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Kiohsien July 28 1948

Dearest Margaret & Roy.

I have to thank you for your letter of July 2nd and two letters unanswered from Edith of July 6th and 11th. We have been lucky lately to get letters in good time as well as to send letters to T. I write today but am uncertain when it can be sent. We have some rain almost every day and it is in the hottest season just now. People don't like to be out so much. I hope however some good soul will get into their heads to be our letter carriers even this time.

We are expecting Miss Yang, the nurse who takes care of the orphanage in C, to come back from T. After the wedding for one of her girls, I mentioned in my last letter she had to go to T. to say goodbye to her family, who are going South instead of coming back to this red place. I hope she perhaps will bring some mail for us. Our best families in this God-forsaken town will never come back to us. As it is they cannot live or exist or live reasonably as long as these are here. You whom I mean.

July 28. The dear little Miss Yang came yesterday and carried mail with her. One letter from Gerda, one from Hellens sister Ester and one oh so welcome from you of July 14. All carried good news. Gerda very busy up in their new home. Her sister Ester is staying with them sometime. Lally had been to Gotland with a lot of young people, John and Mr Wang had visited another place and Margaret had been out bathing in the lake. All had a good time. Egron and Wang had been out on some engagement. They will start on a longer trip down South in the beginning of Aug. In Hellens letter she says they had had a big goh che dinner. They enjoy the people, climate, flowers and all. If it was not a bit too far away, they would not mind stay there for winter. The house is good and well furnished. Margaret wonders how we can manage here when she is not here!! Dear little soul. She also sends love to her teacher and former schoolmates.

Heaps of thanks for your good letter. So glad you are well. Is it not too hot to do heavy work this time of the year? Glad you have got some help. What shall I say about your generous good heart. First of all, you don't owe me any money. Don't you remember what a long time we stayed in Pasadena and you had to rent a house for us and give us food every day? Of course we never paid you properly for all that. You never gave us a bill to pay and I am sure, I did not understand the price. Another thing. You are just starting a new work in a new place and you may be so sure it will come out as good as you hope. Take my advice, you two dears, and wait sending any money until you see this prospect turns out well. Do not be in any hurry as we are getting on comfortably enough as we have it. Besides you and Edith has sent me so many lovely things, material, dresses, slippers, wool, butter and I sure cannot count it all. Now Roy speak to your good hearted wife and tell her to wait at least until you have a house of your own to live in, while you work on the other you want to sell.

Dad managed to exchange some of his Chinese money into U.S. dollars before he was taken ill, but after the Japs had taken Shantung it was impossible to get more. When the Japanese began to loose the war, of course their money was worth less and less. I used to help a few Chinese children by paying their food. In the beginning it amounted to perhaps 15 or 20 Ch. dollar a month. In 1945 I had to pay several hundreds a term. I am glad I did, because if I had not, the money would have disappeared all the same. Last spring I changed U.S. 10 dollars. The red money had to be used. 100,000 Cnc was left in my drawer and this is worth nothing now when one U.S. dollar costs 6 millions!! We get our pay in U.S. dollars now, so we do not starve. We really are well off yet.

I was a bit wrong last time, I wrote about the exchange. By sending the money to some kind of missionsociety in Shanghai the exchange for us is a little better than I mentioned it in my letter. But we loose 60% all the same. We dont loose on our sallary, but our work will loose, unless our board sends us so much more to fill the gap.

Now dont go and worry about our safety. Of course it might change. They have got order from above to protect the missions, the cultural things in the cities and so on! Unless we brake their laws, we have nothing to fear, they say. If it comes to war between A. and R., then I am afraid, it might be rather unsafe. Thank you for the political news. It is good to know a little more than we see and hear here. I am so glad, if F. Bernadotte can settle the Palestine question. He is a good man and a son of a good father. God bless him!

We are well here. Hellen was sick a week but is fine now. She said yesterday she had gained two kilo since she got well. Not bad. She is a bit restless like Gerda. It may be, that she is used to run about between the table and stove as she used to in Sweden. She has plenty of good servants here and our household is small, but it is in her blood to be on her feet. She is not so much in the kitchen as Gerda though. Oscar is well, but has to take care of himself. I have told him to eat a little bread or drink some tea before he gets up in the morning and I dont think he needs to be dizzy. He had always to have some to put in his mouth when travelling to Tsingtao or else he would soon be pale and dizzy and feel like falling down. I hope his heart shall get better and stronger slowly. And his nerves too.

I am glad this letter is to be sent tomorrow. May it go to Edith too. Hope she and the Eric family are well and are enjoying their vacation. I shall write to Eric soon. Much love to you both and take care of your backs.

Your loving

Mother

I have written to Eric just now. This letter needs not to be sent to them.

Tuscar thanks for money already sent via Edith and for her part in it.