

Atami weekend and sent it today to Mother and Dad. I don't know to what extent you've been sending my letters on to them if at all, but I thought they'd like having the story a little sooner than they might otherwise have had it.

You've probably noticed the change in paper. I'm really short of it. Have run entirely out of the one kind and have but a few sheets of the other kind of thin stuff and it's over at the Finance Building. Guess I'll have to begin to write on Government SX10 $\frac{1}{2}$ stuff which is readily available but is not of very good quality.

Think that in the excitement of the weekend that I did not write of my earlier adventure on Saturday. About 9:00 Saturday morning the two Captains and myself plus a driver boarded a jeep bound for Tachikawa a city about 20 miles from Tokyo. Cap't Dolk wanted to visit the headquarters of the Air Forces organization which is going to take the aerial photos in this mapping program. Wow, what a rough ride it was - the street leading out of Tokyo was rough, the roads out side Tokyo were even rougher and when we arrived in the vicinity of the airport, the roughness increased and dustiness added to our difficulties. It was also cold and I mean cold - a jeep is a very well ventilated affair! It was an interesting trip nevertheless. To see the accomodations which the enlisted men at that airport have compared to ours here in Tokyo made me grateful for my assignment believe me! The buildings in which they're living were erected originally to house Japanese troops and they're not very luxurious. They have to be heated with stoves and their latrines and showers are outside. Their messhall has been established in a hanger which is practically entirely open to the outside and consequently one has to eat with all his outside clothes on.

The airport we visited was sort of the "Wright Field" of Japan - was the place where they carried on much of the experimentation and development work for their aircraft. As a consequence the place received a terrific going over by our bombers and was almost completely wrecked. Our forces are putting it back into some kind of shape however and it's becoming one of our more important installations.

We did not get back from Tachikawa until just before time to catch the train for Atami so you see I was a pretty busy lad on Saturday last.

Supper over now. Larry and Ed arrived just before it was time to go to eat. Larry was awfully pleased with his letter and they were both pleased as could be about the possibility of transferring into geology. We must, however, try to keep from expecting it to happen soon! On the way over to eat we stopped to see Dr. Hendricks and he was pleased and told us he'd try to meet Colonel Northrup and do what he could, in a gentle fashion, to expedite our coming to the geology section.

How you like the new envelopes? They sell 21 envelopes for 20 yen - that makes them cost 6.34 cents each. I haven't seen any envelopes for sale here with the red and blue air-mail marking on them.

Think now I'll type out a letter to F.J.W. Perhaps I'll repeat the little geography lesson I lectured you on above - think that'll please him? He'll think I'm learning a great deal over here, don't you suppose?

And so thinking of you --

Goodnight, my Darling, I love you so!

Forever your,

Dick

268th day

Tuesday, January 15, 1946

Dearest One,

Well this afternoon I was on K.P. No, not exactly the ordinary kind of K.P. - here's the story. Each afternoon here at the Office of the Chief of Engineers from three to four o'clock a "snack bar" is open to the personnel. At this place there are really no snacks - only coffee and tea. Today at ten o'clock or thereabouts the sergeant asked me if I'd take charge of the place today. I had little else to do so I agreed. I had to put on a large container of water at eleven o'clock - the electric plate which is used to heat it is pretty slow - that's why we have to put the water on so early. At two o'clock I made the coffee by filling an urn with hot water and submerging in it a perforated tin can full of coffee. Made the tea the same way. At three o'clock the customers began to arrive - they took a cup and drew themselves tea or coffee. I inaugurated a "self-service" system yesterday which had everyone confused, but I think it worked out pretty well. When they finished with their cup they rinsed it out in a can of hot water and put it back to be used again so you see there was little to do as far as I was concerned. At three thirty I had to fix up a tray with a pot of tea and two cups for the General and his secretary and take it into the General's office. He was not there when I delivered the tray so I didn't get a chance to see him. Cleaning up after the serving hour was over was the biggest part of the task, but it didn't take very long although it was sort of a messy job because there is no running water in the room where we served and one has to empty everything in the washroom. There now wasn't that an adventure? All part of this "emergency war mission we're on, no doubt!" (Excuse the slight note of bitterness!)

The temperature here was a little warmer than usual today. The sun was shining nicely (we certainly have had plenty of sunshine since we arrived here) and the breeze was almost balmy. George Burridge and I went for a little shopping tour (he did the shopping) at noon and it was very pleasant.

Ed and Larry are still working up at the 64th. They're working out a plan for flying supplemental photography. I wish I had been put at the task because they're becoming a little bit familiar with the place geography of Japan by doing it. Of course, I'd have had to work a little harder than I have been.

When we finally get around to establishing our office it will not be in this building but in another building the Army is taking over about three blocks off from here. I won't be quite so convenient for us because we'll have to walk farther to our meals at the Dai Ichi Bldg. In fact the office where we're now working is also going to move to the new building - suppose when the moving takes place we'll have plenty to do. Seems to me I always am around when moving takes place either that or the Army offices are constantly on the move.

Larry received two more letters from Rachel today - it's funny the two he received today had been mailed before the one he received yesterday. I suspect that by this time you've discovered that letters are not arriving in the order in which they are mailed. I shall be interested to find out to what extent my letters to you get bunched up and have their order reversed.

Guess I told you that one of our roommates has a radio so we get a chance to hear a lot of the old familiar programs. They're the specially recorded rebroadcasts - have heard Fibber McGee and Molly, and Eddie Cantor, and Bob Hope, etc.. Each morning we hear a broadcast from the U.S. directly - a news broadcast which lately seems to concern strikes and labor trouble and nothing else. I sometimes wonder if the Army is not trying to encourage men to re-enlist by scaring them into believing they'll not be able to obtain a job. More and more I realize what a distorted picture the men overseas obtain of life in the states. There is so little news..that is news which gives the overall picture.

I was not going to start a second page tonight, but I got too close to the bottom of that one to finish off - so here I am with another page to go.

I wrote quite a long letter to Dean Richards today which you'll probably see you old snooper you. But if you read something in it you ought not to know you'll be sorry. Now isn't your curiosuty aroused? I couldn't remember when I wrote to him last. I wrote either to him or to the President coming across the ocean, but I can't remember to which one. Think it was the Pres. though; that's why I wrote to the Dean ^{yesterday}. I guess I'd better begin to keep track of the letters I write and to whom I write them. Once mail begins to come my way, I should have quite a bunch of it because a lot of people owe me letters. I am particularly anxious to hear from Columbia concerning the application for the fellowship which I submitted. Wonder when in the dickens I'm apt to hear one way or the other concerning it - that is supposing the application went through O.K.

And now it's time to wend my way home. Did not get to bed quite so early as usual last night and am a little weary tonight. Not getting to bed early means any time after ten. That reminds me - I trust you're not keeping the later hours you used to keep when you were 'single'. You have to be at work early and I want to hear that you're in bed sometime around eleven - understand? Them's orders! Let's see - 11:00 pm your time is 1:00 pm here - each day at one o'clock I'll think to myself, "Well Marian, obeying my orders, is just climbing into bed now."

And so, goodnight, my Darling one. Oh, Hon, I do love you so.

Your,

Dick

I'd like some soap, hard candy, cigarettes, and stationary, and a pillow!

269th day

January 16, 1946

My dearest Marian,

Well today I went to work! This morning about ten o'clock a man whom I recognized as a Scientific Consultant was up in our office to see Colonel Duke who is head of the Intel. Division. I was sitting at my desk and I noticed he looked at me peculiarly; finally he turned to me and said "Aren't you Mahard?" I lowed as how I was, and he introduced himself as Frank Whitmore. He said that we had met when I worked that week for the U.S.G.S. in Washington. Ever since I first heard his name about ten days ago I knew that I had heard it somewhere before but I was unable to recall where. At any rate he's the man for whom I've been waiting. Captain Dolk told me last week that Whitmore was going to do some studies involving selection of beach areas to be photographed in greater detail and that he would be calling me to help him. I had thought that when Frank called for me he would have accomplished the work and my task would be the routine one of marking out the selected beach areas on maps, but it has not turned out that way. He is just now starting the job and we're going to do it together. I went directly with him to his office and he introduced me around and gave me a table and chair and explained what there was to do. Seemed funny to be treated as an equal instead of an enlisted man if you know what I mean and I'm sure you do.

