

P.S. if you have one of Mr
Hoyberg's day books for the year
1957 please send it to me as
my 1956 book is obsolete!!

3 JANUARY 1957

Dear Mom + Dad,

Sorry (again) for the lapse in mail; this
lack of letters can only be blamed on a
confused, messed up personnel section as
I might have told you, I unexpectedly
inherited the Personnel Office, one day
I was sitting happily as an adjutant, the
next day I was up for transfer +
the following day I was adjutant +
Personnel officer (in a real rarity -
an officer working in the field he
was "trained" in).

My new "inheretance" is really in
confusion due to a combination of bad
management, sheer negligence, and a
changing personnel.

The real worry however is not
one of organization, this is not too
difficult to install; I have some
experience in handling people + systems
and my new workers are more than
willing to comply with my wishes;
true there's a lot of work + a lot
of changes to be done but this
is still not my biggest problem.

At first I was reluctant to
put a new system in ~~and~~^{so} this

is never too wise a policy when one begins a new job. I believe one should spend some time looking around and analyzing the situation before making changes. But the situation of mess confusion plus new people (always easier to teach than those that are use to an old, bad system) led me to believe that I could begin the "Ogell reforms."

As I said before my biggest problem is not getting in a new system nor training new people; no, mine is a far bigger managerial problem, one that I'm sure every man in management is faced with at one time or another; actually I'm lucky to have an experimental ground to try out my theory here in the A.F. The problem being just how much responsibility should I thrust on my workers; do I let them carry the load and I merely sign my name; do I get down and work with them; do I allow an old master sergeant to put words in my mouth & use me as a puppet to run the office his way; how do I let the capable, experienced

personnel handle matters that I am
incapable of handling without letting them
think that I'll nearly be a symbol
of rank & they'll devise the systems &
methods; and so on through the managerial
problems I go; things are slowly resolving
themselves and I can happily say in a
good manner but every once in a while
an extra report, a new officer & his
family report in or some additional
burdens like insurance or income tax
come up and I am again found
snowed under. These are the reasons
no mail; it would sound far
more romantic to say I'm up
in the clouds or something like
that but truthfully it is my work
that has me burdened and you know
something, I love every moment of
it; I haven't been this busy since
I tried running UCLA committees, going
to classes, dating every cute sorority
girl & occasionally working at S.O.S.

As for our developments on the
forecoming wedding, there are no more
than I reported before; I have a temporary
place to stay (an apartment), a tentative

but as positive as A.F. possible will come home
in the 2nd week of March + plans for
Gail + I if I don't meet too much
objection; I figured I'd be home by March 15,
married by 31 March (this seems as good as
any day) and back in Japan by ^{1st week of} April, sign
in to the unit + then take a honey-
moon over here and also orientate
Gail to the orient; Her Dad is working
on getting us a concurrent MATS flight
(Military Air Transport Co)
to Japan (seems he knows some wheels
who may get it for us; if he can't I
may be able too)

Thank you for the ring - I appreciate the
offer + accept it; I wrote Jackie more
fully on this so you can compare notes
while I continue in this letter to
tell you more of my activities - I really
do appreciate the ring + the sentiment
means alot - also not having to further
burden my income with a ring will
help - I'll be better off in 1958 + late 57,
pay raises + all that!!

All work is not the true story;
I took off for a four day R+R at the
Gohma hotel - had a wonderful
time although I'll enjoy it more when

Mail + I go there + I'm sure you'll enjoy it when you come up with us (enclosed in either this or another envelope will be suit material on the Fujiya hotel - one of Japan's finest!!); also in the mails is another film from Orzell Fox East Productions; the town shots are a small town where few American's venture, we were a novelty + I, more so because of my camera; the sulfur springs in the Mts are Big Hell; the lake is Lake Takone + the other three "round eyes" are Al Swickie, Joe Mubry + the smallest Joe Manton. Incidentally I played my first Japanese golf on the 31st; no golfing comments except that the course was so beautiful + a camera would have been better used than my irons + woods!!

Received a ^{lot of} very nice Christmas cards but nicest of all was an exceptional letter from "Mrs Joe Human"; she's a very fine writer who expresses her thoughts better on paper than in words - I'm enclosing the letter because it so resembles Mom's theories that I thought she'd enjoy it.

I'm happy that you enjoyed the perfume, if there are any other favorite perfumes you like please write & tell as I am able to get them quite inexpensively & would enjoy doing so.

Also glad the coffee mugs arrived; a "history card" was sent in an earlier letter; the outer shell insulates the cup & allows coffee to stay warmer longer; I thought they'd be nice for breakfast coffee - the ~~shape~~ underneath signifies nothing it's merely a Japanese bluish!!

Once again thank you for the offers of help (all I seem to be doing now days is thanking people); actually I can't think of any help I need, but then again I must need help. Honestly if people would quit complicating the situation & making a big mess there would be no problem. I have a place to stay, I've said I'll be home on the 31st & I will be, I originally had plans for returning to Japan MATS & Gail following commercially but Gail found a way to get us here together so I agreed

naturally as it would be nicer; so
where's the complication; I have a job,
I have a future (or at least faith in
myself + mastering my future), I have
limited money (not piles but a hell
of a lot more than a lot of people),
I have wonderful Parents + good friends
so what problems are there - relax,
don't worry + stop thinking you're
losing a son (maybe I'm growing
up but definitely not going away -
if it wasn't Dad who else it would
be I don't know but I'm sure I
wouldn't live at 614 all my life)
and besides where else can I get
roast beef + yorkshire pudding, beef
curry, lectures on England + its
history and so on indefinitely!!

As I said before I had a vacation
at Gohm Hotel over New Years - very
quiet; went to bed in 1956 + woke
up in 1957!!

Well that's about it for tonight
I'll try to be more regular in the mails but
January is as hellish as December so please don't
expect too much. Glad to hear all is well
at home and am looking forward to seeing you
All my love
father

8 January 1957

Dear Mom & Dad

Words can't express my appreciation for your "combined" gift; to put it bluntly you couldn't have sent a better gift!!!

You sort of out faced me, I was all set to send the check to my savings acct when I saw that it was endorsed to the Bof A so if you'd be so kind as to dismail me the deposit slip when it arrives at home (I mailed the check today along with this letter) I'll write a personal check to my savings acct on receipt of the deposit slip (here at 5%!). I'd rather collect interest (4%) on the money than let B of A have it for free; I do not have any needs to spend this money on now so it might as well work for me.

The on again off again on base rental (purchase of a home) is on again and by Friday I'll know more; because of some inside strings I did learn that JAB will be open to U.S. forces for some time; this makes a purchase a better investment and practically insures against loss of money.



"Buckwheat Shop"

as I explained before, it is rather involved but briefly: purchase price \$3000 (for home not for ground - land is so valuable in Japan that it is rare the gov't places their property); depreciation begins at end of first year & is at rate of 50 a month or \$600⁰⁰ a year. We will live in the house for 18 months (the remainder, I hope, of my service career) there for the depreciation will have brought the house sale value down to 2700 ($\frac{1}{2}$ a years depreciation from purchase price); the DF gives me a housing allowance of about 100⁰⁰ a month, this I pay myself & therefore accumulate 1800 in rental - if I can sell the house for \$2700 I have made \$1500 and lived rent free. Well anyway, it's something I'll have to think over but if the housing remains as critical as it is now (and from indications it will) I have a pretty good investment - besides the fact that on base housing in comparison to off base rentals is Bel Air to Sawtelle comparison.



Dolls' Festival
Hina Matsuri

I imagine the wedding is keeping the excitement in the air; I hope you enjoy the activity and excitement; from yours and Gail's letters it sounds quite a hassle & far from the AF joys I'm going through. I don't know which would be the lesser evil, people gushing over me or the AF & its' unexplainable regulations. Well anyway I hope both of you get your moneys worth.

Gail wrote about registering silver, etc naturally I don't want to disillusion her dreams but between us I think it's pretty impractical to register silver now; we won't use it until 1958 and by then her or our tastes may have changed; at the moment she likes ebony & silver, in 58 the fact may be china & silver & her taste will be that. So I was wondering if the store could keep what ever kind people give us & then let us come in in 1958 & buy our taste of that period. I hope to have converted Gail into more of a Georgian style taste by then; I, naturally being



Gold Fishes Shop

the son of Beverly Hills foremost silversmiths,
have a rich taste (and a beer pocketbook);
my taste is simple & expensive - not
new modern but the old (lucrative)
silver - you better be careful, there are
certain items I'd like to steal out of
W4 - say, do you think you could sell
Gail or some fine English fiddle back
or Georgian scroll.!!

