
Tonight while Paul worked on papers, Sachiko and I played double solitair.

Mon. Mar. 2

Sun, clouds and wind!.. Frances and I were asked to come to the high school today instead of Thurs. as examinations are beginning. We went in Mr. Seto's car to the foot of the mountain, then the path up was muddier than it ever has been for us! All very busy with exams and teachers are rotating this year, but the Principal and Mr. Nakano took us to meet the new teachers. I had no English teacher to help me with my class, but four other teachers sat in on the class to learn what they could. All of the teachers in the high school are men with two exceptions, the home economic and the art instructor are women. This seems to be general thruout Japan.. We came home thru a snowstorm, and I am very tired tonight.

Tues. Mar. 3

28 and snow on the ground. Windy and cold all day!.. This is Doll Festival Day when the girls display all their lovely dolls.. Our girls are going on a Kodan bus trip to the Izu Peninsular and are so excited! So much jabbering going on and our house seems to be headquarters for them!.. I wrote to Miss Joanie Waite for Mr. Nishikawa.. Frances and Miss Ito came to the house for awhile.

Wed. Mar. 4

18, but lovely and bright!.. Sachiko worked so hard all day so she could leave everything in fine shape for us. She took the dogs for a short walk and then gave them bathes and they look lovely.. Frances was over and is so blue and homesick. I think she would like to go home! She is such a fine person, but likes people to whom she can talk.. I do wish we would hear from someone about our little Gae!!

Thurs. Mar. 5

A nice, bright day.. The girls got off on the bus real early, so we did not see them.. I went over to see Frances and she feels better today. She and Ed have decided to go to Nagoya and Tokyo this weekend and she is happy about that. She came to our house this afternoon and we played gin.. No mail for two days and how I miss it!.. Ed and Frances came over tonight and we played cribbage.. My shoulder

has hurt all day, so Paul put salompas on it again after a hot soak.

Fri. Mar. 6

A rainy, gloomy day! I slept late for a change, and my shoulder is better today... Saltie was so restless all day as he wants his walk, but he is just too clean to get in that mud!.. Frances came over to get me to pin up the hem of a dress for her.

Sat. Mar. 7

Still rainy!.. My shoulder is very bad, and I find it so hard to use it at all! Remembered that I had hurt it when I pulled the P.C. door open against the wind in Kiso Fukushima and it has troubled me some ever since! It is very hard to write as it is my right shoulder!

Wed. Mar. 11

Have had too much pain to be able to write. Today Sachiko and Toyama went to Kiso Fukushima with me to a good, young doctor. Paul could not go due to the pressure of work. The doctor took x-rays with the oddest machine I have ever seen, but it worked, and I have no dislocation as we feared, but the muscle and ligament is inflamed and swollen. He gave me a shot in the joint, pills to take, and a black ointment to bandage on it. He said not to use my arm.

Thurs. Mar. 12

Snow today!.. I slept good and Sachiko is now a nurse, and fixed my shoulder for me.

Sun. Mar. 15

As my shoulder has gotten no better, we decided to go to the Naval Hospital in Yokosuka today.. It was hard to get dressed, but Sachiko and Paul did everything.. We had to use a taxi to the station and just made our train! Had a lovely trip and Fuji-san was lovely most of the trip.. We met a nice young American couple who are teachers, and he knows Betty Inouchi well.. Mr. Yamamoto and Marie met us at Shinjuku Sta. in Tokyo and we had coffee across from the station.. It was nice to get acquainted with cute little Marie Yamamoto as she surely is her father's pride and joy! Whoever said that Japanese men do not care for daughters did not know the Yamamotos! Marie is now seven years old, and exceptionally bright and poised. She is a brilliant pianist and appeared on the concert stage in Tokyo when she was only

five years of age!.. We took a taxi to Yokohama as Paul thought it would be easier on me. We saw Mt. Fuji in the sunset light again and it was so beautiful!.. Glad to reach the hotel and we were royally greeted as usual! Had a fine dinner served by our little Michiko who was so distressed to see my arm in a sling! Early to bed as I am very tired.

Mon. Mar. 16

We had a sharp, short earthquake early this morning!.. I decided not to go to Yokosuka with Paul today as I can not see the doctor until tomorrow, so I boosted my moral by having a permanent and manicure at shop in the hotel. After a nice lunch, I decided to go out for a walk and met Paul coming in. We went to the New Silk Hotel to see the exhibits of silk and the many shops in the building.. Back at our hotel we found that Betty had called and will come to dinner with us Wed. night.

Tues. Mar. 17

Such a rainy, windy day! Like typhoon weather!.. We went to Yokosuka direct to the hospital. I went to the ortheopedic clinic and Paul went to dental. I gave my history to a doctor, then he had me go for x-rays and then to see Capt. Price. He said I had torn a ligament when I pulled the door with my arm extended and gave me a deep injection into the joint! He hit a blood vessel and I bled all over before he and his yoeman could stop it! He said I would likely have to have three shots, but don't think I can come back next week for the second even, but we will see.. We went to the exchange to shop a little, but returned to Yokohama early as my shoulder is very uncomfortable.. I took a nice box of candy to the girls in the beauty shop and they were so pleased!