The job we're doing, like so many jobs the Army is doing all over the world I'll venture, has already been done once. We have to study the maps and any other information which is available and decide which of the beaches are the ones which in any future military operation (let's not use the word war) would be most useful to an invading army. These are the ones of which our Intelligence Service wants detailed pictures. Right now I'm working on the island of Hokkaido.

I saw Captain Dolk at noon and told him what had happened and he said that that was fine and that I was to continue to work for Frank as long as he needed me or until he, Captain Dolk, called me back. And so I'm working in the Natural Resources section at last. Am sorta pleased about it because it'll be just a little bit more of an "in" down there. For example, Tom Hendricks walked through Frank's office today and stopped to see what I was doing. So my presence there will keep reminding him that we're around.

Can't remember whether I told you or not that I'm going to a lecture - or rather a symposium on "Russia Today" presented by three very well-known correspondents - Edgar Snow of the Saturday Evening Post, Richard Lauterbach of Time and Life, and James Fleming of Newsweek and CBS. With that line-up it ought to be an interesting evening.

Doggone, I've been sitting here for about five minutes and I can't think of anything to write - am not entirely in the mood for it tonight I guess. As I've said about twenty times previously I certainly wish I would receive a letter or two from you to answer. That would make things quite a lot easier. I am certainly curious to know what arrangements you've made regarding a place to live and am anxious to hear about your trip to Michigan at Christmas time. Am wondering which of our things you brought back with you to Granville - bring the sewing machine? I'm certainly kicking myself for not cabling my address. It was very stupid of me and I can't quite understand why I was so stupid!

Time to go now to the lecture. Am going over early because I'm thinking it may be quite crowded.

Sorry this isn't a little longer, but I'll excuse myself by saying that I've been doing pretty well at writing long ones lately.

Love you so, My Sweetheart

Your, Dick

Dick

Thursday, January 17, 1946
Tokyo, Japan

My dearest one,

This was a glad day for me -- at long last your first letter arrived and I just can't say how happy it made me. It's very funny, but tonight you seem so very much closer than you've been for the past many days. Yes, the letter I received today was the one you wrote the day that Alice Craig happened to drop the remark concerning the address. By this time you realize why Rachel had received the address and you had not. Larry sent Rachel a cable on January 2 and it was so very stupid of me not to do the same. The effect of my failure, however, was to make today's letter a very great surprise because I had figured that I could not expect one until about the 20th. Just as soon as I got your letter in my hand today and before I opened it, I guessed to myself that Alice had either told you of Larry's address or Rachel had written to you.

And now to answer my highly prized collection of words. Golly, it certainly took the package a long time to reach you from California didn't it? But I'm so happy you're pleased with the case, my Sweetheart. Actually I don't remember myself very much about the details of it because almost the minute I bought it I packed it in the box to send. It was purchased at the P.X. at Hamilton Field and as a result I did not have to pay the 20% luxury tax--that made the price about what it ought to be. I'm glad it impresses you as being of very good quality because I wanted you to have a good case. Yessir, Dolly, sure will go 'a travelling with you some one of these days.

Mr. Nichol's party sounded like an awful lot of fun. I can just see him hurrying around all day getting ready and then I can picture him baking the pancakes while all you females sat around eating. Inasmuch as I'm not very fond of pancakes (buckwheat ones that is) nor maple syrup the thing which sounded best to me was the homemade sausage. Incidentally, I was relating the story of the dinner to Ed and Larry at supper tonight, and we got to talking about maple syrup. That reminded me that that week Larry and I were staying with Ed and Mart in Palo Alto we were having hot cakes and Mart and Ed both remarked how much they liked maple syrup and how it couldn't be purchased in California at least only rarely. If you should happen to find someone around Granville who has some maple syrup for sale (Mr. Nichol would know who would have some) you might buy a quart and send it to Mart - I know she'd like it a lot.

I shall be interested to hear the reaction of good Granvilleites to the selling of the "red brick". Wonder what in the world the Heisey's are going to do with it. Maybe fix it up for George Curtin and his wife - are they still around town - last time I talked to them they were thinking some of moving to Newark.

Was glad to see the Christmas card from Reg and Marge. What article could they have been referring to in the Denisonian? Something I don't know about? Something you've written about in one of the letters I've not yet received? Incidentally if you had letters on hand when you mailed the one I got today which date from Dec. 31 to Jan. 6, you must have sent a great many letters to the A.P.O at Hamilton Field. The last letter I received there was the one you wrote December 19 - it reached me December 23rd. One of these days - sometime next week I hope I'm going to have a very glorious flood of mail - oh, boy, oh boy!

Worked again today on the beach photographing job. Larry and Ed worked in the office where I've been working. As it happened Ed ended up having to do a lot of typing which I would have had to do if I hadn't been "transferred" down-stairs. Ed and Larry had quite a long talk to Colonel Northrup today, and he said again that he's going to have us transferred to Natural Resources just as soon as

he can find some replacements for us. In fact he told the fellows today that if Natural Resources had a clerk typist or two to give to him right at the moment, he'd send us downstairs right away. So more and more it looks as though sooner or later we'll end up in Geology! Which will be very much O.K.

Bruce Hughes and George Burridge are going back to Atami this next weekend, but I don't think I'll go along with them - Larry and Ed are not going either. Last week I caught a cold there or else I've caught it since I've come back and I'm certain that running around in my stocking feet in the cold hotel would not do me any good. My cold is nothing to worry about - just a plain old stuffed up head such as I always get. It'll be over in two or three days and twenty or so handkerchiefs!

Did I tell you that we had to have a smallpox vaccination? Well, I'm glad I did have to have another one because this time there was some reaction indicating that the one I had at Fort Lewis probably did not properly "take".

I suppose you've been wondering how long before I make some mention of the current demobilization plans. Well you've been reading them. I'm certain with much interest, and things don't look so very bright do they? More and more I've been thinking that I probably didn't have much chance of getting out by next fall and today's announcement seems to more or less clinch it. I'm referring to the announced plan of having all out by July 1, 1946 who have completed two years of service. I think the most I can hope for is that they'll drop it down to 18 months finally - well, of course, I'll not have completed 18 months until October 23, 1946. What do you think about the whole situation? If it works out that way, I'm going to be sorry I didn't sign up for a year in the regular Army after I had six months in. Then I'd have been sure of getting out on a certain date and wouldn't have to run the chance of having to wait around for several weeks after I'm eligible for discharge. Oh, well, I'm beginning to be able to look at the thing quite philosophically. I shall be very interested though to see what Congress does about the whole question particularly when the Selective Service Act comes up for consideration.

Ed is working on some typing and I think I'd better help him out a little bit. He wants to get it done because he and Larry may go out to one of the airfields tomorrow to check up on the work they've been doing during this past week.

And so, my Darling, goodnight. It was so grand to hear from you today and right now all my thoughts are right with you and in my imagination I'm pressing you close to me and whispering in your ear, "Marian, I love you so dearly!"

Forever yours,

Dick

Tokyo, Japan
January 18, 1946

My dearest Marian,

Just back to the office after finishing a nice supper and for dessert I had your letter written Tuesday, Jan 8. It looks very much like 10 days is exactly the time we can expect our letters to take in making the trip. It was thrilling all over again to hear from you, and you seemed so much closer. I enjoy hearing about your work at the office and enjoy hearing about the people you see and talk to.

I'm inclined to agree with you about Alice Craig and her inability to make up her mind what she wants to do - if anything, she seems to think a problem over too thoroughly. Thinks it over in so much detail that finally she doesn't know what to think about it. Although in some respects she and Larry are alike I don't detect that particular trait in him to any extent - but I understand the trait because I think I have it myself - don't you agree?

I liked hearing about Jean Randolph and her husband and their plans for building a house. I wonder how they feel about the whole situation now that he's home again. His being home must be continually like a good dream come true and to remember the time that he was away must be like remembering a very bad dream. It must be difficult at times for them to realize that it's all true. The location on the Mount Vernon road sounds like it might be very nice, but, I can hear you saying, "I would want to have two automobiles." Are Ed and Louise still toying with the idea of building? By the way have you ever thought any more of trying to find out who owns that lot of "ours?"

You say you went to Newark to get Louise some rubber boots. What about you? Did you buy some some time during Christmas?

One thing I've noticed in the two letters I've received - you are forgetting to tell me things. Of course I realize that a great many of the questions which are occurring to me are probably answered in the letters which you've written but which I have not received. But once I have those letters and have digested the contents by reading them at least four times - I read yesterday's letter six times! - I'll not expect to have a lot of unanswered questions continually welling up in my mind. I think I've given this little lecture before but it bears repeating. (I can see you smiling as you read this and I know you know how I mean it - I'll try my best to be not guilty of the same offense!)

