

1 Feb. 1938.

Dearest:-

There ^{Have} Did not discover milk for Mills or for two or three of us. Was a shipment of Nestle's for Lewis in unwanted substitution for the Anchor Brand he order months ago. But that lot seems to be a unit, and not in the form mentioned by you. *don't especially need milk, I think.*

Found your old coverlet on third floor, as I hoped -- but did n't dare give any encouragement without search. Don't think there can be any possibility of mistaken identity.

Don't know at all in what form you need to make plans for summer in Japan, but will approve your taking some risks financial and otherwise if you desire. I probably could not go for very long, and the outlook is very precarious for us in general as well for a particular time and place. But we have to work on possibilities (there are no probabilities worth mentioning on the positive side of human affairs in this part of the world), and it will be better for you and the boys to be out of Shanghai if you can.

This week's struggle is mostly on the order that with seven days' notice people are to leave the large camps for their homes not later than the 4th. Also, makeshift shops in the Zone are to be torn down by force, and hints are given about others returning from private houses to their homes elsewhere in the city. For instance, a Japanese with subordinate policemen came to University to say to refugees that on the 4th. gates would be sealed after eviction by soldiers, and no one would be allowed to take out bedding or other property.

Naturally we do n't take this lying down, yet we cannot directly oppose their police order from military authorities. All sorts of appeals and indirections, which probably will culminate in strong requests to foreign governments to appeal to Tokyo over the heads of local officers (that's what really cost the Allison incident and the risks to Riggs and me, for it makes these fellows terribly resentful), and in direct press releases much more bold than anything we have done before.

Literally thousands of women have knelt known in large groups to various ones of us, many of them swearing that they will die where they now are rather than go home to be raped and killed as so many have been raped (and some literally killed) ^{been} this week in their efforts to stay in their scattered homes. I have ^{been} trying this morning to find the bodies of two young girls killed yesterday after refusal of soldiers' importunities; the mother took them out from our Camp in fear that the Japanese would drive them out without bedding. Scores of other cases, usually straight rape, are flowing into our reports.

We have the possibilities of a massacre on Friday, and I don't see myself staying out of sight while soldiers use their bayonets on women and children who have trusted us. Understanding with embassies that any acts of brutality will be adequately witnessed and promptly reported. Meanwhile Japs distribute free food to those who go home, while shutting down elsewhere. Enclosed is a poster supplied to homes outside Zone, which we have in our living room with additions of places burned next door to posters, and so on. *Nauseates us, of course, but people in S. City pathetically carry them out like*

Chengtu letters may be put all in one packet. Air-mail from Hongkong.

I love you dearly, and daily want to hold you close again. Tell me of thoughts or of readings that have meant much to you. Don't let the Wash. Apt. bomb disturb you!

man.