One of my minor problems with Gail
is transportation back to Japan; Gail
wants us to come back together on
a commercial line if her father can't
arrange a MATS flight; personally I
feel that \$500 (no matter whose money)
is a waste if I can fly back for free;
it is simple enough for Gail to
follow in a day or two & I can have things
ready over here (if they aren't by the time
I leave Japan), but Gail feels that the
500 is not wasted if I can accompany her
so we continue to discuss the problem
I still haven't made up my mind but I'm
sure I'd never be able to forgive
myself for wasting the money.
The problem will resolve itself
when we get the MATS flight
& I'm pretty sure that if Mr
Kays can't I might be able to!! (Please
don't inform Mr Kays of this letter remark).



A Portable Shrine
at Festival

Don't bother to renew my car license as I now pay Japanese road tax & have Japanese licenses - my car will never see the states again!!

I've forwarded my income tax items already; on further study I'm positive the long form 1040 is the necessary procedure - if Paul needs information on deductions tell him I'd be glad to send him a detailed report. Incidentally are you inviting him to the wedding??

The more I check around the more I'm sure that Japan can greatly help our "assembly" business; although the Japanese use 950 silver they will work in 925 if asked; prices are cheap because labor is so inexpensive - incidentally these doll-lamps can be shipped out tax free if shipped as dolls. Incidentally the word "doll" is misleading, they could be more accurately described as figurines dressed in silks - I did not intend the dolls as toys but as artistic lamps for oriental style rooms but enough words I'll try & get a picture to you or a model lamp.



A Lucky Doll
Kokeshi

As an AF personnel officer there are two things I need; supply men + young officers - seems S.O.'s need the same thing. Seriously the young officers I meet are getting "fat" on their AF flying pay (while we of the ground corp make 2,800 they make \$5,000 - I have a college degree + advise them on items as insurance, income tax, law, silver, etc but they get paid more; and the AF wonders why it can't retain it's young officers - according to a AF survey, the higher the education the less chance the AF has of retaining an officer - doctors that take care of the fliers are paid less than the fliers + the AF wonders why it's doctors won't stay A.F.!!). Anyway most of these young officers would not fill our salesmen requirements, they have neither the ability or inclination to give a sales talk, dress conservatively, or work!! As fliers they fly once or twice a week + loaf the rest of the time - they'd be fools to leave the A.F. - at times I think I was foolish to wash out of flying school but then there's an accident + I thank my lucky stars my sense won't wear out over my "hero attitude."



"Rikisha-Man"

There is a young boy coming to town who may be able to help the store although he is coming to Calif to pursue his musical talents; Joe Martone will look you up no doubt as I promised him a free meal - Joe is one of the few fellows in the SF that I've met who has the ability to be a success; he needs only to conquer the young man's case of laziness; he may need a part time job & if he does, I'm sure that selling silver would come easy; he has a good way with people - everyone seems to like him; and above all (from your stand point) he is honest!! If I run across any more I'll let you know but I'd warn you I'm a harsh person as an employer & would only employ those that I'm sure could be successful in anything they tried!!

Your new years letter was magnificent & I intend to keep it to read in later years; everyone in awhile I think you should jot your memories down - it would be a rather interesting hobby; one that you'd enjoy as the memories were brought back to life on the paper & one that others like myself would enjoy hearing about the past - seriously why don't you type of autobiography - you could tell about your



Doris Eastgate
Hina Matsuri

Father & Mother, your family, Plymouth, the
era of your youth; you could tell about
your travels, the U.S. the first time
you saw New York, W.W.I., English
politics & what you did in them,
moving to Reno & Beverly Hills, the
birth of Spencer Ogell (one & in those
days - we couldn't afford two) on little
Santa Monica, W.W.II, your European
trips, your Far East trip this year
and so on. I think a holly like
this would be wonderful - a style of
writing isn't necessary, just in your
own words the story as it happened;
the tradition we could build up around
it would be tremendous publicity. ~~It~~
Sincerely haven't you ever thought of
doing it? Why not use the typewriter
in my room & experiment
with a chapter or two on me.

Well I've written enough
for tonight - someday I might
compile my thoughts on to
paper but now I think I
think I'll put me on the
bed

All my love

Richard



Maiko
Budding Geisha Girl

P.S.

If Mrs. Dominical can
my Mother & Father (over)

write a book I can see no reason why

Can't write about their life & Parents - I'm sure a book
would turn into a volume of books, each covering
a person, an era, a country, etc.

again - all my love
Richard

P.S. jr.

Saw the movie Tenhoue of the August Moon - it's great &
I'm sure that I enjoyed it a 100 times more now than I would
have 6 months ago. I marvelled at Marlon Brando's ability to
capture the oriental & his mannerisms - as I was able to understand
a "seochi" (dittle) of the Japanese language I further enjoyed the
picture - what I would have laughed at as comical 6 months
ago I laughed at longer & louder today because it was so
true & typical - if you enjoyed the play I heartily
recommend the movie!!

once again, all my love
Richard

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*Mr + Mrs Spenser Orgell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, California
U.S.A.*

15 JANUARY 1957

Dear Mom + Dad

Today I bought a house - at least one that will be built (I hoped) by April; if the house isn't finished & I don't suppose it will be by the time Gail & I return to Japan we have the apartment to stay in.

"The" house, according to the floor plans, is very nice; we have two bedrooms so if we can get an extra bed we can have house guests or even a "love"-in maid (if we could afford it). The bed rooms are 10'6" x 14'0" & 11'0" x 15'0" and have ample closet space; we have in door plumbing, a hot water heater (an asset over here) and a 50,000 BTU Colman heater to keep us warm. I imagine these facts & figures appear humorous, about 6 months ago I would have agreed but over here they are valuable & necessary attributes to a house. Anyway continuing giving dimensions, the living room is 13'6" x 16'0" & the dining area is 10'6" x 11'0"; now if I can get some base furniture will have a little more than the dimensions I mentioned. Well if nothing else it takes



"Buckwheat Shop"

the housing problem + \$3000 away from me; incidentally I'm paying that \$1000 down (already paid) and the rest over 18 months at what the bank figures 6% but I figure less so if they want to say the sum is 6% why should I argue.

Ran across a new problem in personnel; one that I have heard & read a lot about and even discussed with lecture groups at WCLA but have never been involved in personally. Yesterday my 1st Sgt (a tactless man) accused two of my best clerks of "moosing" (cohabitation with indigenous persons of the opposite sex - called by the troops - moosing). These clerks felt that they were arrested convicted & sentenced all in one because they are negroes; had the 1st Sgt used his head this problem would never had come up - had he informed me I feel I could have more tactfully passed the word that if they were "moosing" they should stop - but this didn't happen & now I have two unhappy clerks (one with a college degree) because an idiot first Sgt didn't use his head. Well anyway now I'd



Dolls Festival
Hina Matsuri

learn how to cope with a discrimination problem.

Thank you very much for taking care of the engagement ring. Gail was thrilled & she loved the present you gave her. As she wrote me, the more she gets to know you - the more she grows to love you & think of you as Mother & Dad rather than "in laws". Incidentally how much do I owe who for the ring setting??

The wedding seems to be growing in leaps & bounds - why fight it - I'll sit back & enjoy it - as for guest list I don't think it's important to ask Dr. & Mrs. Kasher or Bob Smith & Family - I would like to ask Mr. & Mrs. Herman & Soni & Joel & will add them to the guest list I have over here. I don't know about Mr. A - I don't think so!! Might ask Dave Bell his opinion - personally I feel I'd be infringing on a friendship that isn't quite enough to ask to own wedding - I would like to send announcements to a great deal of people at UCLA - ask Dave to get the address of a few of the people he knew I worked with - not the students but the paid administrators.

Have my pictures of Gohin



Gold Fishes Shop

arrived yet? Wish I could have photographed
the inside of the baths - they were really
nice - how I long for one now - I just
came from the gym where we won
another game to keep us in first place -
the Col was there watching & I picked
this game to play really bad - oh well
he's already written my "rating" for
the year & can't take it back.

