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Japan, 1948-1955

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## Letter May 19, 1949

Florence DeShazer

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Osaka, Japan  
May 19, 1949

Dear Mother & All,

This will be just a short letter but I wondered if you could buy some patterns for me. I would like a maternity dress pattern and also a maternity jumper pattern if it is possible to find one. If you see any other pretty dress patterns (size 18) I would like several - I'll pay you later. Thanks!

Jake has gone to Tokyo for a few days. We were a little disappointed that we didn't get to go along but couldn't get tickets on the military train. Perhaps we will go next month on the boat.

Mrs. John is doing her washing here today. They still haven't the electricity put in their house. We received your letter day before yesterday and was surprised to hear about Junior's decision

to go to Minneapolis but think that it will be a good opportunity for him. Have Phyllis write and tell me all about their banquet.

Did she wear a dress or suit? what did Burns & Russel name their baby? I imagine that Donna is tickled.

We had fresh strawberry short-cake the other day. It surely did taste good. They cost 25¢ for quite a large box. I guess that they will be cheaper by the end of the season. I am hungry for lettuce and bananas but otherwise we can get most anything. Meat is expensive but good. I think that things are getting a little more plentiful in Japan now.

I must stop now and study my Japanese but perhaps will add a few lines later.

Continued Sat.

The men are here fixing screens for our windows and the maid is doing the

washing so there is quite a bit of confusion.

There are about 50 cases of small-pox in Osaka and several have died. I am glad that we have our vaccinations.

The other night when I went down in the store-room to get some milk I was frightened nearly to death by a big black spider hanging over my head. He made those big ones that you see on bananas look like nidgets. Kenji & Koji were there and killed it for me but I doubt if I go down there at night any more.

The roses are in bloom in our yard now. One bush of yellow ones is surely beautiful - Mrs. Yoshiko has some pretty geraniums too. Jack has outgrown all of his suits and his winter ones are too hot so we are going to order him one through

The catalog so will close and  
make out that order.  
write soon.

Love to all,  
Jake, Florence  
& Paul