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Subject: Saturday's report

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Hello All!

This morning around 10 AM there was a knock on my door. A young woman, Liu Lin, was at my door. Her father is the publisher of the picture book that had all of Dad's pictures in it. Lin is a 22 year old college graduate who really wants to improve her English so that she can go to the UK to study!!! She is a friend of Judy Qui.

Lin is a very forward, and rather pushy, young lady!! But very sweet and generous as well. Her cousin has just started a new restaurant and she was going to take us there for lunch. More about that later. Lin wants to come and see me every evening to practice her English! Oh, my!

Judy arrived around 11. She brought me a cell phone to use (local calls only) as well as some tea and snacks. Judy called the Feng brothers to see if they could have lunch with us -- and on the spur of the moment they were ready to go!!! Together we walked to Feng Tian Min's house. I had walked by it yesterday on my discovery walk. It is literally only a 5 minute walk! Judy had also called the younger brother, Feng Ruo Nan -- who, for those of you who don't know, was my kindergarten buddy. (Their father was a teacher in our mission school.) Feng Ruo Nan's wife was also along. We hopped into taxis and drove quite a distance to a beautiful new restaurant.

Lin insisted that I choose the food. All the raw food is displayed on plates and you just go around and point at what you'd like. I insisted that I only wanted a SMALL meal -- but as usual when the Chinese prepare a meal, it became a huge meal! We sat upstairs in a private room. On the walls, throughout the restaurant, were Dad's old pictures in attractive frames. In our room there was also a large copy of the old Jiaozhou map that Lally had found in the mission archives a few years ago. After the meal we went to a larger banquet hall -- and there they had reproduced the map to a huge wall sized map that was as large as the original!!! Dad would be really impressed by his pictures and the map!!!

Feng Ruo Nan said a table grace that was long and emotional! I understood about 5% of it, but I know he went through our family history, thanking God for all his blessings. Not a dry eye in the room! Then we were welcomed by Lin and then I was to speak. I gave a bit of the family background, talked about Farmor, Farfar, Mother, Dad, Oscar and Hellen -- and reiterated that they never forgot their Chinese friends even though they could not return after 1948. I told them that when Dad and Oscar talked on the phone it was always in Chinese! Again, not a dry eye in the room! These folks are such

devout Christians and are not at all shy about sharing their faith. After the meal -- which was huge!! -- Feng Ruo Nan and his wife sang "God be with you till we meet again". They still lead the singing in their house church with loud booming voices.

We then drove to the Shaohai Park (which we had visited last year). It is the new pride and joy of Jiaozhou with lakes, rocks, trees, walking paths etc. They only put on the fountains for special occasions. They all had to come back to the hotel to see my room!!! Then they went home. Judy will spend the night with me and we will all go to church tomorrow morning -- even the Fengs will go along. Lin, who has never been to church, will also come along.

Judy just went to see her uncle who lives in town, so I'm taking these moments to write this email. I'm a little worried about Lin's desire to spend every evening with me!!!! Maybe I will have to set some boundaries, which is not my strong suite!!!!

Another exciting day!!

Love,

Mom/Meta/Margie