Please don't reserve a hotel Japanese style;
Japanese style is sleeping on tatami
mats (grass mats on the floor) covered with
a futon (comforter). Stay in a Japanese hotel
but get western rooms. Japanese bathrooms
offer squatting not sitting comfort!! (be
kind of difficult to read the paper!)

I'm glad you finally did something about
the house - with all your talk I never
thought you'd go ahead. I'm sure that
it will come out nicely & the house will
be that much nicer to live in.

I haven't received Paul's package yet - but
if it went ordinary mail I won't
get it until the boat-mail comes
in around 1 Feb, that's why things
should be airmailed or sent early!!



A Portable Shrine
at Festival

What do you mean "Gail knows her own mind"? is this good, bad or indifferent or are you trying to tell me you think I'm going to be domineering - so I'll have another person who thinks they are running me - I already have a chief clerk & 1st Lt who think they are - actually I don't think Gail intends to run my life but I'd be disappointed if she didn't help steer it a little.

Will be glad to relieve your sales staff problem if the P.F. will oblige me with a release - glad to hear you have the Parallel line & I hope the artiques sale is good.

Gail is interested in Jensen's Parallel - what I consider a "fact" pattern - try & sell her on English Onslow or something similar - I'll give her the sales pitch in my next letter. And in line with a sales pitch as it figures now we should be home in time for the Christmas season of 1958 so don't plan on too many extra people - you'll have me!!

That's about it for tonight - take care of yourselves & God bless you.

All my love
Richard



A Lucky Doll
Kokeshi

January 19, 1957

Dear Mom + Dad;

Finally after a busy week of court martial, article 15's (Communist punishment) reassignment of key personnel, planes + crews leaving for the U.S.A., buying a home, helping with insurance + income tax problems, plus assorted ordinary tasks and basketball coaching + playing I can settle down to a quiet (I hope) Saturday + write you this too many times put aside letter.

Aside from the above mentioned items this week was not too different from other weeks - it was busy + hectic but fun + educational. Time seems to go very rapidly + it will soon be the day when I arrive home - probably March 12th. The way this year + for that matter the six months I've been in Japan have rushed by it will not be long before I re-join Spencer Ogill Co, Ltd.

A week from today marks my 24th birthday and although numerically it sounds very



little I've certainly done & enjoyed a
lot of things - I certainly count all
my blessing & consider myself very
fortunate to have done so much. I
wonder if the next 24 will be so
"action packed" (as the movie advertising
says). I'm sure it will be - for as
I've been told, there is never a dull
moment when I'm around - I wonder
if this is a compliment!!

Saw a good movie the other night
"Written on the Winds"; but it was not
the movie acting & story that impressed
me so much as the background setting.
Several of the rooms, used as settings
in a upper class Texas style home
were furnished in Japanese modern,
Tokonoma's (scrolls), screens, etc, and this
oriental motif was set off with
some beautiful Victorian style silver-
what especially caught
my eye was a beautiful
ornate mirror sitting
on Laura Bacall's dresser.

I was very impressed to
find Hollywood so taken with the



oriental designs - I think your trip to the Far East will not only be educational but possibly profitable - the scrolls pictured were not old but new reproductions - they did not have to be closely examined to notice this - they were too coloured to be old - the older scrolls have a lighter, sedateness to them. Well enough of this we can have fun shopping together in June or July.

Our new home should be finished by the middle of April & until then we have the apartment I spoke of previously to take in. The house is a gamble but so is a museum for \$3,000 (the total cost of the house). I doubt if I'll be reassigned & if I am I'm sure that someone will be glad to buy a on-base home in contrast to an off-base house. The new home will have two bedrooms so if I can secure an extra bed or two you are welcome to stay with us here at Johnson



Should you desire to learn how the military lives.

Jack Youbers (one of my fellow officers in the 6023rd) should be calling you soon - he took one of our planes back to the states last Wednesday - he has your number + while he's visiting his in-laws in Pasadena, he said he'd call. I'm sure that he'll assure you that I'm alright + the same person (although possibly a little more matured) that left L.A. last July.

Hope everything is alright at home + that all is coming along with Louisa.

Incidentally are you putting the Sandans + Piddie on the guest list, I put Myron on mine, how about the Kozberg, Blachmans, etc??

Well that's it for now - I think I'll take a nap now - this catching up on back mail is tiring.

All my love
Richard



P.S. After thoughts:

1. I received the Briskin Xmas gift + dispatched + Thank you
 2. Did you manage to get the A Kozberg Day book??
 3. Did the receipt for \$500 arrive at 614 yet (from B of A) + will you forward it?
 4. My Bank statements for Dec + Nov Arrived - Thank you!!
- all my love
Richard

January 22, 1957

Dear Mom + Dad;

Am I impressed, I open my mail + there is a Beverly Club circular with pictures of such notables as General Beulley, Brian Donley, Spencer + David Ogall, etc. - It looks like it was a good lunch, from the looks of the plate in front of you it's empty - still on a diet??

Things over here continue much as usual except that I have a courtmartial case on my hands - I had to come into the A.F. to meet + see an actual dyspsoinise - didn't even know the word before I came on active duty!" This "youngster" (born 1908) is a real eight ball + we're doing our best to boot him out of the service - at the moment it's his "military lawyer" knowledge against my inexperienced military but college training knowledge - he's ahead - he had a fraudulent re-entitlement but because it happen prior to his present tour of duty I can't do anything although I have written

Washington (D.C. met the general who could have been the man's C.O. back when he first joined the army] for help. Will more about this embarrassing (?) + exciting (?) AA case later.



Outside of my "dumb" troop my work load is much the same - always in a flux because of changing personnel - my "right arm" but also ~~one~~ of my managerial problems has been re-assigned so I'm re-shuffling the office - reminds me of S.O.'s & our sales staff - someday it will be set - sure & some year Eric will go through the year with the same cleaning girls - as the Japanese say "Jon do ma mi" ("never happen!")

Thanks for the help on the tax - I await eagerly notice of how much I owe Uncle Sam - how did you like the AF gross income I earned - earned more when I was getting pocket money in high school!!

Received a nice note of congratulations from Mrs Keller & family - are we inviting them to the wedding?

When looking over my clubs I see that Dene's club received my \$5.00 dues - now how about them sending me my pass book - is it at the store? If it's not could the secretary (whom ever she be) call & ask them to send it plus any oriental additions they may have. Thanks!!



Had dinner with family (Furbow) & Dick Wintergale

unless one says stealing & the other plate!!
Anyway as for this home across the way from
Barbara & Herb I wouldn't live in it; Gail
wouldn't be friends with this girl who
tells me she's an extrovert & always was
the "leader of her gang" (this I don't doubt
they probably couldn't get a word in edge
wise) in L.A. so why subjugate her to
it here." Do you know I bought a home
on the base & in comparison & I don't mean
to be catty or brazenly it is Beverly
Hills to Fairfax area - the home will
not be unfamiliar to Julie & Bart's first
home out near ~~Alta Vista~~; so you say
money is not too great a problem - thanks
to my frugal training I have a bank asset
that can cover the home although I plan
to finance it. As for the advice Barbara
wrote Gail - most of it I had to tell
Gail to forget & I had numerous other
people give me advice
that contradicted Barbara's
advice & this I forwarded.
Anyway don't feel bad about
Mrs A, she sounds like
an older Barbara; do as I
do & try & avoid her - it saves arguments - I see
Herb quite often but usually during the work
day away from his "dictator". Mrs A, being an



"Authority" on Japan (she was here 3 weeks)
probably feels Gail should call & seek
advice!!

Speaking of authority I must relate a
cute story; the other day I was speaking
to a Sgt who didn't know me & was
asking advice on being Gail over, etc. He
apologized to me & said he was fairly new
at his job but if I wanted some good
advice from an "authority" I might call
the 6023rd & ask for Lt Ogell!! I
thanked him profusely & left.