I had another day of work at the office downstairs. Got quite a bit accomplished today. There is a bit of news concerning our transfer again tonight - today Colonel Northrup asked Ed and Larry where he could find Tom Hendricks because he wanted to talk to him about the matter. That was this morning - however, we saw Tom H. at noon and he had been busy all morning and the Colonel hadn't gotten in to see him. We don't know whether they got together this afternoon or not. But at any rate the whole thing indicates that the Colonel (bless him) is really on the ball!

Guess there's no other news from here this evening. Don't remember if I reported on the lecture we attended the other night. It was very good. All the men seemed to agree that the thing which Russia needs and wants is peace; they thought that some of Russia's recent acts, which many have interpreted as being ones of aggression are actually prompted by her very great desire for security.

Here's an item -- I still haven't seen General MacArthur and that's very funny too because I rode down with him in an elevator the other day! I just barely noticed that a high ranking officer got on, but I paid no attention and then after we

got all the way down the other fellows said, "well, what do you know, the big fellow himself". I certainly felt pretty silly. They said he had no insignia on at all but did have on his fancy hat. Every once in a while the elevator which we ride up and down to the mess hall suddenly stops permanently on the sixth floor - it happened to us this noon - it's because they're holding the elevator there for Mac. The M.P. who stands outside his office door rings for the elevator a little while before the General is ready to leave and has it there waiting when he finally comes out. The elevator then makes no stops after he's once aboard. That's the situation in the Dai-Ichi building. It was in our building where I rode with him without knowing it! Oh, well, I'll see him one of these days!

We have a couple of new roomates! Guess they figured that our room was not as crowded as it could be - we did have a lot of room- and so they moved a couple of fellows in. We've only seen one of them - he's either a Japanese American or an Hawaiian-Japanese. Seems to be an awfully nice fellow. The Finance Building where we live is really getting quite crowded, but I guess it still isn't as crowded as some of the other places where enlisted men live. A lot of fellows are coming up here to Japan from Manila. In about two weeks a whole bunch more of G.H.Q. personnel are due here - you see, the bunch which is here now is just the "advance echelon" of G.H.Q. That's why you have to put "advance echelon" on my mail - otherwise it would go to Manila. A.P.O. 500 is the G.H.Q. postoffice - there are two branches, one in Manila and the one here. The arrival of the remainder of the G.H.Q. personnel is the reason behind all the moving of offices which is going to go on soon.

My cold is quite a bit better tonight. As a matter of fact it wasn't a very serious one at any time - only about a ten handkerchief job. That reminds me - sent out some laundry this morning for the first time since Fort Lewis. That sounds kind of funny doesn't it - I mean it's the first time since Fort Lewis I've sent any laundry to the Army laundry. Had to send one suit of longies - I use them for pajamas. Hope the blasted laundry doesn't shrink them - I've seen what they've done to some wool socks and it's pathetic. I didn't send my socks - am going to do them myself! This morning when I got up I put on the last pair of shorts which you washed and ironed for me - made me think some awfully nice thoughts about you and how beautifully you did my clothes and how cheerfully too (I don't like women who don't like to wash or who talk about what a terrible job it is) Isn't a nicely ironed pair of shorts a peculiar thing to become sentimental about? But 'twas true! Marian, I do love you so much - Darn it all anyway! As a matter of fact, as John Bjelke would say, I even like you!

Enjoyed the card from Ansel and Ralph. Do you happen to know (I suppose this is answered in the letters I have not yet received) whether or not Mother sent the box of jams and jellies to them? I wrote to the Millers from Hawaii - promised them I would remind them of their delayed honeymoon which they spent there. By the way, (and this is probably in your letters) I have no more news on the Neuschels; what news do you have?

That's tonight's story - quite a long one. You'll have to really punch away to keep up. I take it you did bring back the typewriter - is that in the un-received letters too?

Love you so, Darling, but I told you that up above didn't I. But think it more than anything else bears repeating.

Goodnight, my sweet
We had an argument about
whether the San Francisco Calif. Yours forever
is needed in our address if
the Tokyo, Japan is included. I Dick
think it is, Ed thinks not. Now you
do as I say!

Here's a great large X

272nd day

Tokyo, Japan
January 19, 1946

My dearest Marian,

No letter today - I suppose I'll have to grow accustomed to days without them, but it's hard to do. I suspect the same is true of you - or do my letters seem to come right along regularly one each day?

I worked on the beach selection affair all day today. Will have about three days of it next week and then I don't know what we will have to do. Today I was outlining with a speedball pen and india ink the beach areas I've selected to be photographed. Have decided to ask for pictures of a great many - in fact, as we remarked, we might just as well have asked them to photograph the whole coastline.

I had quite along talk today with one of the fellows in the office where I've been working who is a soil specialist about the soil geography and the agricultural productivity of the Tokyo Plain. His opinions differed slightly from those which were expressed the other day by Mr. Latajinski. The man to whom I talked today is named Morris Austin. He said one of the things which surprised him and it also surprises me is the large percentage of the land of this region which is taken up by the wood lots. Just off hand it would seem that their production of food could be increased quite substantially if they would cut down these woods and yet it probably isn't as easy as that. The people really need the wood - need it particularly for fuel (charcoal) and also of course they need it for lumber. Mr. Austin says that they handle the woods in a peculiar way - they allow the trees (which are mostly a variety of pine) to grow for perhaps twenty-five or thirty years or until they're large enough to use, and then they cut down the whole forest and replant it! They do it this way instead of engaging in constant replanting and cutting as they do in the well-managed forest areas of Europe. Oh, yes, I found out from Mr. A. about the crop which I couldn't identify, and my original idea was correct. The crop is barley and wheat just as I thought. I still am surprised that Mr. Latajinski didn't think it was that crop - or rather surprised that he didn't know what it was.

Went on a little shopping tour - window shopping - today. Window shopping here though consists of wandering along the street and seeing what the hundred and one peddlars have for sale. Mostly it's the same stuff but "stuff" in this case includes just about everything. Saw a fellow today selling sets of specimens of minerals such as are used in geology laboratories. I looked them over carefully but decided I didn't want to buy a set and have them to lug around. Some of the stuff for sale is awfully interesting - I would like to know where a lot of it comes from. For example, there are a lot of metal basins which appear to be cast aluminum, but they are very crudely cast - I certainly would like to see the foundry from whence they come. There are also tools of one sort and another which are hand made by very crude methods. Their carpenters planes are just blocks of wood with a steel blade held in place by a wooden wedge. Those planes really work nicely too; I've seen the carpenters using them a lot.

I took a roll of films to be developed today. I decided I wanted to take them to be processed here rather than to send them to you because it would take so long for them to go and come to and from the States and I want to see how they're coming out before I take too many more. Golly, hope I got some that are resonable good because it'll be a long time before I ever get back, if ever, to some of the places where we have been!

Tonight's Saturday night and "Saturday Night's the Lonliest Night of the Week." Don't know what we will do, Ed and Larry are writing their letters now

when we've all finished we'll probably take a walk around town. Perhaps up to the Red Cross Club or perhaps to another dance hall to watch the cavorting around. Captain Dolk, (he really gets around) told us about a place where he has gone which is apparently a little higher class place than the ones we visited once before.

I think I told you that the boys are going on a field trip tomorrow. I'm the "human alarm clock" and I'll have to be really "on time" tomorrow morning to get them up in time to leave. Wish I were going, but think it's better that I don't go because my cold is feeling a little worse today and tonight - throat's a little sore.. One thing which is aggravating my cold is the fact that our room is always real warm when we go to bed at night and then we turn off the radiator and open the window and it's cold in the morning. It's hard to keep the right amount of covers on - one needs hardly none when he goes to bed and then a lot along towards morning. When we have a house again let's have our bedroom cool all the time and have another room for dressing. Suit you?

I'm thinking that either Monday or Tuesday should bring a flood of letters - that is if you've mailed the accumulation all at once the day you received my first letter from Tokyo. If you received my Guam letters on the 8th you should have gotten the first one from Tokyo around the 10th or 11th, add ten days to that and the 20th or the 21st is the answer!

I think I'm going to spend some time tomorrow writing some letters to the folks in Washington. Should write to the Neuschels and I'll write, I think, to Ed Larsen telling him about meeting up with the geology gang here!

