

Nov. 29, 1963

Dear Tami,

It feels like after a big storm. Yesterday A.M. Pinkie & The Sampson girls left for Osaka ^{7:45 AM} - barely made the train by one minute or so! They left ~~their~~ ^{the} place so late, if it wasn't for luck, ^{or despite knowing the best + quietest road} they would never have made it. They are so slow to get started - lots of talk & no action. The room looked like a typhoon but it. They left most of their baggage for us to send to Brussels ^{by air}. What got me was none of them even said one word of thanks for all we went through for them. They certainly should know better at that age. Wonder who they thought we were. Of course we are glad to do anything we can for people, but it was so obvious that their intention was to sponge off of the natives as they let slip out once. What an insult. Well, someday they'll be a time when the shoe is on the other foot.

Henri left this AM - 7:50 plane for Fukuoka to see his folks. We tried to call them last night but something was wrong with the phone cable they said & we couldn't get connected, so I just called them this morning so they would be expecting him. We gave him a dozen eclairs to take to them & Henri took a box of canned foods, dried fruit & other foods to them. Henri is due back tomorrow night.

We cabled you to send $\frac{1}{2}$ c to Kaneshima as Henri says you should for this time only. Especially because Pinkie plans to impose on him. I've written several times so hope you did it by now. Henri thinks it is best for the Tokyo office not to get involved in Kyoto purchases.

Henri has been urging us to take a trip to S.F. but we are thinking ~~about~~ it over very carefully before we decide. Not only is it the big expense but we worry also about the business on this side. Our expense here will go on while we are gone since we have the maid to feed & pay and since she is so stupid, we can't trust her so we will ask Miss Ichii to stay here.

Wednesday night, night before Pinkie left, Ishikawa Horo took all of us to The Mikado Theater Restaurant - a fabulous place like Las Vegas. There were 10 altogether since Mrs. Ishikawa came too. at $\$3500$ each it cost them at least $\$100$. - The girls wanted to go to a Geisha place but I told them it would be $3 \times$ more. Henri has been wanting to go there once anyway as it was fine. It isn't the type of place I would ever go ~~at~~ ^{on my own expense}.

Mrs. Ishikawa bought souvenir compacts for each of the 3 girls. What a waste! The Sampson girls surely did get a good bargain but as Henri says, Pinkie will be staying with their friends the rest of the trip. I'm wondering if their friends in various places will really be glad to have them & sure hope so. All I can say is I never knew anyone so slow and so messy & sloppy. The Springer sister being in the best - she is at least the quietest & gets up the earliest.

We have been getting up at 6:00 almost every morning & we are really worn out. Also the running we had to do at Tokyo Station yesterday morning really did it. Henri was so disgusted he didn't care if they missed the train. He was thinking of going to Kyoto on the way to Fukuoka ~~but~~ to see to it that the girls were ok but I think he decided after yesterday morning's experience that he would just let them

send for themselves since they were so confident that everyone everywhere are waiting for them with open arms at no cost to themselves.

Besides the gloves & pants from you, Pinky left 4 cans of tinned, 1 apron & head, 1 box jam, 2 box raisins & 1 jar coffee from their nations. Henri took some food ^{besides this} more, but the girls took the rest with them including most of the dried fruit except some raisins. Guess they wanted the apricots to eat on the trip. They wanted us to send most of their baggage (2 suitcases + boxes) by air to Brussels - wonder if they realize how much that will cost. At least the Lampron girls should have left money to pay for it. We can see that it will not be under \$50.- I really don't think Henri should pay & I don't think the parents of those girls should pay either. The Lampron girls gave us 1 pkg dog biscuits and one shaker of sugar. It was too

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bad that there wasn't time enough to get Pinky to bring the heavy things I wanted and can't bring myself by plane. Well, it's not a matter of life or death and we know only too well how hard it is to do all the things asked. Henri & we were discussing the matter of shipping by air to Brussels & since it will be so costly to send all that by air (44-50 lbs), perhaps we can ship it by boat since they won't reach Brussels until Jan. 23rd. Henri has their itinerary.

I think your 2 Chinese boxes come just now - We haven't opened them. We'll pay Kaneshima for them & the taxes from your account. About the Serizawa large calendars - Henri is glad he is out of them & won't order any more. If it were much earlier it would be different but it costs him too much by air & will lose money. He says this is the first year he made anything on calendars so he purposely didn't order many. Serizawa doesn't keep stock either and you can understand why. Good-bye, but that's it. Manta