Wed. Mar. 18

My shoulder feels some better today.. Very windy, but no rain which is a big help.. We arrived at Yokosuka about 10:30 and Paul stopped at the hospital for further dental work and I went to the N.X. Was early, but Peggy let me in before the store opened... Peggy and two friends of hers had lunch with us at the O. Club, then we shopped some more.. Stopped by the beauty shop when we returned to Y'hama, and they combed and set my hair, but wouldn't let me pay them.. When I got to our room Betty and Mr. Ogawa were there with Paul. Mr. Ogawa had come to talk to us about the

arrival of Gae and the papers we needed, etc.. It was nice to see Betty again and we had a fine dinner! Heard all about her teaching job in the American Air Force school in Tokyo. She is very happy here, but has had some very funny experiences as she looks so Japanese, yet can not speak the language!! Born and raised in Hawaii she never learned from her parents due to the war when she was of school age, and it was tabu at that time.

Thurs. Mar. 19

Up at 5:30 for our trip back to the mountains. Went to Shinjuku by taxi, and Mr. Yamamoto came to train to see if he could be of help to us! The train was quite crowded, so we got on a car which stopped in Kofu, so had to change there and it was a job as I could be of very little help in carrying things. We managed to get a very helpful porter (one of the scarcest things in Japan!) who quickly piled everything on a cart and took us from the back of the train to the front! At Shirojiri we had to use a third class coach with its very hard wooden seats, and it was crowded with pilgrims who had been to Matsumoto shrine in a group. They were so friendly, and it seemed a short trip as they were talking Japanese to us and wanted us to talk English to them! We had a great time!.. They helped us off the train at Kiso Fukushima and waved as long as the train was in sight!.. Guido met us with the pickup and we were so glad to get home.. Frances and the girls were out with the dogs when we arrived, but came soon and wanted to hear all about our trip, my shoulder, etc.. Paul had to go back to K.F. with some of the men from Nagoya so he could have a chance to talk to them about the dam.

Fri. Mar. 20

Paul has lots of work to catch up on. Dr. ^{Kell} ~~Nichols~~ is here from the U.S. to advise about the tunnel and slide.. I bought such a nice, light weight portable typewriter in Yokosuka, so now I can type letters, etc.. My shoulder feels much better!

Sat. Mar. 21

Lovely day. Sachiko and I took the dogs for a walk around the lake and the reflections were so perfect without a ripple to disturb them! The new bridge for the road is a lovely aqua color, and in its reflection, one could not tell where it started! Kinoi-san and Chyo-san were at our house several times today and they all seem so glad to have us home again!.. Paul was very busy climbing all over the slide area with Dr.

Nickell and Cecil.. We all had dinner at the Staff House and came back to our house to show some slides.. Today is a national holiday called "Shimbun no hi" or Vernal Equinox Day, and is dedicated to a love of nature and all growing things, and the sun sets due west today..

Sun. Mar. 22

Rained all day today. As Paul had to go to a meeting at Kodan, I slept late and when Sachiko came, we had a late breakfast together.. Paul went to the train with the men.. I read, Sachiko and I played cards and then she fixed a fine dinner..

Mon. Mar. 23

Snowed all morning!.. Paul and Ed had to leave for Nagoya to attend a big meeting.. My shoulder is so much better, for which I am very thankful!.. Sachiko and I had good dinner, and Frances came over and we played cribbage.. Such a lovely moon tonight!

Tues. Mar. 24

Cold, grey day! Dogs were so good and let me sleep until 8:a.m.! Sachiko came soon after I was up. No walk for us today in rain and mud, and I don't think Rita and Saltie mind a bit! They love the glassed in front porch and are content to sleep in there where they can see everything (?) going on!.. Frances came over to invite Sachiko and me to lunch as it is Chyo-san's birthday. Had fine lunch, and I gave her a box of candy and a cute card, and Frances gave her a lovely blouse. I wrote letters this afternoon, then tonight we invited Frances, Kinoi-san and Chyo-san to dinner and had such fun. Fran brought a small bottle of saki which the girls warmed and we had with our meal. I dressed them all up in Chinese and Japanese outfits and took some color pictures. Fran and I played crib and the girls talked and laughed! Quite a hen party! Japanese- American style!

Wed. Mar. 25

Beautiful morning, but cloudy afternoon.. Sachiko went to K.F. to have her camera repaired.. I wanted to go for a walk, but was afraid the Nippon Express men would bring our boxes from Yokosuka and find no one home! Sachiko took the dogs for a short walk this afternoon, then came home and washed and set my hair.. Two little neighbor girls came to see us and had such fun brushing Rita and Saltie.. Tonight Sachiko and I had a waffel dinner with Fran and Kinoi-san, then the girls went to a

movie at Futagamochi.. Paul called from Nagoya and he sounds so hoarse and said his throat is sore! Will be home tomorrow. It is really a project to take a phone call without Sachiko to do it for me! The operator knows as soon as I say "mochi, mochi" and starts laughing until it is difficult to know whom she wants! We manage somehow though and it is such an accomplishment that I swell up in pride!

Tues. Mar. 26

Such a rainy day, so a good one for letter writing!.. Ed came home at 1:p.m., but said that Paul had to stay over.. Sachiko and I braved the elements and walked the dogs to the village; then she gave them baths afterwards. I don't like to have to wash them so often, but it is too cold to let the mud dry on them and too dirty to rub off with a towel! It doesn't seem to be hurting their coats, as we have never seen them with such lovely, thick coats!.. I went to bed early and read.

