

Kiaohsien, Shantung, China Jan. 13, 1947.

Dearest Edith, -

Well - I have written what I promised, but I'm very sorry that I couldn't get arround to do it much earlier. Now Egron thinks I have written TOO much and I'm taking it too much for granted that you are interested in all this stuff. Anyway I'll send it now. I've written about these things also for my own sake. If I get time I may perhaps write it in a better form and more detailed later on. Now I'm ashamed to send you my 'kladd', I was going to rewrite it before I sent it to you, because I have been writing this while I've been cooking dinner and even having some callers. Anyway, Egron tells me NOT to write it again. He says that you'll understand!!! He thinks I ought to use my time better - he says!!! I'm awfully sorry that I didn't write it more carefully from the beginning. It certainly looks bad.

Hope that you by now have gotten Mother's letter that she wrote and sent with the children to Tsingtao. I don't know how soon these lines can be mailed but I'm writing some letters these days hoping it will be possible to get them sent. We have hope against hope for some change here, but if that doesn't come we must try to send a man to Tsingtao with our letters. For two weeks now we have had constant rumours about the Americans coming to repair this railroad. Last night we heard that U.S. has taking this railroad over for a time of twenty years. We don't know what all this talk is about. We have no news from outside. You might know all about it!!! We have to wait and see. Hope something will happen and change this awful situation.

We are anxiously waiting to hear more definite about Hellen and Oscar and they arriving here. It might be pretty hard for them to get transportation in times like these. We had hoped to be able to book for our journey to Sweden, but can not do that untill we know more about Oscar. We can not leave this place if Oscar doesn't get here. The Mission plane from Sweden is coming to China this Spring, April or May, and they want us to book right away, but we must wait and see. Perhaps we have to stay for some months if Oscar and Hellen can't get here.

Mother has quite some trouble with her leg this Winter. I've been so eager that she should make up her mind and come along with us to Sweden, but if that leg goes on like it has this Winter it will be impossible for her to travel. If we only could get her to use the crutches, she would be better off because they give her more support, but she doesn't like to 'go back' to the as she puts it. I'm afraid that they did a bad job of her leg at the 'aber. I'm no doctor, but it looks to me as if the leg was bent outward too much when they put that cast on. It may be too that it's only her old age and that it was impossible to do better. During Summer she was so much better. It may be the cold weather. She must have her room very warm in order to feel well. How sad that she should have that accident! She is in perfect health otherwise.

Now we are eagerly waiting to hear about your Christmas together. Do hope that Margaret and Roy were able to make it! Wish we could have been there to we have not heard from Lally for more than a week. Hope somebody will come through one of these days and bring some news to us. Lally opens the letters and tells us the most important matters. Both she and Johnny are getting along pretty well in the School. It's such a change for Johnny and he enjoys his school mates sooooo much. Really I think it's too bad to take him out of that School now and put him in a Swedish School again. It would have been good if he could have had the opportunity to continue in the A. School through High School. Lally works hard and hopes to graduate in June. She is so happy to have Janet back again.

Hope you are fine. Please give our best love and greetings to Margaret and Roy! I know you are in contact with them. Hope it wont be long untill we can tell you that we are FREE again! Don't worry about us! 'They' are not so bad this time. Mother, Egron and the children join me in greetings and love

Jan. 18 - A Chinese woman is taking my letters to Swinfors tomorrow. Hope she'll get through O.K. Egron says as usual my work's love E.

S
Egron