Sunday Morning, 20 January 1946

Good morning, Darling,

Am going to write a paragraph or two and finish this off. Larry and Ed and I have just finished breakfast. Their field trip fell through. Last night the Lieutenant with whom they were going came over to the finance building and told us that the transportation officer had not ordered him a jeep as he was supposed to have done and it was impossible for him to arrange for another. The boys felt badly about the affair because they were looking forward to going. I guess now they're going to aboard a train and ride it out into the country and then turn around and come back.

My cold is not too good this morning. My head hurt to beat the band last night when I went to bed; it doesn't hurt particularly now, but it's terribly stuffed up. Darn it all anyway - the trouble is it's so darn hard to get rid of a cold when a person is living this barracks life - one is constantly going from a warm room to a cold one or from a warm building to the cold outside. However, don't worry because by the time you receive this letter the cold will be all well!

Well, we found the Captain's dance hall last night and it turned out to be quite a joint. Actually someone spent quite a bit of money fixing it up, but the soldiers are quite rapidly taking it apart. Anyone who fixes up something nice for soldiers is very foolish because they come in such enormous numbers and play so rough that no place can stand the gaff! Personally I get pretty disgusted - boy, oh boy, if ever I get away from this G.I. society I never want to mix in that type of thing again so long as I live - I'm for the quiet and polite society of a men's faculty dinner!

As usual it's a nice sunny but quite cold day here. We certainly can't complain about the weather. Don't think we've had over $\frac{1}{4}$ inch of rain since we arrived here almost three weeks ago. I was looking at the summer weather record though the other day and I'm afraid it'll be far from pleasant - hot and humid is the story.

And now until tonight, so long, my Love

Yours, Forever, Dick

273rd day

20 January 1946

Tokyo, Japan

8:50

Dearest One,

Just a few minutes to type out a few lines before going to the movie. The show tonight is an oldie - "Fallen Angel" with Alice Faye. The movie situation could certainly be improved upon around here. The films which are shown are 16mm. ones and that means that the pictures are old usually - I don't think the producers issue the 16mm copy until a long time after the picture is released on the 35mm film. I heard not long ago that the Army is going to take over one of the local movie houses for showing films to G.I.s - when that happens we'll probably see the 35mm. edition.

Spent a very quiet afternoon. Went over to the barracks after dinner and decided to take a shower because there seemed to be plenty of hot water. After the shower which was a very delightful one, I looked at the Dec. 31 edition of Life which has just reached here. Life prints a special overseas edition sans advertising but it takes it quite a while to arrive and copies of it are quite scarce. The one I saw today was the one with the very fine illustrations on electronics and the one with the mountain climbing story. By the way, was my subscription to Life ever renewed? And that reminds me - did the money renewing my subscription or membership in the National Geographic Society ever get sent - I remember we talked about it at one time but don't remember that you said you'd take care of the matter. I'd like to keep that going for the sake of the maps - incidentally in the December issue there was a nice map of Japan. Did you see it in Ypsi? That's where the magazine was going, wasn't it?

Here's something more I'd like for you to send in a package sometime. I would like that aluminum notebook cover which I'm quite sure is on a shelf right in back of my desk at the office. In addition I'd like one of those little black notebooks of which if have so many which take the small size six hole paper. And then, somewhere around my office, in the first or second drawer from the top on the right hand side of the big cabinet I think, is a box containing an assortment of paper which fits the six ring binder - select several sheets of various types of that paper especially the onion skin, the double sheets, and the quadrupled types and send those to me. The other day I sent an order to Goldsmith Bros in N.Y.C. and asked them to send me some of the regular blue lined rag-content stuff. If I want to order any more stuff from them I may send a letter to you to send to them because I've used up the last of my U.S. currency and it's a terrific job to get a money order here. (One has to go through his commanding officer to get a money order because too much black market money was getting out!) Suppose you can find the junk at my office - I'm certain Prof. Wright or Leslie Major will not mind your going in there! If you happen to run onto a small bottle of purple script buy it for me will you? The best way to send it is inside a tin can (like a paint can); pad it well so it can't rattle around -- I've seen that kind of a container arrive here all bent up, but the contents were usually safe! It seems to me that there was something else I wanted you to send, but I can't think of it right now. Will probably be writing again!

Several times I've wondered if any of the Denison fellows or any Granville fellows are here in Tokyo. Kenny Dustman for example - is he still here? Am wondering if perhaps you've already sent his address in some of the letters which are on their way here. Wonder if I'll get them tomorrow by any chance - am going to be sorta expecting them.

Time to go now - I'll add a note to this in the morning. Meanwhile don't ever forget that I love you ever so much and shall love you forever!

Dick

I'm told no request is necessary to send packages via parcel post but requests are necessary to send them first class which is not too expensive although you be the judge!

P.S. Please send the package I asked for!

first class much faster!

274th Day

21 January 1946
Tokyo, Japan

My dearest Marian,

I thought that tonight would be the night when I've have a lot of letters to answer, but 'tis not true - alas! In fact there's not even a single one to answer. Rumor has it here that the planes carrying mail have all been grounded by extremely bad weather so that rumor, if true, may explain the situation. Another and more serious rumor I heard today is that the quantity of airmail reaching G.H.Q. has had to be seriously cut because there are too few airplanes available to carry it. Or rather there are too few mechanics available to service the planes - the Air Corps has discharged so many of its qualified personnel that they've gotten themselves into a hole. Hope that situation doesn't grow worse; if it tends to, I hope the Government gives some private airline a chance to do the job - I think a lot of airlines would welcome the chance.

Last night it rained here - rained hard too, but quite considerately, about the time we had to leave for breakfast this morning it began to clear up. Today finally turned out to be very nice - a little warmer than usual.

Quite a little excitement around the Dai Ichi Building today. A large group of Korean nationals staged a demonstration for General MacArthur et.al. objecting to the proposed plan of putting Korea under a "trusteeship" of the great powers. The Koreans who were parading want independence! They say they are entitled to it under the terms of the "Atlantic Charter". The demonstration was entirely orderly, but was noisy. As part of their performance they sang over and over again a song to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne." I have no notion what the connection is! There are a lot of Koreans here in Japan - they were brought here to work in the war industries and particularly in the mines. Part of the difficulty in getting the Japanese coal mining industry underway again results from the fact that the Koreans are none too cooperative. The Japanese themselves do not like to mine - particularly they do not like to work in their own mines which are very unsafe. Instead they hire Koreans (60%) and Chinese (30%) to do the mining for them.

Captain Shute was back from Atami this morning, but I guess his trip was not so successful as ours. He did not stay at the hotel where we stayed but instead went with his friend to another one and it turned out to be very expensive. They had luxurious quarters, but it cost them about \$25 and they had no chance to sell any "trade goods" to make some of their Yen back again!

I worked today on the same work I've been working on - should finish the job up tomorrow or Wednesday. In fact the "dead-line" is Wednesday. I don't know what I will be doing after that. Today Larry and Ed did absolutely nothing all day. They went on a shopping tour this afternoon.

I talked to Tom Hendricks for a moment this morning and he told me that he had met Colonel Northrup and the Colonel had offered to "trade" us to Tom for some clerk-typists, but Tom says that the situation is still bad because he has no one to trade. Tom really needs us badly, he says. Particularly he could use Larry; Tom told me that Larry has had more experience in doing aerial geology mapping than any man in the whole Mining and Geology Division. I think Tom would put Larry to work mapping the aerial geology of Okinawa tomorrow if he could get him! Isn't it a ridiculous situation? The Colonel admitted to Tom that all he, the Colonel, needs in the way of help is someone to do some typing and someone to keep files!

Bruce Hughes is all excited tonight - he has arranged to make a telephone call to his wife. It only been during the last ten days or so that calls can be made. They're supposed to be only for emergencies and they have to be cleared through the Chaplain, but Bruce is quite a "promoter" and he told a white lie or two and got permission to make the call. The whole thing is arranged far in advance - he is making his call next Saturday night. The San Francisco operator will get in touch with his wife sometime during the day on Saturday and tell her to be close to the phone at the appointed time and Bruce will be on this end at that time. The calls go across the ocean by means of ultra-high frequency radio transmission. I heard an officer telling about a call he had made and he said that the connection was perfect! The cost for three ^{min's} is twelve dollars. I don't think I'll be calling you, my sweetheart, but it's nice to know that it can be done. Unfortunately as yet it's not possible for calls to be put through in the other direction.