Fri. Mar. 27

First time the weather has been good all day since last Saturday!.. Sachiko and I went to Kiso Fukushima with Hara-san to meet Paul, but he didn't come! We went to the P.O. and the meat market, and I saw so many of "my girls" from the high school. They are busy taking exams or just thru with them, so on vacation. It pleases Sachiko so much to have so many girls speak to me so nicely, and she said to Hara-san, "Okusan knows everybody in Kiso!".. The ride was so lovely with ume (plum) blossoms getting so thick, and the fukujuci carpeted the ground with sunshine yellow! The fukujuci is a new flower to me; it is a low, ground plant with a flower the color and about the same size as a large dandelion, but broad, waxy petals.. When we got home we found that Paul had called to say that he would be on the 6:25 train, but a later call came to say he could not make it, and would arrive at 1:p.m. tomorrow! Our express did not come from Yokosuka! First time it has taken so long! I wrote to Joani Waite.

Sat. Mar. 28

Another lovely, spring day.. Paul finally arrived on the 1:o'clock train and it is good to have him home again. He still has a sore throat, but is doctoring.. We took the dogs for a fine walk and I combed and brushed them good.. We had a fine dinner as Sachiko is convinced that Paul ate all the wrong things while away, and

that her cooking will get him well in a hurry, and I'm not sure but what she is right! I washed the dishes for her as she went to the movies with Chyo-san. Paul worked and I read, so the girls saw our light and came in when they returned. They were so cold, but laughing and cutting up as they thought it was hilarious that they had to walk all the way home! Sachiko said that she had to stop behind bush, then lights came from car and she just didn't know what to do!! "Too rittle bush, okusan, no hide!" It proves to us how very westernized our girls are becoming!

Sun. Mar. 29

Easter in Japan! Very cold and cloudy day, so no inducement to go for a walk!.. Paul had to go to the dam this morning and again after lunch, so did not see much of him today.. There are no Christian churches nearer than Nagoya for us to attend, so it did not seem like Easter, but just another day.. Tonight we visited with the Beezleys after dinner.

Mon. Mar. 30

Rained hard and steadily all day! By late afternoon the water at the dam registered the highest this year, and they had to blow up the stop-logs in the tunnel again! There was a bad slide on the road to Otake Mura! Paul came home for dinner late and was wet and muddy, but had to put on dry clothes and go back to the dam.. The sakuri (cherry) buds which the youngsters brought me some time ago, are out in full bloom in the house and Sachiko made such a lovely arrangement with them. What talent all Japanese have in flower arrangements! She used a piece of dried vine, a dried flower, and two of the cherry stalks and made a beautiful picture!.. I trimmed the dogs some and am so proud of their coats!.. Chyo-san came up and she and Sachiko talked and listened to the radio while I worked on getting my color slides in order.

Tues. Mar. 31

A perfectly beautiful spring day! The blossoms are beautiful all down the valley and growing wild on the mountain across the river! There are white ones and pink ones, and all are lovely!.. Fran, Sachiko, Kinoi-san, Chyo-san and I took the dogs for a long, long walk and explored some new paths and took many pictures.. Mr. Bowman came on the 1:p.m. train.. I received a fine letter from Joani Waite and typed a copy so Niino-san could translate it and send to Mr. Nishikawa.

Joni's letter, written in a most striking hand on Japanese paper was as follows:

March 21, 1959

Dear Mrs. Gillette and Mr. Nishikawa;

I was very surprised and glad to receive both of your letters and am so sorry I was not able to answer them sooner. Mr. Nishikawa, I am very pleased that you are interested in me - and my desire to live and learn in Japan... and your invitation for me to visit you was GREATLY appreciated. I regretted so much that I was not able to go last week - (as soon as I received your letter I wanted to come and see you) but some friends had invited me to go skiing on Shirouma and even the skis were all ready - so I had to go there on the 15th. Thank you VERY much for inviting me though and I hope I can come to your home and your valley in the future.

It was so good of you, Mrs. Gillette, to write to me also - by way of explaining and interpreting Nishikawa-san - and to tell me a little about yourself. I was quite interested for many reasons and I hope I will be able to meet you too, when I visit your area. My father is also an engineer who was in charge of design for construction on Guam for several years and now may be going to Africa. Of course I wish he and my mother could LIVE in Japan - as they too, have found many wonderful aspects about this country on what visits they have made -- but he (and she) has to (unfortunately sometimes maybe) go where his work takes him. So I think you are very lucky people - and have an ideal setup. And also you seem to be making the most of your stay here. I have met a few Americans living in Tokyo and on bases and such - and as they seem to me to be "giving and taking" with the way of Japan on such shallow terms, it is very refreshing to hear of and from people such as yourselves.

I know I am very fortunate also - to be able to live here ever so easily - and am learning and experiencing constantly. In fact Japan, to me, has so much to offer, that I am frankly surprised that some people think it so unusual that an "American girl" - should be living here. Well, I won't go into how I "feel" about Japan - so many have asked me that, but I think you have some of the same feelings yourself - and probably understand quite a bit. So I will just thank you again for the trouble you went to for me, to help Mr. Nishikawa - and hope your interpreter won't mind giving him this message too. Right now I am having trouble with my International Status and so may have to leave the country and then re-enter. But when I return I expect to stay several years - (and want to ride a horse all over Japan.. The bumpy roads and trails are not so suitable for a car) and really look forward to meeting both of you if I have another chance.