You mentioned Gail's father wanted
the ring appraised & insured - did anyone
ever find out the value of the pearl
ring I sent Gail - I would be interested
to know if I got cheated or am on the
road to being a "pearl expert"

I don't know why you couldn't come over
here & share the "hardships" for awhile;
all we'll need is a bed. ^{Definitely by military}
life over here you come
closer to being a "native"
than any tourist - it's the
difference between you
traveling to Europe & Mrs A; you see & know
Europe - she loves Paris & was disappointed with
England & its "lousy" food - wonder which she
remembers best Paris night life or the history
she saw!! Better not ask - I bet she's un



"authority" on Europe - how do I meet
people like this?!!

Enclosed with this "manuscript" is Mrs
Reddy's note - after you've read it please
show it to Gail - Thanks!!

Say, what's the story on our bank? Since
when did it become Perpetual Savings & why
are its' checks on the City Hall Bank?
Is it still the same management - still
the same 4% quarterly? Most important
is it still ^{1st Fed Savings & Loan Assoc.} federally insured & a good
risk or do I move banks again?? Please
advise - I have a fair amount involved!!

Have a line on some good liquor ware &
also good brass chafing dishes, etc - the brass
maybe good for silver plating in the states -
will have to go up to Niagara (North Tonawanda)
& then borrow a jeep from there to get to
my source but Russ & Miriam Pollack (friends
from Scott AB - Wisconsin graduates) have invited
Gail & I up for a weekend - I'll try &
locate the source between the
time I get back to Japan & you
arrive - if it's good I'll
have them come to Tokyo to
meet you as I fear the source is inaccessible
to civilian traffic (tourist style).



Well so think I'll bid you farewell for now
& go to bed - stay well - God bless you
all my friend

LT. RICHARD E. ORGELL AO 3050952
6023 RDR. EVAL ECM FLT
APO 994, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.



VIA AIR MAIL

*Mr & Mrs Spencer Orgell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, Calif
U.S.A.*

27 January 1957

Dear Mom & Dad,

So here it is the 27th & I'm 24 years old, I certainly don't feel older & I don't even look older - what's the use in having a birthday if nothing happens.

Birthday celebrations began on the 25th, the Tatterman's trying to be kind & jovial insisted I go to dinner with them; as hard as I tried I couldn't get out of it; Friday is usually my evening to relax & forget the week's events so I had forg these pleasures & go with them - to top it off I didn't feel too well so the evening was that much worse; finally at 10:00 feigning illness I relieved myself of Barbara & went home to a comfortable bed. I imagine Mrs A will call & tell you how her children helped celebrate my birthday so tell her I enjoyed myself but remember no discounts -

Saturday was much better Shelly & Pat & I had lunch at Tony's version of Kenny's & then went shopping. We located this antique dealer (OHNO). OHNO is one of the more reputable dealers; the Ambassador's wife (Mrs Allison, a connoisseur of oriental art, vouches for his honesty. Anyway regardless

of his honesty he found a buyer in me - he had some Shishi (Temple Dogs) that resemble Staffordshire Dogs - these dogs are beautifully repulsive & will make magnificent bases for lamps - I'm sure they could be sold for \$100 or more - they are old & rare (even for Japan) - their ballmarks are readable & Ohno is checking their history for me - I'd ship them home but they weigh about 10 lbs apiece & I'm afraid they'd break. I had planned on keeping them for Guild, I but if she doesn't like them I'll mount them & sell them - I'll try & send you a picture of them or ^{else} you'll see them in June - do you think an item like this would sell - they're typically orientals come out of a shrine!!

Ohno had a large magnificent black gold screen - two panels about 6ft tall & four to six feet wide; he wants 15,000 yen (\$42⁰⁰) & I was tempted to buy it - do you think it's saleable - it's perfect for orientals modern - it's a used screen but not old enough to be called an antique although it could easily be passed off as one. The scene is a beautiful landscape simply

shown in black on this, what looks like, intial gold background - it is the nicest scene I've seen I'm arranging for you to meet Mr Ohno - he speaks good English but what's more important he has the finest collection I've seen of the local antiques - he has Ming dynasty pieces, jade, old porcelain's (I bought two that appealed to me because they were different - not the common usual scenes"), etc - next week Dick & Sandy Wintydale are coming with me - I'll have him take some pictures for me to send you of Mr OHNO's place - the guy (OHNO) could make a fortune in B.H - especially with this new orientid trend.

After spending the money I had intended to spend on my stile propitor (this now has next month's number, # buying priority) Kelly, Shelly, I met Phil & Anita Bluffess & Joe Martone & went to a Chinese restaurant for dinner - it's the thing to do in Tokyo to go to a foreign restaurant for dinner - no one eats Japanese food - it's not "U". From a filling dinner we went to



a night club (from which three of us males departed temporarily to get a subelown + bath - this is a "posh" thing to do in Tokyo - "my" massuer but only has me as a customer, but several Diet members + a few movie + stage stars - she's rich bar - a "number one"!!); the club we attend is a special Japanese bar for Japanese people desiring a western atmosphere - the western (not meaning cowboy Indian, etc) air is not for us, the occidentals, on the contrary they don't cater to occidentals as do most the other gay "spots". After drinks + dances we left on our home drive home + to bed!

So that's about the news except that today I went out + shot some pictures of the local area for a March showing!! My home my films ^(MOVIES) from Tokyo arrived yet - you are saving all my movies + slides aren't you? The slides Japanese movies I think I'll bring back.

That's about it for now.
Keep well + God bless
you both

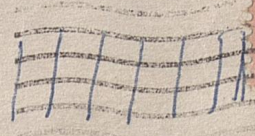


all my love
Richard

P.S. I'm sorry you were out when Jack Yankee called - he just arrived back in Japan + said he couldn't reach you!!

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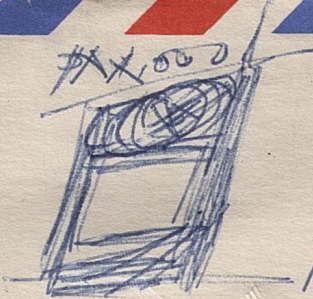
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VIA AIR MAIL

*Mrs Mrs Spencer Orgell
614 North Poplar Drive
Beverly Hills, California
U. S. A.*

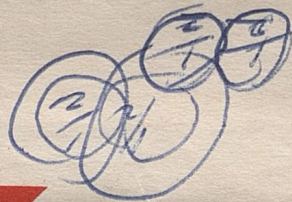
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29 January 1957

Dear Mom and Dad;

Just a short note to let you know I'm alive....there is a lull in the work schedule so I'm sitting at the typewriter looking industrious (or atleast as busy as the hunt and peck system will allow).....

The local news is much the same as it was in the last letter...no really new recent developments.....no new courtmartials, discharges, record changes or dependent problems.....only the run of the mill work, basketball, dream about wedding plans and planning for future vacations....you are so right this is an excellent way to spend spare time....I begin to feel like Richard Halliburton... my trips are to Hong Kong, the Philipines and all over the Japanese ~~isles~~.

Before I go any further in this letter I would like to thank you for all the time and consideration that you are showing Gail.....from her letters I know that she is appreciating every moment and gesture of it...as she said"she is growing to love you more and more everyday and each day she feels more like your daughter than your daughter in law to be".....I think you know how happy this makes me.....I hope that the minor agrivations caused by the wedding will soon be forgotten; what is not clear from your letters is from who these grips are coming? From ~~wne~~ one of my sources of information I understand that certain people have some ideas as to what and where and who and the other things connected with the wedding....as far as I'm concerned there are only certain people that should have a say in this wedding and those people are you (as the parents of the groom), the Karp (as parents of the bride and the financiers of the wedding) and Gail and I (as the ~~main~~ participants in the celebrations)...anyone else who wants to stick their nose into the affair must either be kidding or acting under stress of no mentality or stupidity.....I am very interested to hear of these things not necessarily because I'll allow them to worry me (and I don't think or want these things to worry you either) but because they are interesting conversational piece (I love spicy tales) and also it further helps me in my study of different types of people.....someday with all this experience I'm picking up from the AF I may write a book....."If you want to hate people be a Personnel Officer". Incidentally for the troubles the lunch caused you I hope the food was good.....say did I tell you my startling remedy for my troublesome first sargent (his constant gripes and rumor spreading had me ready to tear his hair out....I couldn't afford to tear any of mine out)....I solved the problem by putting him to work....he is now the honcho of the office and the burdons are his.....if something comes up that I want to pass off I delegate it to him so I found out by keeping him busy and not allowing him idle time around the office he forgot his gripesc'est la vi.....