Here's a personal note - yesterday, yes ^{applying} yesterday, I managed by ^{the part} quite liberal doses of hair oil to get a part back in my hair again. Yes, ^{back} in the old place so by the time I see you again I'll be a lookin' quite natural. Although I hope I'll not have hair down to my shoulders by the time we're together again.

One of the boys just came in and reported that he had seen a pretty big fire in the city down by the harbor area. I wonder what the people of this burned-out city think when they see a fire now - it must stir memories, but I can't see how it could excite them very much because even a big fire now would seem like pretty small potatoes to the ones they had when the war was on. Have I ever told you that the date that makes the citizens of Tokyo shudder is May 25, 1945 - that's the date when a very big incendiary raid coincided with a violent windstorm. On that day the fires raged entirely out of control for 14 hours.

Ed and Larry had quite an adventuresome day yesterday. They went by train to a small city some distance outside of Tokyo and happened to get to talking with a couple of highschool boys who finally invited them to their home. Larry and Ed met the whole family, when they gave them some candy and gum the family returned their "presento" and gave them each a dish which the grandfather of the family manufactures in Kyoto. I'm sorry I wasn't along to share their experience.

For some reason or other, we didn't find out why, the water in the Finance Building was turned off last night and it was not on this morning when we got up. There was some water in those Army five gallon cans in the lavatories and we used that to shave and wash and wow, the water was cold. Hope they've solved the situation by tonight.

And that's tonight's report. The 274th day almost at an end. How many more remain? - doggone it all, if I only knew I don't think it would be so bad. It is also the 51st day away from you, my Darling, and that's the part that really hurts. I left you on my 223rd day - ah, a black day! But, it'll all be over sometime and then it'll seem like a bad dream. Goodnight, now, Sweetheart, I hope I have a nice dream of you. I love you so much.

Your,

Dick

275th day

22 January 1946
Tokyo, Japan

Dearest Wife,

Just back from the movie - one we saw together and I couldn't forget that fact all through it. It was "You Came Along" with Lizabeth Scott and Robert Cummings - remember it? Very sad, but very nice in a great many ways. As I say, I thought so much of us and how happy we've been together and I dreamed of the day we'll be together again and how happy we'll be. Marian, I love you so very much and now and then it hurts so that I can hardly stand it to be away from you. But since we must be apart, it helps to remember how happy we've been, and it helps to remember how much we love one another and it helps to know that no matter how long we're destined to be separated, our love will grow greater and greater - will grow greater and greater forever.

Received three letters from you today, and I'm a lucky boy because practically no one got mail around here. The rumor persists that the planes are grounded by bad weather. It is said that letters mailed from here airmail are being placed aboard ships instead; and so if this letter is delayed and others written around this time, you'll have an explanation. The letters I received today are the three you sent to Larry. I'm still disgusted with myself for not sending a cable with my address (how many times have I written that now?); I'm very sorry I caused you to worry about it. The latest of your letters I received today was the one you wrote on January 11 -- I'm thinking that about the day after or the day after that you must have received my first letter from Tokyo.

Let's see, I'm glancing through your letters as I write this. How about this business of peeking at my letter to Pres. Brown -- wouldn't you have been surprised if there had been something in that letter not meant for your eyes -- fine thing! Tell Happy Lamson that I don't want him to be reporting to you quite so carefully. Do you have spies at the postoffice too? I can't remember when I mailed that letter to the President - seems to me it was at Guam. Funny it got separated from your Guam letters.

I'm so relieved that Dr. Gee thought of the word "glaciation"; and as you say, we were dopes not to be able to think of it, but it was too simple. I have to smile at him, but he's very nice to have paid so much attention. Have you been going to church? Are you singing in the choir? Oscar Brown and Bob Owens singing too? Tell me all about it, if you haven't already done so in some one of the letters which I hope are almost here!

I enjoyed hearing about Gordon's visit to Granville and of the fuss everyone made over him - I hope all the attention he receives doesn't spoil him. It seems wrong somehow that Peg Collins should be aiming at him - wouldn't she be a very great deal older than he is, and then I never have been too much impressed with her although I'll admit I never got to know her very well. What was Carol's (Jacquet) reaction to Peg's manuevers? Didn't Carol have her sights set on Gordon once. My! My! Young love!

And who is Patches!? I'm guessing that Betty and Bill Treby have a dog. Right? Or is all that explained in an unreceived letter. (I really should stop asking all this questions before I have your letters all read to date, but it's kinda fun!)

I enjoyed hearing the story of the course in aviation. Seems like a pretty good thing to do, although it seems to me that the distance to the airport is a handicap. But then I don't suppose many schools which give such a course have a field any closer. Would like to enroll myself if I ever get back. I certainly could teach the course in Meteorology which will be necessary, (if I ever get back).

The request from the Navy for space for V12's surprises me. Wonder what's behind it. Are the schools which have the units filling up with veterans to the extent that they want to cut down the number of Navy men? Or is the Navy expanding its V12 program? That reminds me - what does the latest gossip have to say about the Billy King episode (don't fail to report) I can see why the Dean would think it's a good idea for Denison to steer clear of a commitment to the Navy - I suspect about next fall they're really going to have their hands full! What are they doing about the returning men who are married - they can't all be living in the house beside the Inn!

I was glad to hear that you're back in the Sorority doings. It will be good for you to do it - get right in, Hon, and get acquainted-sorta let yourself go. I know it's just a little foreign to your personality, but you'll be the better for it I'm sure. Is Mrs. Carpenter still there? Say "hello" to her for me. How does Alice Craig seem to be fitting into the group - do the girls seem to like her? Is she coming "out of her shell" a bit?

. I can imagine how Lynde and Bill Beal talk shop. I agree with you that Lynde will enjoy him. I suppose that Francy scolds Lynde for talking psychology all the time in her own inimitable way. Right? Isn't it Mrs. Beal ^{that's} supposed to be such a one? What's the verdict?

Guess that about covers your three letters. Know something? I'm going to be expecting just a wee bit longer letters after you are living by yourself. By the way, where are you going to be living by yourself - don't say it - you've already told me in one of those consarned "enroute" letters. Those small pages and those wide margins are not going to fool me - I'll count the words on you! And remember-our typewriter has elite type (or is it pica) at any rate it has the larger type!

Tomorrow we're supposed to finish up the beach study job and I think we'll meet the "deadline" O.K. Don't know what I'll be doing then. Larry and Ed did nothing again today. Captain Dolk is flying down to Guam with Colonel Northrup either tomorrow or day after. It's nothing special - they just have to take a B17 back which they borrowed. Actually they're taking the plane back, but they're going to try to talk someone into letting them have it permanently. It will probably work out that way, and then they'll fly back again. Some stuff! Captain Shute is not going - he's an Engineer and is always a little bit on the outside when the Air Corps glamour boys get together!

We had rain here again last night, but it cleared up today and was a beautiful day - skies very blue and atmosphere very clear. We could see Fuji-san from the window of the mess hall. Yes, it's more properly called Fuji-san than Fuji-yama although both -san and -yama mean mountain in Japanese. It's a lovely mountain, but I'm still of the opinion that I like Mt. Rainier better - I know I liked Mt. Rainier better on some summer evenings when I was seeing it turn rose and then blue in company with a certain person very dear to me whom I love with all my heart. Do you remember, certain person?

I'm the only one at the office tonight and it's kinda spooky around here. Think it's time to close the joint up and head for "home". To really get home would be a long and a wet walk, but if I could do it I'd try. Home, my Marian, is in your arms. Love me? Love you!

Goodnight, Darling

Your,

Dick

276th day (10th month begins)

23 January 1946
Tokyo, Japan

My dearest One,

It's ten days from the 13th of January and still those letters are missing. However, as was true yesterday, very little mail reached here today. Maybe tomorrow is the day!

Finished up the beach photography job today at about quitting time and Frank Whitmore delivered the maps to Captain Lightsey who ordered the job done. I have not seen Frank since he left the office so I don't know whether or not the Captain considered the job satisfactory. Will find out in the morning.

Don't know what I will be doing tomorrow - Ed did a little bit of typing today, but Larry did nothing at all. I think I told you that Captain Dolk is going to Guam with Colonel Northrup. I guess Captain Shute will only have a few little jobs for us to do while the others are away. We think we may be able to wrangle some time off - if we can, we may hop on a train and go out into the country to some city or other. There are some mining communities which would be interesting to see and then too Ed is interested in going somewhere where there may be some skiing and I certainly wouldn't mind the latter. Larry has never done any skiing at all - course I can't claim to have done much myself! It would be fun to get away from Tokyo for a couple of days, but I must admit I hate to leave right now when there may be some mail coming through!