Warmest regards,
Joni Waite

P.S. Interested to hear you are from the Islands.. I went to the U. of H. two years and love them very much.

.....
It is interesting to us that Paul knows Joni's father well and he has even been in our home in Kailua! Such a small world after all!

Wed. Apr. 1

30 degrees and a heavy frost, but beautiful! I love the mornings here in Japan, they dawn with such promise - and one wonders what new things of interest will be forthcoming! Sachiko and I went to the P.O. Airmail to the U.S. is now up to 75 yen for the lightest letter.. Niino-san came to lunch with Paul and we had him

tell Sachiko that we were pleased with her work and would raise her salary. She was so very happy about it.. Paul had to go back to the office to work tonight, and Sachiko and I played a Japanese card game and had such fun!

Thurs. Apr. 2

Another fine, cold day, though a little windy in the late afternoon.. Rita is not feeling very well today.. Miss Ito came up for her tea break.. Sachiko set my hair.. I showed Sachiko how to fix the nice ham we had gotten at the commissary, and we had it tonight when Dick Bowman came up for dinner.

Fri. Apr. 3

30 and lovely! Fran, Sachiko and Kinoi went walking with me and the dogs. We climbed up a hill overlooking the new bridge and took some pictures. We found the first violets of spring, and the white and pink ume are dropping, but the very dark pink ones are starting to bloom! I never realized there were so many different plum blossoms! Fukujuso still covers the ground and are lovely.. Dick came up to house after dinner.. Paul seems very tired tonight!

Sat. Apr. 4

A regular March day in April! So cold and windy, and cloudy most of day. I wrote some letters this morning, and this afternoon Paul, Sachiko, the dogs and I went to the dam. We climbed to the top of the mountain where the fissures have occurred over a narrow, winding trail! Paul had to carry Rita over part of the trail, but she did much better than we thought she could. There were two stones and a stone lantern at the top! They were moss covered and Sachiko could not make out what was written on them, but with round eyes said, "Gillette-san - stones very ord, somebody die wrooong time ago!!!". We examined the huge fissures and took pictures of them. I was sure that I felt the earth quiver under us, so suggested that we get back down while we could!.. When back home I soaked in a hot tub, but know my muscles will be sore tomorrow anyhow!

Sun. Apr. 5

A rainy, windy day.. They had a small slide from our mountain we climbed, and Paul came home wet and dirty!.. I read, wrote, and practiced the touch system on my nice typewriter.. We took dogs for a short walk in late afternoon when the rain stopped for awhile.. I am not near as sore as I thought I would be, so guess I

am in pretty good trim!.. We had a good, hot game of gin after dinner!

Mon. Apr. 6.

Such a day! Cloudy, windy, sunshine, then heavy snow flurries! It is very cold tonight.. I wrote letters, as there always are some to answer, and received some others.. Rita not feeling well and wouldn't eat today, and Saltie upchucked his dinner! Sachiko not feeling very well either.

~~Mon. Apr. 6.~~ Tues. Apr. 7

Fine weather today!.. Fran, Kinoi and I took dogs for long hike across the river, down logging railroad and back over the dam! Rita and Gae are feeling much better and so is Sachiko. We saw so many birds and heard many we could not see, and flowers of all sorts are coming out thick!.. Tonight, as Paul worked, I practiced my typing.

Wed. Apr. 8

Rained all day today! Good thing we had our nice walk yesterday.. Sachiko had a letter from a friend in Tokyo asking her to come there for the big festivities accompanying the wedding of the Crown Prince to his commoner, Michiko. I had the bright idea of going with her, but upon a call to Mr. Yamamoto we found that there is not a room available in Tokyo! I am not very disappointed, as I do not like crowds, but Sachiko is so disappointed as she wanted me to go!

Thurs. Apr. 9

Sachiko decided to go to Tokyo and left on the 9:a.m. train.. The day started nicely, but this afternoon and tonight we had rain, wind and our first thunder storm of the season!.. Played cribbage with the Beezleys after dinner, and the river was roaring so that we could hardly talk!

Fri. Apr. 10

This is a big day in Japanese history. Prince Akihito and Michiko the commoner, were married at 10: a.m.! I hope the weather was better in Tokyo than it was here! Kodan has a holiday today, but it doesn't effect Paul.. There is so much interest in this wedding, and of course the girls especially are romantically thoughtful! It is all they can talk about, and everyone envies Sachiko.. Paul was at the dam morning and afternoon as the water is high again.. Fran and I walked down to our little dam to see it pouring thru the gates which are all open, and it was quite a

sight and sound!.. When Paul returned in the afternoon, we took the dogs for a long hike up mountain behind the village. Tonight we are all tired out!

Sat. Apr. 11

Cold this morning with ice all over the ground! Had some sun, but mostly wind, snow and rain! During the brief sunny periods, I weeded in the yard some.. Paul had to be at the dam most of the day.. Frances invited us to dinner and we played cards afterward.