Received my diners club card and am sending off for my foreign suppliment ...thank you....also received in the mail a beautiful cashmire sport shirt from Saks....it a thing of beauty but I don't have the slightest idea who sent it to me as there was no gift card...see other stores make mistakes....think you could spy around and see who sent it to me...thank you....

Sorry to hear that you have cancelled part of your trip....I hope that the plans for Japan are as firm as they can be at this time...as I have written you in the past I feel that there is a wide field to be covered over here...and more than in past letters I feel that many good antiques (a line that you certainly understand as well or better than anyone) are the solution...true we may not understand the Kokomona's etc but things like the dogs I wrote you about and screens or ming pieces I'm sure will find there way into the homes of Hollywood oriental modern fadders....the other day I went into a store and saw a lot of scrolls

but when I showed an interest the owner told me they were not for sale....when ~~inquire~~ing why I was told that the 1000 scrolls were earmarked for the states... where I'm not sure but I think that it was S.F.....received a letter from Ronnie Hartsfield(the people with the big home on sunset), she's coming to Japan and wants to say hello....I 'll try and meet her...she's staying at the Nigatsu ...I hope she wont be disapointed when she sees the Nigatsu's modernness compared to the older beauty of the Imperial.

Hope that the strains of the wedding have not bothered you too much... how are the Karps...are the relationships still friendly.....how is Gail bearing up under the excitement.....personally I wouldn't worry too much about the crystal dept....as I remember it and if it hasn't changed too much it's wares would more suit the tastes of a traditional rather than modern....as for the P.B. pattern....if Gail likes it fine.....I hate to think of all the scratch marks... maybe I can change her mind when I show her how nice the Japanese can copy and make ~~look the pat~~the pattern of her choice look cheap...maybe she'll become a little more traditional (and practical in her silver taste) after she's done the antique store circuit with me.....

Just re-read your latest letter....I'm still interested to know who's dog house....certainly not mine, certainly not Gail's, certainly not the Karps (from what I gather from Gail's letters), and certainly not Jaakiesif you are not the gushy (is that how you spell it?) type then I know where I inherited my (what has been termed non-interested and at other times snubbish) non-gushiness (is it used in the adjective and adverbial use of gush). Someday possible some enterprising young man will invent a "gushy pill" and we can take these and gush all over people until they are either over joyed by our gushiness or ~~are~~ drowned. So tomorrow is another day and we can look forward with hoping hearts that the young scientist will soon discover this cure-all pill. Who knows this pill may revolutionize the world...if enough people take them possibly they will be so busy gushing that they will forget to make wars (either of the protective or conquering nature...someday I'll go back to college and take a political science course that can adequately explain to me the difference between a protective and a plain war.....the people killed are possibly different types of heroes and villains?)...well enough of this talk about gushy pills.....I'm wasting time....I think I'll go invent or try and invent them now.....meanwhile back at the AF base the Col is getting annoyed because his 2d Lt Personnel officer is not working....could this 2d Lt possibly never attain his silver bar...listen in in a few months and we'll see if we can hear the additional money jingling in his pockets (or will it be Gail's purse).....sayonara for now

all my love

Richard

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VIA AIR MAIL

Mr and Mrs Spencer Orgell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, California
U.S.A.

Sunday
February 3, 1957

Dear Mom & Dad;

Today was the most beautiful day I've seen at J.A.B.; I awoke early and for no reason looked out my window, where the night before had been clear & dry was snow; snow all over the place & what's more, more was falling from the skies; as a Southern Californian I had never really seen it snow - for the first time since I've been in the Far East Japan looks clean - scenery that was dreary now has glamor & beauty - I hope my movies come out - I shot half a magazine (certainly have my shots (movies) of Gohm arrived at 6:4 yet - if they haven't could someone call Korea on the Palmes & find out if they were arrived - I'm sure that I return addressed them to you - if they & you have no word I'll check my PPS box.)

The snow provided great fun for Andy, Dick, Winterquade, Stan Tubiano (his tail over from Korea on a P+P) and me - we had a big snow fight, built a snowman & kept asking Stan how he as a San Francisco must be use to snow.



elementary but it may answer a few of Mom's questions - say is my room being redecorated - if so try & keep my books together & not let the children at them - it took five years of college to accumulate them & more important I may need them when I get home - who knows, maybe my wife & I will go to night school together or I'll let her support me through school." Never realized how important an education was until I met so many uneducated people - when in an "authority" on tax, minor business law problems, psychology, etc I know the people around me haven't had the chance to get an education. Imagine me an "authority" & I don't even know the alphabet & can't spell well.

Sorry to hear you cancelled your "African Adventure" Indian Expedition and other assorted travels - as I understood your letter - you were coming to Japan but you're not sure when. Today convinced me that one has to spend more than a week or two to learn & enjoy Japan. Today's winter landscape scene was completely different to October & Nikko and



Great Buddha, Kamakura

17 Feb. 57

Dear Mom and Dad;

My the week has gone swiftly.....all week long I have intended to write you....actually it has been on my mind everynight but come the night time I eat my meal(when it was possible)do a little social personnel work and come home to write letters...somehow these letters never materialized for I rationalized that it was late and I would write the letter the next day at work....work didn't seem to cease and here it is Sunday afternoon and I'm finally writing the letter that should have been written Wednesday.

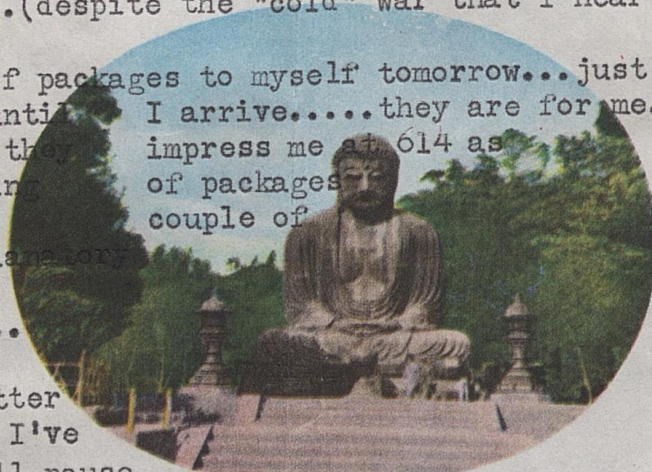
Biggest news of the work is the hole in the right lower side of my jaw.....I finally broke down and had an annoying wisdom tooth taken out.. the dentist was one of my fellow BOQ mates(Don Fragnoli); Don proved to be an excellent dentist and even if the operation took 1 1/2 hours there was little or no pain....my mouth didn't even swell up....it was horrible I couldn't get sympathy from anyone.

The next biggest news is my new C.O., a Major May; he's a marked improvement over the good Col Smith....although I feel that this man will demand more work from his "adjutant".....I hope the enthusiasum that this new C.O. has does not go away with the newness of the job..... he's certainly an enjoyable man to work for in that he is willing to sit down and talk over problems that are confronting your work load....he doesn't make a discission and then tell you his desires; well it's still early in the game to make snapp judgements but as of now he appears to be an enjoyable man to work for.....one last word about Col Smith, he left me in good stead with the new Major in that he told the man that I was an "expert" in silver and he could consult me when he was going to buy silver over here.....this word "expert" certainly is grossly overused.

Bought what I considered a beautiful screen yesterday; Mr Oneo is keeping it in storage for me(until I can afford to pay 40.00 for it)....if Gail doesn't like it I can always return it to his stock or I can ship it home via Shel Shraggers hold luggage(gov't expense) in May and you can either put it up for sale in the store, keep it in the "new" 614 or keep it for me to give as a gift on returning home.....a custom that seems expected although at times is quite expensive....I don't know if the receivers expect the gift or if the giver's merely feel that they are expected to give a gift.....such a delemia....speaking of Gifts how's the wedding business doing at S.O.(despite the "cold" war that I hear is going on).....

Am mailing home a couple of packages to myself tomorrow...just put them in my room or a safe place until I arrive.....they are for me.... not resale but possible gifts if they impress me at 614 as much as they did in Tokyo. Speaking of packages you should be receiving one in a couple of weeks, the packages are self explanatory. I'm merely informing you to keep an eye out for the packages..... they are insured.....