Went on a little shopping trip this noon. You may wonder at all these shopping trips - may wonder whether we ever buy anything and if we do buy, what do we use for money? Well quite frankly I'll admit that I have quite a few more yen now than I bought ^{had} when we arrived in town. I've very cautiously and quietly sold my cigarettes and some candy bars and soap and they bring good prices. Please don't be concerned about the danger involved in this practice - there simply is no danger; everyone does the same thing - officers and men alike. Cigarettes are almost a "medium of exchange" here. And one tends to count the cost of things in packages of cigarettes rather than in dollars and cents. For example - a yard of silk costs around 40 yen - that's about \$2.66 but on the other hand a yard of silk costs 1 1/3 packs of cigarettes. Don't you agree that one sounds quite different from the other. How do we market the tobacco, soap, etc? Well, there are usually about 150 men in the park every night to buy from the men as they go from eating at the Dai Ichi over to the Finance Building. The trading is done within 75 yards or so of an M.P. booth so you see how much attention they pay to it. Some fellows have discovered "wholesale" outlets and that's easier. These "wholesalers" are usually shop keepers who are willing to buy quantities of stuff which I suppose they sell to regular customers. Understand I'm speaking only of selling things which we buy at the P.X. There is the "Black, black market" where some fellows have stolen quantities of government property like clothes, shoes, gasoline, etc. -- that's a different matter and is really dangerous and I wouldn't touch it with a ten foot pole. Our's is a "white, black market". Understand? Incidentally if you are writing to Rachel and Martha don't write about this matter because I don't know to what extent Larry and Ed have told them of their dealings!

So, Sweetheart, I'll probably be doing some buying here. I'm determined to avoid getting trashy stuff if I can. It almost sickens me to see the stuff which some of the fellows are spending their money ~~for~~. Some of the things I may send home; but for the most part, I'll try to bring them with me when I come. For example I'd probably have no trouble carrying the diamond which I saw today. How much was it? Why only ¥35,000! Figure that out in cigarettes at ¥30 per pack or at ¥15 per dollar! It was mighty purty though!

There's more letter writing going on here tonight than there was last night. It's seven o'clock now. When I finish this, I'm going "home". Have some socks to

wash tonight. Might take a shower too if there should happen to be some warm water. The plumbing in our building has been acting up the last few days. Japanese plumbing is not all it should be and even with American improvements it still breaks down. There was no hot water this morning - I shaved in water which was so cold it actually made my hand ache to keep them in it - yikes! I don't know why the cold water around here is so darn cold!

Guess I've never mentioned it, but we've had no snow here since we arrived. There was an article in the paper saying that it often snows in February after this region begins to receive precipitation. I'm not looking forward to the snow - the streets here are wet and muddy enough without adding some melting snow to them.

I've read through your letters again. You got my Guam letters on the 8th, but as of the 11th you still hadn't gotten my first letter from Tokyo. One of the fellows here in the office got a letter dated the 12th today; took it therefore 11 days to come. Well, one of these days I hope things get straightened out. How many letters if any, did you sent to APO 4260 after you received word that we were leaving California. One of these days we should be receiving the mail forwarded from there. We sent our new address to them via airmail.

I'm sorta running low on ideas concerning what to write about. Think I'd better close this letter. Have begun to read "The Razor's Edge" by Somerset Maugham. It starts out quite well, but it's very long. Don't know if I'll be able to wade through it or not. Dick and Donna Harvey wanted me to be sure to read "Fountainhead" by Anne Rand; they said it was about life on a college campus or some such thing and was in their opinion very good. Have you seen it around? You might get it and read it.

What have you been doing with your spare time if any? Bet you've not had much time since you've been living with Louise. Any sewing done?

Have been wondering about Georgie and how he's surviving the cold weather. Golly, you could buy some new tires now if you needed to couldn't you? I imagine tires are very hard to get now that rationing is off, but I doubt if you'd have trouble getting Georgie's size.

And now the end comes. Goodnight, my Marian, I'm so in love with you. Miss you so all the time - I can't help it - wouldn't want to help it!

I love you and will forever be

Your,

Dick

277th day

Thursday
January 24, 1946
Tokyo, Japan

My very dearest One,

This was the day! Six letters this afternoon and I'm so relieved to know for certain that you're relieved of the worry you had over the address situation. I'm still very puzzled though about the mail - The letters I received from you this afternoon were not all mailed the same day - in other words they were not the six letters you mention mailing in your letter written 1/12. Of the six, four were postmarked 1/13, one was postmarked 1/14, and one was postmarked 1/16. The four must be from the group of six and the question is where are the others? But I suppose the best way would be to tell you which letters I did get today - they were: 1/2, 1/3, 1/5, 1/6, 1/12, 1/15. You wrote three to me via Larry 1/9, 1/10, 1/11 and you used the address which Alice gave you to send me the 1/7 and 1/8 letters. Now to recapitulate - 1/4 is missing from the sequence and 1/1 is missing. Also missing is 1/13 and 1/14. Well, that's the story can you figure it out? One thing, I'm assuming that you have written every day - right? One thing more about the letter matter. I'm wondering about the letters you wrote from December 17th on until January 2nd - did you send them to APO 4260. I'm sure you must have sent part of them there, but did you continue to send them there after you heard that we were leaving Hamilton Field - you should have gotten that news about Dec 26th (I sent a telegram to Mother and Dad and a night letter to you from Hamilton Field the morning of the 26th).

(Changed typewriters)

Anyway you can have fun trying to figure out the above paragraph. To sum it up (I recapitulated it once, now I'll sum it up) I'm expecting two or three more letters from you tomorrow and then some day I should receive quite a bunch of letters from APO 4260!

As I read your letters this afternoon I made some notes about things I wanted to write about tonight. There's one thing in particular - Tom Bates' letter! First of all you hang onto it and don't send it on to me - but I forgive you for that because I was moving around, but now you send the letter on and forget to enclose the copy of the information which Tom sent to me. How about that? Some stuff! And that sort of thing. Boy, I've certainly had a lot of sweating out to do on that letter and I'm still at it. Now are you embarrassed? I hope you haven't lost the enclosure or did Tom forget to enclose it? (Am wondering if the enclosure could be in one of the letters I failed to receive today - is that right?)

Now that that unpleasant little outburst is over I feel a lot better. (Non, you know of course I'm just kidding, but where is the enclosure? Another thing which sorta had me puzzled today was this - This morning I received a letter from Prof. Wright with the proper Tokyo address in which he acknowledged my letter written from here on Jan. 4 and also a letter from Mother and Dad addressed to Tokyo. I couldn't figure it out. I asked myself how Prof. Wright could have received my address ahead of you. Then I happened to think that perhaps my first letter from here to you was sent by ship instead of plane while Prof. Wright's written from here two days later had caught the plane. Then I happened to think that it would be a mess if Prof. Wright happened to know my Tokyo address and you didn't and yet he would assume you did. Oh, my gosh - it sounds very complicated doesn't it. Darn it all anyway the best way to solve the whole situation would be to allow me to come home and then we wouldn't have to do any letter writing!)

Now let's see, what else do I wish to comment upon? I've got the Treby dog situation all straightened out now. Also I'm firmly convinced that you've had considerable experience with members of the canine family - you did write of the dogs as great deal. I hope they didn't spoil your stay with Louise (I know they didn't really). But I do understand exactly how you felt and I would have felt the same way ^{and} would

probably have been more violent in my reactions!

And your casual remark about moving to Mr. Nichol's apartment also came as a surprise. You see when last you wrote of the apartment affair you were still undecided as to what to do - that is to say, in the last letter I ^{have} received from you in which you mention the apartment you were still undecided. (This is getting very funny. That gap in the sequence of letters makes for some peculiar situations. I suppose I shouldn't write all this until your file of letters is more complete). At any rate I think the apartment sounds very nice. Do I understand that you have the bathroom entirely to yourself? And how much rent do you have to pay? (I'm certain all this is answered somewhere else so just sorta disregard it - that is disregard it if you're certain you've answered all my questions.) About the nicest thing about Mr. Nichol's house I would think is it's location - it's very convenient for you especially when you'll be eating downtown so much. At least I'm assuming you're planning to eat in town. Will you come down for your noon meal? Do you drive to the hill everyday?