Sun. Apr. 12

Warmer today, but a steady rain! The cherry blossoms on our big trees are just about to open. We are about two weeks behind the coastal cities in our blossoms, as it is so much colder up here.. Paul had to be at the dam again today.. We received many fine letters and I am so grateful to our friends!

Mon. Apr. 13

Sachiko came home this morning and everyone wants to hear all about what she saw! She was tired out, but told us as much as she could about it. She said, "Okusan, good you no go! Too many people! We crim' up light, hook 'is way, rock 'at way, but no see! Icooo many people!!" She did manage to take some pictures however, so hope they will be good ones. She brought me a cute pin of the wedding coach!.. At last Paul has an assistant - Mr. Burt Janes arrived from Chicago this noon! Do hope he will be able to take some of the burden off of Paul's shoulders! Cecil came up with him and we all had dinner at the Staff House.

Tues. Apr. 14

I typed some letters for Paul as Miss Ito is at home sick.. Sachiko had a good rest last night, so was full of her trip today! She was so funny telling more about it. Many of the Kodan girls came up from the office on their tea break, to hear about the day. Such gabbing and laughter I've never heard!.. Mr. Janes came up to see us after dinner and we had quite a visit. He seems very nice, but he is Italian, and his broken English is as hard to understand as the Japanese!

Wed. Apr. 15

Nice day though it got hazy in the afternoon and the wind started blowing from down river, which is a storm sign!.. Fran, the three girls and I got a taxi and drove half way to Kiso Fukushima to take pictures of the beautiful cherry trees in full

bloom by a stilling basin in the river! Such a lovely sight! This afternoon we went for a long walk and Saltie picked up some ticks!.. So very tired tonight and to bed early!

Thurs. Apr. 16

Rain today.. Our cherry trees are so lovely in full bloom and such a delicate pink! They are in bloom all thru the woods!.. Rita had what appeared to be a heart attack today and frightened us so! It is such a worry, as we know of no vet in this section! Gave her a tranquilizer pill and she rested some.. Sachiko has such an awful looking insect bite on her leg, so we called the doctor and he came and gave her an injection for it!.. Beezleys left for Nagoya again this afternoon.

Fri. Apr. 17

A nice day, but very hazy possibly from another eruption of Mt Asama on Tues. Rita is better, but no pep at all.. We decided not to go to the big party in Nagoya as we don't want to leave Rita, and Sachiko's leg is still very bad.. Two Public Health men, who are veterinarians, came this afternoon to see Rita. Paul and Toyama came up to talk to them. When they examined Rita they said that her heart is very bad and not to take her on long walks again! That will break her heart as she loves to go! Think I will have to get something to carry her on my back like them do with the babies. Sachiko said, "She go. I cally her".

Sat. Apr. 18

Very nice today. Took dogs for short walk this morning, and after lunch we took them in the jeep to the dam. Paul and Saltie walked up new road to see about the cracks, but Rita and I stayed below. We went to Otake over the new Prefecture road and back on the old one. A nice, scenic trip, but so bumpy!

Sun. Apr. 19

Lovely and clear in the morning, but so hazy in afternoon!.. We took some pictures of Chyo-san in her lovely kimona under the cherry trees and Sachiko took some of Paul and me.. Beezleys arrived home about 1:30 and told us about the party. They had a fine time, and the weather was good for a change.. Sachiko and Chyo-san went to a Kodan party and had a great time. They both got "stinko" and thought it a great lark, but am afraid they will not feel so happy tomorrow!

Mon. Apr. 20

Cloudy and April showers today.. We are excited because we received a letter from Frank saying Gae would arrive at Hanaida airport tomorrow!! We will not be able to be there to meet the little fellow, and could not reach Mr. Yamamoto, so called Mr. Ogawa and he will get him and take him to quarantine. I can hardly wait to see him!.. Sachiko is feeling pretty good today in spite of last night.. Three of the vets from Kiso Fukushima came late this afternoon, and Paul and Niino-san brought them to the house. They gave Rita as thorough an examination as she has ever had and we are well impressed with them. They gave Saltie his rabies shot, but did not think it adviseable to give Rita one. Instead they gave her two vitamine shots.. Our lights went off for awhile tonight, but we had finished dinner.

Tues. Apr. 21

Rain today. We heard that Gae arrived and is safely in the very nice Quarantine Station.. The vets came out to see Rita again and gave her a liver shot! They do not get paid by us for this service, but say it is part of their job as Animal Health Officers, but they are so interested in Rita and her condition, so said they will see her as often as possible! I only wish I could really talk to them!

Wed. Apr. 22

Such a lovely day! Fran, Kinoi, Chyo-san, Saltie and I took a very long, interesting hike. Went by road to the second bridge and a shrine with lanterns along the steep steps to the building. Then we returned by a trail on the opposite side of the river, where walking was often rough. We saw a snake, and as the girls are so terribly afraid of them, I killed it, as they would not go on and wanted to turn back. The cherry trees are so beautiful, and violets thick along the path.. Tonight we played cards with the Beezleys.

Thurs. Apr. 23

Rainy morning, but very nice afternoon. I always mention the weather because it played such an important part in our lives at the dam, and I am interested in the four definite seasons! Soon we will be into my fourth season here.. Sachiko and I took the dogs to the P.O. and to the Municipal Building in Mitake Mura to get some medicine the vet had left for Rita. The road was so muddy, so we came back the longer way by the river; and Sachiko carried Rita whenever the going was hard on her.