Gee, when I began this letter there was so much to say and now I've run out of thoughts...so here I'll pause (not for a coke).....



Great Buddha, Kamakura

The weather has changed once again; the snow has disappeared and the overall weather is a trifle colder than a Californian winter.

At the moment I am on "duty" in my BOQ awaiting, if it should happen, a call from the unit COQ (charge de quarters) telling me I'm needed; ordinarily I don't pull this type of duty as according to regulations my job calls for me to be on "call" 24 hours a day....but as you know this seldom happens.....only a drastic occurrence would require my presenceanyway the officer who was suppose to be on duty today got called away TDY (temporary duty) on such short notice that I was left to fill the gap...ordinarily I have time to replace the missing officer.. oh, well such is life and the above description can give you a little idea of the types of duty I do.

I'm also awaiting a call from Shel Shrager telling me of my flight home....if I can ever get it firmed I'll be able to give you a better idea of when I'll be home...at the moment it can be any day between the 8th and the 24th.....but to be asure that I'll be home on the 24th even if I have to pay for my flight home via commercial airlines.

Someday this coming week I'm going to journey over to Camp Zama and see a Major Gail about concurrent MATS flight home (back to Japan) for Gail and I.....wish me luck on my try...it could save us a few dollars.

In case I didn't tell you in a past letter I mailed home another roll of film via the Kodak processing Lab.....

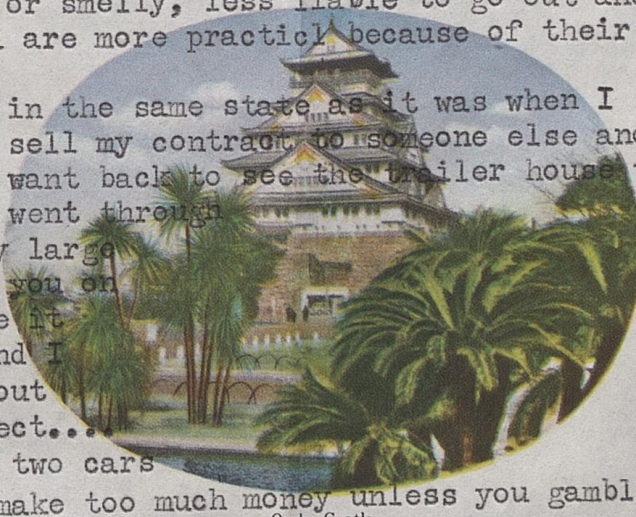
I'm off but I'll be back the phone just rang...one of my "boys" is in trouble and Uncle Adjutant has to go tell the Air Police that he's really a good boy; see you in a few minutes

Nothing serious and I'm back again:

The other day I bought a roaster-oven, a hot plate and a electric heater from Capt (Pat) Patterson.....they were going home and wanted to leave the stuff in Japan so for 32.00 I bought the three items...even if we don't use them I can always sell them either on the American or Japanese market for the same price or more.....personally I think that we will get some use out of the roaster and the electric stove....already I'm using the heater in my office....the mornings here are very cold and an overcoat and gloves (!!) aren't enough to keep you warm until the oil stove start functioning.....as it looks now I think I'll forget about the colman burner that we'll have in our house and use electric heaters to warm the place..the heaters will be a little more expensive but they are less dangerous, not as dirty or smelly, less liable to go out and leave you heatless and in general are more practical because of their mobility.

The house is pretty much in the same state as it was when I wrote last.....I had a chance to sell my contract to someone else and take a trailer house but when I went back to see the trailer house the second time I found that a train went through the backyard...so I still have my large investmentI agree 100% with you on saving your money now if you have it but I have my back to the wall and I honestly think that I will come out ahead on the buying a house project... if I do, we'll be able to afford two cars if not we'll have one.....can't make too much money unless you gamble a little...although I don't consider this too much of a risk.....

Time to clean up + eat. will write again soon. all my love, the



Osaka Castle

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VIA AIR MAIL

Mr and Mrs Spencer Orgell
614 North Rodeo Drive
Beverly Hills, California
U.S.A.

7 April 1957

Dear Mom + Dad,

Here I am again reporting the "World Affairs" from the Far East. Things have not changed much since I left; one thing is for sure, the work load has not diminished, if anything it has increased; my "substitute" did his job in fine style & is now sitting along side his "boss" (me) trying to figure out the lesser of evils working Saturdays or working several nights until we catch up our work to a point where we can sit back & let it get ahead of us again.

Outside of "work" (a dull subject) (oh I forgot to say that on my return to the 6023 I was greeted by two Article 15 cases & one Court Martial - who needs law school - join the A.F.); anyway regardless of "work" our social life is keeping us very busy - people who one moment tell us "how wonderful it must be to be away from home & able to settle down & have some time alone together" & then immediately after finishing this statement they insist we have dinner with them or go somewhere together. Actually people have been overly kind - the entire last week was spent being entertained - thank God it's Sunday & Guis & I, sitting across from each other, are catching up on the mail bag.

Gail seems to like the for east although it's a little early to tell; she seems impressed with the maid service, & I don't blame her; for 50 yen an hour our apartment is kept spotless; although I must admit Gail is doing a good job of keeping me on edge - for two consecutive days (maidless ones) she cleaned the apartment, washed dishes, cleaned shoes, etc, etc but what has me in even greater suspense is her morning ritual of getting up every A.M. with me (approximately 6:00 A.M.) & making us breakfast - how long does this last - I'm getting spoiled!!

Our trip over here was very nice - even Hawaii was better than last time. The Surfside is a very nice hotel but a ocean-view room is essential, especially if the room has a veranda. The two Hawaiian days were spent resting, surfing (Gail not I) and driving around the island in a rented convertible!

The long flight from Hawaii to Japan was interesting as we had some enjoyable traveling companions; a woman from B.H., a Uruguayan who didn't speak English and a patent attorney. We arrived at Tokyo Internatl at 5:00 A.M. & Sh. Pat Dick & Sandy were there to meet us - now I'm glad we invited the Wentzels & the Turbows over for coffee.

Our house is supposed to be ready in about two weeks - actually it's coming along fairly well. There is really very little to tell about the house other than at the moment it impresses me similarly to a piece of cloth that you think will make a fine suit but you won't be sure until the tailoring is finished.

The San Francisco project sounds interesting although it is difficult to give an opinion, especially when there is no idea of how much Mr M wants for his store. The store itself sounds like an unknown quantity - many questions arise - how much will advertising increase volume - will advertising like ours go over in S.F. - will our type "modern product" be successful in San Francisco - could S.F. be a good outlet for good antiques - could the two present inventories be interchanged to produce volume increases in both stores - is Harris capable of running a store - what is Morrison's goodwill - does "M" have dinnerware & stemware that is unavailable to us in B.H. - could we transfer this unavailable lines from S.F. to B.H. without causing trouble with suppliers - and most important (if we can buy the operation) can we or could we replace Gump's as the "the" store - personally I feel that Gump's is on the downgrade & has been for the past five years. Well enough of these Far East glimpses - where does the money come from & how much is necessary - I just noticed that you mention it isn't a corporation, would our corporation buy it & then incorporate it; if we bought it, would the stocks in "M" be separate or would it be considered part of the assets of S.O's. My final words on the subject in this letter are "Good luck Conrad Farrell!!" - I like San Francisco!!

Although I realize that it isn't necessary, I do want to thank you for everything that you did for Gail & I when I was home & for what you did for Gail before I came home. The wedding & the weeks prior to it were days that I'll always remember - you have your 65 Rabbi & I have my "Elliott" - funny - how little things like this highlight big moments & always help remind one of the full wonderful memory.

Japan has taken on a new light for me now that Gail is here with me but regardless I still think & dream of 18 months hence when we return to L.A. & settling down. When I was home I re-realized the tremendous opportunities & adventures that await me in Spencer Ogell's Silvermiths & I look forward anxiously to the day I return & can start putting my two-cents worth in. The military is keeping me busy but it isn't keeping me from thoughts of the future.

It's time to leave - keep writing & I'll do my best to keep up this end of the correspondence - think should settle down in about a month when we are settled at TAB so until then bear with your vagrant writing son.

all of our love

Richard Elliott & Gail Elliott

Dear Mom + Dad - + Eve if he's still at 614;

April 15, 1957.

