

London, July 24, 1956

Dear Tommie,

Thank you for your letter which we received yesterday. We enjoyed hearing from Pinkie very much and hope she will write again real soon. She writes very well, though her spelling can be improved. Will was especially pleased to hear about Henri's Mercedes. I hope he is pleased with it. We have been investigating possibilities of taking back a Jaguar, but afraid we don't have enough money. It's too bad because we can send it by military transport.

From the sound of your letters, you must be very busy and can use some assistance. I hope I can be of some help when we get back. With so many people staying with you, your house may be large but full. If you don't have the cash to fix up the house, perhaps you can take out a loan, or be able to finance it if you rent the other place. It will be worth modernizing as soon as possible so you can enjoy the convenience as you pay for it. If you haven't already done so, I would like to get a washer and dryer. I could buy appliances very reasonably over here at the PX, but have to run the risk of shipping it home. They say so many of the larger appliances are ruined in moving, it may not be worth it. I would be very pleased to help fix up your new place.

Thank you for keeping me informed about the estate. I suppose it should be closed soon, maybe soon after I get home.

I think we should be back within four months and I am getting rather impatient. I wish it could have been around September instead. We would be more help to you then, but we will do all we can anyway. I think we should be back toward the end of November.

We miss so many things over here, mainly good fruits and vegetables. Although we can now get California lettuce, celery and green peppers at the base, we eat mostly frozen vegetables and occasionally, canned fruits.

There are a few peaches out but too expensive and they don't look very good. Bananas are the cheapest but small ones cost about 7¢ each. Since most foodstuffs are imported, they are usually bruised and not very appealing.

I hope your gift show in Los Angeles will have been a big success. Are you planning to go to Chicago next month?

Our regards to Katsuhiko. Give my love to Henri and the children.

Love,

*Marta*

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VIA AIR MAIL

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