We started Rita on the pills tonight and do hope they will help, if not cure her.

Fri. Apr. 24.

Clouds and sun, but no rain.. We received a letter from Mr. Yamamoto telling us that Gae does not have an official certificate of health and his rabies shot was not given until the 15th!! If only people would do what one asks them to and not just use their own judgment on matters they know nothing about, and which make things so hard for us! Now Gae will have to stay in quarantine until the end of May! Sachiko moved to another house today and seems happy.. Rita is very peppy today, so the walk did not hurt her and the medicine may be doing her good.

Sat. Apr. 25.

Beautiful day! I got off two important letters today, one about Gae! Sachiko took both dogs for a short walk.. Finally the big fissures in mountain above the dam opened up and the whole side of the mountain came down!! It went to the right of the dam however, and the only damage done was to a generator plant and equipment shed! Best of all, no one was hurt, though rocks hit the helmets of two workers!.. I have decided to go to Yokohama tomorrow so I can see how my "boy" is! Paul will go with me, do some shopping, then return ~~tomorrow~~ ^{Monday} night.

Sun. Apr. 26

A fine day for our trip.. Sachiko and Chyo-san went to the train with us. The train was very crowded, but we found a good seat.. Fujiyama was almost hidden by a haze and looked like a dim painting.. We took a taxi from Shinjuku to Yokohama. Mr. Yamamoto called. We had a fine dinner in our pleasant surroundings, and went to bed early as we both are very tired.

Mon. Apr. 27

Very rainy day.. Mr. Ogawa came by the hotel. We tried to get him to let us take Gae out and keep him at the hotel for awhile, but he says it is impossible. I will stay here for a week or so and at least can see him often!.. We had to go to Yokosuka to buy some things to ship back to Mitake. Paul did the Commissary shopping while I bought some things at the N.X. Peggy was off today, so we did not see her.. We returned to the hotel, had a good dinner, and then Paul left at 9:30. I wish he could have stayed with me.. I am going to bed and read awhile.

Tues. Apr. 28.

Lovely, warm day which made it so much nicer for my visit to the Quarantine

Station to see my Gae. Mr. Ogawa came by the hotel at 10:30 and took me down there as he had to see about some other animals.. Gae was so happy to see me he just whimpered!! He had recognized my voice and let out the most joyful barks I ever heard! The man in charge said it was the first time he had made a sound! Gae is so nervous, his hind legs are weak and shake, and he has sores on his body! He looks awful, but now he knows I have not forsaken him, maybe he will perk up. I combed and brushed him good and walked him in the very nice compound. The men at the station are good to him and so interested, and they promised to have a vet look at him and try to cure the sores at least.. When it was time to go, he cried so that it was heart breaking!.. Had late lunch at the hotel, then wrote to Paul.. After a nice walk in the park, I had an early dinner and to bed to read.. Paul called and so did Betty.

Wed. Apr. 29

A slight earthquake this morning about 7:a.m.. After breakfast I went to Yokosuka to shop some more, but found that the Exchange was not open until 11:30. I sat in the snack bar to have coffee and wait, but Peggy came in and invited me into her office to wait. She surely is a busy person and so capable. They were having a fashion show, so I stayed for it, finished my shopping and back to Yokohama. Toolate to stop by to see Gae.. After a good dinner, I watched a T.V. show of the N. H. K. Symphony featuring the great Japanese pianist Takahiro Sonoda and it was wonderful! Mr. Nomura Jr. sat next to me and he enjoyed it so much and we became better acquainted,.. Today is Emperor Hirohito's 58th birthday, and a National holiday. It seems that now that the Emperor is no longer considered a god, but shares the joys and sorrows of the common people, he is more loved and respected than ever.

Thurs. Apr. 30

A nice day, so I went to see Gae early and stayed most of the morning with him. He was so delighted to see me again, and enjoyed a nice run in the grounds. The vet has treated the sores on him and they are better already, and he seems less nervous. I cut his hair real short as it is warm enough now down here. Then I powdered him and gave him a good brushing. He looks so much better and feels better too! The men at the Quarantine Station have been so good to all of our dogs and have seemed to be very fond of them. The dogs have nice, clean quarters, and sleep in boxes filled with fresh

rice straw, so it would not be so bad if we lived nearer and could visit them more often. Gae has been separated from us for such a long time, and has been so ill that he seems to feel insecure. I think by my being with him now, that he will realize that we are in the same country at least!.. I returned to the hotel for a late lunch, and I nearly lost my watch as the band on it broke! Mr. Hiki had it repaired for me right away - it would have taken at least several days at home!.. I took a walk for awhile, and then called Paul after dinner.

Friday, May 1

Rained hard this morning, but cleared in the afternoon. Hope the rain will dampen the spirits of the expected rioters in Tokyo!.. I went to see Gae this afternoon and trimmed him a little more, and brushed him good. He looks so much younger with his "crew cut" and is quite peppy today!.. Had such nice talk with Michiko at dinner.