The parties you've attended sound like a great deal of fun. What was the point of inviting you to the Jeptha Club one - is it sort of an invitation to membership or were they just being kind to two "widows"? Nice that you got the ear-rings. I had to smile at your reference to "the only time we went to Riverside Church". We'll always have that to laugh over, won't we? Funny how a lot of things like that make up a happy marriage, make up a happy family, make two people love each other very, very much! I can imagine that the Dorothy Brooks party was a pretty loud affair.

You ask me, Sweetheart, whether you write the things I want to hear. Yes, you do, Darling, but I'd like to hear in the case of the party given by Mrs. Brooks of the things which various people did and said. I like to hear about the people I know and am not so interested in what the people are like that I don't know. For example, how did Eurie L. fit into that group - I can't quite imagine her. I've never seen her at a party except that time we went to the Grange Hall for icecream. Do you know what I mean? And being the selfish guy that I am - I wonder to what extent people ask you about me and what do you tell them. That's a queer thing to ask because I know that one of the hardest things for you there in Granville must be to withstand many, many inquiries concerning me. I suppose you get as tired of that question as of the one, "How do you like Granville?"

Here's the answer to a couple of questions you ask. The Jan. 4 postmark on my first letter from Tokyo would of course be the Tokyo postmark. No, Captain Dolk has not succeeded in getting a plane assigned. I think that Colonel Northrup will be the one who'll work on that proposition now, and I think he'll have a good chance of succeeding. I think I told you he had a B17 assigned to him, but he had to take it back to Guam. They left today.

Capt Dolk Lt. Col. Berry, Col. Northrup

I'm almost down to the end of this second page and still I haven't told you of my activities today. Well, I did a great deal of nothing. It was nice - I did a lot of fussing around this morning straightening up my "office" (that's my name for the red manila folder I keep my correspondence etc. in). We went on a looking tour at noon and got back late. Late this afternoon I had all your letters to read over and over again.

We think we may be able to leave here tomorrow afternoon sometime to go on a two day pass. Don't know exactly where we will go. I don't think I'll have much to do in the morning and if anything more develops concerning the pass I'll write you then.

I feel I'm sorta cutting this letter short, but I will write tomorrow before we leave and that letter will probably come through with this one.

Thank you for the dollar - put the next one away for me - am in no need! Surprise? Goodnight, my Dear est, I love you so Your Dick

278th day

Friday, January 25, 1946
Tokyo, Japan

My dearest Wife,

Tonight I sit myself down to apologize for "bawling you out" last night for failing to send me the enclosure to Tom Bates' letter. The explanation came to me this morning and I added a note to the letter I wrote last night. I know now that the explanation was correct because I received the letter with the enclosure inside today. I also understand why the two letters were separated by a day - apparently one of them weighed too much and they held it back at Granville waiting for another stamp to be put on.

As a matter of fact I got three letters today (Joy! Joy!). The three were all postmarked January 14. They were written on 12/31, 1/1, 1/4, 1/13 (first two letters in same envelope). I've just checked my file and your letters are all present from 12/31 to 1/15 except the one for 1/14. You wrote that you sent all letters before 12/31 to APO 4260 so I'll expect them along one of these days and then I'll hear all about your trip to Michigan and Christmas.

Before I forget it, thank you very much for clipping the little essay on "January Thaw" out of the Times. Golly, it was a nice one - remember how we used to read them every Sunday or sometimes I'd read them to you. Were you remembering that too when you clipped it?

Well, what do you think of the dope on the discharge? I'm going to think about it a little longer and then I think I'll write to the Dean and ask him quite frankly whether Denison will be willing to give me a strong letter to submit. My thought right at the moment is that I'll wait until early spring before actually applying for the discharge. Perhaps by then we will have transferred to the Natural Resources Section. I think that Lt. Col. Schenck who heads that section and who was a former Professor of Geology at Stanford U. might look more favorably upon the application than Col. Northrup. By the way, did you say anything to the Dean about the matter - did you show him the American Council on Education Bulletin? Please remember to answer that question.

We were busy today. Doesn't it always happen that way though? We've been sitting around doing practically nothing and then all of a sudden along comes a tremendous pile of work. Captain Shute handed us about 25 pages of typewritten manuscript at about ten o'clock this morning and wanted stencils cut! Ed and I worked on them fast and furiously and finished them up just before 5:00 this evening. There are some things we have to ask the Captain about in the morning. Once we get the stencils straightened out I think we'll be able to take off on our pass. Right at the moment we're thinking of going up to Nikko - it's a village about four hours by train from Tokyo (north and west). It's in the mountains and is quite a famous winter resort. We are hoping to get in some skiing if we can get some equipment.

Here's some exciting news -- today Captain Shute handed me a rough draft of a letter he wanted me to type. It was a letter to the personnel officer back at the Pentagon in Washington recommending the three of us for promotions! Yessir, perhaps around the first of March it'll be Corporal Mahard! Ain't that really something! As a matter of fact I'm the only one who has been recommended for Corporal - Ed and Larry are being recommended as T/5 which of course is the same pay grade as corporal. The "table of organization" called for it to be that way and I suppose I got the corporal recommendation because I've been in the Army the longest. They had to explain in the letter the nature of our duties. I was entered as "chief clerk", Ed as "clerk-typist" and Larry as "draftsman". It came just right and I was able to ask Captain Shute if the promotion was the best they could possibly do for us and he said that it was, but he

also said that they'd be able to put in for another promotion for us almost at once. And I'm confident they'll do it for us! The Captain said that they wanted to get us up just as high as they could before we transferred to the Natural Resources Section because our chances of promotion might not be so good there. I thought that that was darn nice of him to say that! Incidentally overseas pay for a Corporal amounts to 7920 per month. Once the pay starts coming I should be able to send some of it home - let's see they take 22.00 plus 7.10 (insurance) plus 7.50 (War Bond) (total 36.60) from my pay each month that'll make me draw 42.60 and with this "white market" situation as it is, I'll not need the money. Will send it home and you can add it to the bank account - will help a little bit!

Ed just received his first letter from Markey (that's what he always calls her) today. I've been feeling a little sorry for him these past three or four days because Larry and I both have had mail and he hasn't had. His first letter to Markey with his address was delayed in reaching her because she was visiting an aunt. Now we're all waiting very anxiously for the mail from Hamilton Field!

Let's see, a few comments on your letters which came today. I was interested to hear about Dr. Gee's son - apparently from what you say he lives up to the advance build up. I always thought the Gee's were very, very proud of him! The story of the Betty Treby episode sounds typical of her. How is Bill working at the store since he no longer is an "expiditer"? I can imagine you had a great deal of fun at the Mahood's. I've always been sorry we didn't get to know them better - I especially felt just a little strange with Vernon. I enjoyed hearing about the blooming narcissus and I was tickled when you wrote, "you know how thrilled I get when something blossoms." I could just see you and hear the delighted noise you always make. Oh, Hon, I love you so - just because you're you!

Am wondering if you got to the play in Columbus - let's see it was the 16th, I should hear about it around the 26th or 27th! By the way, what's the status of Walter's dissertation?

I'll have to write to Lynde and explain about that water-proof container and the WAC. I'll also have to tell him I don't quite know what to think about the fact that he's taken to bridge - guess he needed my moral support to withstand temptation and now that I've left, he has succumbed (?). I'm very surprised that my cable from here was transmitted so swiftly - golly it reached you only three hours theoretically after leaving here; of course, with the time difference it was actually 17 hours later! But that's fast - they won't promise that they'll be delivered sooner than 48 hours! I'm still not certain whether you've brought the typewriter back to Granville or not. I'm sorta thinking you have though although I've also thought you may have used Ed and Louise's machine.

Do you think that Francey is becoming more and more hepped on the subject of alergies? By, golly, if she continues she's really going to be a hypo-chron-diac. I wonder what in the world Lynde thinks about it - he certainly must notice it! Yes I knew about the furnace deal - I mean the water heater deal - Franci jumped on Lynde about it the time I visited them on my way to Dayton just before my furlough. I think I remember telling you about it. What did they do? Get an automatic heater or did Lynde put pipe on the other one?

Well, Honey, Ed and Larry have just left for the Finance Building. I want to jot down a note to "other and Dad and I should get a letter off to Prof. Wright. He wants me to write a request to the Eastman Kodak Co. for some film and send it to him; he'll give it then to Mr. Stuart who will send it to Rochester. I hardly think it'll do much good, but it's worth the try and I'll be doing as the good professor says!