Another Sunday + another day to write a letter; this past week, like all the weeks prior to it, went rather quickly. Things of importance that happened are: Gail's trunk arrived - now hers + my clothes live in the apartment; the linens (sheets, pillow cases, towels, etc) arrived from Robinsons; the pots in pans mailed by S.D. arrived + we're anxiously awaiting the furniture - serving pieces, two more place settings, Gail's clothing (more of it!!) + anything else you've shipped.

Outside of the above paragraph that although it doesn't say it encompasses two consecutive journeys into Tokyo, delia treatment by Promonito's representatives here in Japan + free passes to a movie theater that we can't find although we maid almost bowed through the floor when we re-visited her with two of them, my life (militarily speaking) has been court martial, signing my name + telling people to calm down + quit exciting me.

Last Thursday we had our first dinner guests - friend chaker, etc - bridge after dinner - very social - quite a milestone; nearly as momentous as last night's mile-

stone of finishing our first tube of toothpaste.

News of the house is not too heartening - we may be delayed moving in at least three or four days - somehow or other from 6 days ahead of time, no bad weather and perfect building conditions our Japanese construction group has found themselves 3 days behind schedule - trust the Japanese to find a way!!

Spent an enjoyable day & evening in Tokyo yesterday. Ran into an old college acquaintance & had dinner & conversation with him - most interesting, he's working in Intelligence work & after each statement concerning current events he had to assure us that this was his opinion not his ~~source~~ ^{knowledge} from intelligence reports.

That's about the news from now except that I'm off to try & play some golf.

Keep well, recover speedily & start writing some local gossip - letters have been sparse lately

All our love

Sail & Duil

Dear Mom + Dad

April 28, 1959

This time I have a ample + worthwhile excuse for not writing in a week, we moved!! at last we are in our home, true our home is not exactly finished but it does have all its walls, concrete floors (sometimes rudgerly referred to as warped!!), cold water, electricity + our appliances namely a four burner gas stove + our new 10.7 cubic hotpoint refrigerator (1959 model). The actual move was not too bad; we packed all our belongings into two station wagons, pushed our pi-son (maid) between Gail + I, waved goodbye to the Catholic Legion as they muttered something to the effect of buy bonds for Hussein + caravened to J.A.B. Several helping hands, a couple of strained backs + 10 hours later the house was livable + we were entertaining our first bridge guests. Well enough about the house, Gail will write more later.

Things continue fairly much as usual - court-martials, name signing etc. The biggest news of the day is that my two best men, both career air force men, are fed up with the service + have been asking about employment with Spencer Osgill. Shall I steal them - one a colored fellow (3 years of college) would make an excellent stock + shipping manager + the other has possibilities of excelling Gail as a salesman. He's the type that is very conscientious + loyal - often times he comes back + works nights on materials that he feels I should have out of the office

by the great dry - I must admit that his devotion
to duty is far above mine. Both men have been
instrumental in helping Gert. I move from Chapin,
Reid (the negro sergeant) is getting us a job - son
(a switch in the employment agency personnel)
& Bohannon loaned us his station wagon -
as a matter of fact the whole unit from
Major May (who offered to help me move furniture)
on down have been very kind & helpful - they
're even making a carpenter & electrician out
of me.

A Mr King (a friend of Myrtle's) called yesterday;
he's at the Imperial; well try & see him if time
& situation is available. Please tell Myrtle
we did speak to him.

Haven't heard from the Family in a few days
so there is little to comment on as to
your letter.

I was interested to hear that I renewed his
offer - please write more on the subject. San
Francisco could hold some interesting challenges.

How about a few sage words on the economic
conditions in & around S.A. & the U.S.A. Is a recession
in sight; how are S.O.'s accounts paying; is
money tight; how's the building business; are
house prices still way overvalued and in general
is now the time to buy on to the few "peas"
one has worked to save or is now the time
to invest - Remember Jesus saves Moses Invest.
all our love
Laird & Dief

LT. RICHARD E. ORGELL AO 3050952
6023 RDR. EVAL ECM FLT
APO 994, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.



Mr + Mrs Spencer Orgell
614 North Polo Drive
Beverly Hills, Calif.
U.S.A.

May 6, 1957

Dear Mom & Dad;

Another Monday, another week but actually I have little or no complaints, I start the week in a relaxed manner as Gil & I, accompanied by Dick & Sandy Wintergrade spent the weekend in Hakone Nat'l Park at the Gohma Hotel. The weekend was spent taking baths, having massages and playing golf with some very good golfers who we later found out to be Admiral Felice Stamp (head of United Nations Troops in the Far East) and another naval Captain - Dick & I not wanting to embarrass the AF by our poor play & being discredit on our service introduced ourselves as Dr Wintergrade & Mr Orzell. Never can be too careful - I understand Dulles is under fire because his golf handicap is increasing. I wonder when our foreign aid slogan will be "a golf course for every government" Gil & Sandy were quite busy while Dick & I played 27 holes of golf, they were busy "saving" our money buying bargains - we have a saying over here "you go broke saving money!!" actually they did buy a couple of good Kokomona - what will do with them is another question but Gil had fun being the poor, "hard hit by the Republican administration small business man" from 3800 y to 2000 y. Need a Kokomona?!!

Our house is coming along; today the tower
racks were put in, the hot water connected
(a shower at last!!) & our floor furnace was
hooked-up so we can discontinue the electric
heaters. Today was also a "Red Letter Day" I did
finally after several frustrating attempts
got a p-son - even speaks a little English.

Next weekend we plan to stay in Tokyo
over the weekend & do justice to the
Trade Fair. My contacts tell me there
are numerous men to see - most of the
art type objects (i.e. ivory, scrolls, lacquer ware)
are from Egypt (we plan a trip down there
in Sept. or Aug.). Anyway I'm looking forward
to an interesting & educating weekend.

I was very sorry to hear that you had a
bad seizure with your back but to show you,
I also had sympathy pains; for about four days
my back was out of whack. Heat treatments,
back massages & time cured my small ill. It
must have been the way I lifted something
when we were moving because I can't remember
lifting anything heavy.

By my return address you'll see that
they finally transferred me. I'm now a whet
at Air Base Group, "Officer in Charge of Airmen's
Records"; I'm responsible for 17 squadron or
about 2,000 airmen's records. To do my work
I have about 20 men working for me & at
first glance (I've been here 8 days) it looks
like I'm a supervisor supervising supervisors
who are supervising supervisors. The change
of duty does not move me off the base,
as a matter of fact it moves me to

within walking distance of work (a good idea
from the way Tail has been feeding me!!) It's
early to judge but so far I am not happy
with my new wheel clutches; it takes me
away from my court martials, home security,
etc and places me in a signature type
duty. I have little or no contact with
the people whose records I'm controlling.
Major May (the 6023 C.O.) was quite unhappy
to see me go as slowly he was handing
over all the administrative duties to me
(something that I enjoyed & was anxious to
do as it gave me great opportunities to learn &
also "wheel & deal"!!). As things stand now I
have too much free time on my hands &
as soon as I can get my conscience to agree
I'm going to take advantage of it to play golf, to
traverse all over Japan & maybe take a trip
to India & Bangkok (in October.) Well it's early
to tell & I'm sure the situation will change;
it always does in the A.F.; but until it does
I'll have fun & take time to write you
during duty hours.

The rainy season has arrived but in between
down pours I'll try & improve my golf - fanatics
over here play during drizzles & who knows I
may become a fanatic!!

Well here comes a Major & he looks like he
wants to discuss personal problems at J.A.B.
business is bad!! Will write again soon

All my love
Richard

*This is what I spend most of my day doing, signing
Richard E. Dyer

Dear Mom & Dad;

May 26, 1957

Another week is about to start so I better get at least one letter written home before the cat race catches up with me again.

Before I forget, enclosed is an aerial photograph of the main part of J.A.B.; in the foreground is our base ball diamond, next to that the O'Club (hidden from view is the O'Club swimming pool) and the background is the administrative buildings (where I now work), the base movie & some of the on base homes (off to the left of the red arrow is the vicinity we live in); not shown are the P.X., commissary, flt line, etc.