Sat. May 2

Nice day, though so hazy. I walked to the Silk Hotel for lunch, then went to the Quarantine Sta. only to find it closed! When I returned to the hotel, I got them to check about tomorrow and it is closed all day!.. I watched the "Soya", the Japanese antarctic ship, come into port, and such a crowd met it!.. After dinner, I listened to the symphony on T.V. again. Met a Capt. and Mrs. Fowler and learned that he is a retired U. S. Navy Civil Engineer Corps officer who thinks he knows Paul! I saw a wedding party come to the banquet room for their reception, and the bride was lovely in her traditional dress, and the kimonos on the guests were some of the most elaborate I have ever seen.. Paul called me late, but gave me the good news that he will be here tomorrow.

Sun. May 3

This is Constitution Day, but some think that it is being neglected and regret the lack of importance it should hold for the people.. Nice day, so I went for a walk in this morning. Betty Inouchi came about 1:30 and was so disappointed not to be able to see Gae!.. Paul arrived at 5:30 and it is good to see him again. Peggy and Steve came up from Yokosuka at 7:30 as we had invited them to have dinner with us and Betty. We had a fine dinner and such a good time. Peggy and Steve took

Betty to catch her train and they told her she should never go to the station for the electric train alone!

Mon. May 4.

Nice, warm day. We went to see Gae as soon as possible. Sore spots have just about healed up and he really looks fine now. He was so glad to see Paul, but is MY dog and shows it! The station is closed again tomorrow for some reason we could not understand.. We went to Yokosuka and had lunch at the Officer's Club, then to the N.Y. Talked with Peggy and shopped, then back to the hotel. After dinner we had nice talk with Mr. Makayama, the comptroller of the hotel who was formerly with Noritake china factory in Nagoya. He and Mr. Hiki had coffee with us.. The Pres. Wilson came in this morning, and all rooms at the hotel are taken.

Tues. May 5

As today is Children's Day it is a holiday.. We walked over to Chinatown and I had my glasses fixed. Went to Motomachi Shopping Center and bought several items and looked at many. Had lunch in a very nice little German bakery and restaurant, and back to the hotel by 3:30.. This has been a hot, windy day and so dusty!.. I had my hair and nails done, and Paul had a turkish bath.. Tonight we ate our dinner by an open window for the first time and the night is lovely and balmy.. Tonight we are packing and I don't see how we can manage everything! Some day I hope we can travel like the Japanese do, with only one small bag!

Wed. May 6

Rained hard during the night and was very cloudy this morning.. We went to see Gae and tell him goodbye for awhile. How I do hate to leave the little fellow! We took a taxi from Yokohama to the Shinjuku station in Tokyo as we had so much to carry. Mr. Yamamoto came to the train and helped us which was a good thing as the train was crowded. We had a good trip and the wild azalias and wisteria (fuji-no-hana) were so lovely! The flame color of the azalias made the mountain sides look like they were on fire!.. At Shirojiri we were fortunate to meet Tsazukisan, a fine young Japanese engineer from the dam, and he was such a help with all our packages, etc. We had to stand on the train for quite awhile, so were glad to reach Kiso Fukushima where Harasan met us.. It is always so grand to get home, and we received a royal welcome. Rita and Saltie looked fine, as Sachiko had bathed and brushed them so nicely!

Thurs. May 7

Such a nice day to greet me back to my mountains! Our yard looks lovely as Paul had one of the men work on it while I was away, and things look so green and our flowers, as well as the wild flowers, are lovely. Trees are all clothed in their new green leaves in the short time I have been gone, and the mountains are covered with azalias, rhododendron, and many other wild flowers.. Rita is feeling so full of pep and is very cute, and Saltie is his same vigorous self.. Mr. and Mrs. Bowman are here for her first visit, so I went down to the S. H. to see her.. Mr. Jackson is also here, and then on to India.. I have so many letters to read and so happy to get them.

Fri. May 8

Cloudy morning and rain this afternoon.. I kept busy writing some letters, talking to the girls, etc.. A woman came to the house and gave me a good massage. So often blind people do this as a business and are so good at it, but there are none in our neighborhood.

Sat. May 9

It rained all day, and is chilly. I went down to S. H. and persuaded Clara Bowman to come up to our house where it is nice and warm. There is no fireplace in the Staff House and the heat has been cut off for the summer, and on a day like this it is very unpleasant. Fran came over and we had a very nice time.. Saltie is so loving and wanting attention today, which is unusual for him!

Sun. May 10

A beautiful day! Paul had to go to the dam this morning, so Fran, Saltie and I went for a long walk on a new path to us, and it is the loveliest one of all! Along a swift flowing stream on a mountain side, with such lovely flowers all around and so wild looking. At one place there had been a landslide, and we had to crawl over it! Others had done so, and we left we were safe to try it also.. Paul was at home when we returned about noon.. After lunch, Burt Janes joined us for another hike across the little dam and way up a deep valley. We picked many wild flowers, and found the ruins of what appeared to be an old rice mill. The only bad thing about our hike is that I got big blisters on both heels, and Saltie was covered with small ticks!! Tonight we had a poker party at the S. H. with the Bowmans, Beezleys and Burt. We play for yen and it looks like we are getting so much when we win! Had

such fun, and the Bowmans are so nice to be with! Clara is slightly lame, so can not go with us on our fine hikes, which we all regret as she loves it up here very much.