So, a fond goodnight, my Darling, remember always that I love you and need you and will forever!

Thank you for the dollars - that U.S. Currency looks so good!

Your, Dick

279th day

Saturday, 26 January 1946
Tokyo, Japan

My dearest Marian,

Did not think that I would be writing from here tonight, but the trip we had planned for this weekend fell through. This morning about ten o'clock just as we were getting ready to leave a big job of stencil cutting work came in and it was our responsibility to do it. Guess if we had wanted to we could have gone through with out plans, but we all agreed that it was probably best not to. Actually it may work out better for us in the long run because we may get more time off at a later date because we stayed here today. In another respect it was good we did not go because we had to do some revising of the job we did yesterday. The Captain changed his mind a couple of times and a couple of the stencils had to be cut over.

So here it is Saturday night. Just a moment ago Ed said, "Well, what are we going to do tonight?" Larry said that he thought he'd write a letter and I said the same. Ed's reply was, "But this is Saturday night." George Burridge spoke up then and said, "So what? There's no more to do on Saturday night than there is any other night during the week." And he's right! In fact, there's less to do because for some reason there isn't even a movie to attend on Saturday nights. It's funny how one gets to thinking that Saturday night is the night that something special ought to happen.

No letter today from you. Ed kidded me and told me that three had come while I was in talking to the Captain - I got all excited. When I found out that he was kidding I told Ed that that kind of kidding was no fair! Was joking, of course, but I was partly serious too. Letters are serious business!

Right now our plans for tomorrow are to board a train and ride out into the country much as Larry and Ed did last week on Sunday - the day I stayed home to nurse my cold. Incidentally my cold has pretty well disappeared, but I'm still having to blow my nose several times each day. Have some hankies over at the Finance Building I should wash out tonight.

Finally managed to find a place ten day ago where I could take some dry cleaning. Got the stuff back today - they did a reasonably good job, but they were not careful to "spot" the clothes. I'm afraid the company would have a hard time getting much business in "the states". It cost me seven yen to have a shirt and a pair of trousers done - that's about forty-five cents. But it's only 1/4 of a pack of cigarettes!

I saw by today's "Stars and Stripes" that Denison's basketball team was beaten by Otterbein. You might like to show Miss Outland the enclosed clipping. You'll notice that the worst of all things happened - they misspelled the name! She might also be interested to know that today was the first time I've seen any Denison scores reported. Thought you also might like to see the radio program. Think I told you that one of the fellows in our room has a radio. Each morning when I come back from shaving at 6:45 I wake all the fellows up and then turn on the lights. When the lights go on so does the radio so we hear a little of the "rise and shine" program and then have the seven o'clock news. Incidentally the news program is a very poor one it seems to me and one could listen to it and hear every word and still not know very much about what's going on at home! Yes, even over here the radio has "commercials". The announcer plugs the recruiting program and urges the boys to buy War Bonds and also tells them how to avoid venereal disease! The programs on the Japanese stations are very poor and we scarcely ever listen to them.

Let's see you're getting pretty close to the end of the semester

aren't you? Will you have vacation hours for a few days? Is there going to be a Spring vacation?

So far you've not written very much about what goes on on the hill. Have you been to any basketball games? What plays have been given, if any, since you've been there. Are the fraternities at all active? Do they still have their downtown rooms? Where are the civilian boys living anyhow - are they in Curtis? Are girls living in the downhill dorms - King, Stone, Burton. Is the repairing all done on the latter? What prominent people, if any, have been Chapel speakers? Have you gone to Chapel at all? Would you be allowed to go if someone very prominent were visiting and speaking? How did the Administration Rating Scales work out? Has there ever been any news from Mort Stratton? Is Dick Howe back? Coming back? How about Freeman Miller? Did the Joys ever sell the T and G restaurant as we heard they were wanting to do?

There that'll give you a little grist for this mill - this mill which couldn't possibly be overloaded with news!

If you were sorta commuting back and forth between Mr. Nichol's and Louise's, did you use the new case to carry your stuff? How did it work out? Still like it?

You talked about writing a check - I take it you opened an account. What did Mr. Reader say? Might give me a financial report sometime - although you're probably still suffering from my excesses! How do you get your pay from the college? Twice a month? Once a month? Is your money deposited directly or do you carry your check to the bank? Have you ever used the credit card to buy gasoline?

I had to smile when you wrote of your rum-buying expedition. You said you finally selected one called "Bacardi". You realize don't you that that's the most famous of all the rum - how do you think the cocktail by that name got it's name? My! My! I haven't had a drink of hard liquor since leaving California. I guess that some of the Japanese whiskey is quite good, but the enlisted men do not get any - not that I'd personally want any. Captain Shute was telling me that he prefers one brand of Japanese whiskey to "stateside" stuff!

Got a kick out of the letter from Becky. I've thought some of getting her and Cilla each a pair of Japanese wooden shoes, but you'd be surprised how much they cost at the inflated prices. I may still do it - I think they'd get a big kick out of them and they'd be the genuine article!

I'm anxious to receive your letters telling about Christmas. How did Dad like his sweater - that's the biggest thing. Let's see was John there for Christmas? Think I remember that he was - at least he was there when I called you on Sunday, Dec. 23rd. Golly, I had forgotten for the moment that call!

It has taken me quite a long time to write this letter. I'm afraid it doesn't say much - only asks a lot of questions. What it really says is that my mind and soul and heart are all with you there tonight, my Darling. I'm trying my best to be close to you - want so to be close - because I love you with all the love that I have. Goodnight, my Sweetheart. Love me too?

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Dick

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Your,

Dick

280th day

Sunday, January 27, 1946

My dearest Marian,

Actually it's Monday morning, but I'm going to pretend it's last night and write the story of the day's adventures.

We woke to find that the weather was bad - it was a little discouraging. All week long the weather had been beautiful and we had sat at our typewriters, then along came Sunday and rain! Larry was not feeling any too well - I'm afraid that he caught my cold - so he decided that he would not go along with Ed and me on any adventure. After breakfast was over the rain was still coming down, but there was some indication that it might stop. Ed seemed very anxious to "take off" for somewhere, and although I was not as enthusiastic as he, I decided it was foolish to waste the day just sitting around.

We packed some cans of "K" rations (which Captain Shute had obtained for us) in our musette bags and boarded the train. We had to take a local train from the station which is near the Forestry Building up to another main station called the "Ueno" station to catch the train we planned to take to a city called Kumagaya. We thought that the train was to leave at 9:50 but we were surprised and we sat there in the station until 10:35 - obviously the one who had advised us was pretty badly informed. The train had a G.I. car so we had plenty of room; also the car was heated and clean (quite a novelty on Japanese railroads these days.)

Going out of Tokyo on the train we passed through the most devastated section of the city I've yet seen and again one can only ask, "How did the people ever withstand it?" As usual some tiny wooden houses and sheet metal shacks are springing up. It's interesting to see how much of the land formerly entirely occupied by houses has been cleared up and planted to crops. I think I mentioned once that the growth of the cities had taken away valuable land - well, the bombing has partially compensated for that!

We arrived at Kumagaya just in time to board another train - this time an electric train with three coaches - to go to a small city up in the mountains called Chichibu. No car on this small train was reserved for soldiers (that's quite obvious) so we had to fight our way onto it along with tens and tens of Japanese. If we thought the train crowded on the way to Chichibu we had to change our mind when the time came to return. Wow, how these folks can jam into a coach and to add to the difficulty about every other person is carrying a pack on his back which takes up as much room or more than he does.

The trip up to Chichibu was quite interesting we passed through the intensely cultivated area of the Kwanto Plain. It seemed to me that we saw more mulberry growing out that way than I've seen elsewhere. Sometimes the mulberry shrubs were growing in fields and at other times we saw them arranged as hedges between the fields - the latter method of growing them is an interesting method of making complete utilization of their meager land area! Again we saw men at work in the fields "plowing" them with the long bladed hoe like tool I've described before. Once more I saw no farm animal being used to cultivate a field.

We travelled up a valley into the mountainous region. The stream in the valley at times traversed picturesque gorges where the bed rock which appeared to be a metamorphic type was prominently displayed. I was surprised how clear the water of the stream was. Although there was some terracing the slopes were in most places too steep and were mostly wooded. We began to see numerous saw mills producing for the most part small dimension timbers and boards. There were also many wood yards where small trees were cut up and split for fuel and for making charcoal.