

May 13, 1967

Dear Mother,

It is Mother's Day and a good time for me to get a long letter off to you. We all wish that we could have spent the day with you! How is everything at home?

Things are really moving fast here and it's been hard for me to find time to write. We are scheduled to return to Japan on June 23rd: We are going by ship. It is called "The Orousay" and sails from Vancouver, B.C. We will be living for at least one year in Hitachi. It is about 2½ hrs. North of Tokyo. The Overlands have been living there but are coming home on furlough. The children will have to stay in the dormitory in Tokyo and attend the Mission School there. We are appointed to start a new work at Katsuda. [sic - Katsuta]

We haven't been able to sell the farm but think that we may be able to lease it for the five years we will be gone. We have been busy getting shots, pictures for passports etc. Also, we've been selling some of the machinery + stock.

Many of the Churches are calling for services so it's hard to get at our packing. Jake goes to Canada on the 16th

-Page Break-

and will be gone until the end of the month.

We had our first services in our new church on Easter Sunday. It is surely nice. We have our All Church [sic] banquet on Thurs.

P.M. Also C.Y.C. [Christian Youth Crusaders] Honor Council.

In April Jake and I went to the Doolittle Reunion in San Francisco. We drove down. We were there from Thurs. P.M. until Sat. P.M. - On Friday we had a cruise on the Aircraft Carrier "Orinsky" [sic – USS Oriskany]. They put on a demonstration of landing of the jet bombers on the carrier. Sat. evening was the big banquet with more than 1000 present. It was the Silver Anniversary of the raid and General Doolittle's 70th birthday. Guests included several Admirals + Generals, State Senators etc Jimmy Stewart was the M.C. They presented the story of Gen. Doolittle's life by film etc. Of greatest interest to me was meeting the other three boy's [sic] who were in prison with Jake + two of their wives. I had a formal made out of the enclosed material. There was lots of drinking etc and it's good to get back into one's own world again. The four boy's book is published now.

It is called "Four Came Home".

-Page Break-

We are all keeping quite well. We had the flu early in the year and Ruthie hasn't been able to get over it. She feels better for a few days + then catches cold again. She has missed lots of school. I am giving her vitamins [sic] + two kinds of medicine to build her up.

The boys keep busy at school and in sports. Mark participated in Football, Wrestling + Base-ball [sic]. He earned a letter in wrestling. John played Basket-ball [sic] + Track. He runs the two mile in Track + will get his letter in that. Carol is getting to be quite a young lady. With 4 teen-agers there's never a dull moment. We don't see much of Paul as he works every Saturday - He is getting along fine at S.P.C. and is still working at the P.O. we'll sure miss him when we go to Japan but know that the Lord will lead + help him.

We had a letter from Phyllis the other day. She plans to teach kindergarten part of the summer. We wish we could all come + see you, Margaret + Juniors [sic] but guess there won't be time or money. It was so nice to see you last summer

and I'm so glad that you made the
trip out. (over)

-Page Break-

Jake's folks are keeping quite well.
His sister, Helen, was married yesterday.
She is 48. She married a widower
with 2 boys. One is married but the
other is just 10 or 11.

How are Della, Junior + Kids? They
will be quite grown up when we
see them again.

It's late so I'll close - - Hope you
can wade through this Epistle.
Tell everyone in Toddville hello!

Love,
Florence + All