Mon. May 11

A fine morning, but cloudy this afternoon.. Clara was wishing for a typewriter, so I took my old one down for her to use.. I wrote letters this afternoon. We still have no word from Honolulu about Gae's certificate!!.. Cecil came from Nagoya at noon, but we were disappointed that Suzanne did not come with him.. We played poker again tonight, but Paul had to work at the office. Cecil is such fun to play with!

Tues. May 12

Rained all day long and tonight too! The gates are open at the dam and there is quite a roar.. I wrote letters and read.. Worked on Rita and Gae, thinning and trimming hair.. Sachiko had a message to meet her friend Mr. Kato in Kiso Fukushima, so she caught the Kodan bus at 5:0'clock.. We had dinner at the S. H. and played poker again.

Wed. May 13

A lovely day again.. Clara came up to return my typewriter and some books as they are leaving today.. After lunch I went down to see them all off, as Cecil left also.. Sachiko got home about 11: a.m. and brought my pictures from Kiso. They are fine ones I am glad to say!.. Later this afternoon, Fran and I took Saltie for a long walk.

Thurs. May 14

Again a beautiful day.. Fran, Sachiko, Kinoisan and I took both dogs for a fine walk. The girls took turns carrying Rita when we had to go uphill, but she walked quite a bit and seemed to enjoy it so much, although she is a little lame tonight. Saltie had ticks on both ears - he will stick his head into all the bushes! Paul had to go to the dam after dinner tonight, and I played cards at the Beezley's.

Fri. May 15

Fine morning, but cloudy in afternoon.. Fran, Sachiko, Kinoi and I went to Kiso Fukushima about 11:30. Had Paul's boots repaired, and all of his belts had to have new holes punched in them as he has lost so much weight! Did a few other errands, then to the station to meet Millie Hyett and Otsumi-san from Nagoya who came

for a rest from the city, and to see the dam. Coming back in the station wagon, I had to change seats with Otsumi-san, as she was so nervous about the chasm on that side!.. Burt had planned dinner at the S. H. for them, then the Beezleys and I went down later and we played poker. Paul had to work.

Sat. May 16

Rained during the night and mostly cloudy today.. Sachiko washed and set my hair.. Otsumi-san and Burt went to Nagoya about noon, but Millie stayed. We had such a good sukiyaki dinner which Sachiko prepared in our nice new electric skillet. Millie, Ed, Chyo-san and Kinoi-san came, but Fran was feeling badly so couldn't be with us. We played cards after dinner and had a good time.

Sun. May 17

Ed's birthday and we gave him a toy auto, candy and a spinning reel. He seemed very pleased.. A lady from Yarbuhara came to our house with a cute wirehaired terrier. She had heard that we had two fine dogs and thought they might be the same breed. She is very anxious to breed her little female, but of course we could not help her unless she wanted a mixture! She was here all morning and Sachiko served us tea and some freshly made cookies.. Paul had to be at the dam this morning, and then worked on tax all afternoon as we have to pay Hawaiian tax even if we are out of the U. S.!... Millie left to return to Nagoya.. We went to the Beezley's for Ed's birthday dinner and all the girls were there. We played crib for a change and had such a nice evening.

Mon. May 18

We had a sharp earthquake last night which got us up! It was scary at night! Rained all day, so we stayed inside most of the day. I started working on a very hard jigsaw puzzle, and everyone who came to the house worked on it too! The girls are fascinated by it and are very quick and good at it!.. I wrote some business letters for Paul, so now I am late to bed and tired for some reason!

Tues. May 19

Cold, rain and windy! Think I have felt colder today than any time during the winter! Our fireplace feels so good and I didn't get far from it all day.. I finished the puzzle this afternoon late and it was a fine rainy day project!.. Sachiko fixed such a lovely boquet of white azalia, white and blue iris and yellow tulips..

THE SILK WORM

May 30, 1959 - I had my first introduction to silk worms in Mitake Mura, Japan. Mr. Yanagisawa, manager of the Government building at the Weather Station told us about them and Sachikosan interpreted very nicely.

The thousands of tiny, black worms had just been born and were receiving their first meal of shredded mulberry leaves. The room, kept at a constant 80 degrees, was warm and humid. A flat wooden box about 8"x10" opened like a book. Oiled paper was on both halves, each covered by the tiny mass. Mulberry leaves were placed on top of the worms about $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick in one half of box, then the top part, with worms clinging to it, was carefully placed on the leaves - worm-side down. The small boxes were in a larger wooden box about 3'x 4'x 6" and six small boxes to the large one.

The babies have to be fed every $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours night and day for the first week, then they are sold to local farmers who raise them in their homes as a side line. Most of them have their own mulberry trees for the purpose. After the first week or two their care is quite simple.

June 4, 1959 - We went to see the worms again. Not yet a week old, they are a grey-white now and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long... Mr. Yanagisawa again showed them to us and explained that they are now fed only four times a day and they sleep at night.

When the new leaves are given to them, they go right to work on them seemingly always ready to eat! They are very active for such little things.

Mr. Yanagisawa gave us a present of about a hundred worms and Kinoisan will try to raise them, so we will have a first hand knowledge of their progress!

We were caught in a thunder shower, so Mr. Yanagisawa invited us in for tea and told us much more of the culture of silk worms, but without a good interpreter we lost much that I would like to know.

At home Kinoisan put the worms into a nice wooden box, and in the afternoon she got some mulberry leaves and we fed the hungry little fellows.