Spent last weekend in Tokyo (Saturday), trying to sell one 55 Ford that no Japs seem to want (a cheaper 55 4 door Ford they want but the type a young B.H.'s youth would own, never!! I even offered a pelique with the car). After serving in the role of seller we then transferred into the roll of buyer, a much better part for us; we drove around Tokyo in a 176 but as much as we liked it we had to say no - no room for golf clubs; it's now up to a Porsche or Austin Healey dealer to show us where to put our golf clubs - 176 owners must not be "golfers"!! Tired of the "trade" we took

a bus man's holiday & went to see a French Movie
- English sub titles on the bottom of the screen
& Japanese along the side but with Brigitte
Bardot who looks at sub titles!! This was
our Saturday. Incidentally Gail stored her fur
for the summer; is 1% of purchase price
per month a fair rental price for storage
(about \$8⁰⁰ a month.)

The house is still progressing - when it's
painted, pictures will be sent - maybe even
movies of Gail & I walking in the snow.

Not much else to report unless you'd like
to hear about some lousy bridge hands &
some luffis golf - time allowing we're
playing about 27 holes a week - mostly
after work (9 holes before darkness!!)

I think I told you I have a new boss -
well that's enough nice words about him
can't wait until a Major from Korea gets
over here & I can give him my job & go
back to being a peon. My "boss" is looking for
full Colonel & I'm doing the work (or I should
say "further delegating the work")

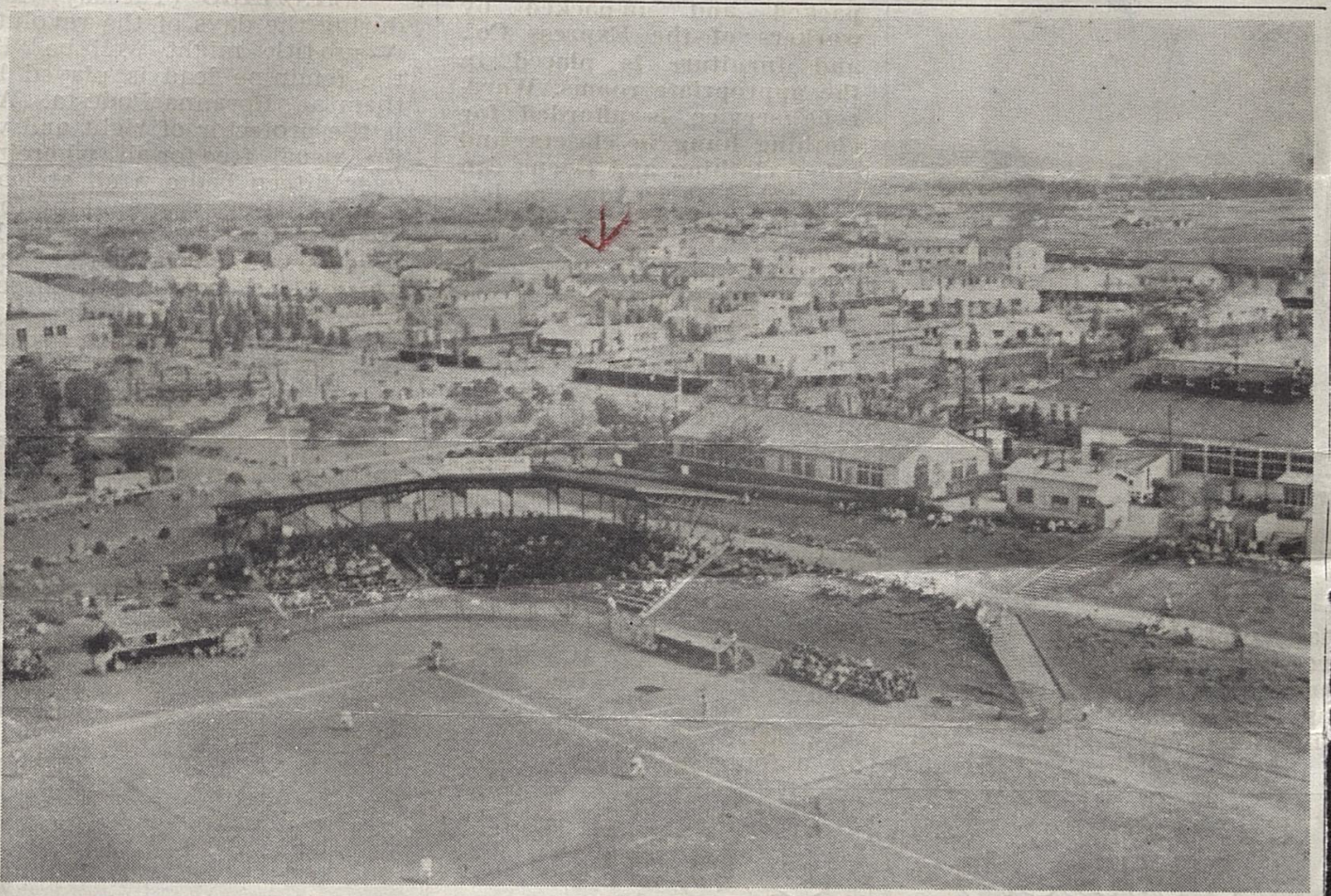
That's it for now - it's off to bed & dreams
of grand slams in bridge & 80 averages in golf.

all my love
Diah

Vol. X No. 3

Johnson Air Base, Japan

May 18, 1957



amphibians and helicopters for air

Services to Observe

30 May 1957

Dear Mom + Dad;

Here it was Christmas day, the 30th of May; the
Fiebman + our belongings arrived today. We went
into Tokyo early, had breakfast with them at
their place, spent a delightful morning chatting,
took our treasures, went + test drove a
Austin Healy + family came home to unpack.
Everything arrived in good condition + as soon as
we convert our plug to Japanese current
our neighbors will hear "hi fi" right back
at them (the Cat next to us owns a hi fi
+ were his taste in music not similar
to ours, he'd hear our complaints.

From the "silver mines" we received the
ebony + silver sugar shaker but not its'
brothers, the salt + pepper shaker - did these
stay home?? We did receive two sets of
Italian silver pepper mills + salts.

On the same vein of thought, Nail + family
visited my little antique dealer (Ohno), his
stock has been depleted, some dept. store
buyer is buying up the antiques. Who
ever did purchase Ohno's stock got some
real nice Japanese antiques. My screen +

**PAGE(S)
MISSING**

11-13-57.

Dear Mom & Dad,

Sorry you had all the trouble mailing me the "Chishi" (very small) pillow; as I already have the ~~same~~ ^{same} pillow on my bed I am returning it to you in hopes that you can return it to whence you purchased it. If the Moan's pillow is a good size I'll keep it, otherwise I shall return it also.

Have you found out anything about the socks I left at home - if you can't find them please tell me & I'll send you a request; until I send the request please don't do anything.

Glad to hear the scrolls are selling - why not sell the old one - as I said before I'd rather have the money than the art - I have three old bokomonos (which I purchased in Nikko) hanging in my room - these I'd keep - I'd like to know if the old ones will sell & for how much - why

not try - then if it won't sell I'll give it away as a gift. Incidentally do you want me to procure more of the small scrolls - they cost \$5⁰⁰ each (6⁰⁰ including mailing charges).

Nikko is not near Fuji - Mt Fuji is in Hakone Nat'l Park - another very beautiful spot - every morning as I step out of my orderly room I can see Mt Fuji off in the distance - this view only lasts for a few minutes as the Japanese version of smog (fog + habataki pot smoke) soon covers the view.

Habashis are small stoves that the natives use to keep their homes warm, these and hot birds keep the nights warm, I, thank God, have steam heat that can't be turned off although at times my room feels like B.H.'s on a 90° day. But on with the geography letter - Nikko is North of me + Hakone + Mt Fuji are south. Oh, I forget to mention Mt Fuji is covered with snow

at this time of year - the snow adds to the Mts beauty. Mt Fuji can be climbed only in July & August - during these months the trails are like the Treadway about 4:30 - 5:30 P.M.

Well that's about it for now - I had rather a restful yet hectic three day weekend - the kind of weekend that was very enjoyable but is hard to account for; I went to a couple of sayonara (going away) parties, went shopping, saw a movie or two, slept, took a drive around the nearby country side & wound up in Tokyo for dinner and that's about it.

Will write again soon - am having a busy period right now so letters might scarce for a day or so.

All my love
Richard