

January 3, 1946
Washington, D.C.

My dear Dr. Colwell,

First may I wish you a happy and successful year to come with God's richest blessings. I had hoped to be able to stop over in Chicago the other day when I passed through on my way back to Washington, D.C. from my overseas mission, but the station was so congested due to the holiday travelers that I could not even reach you by phone.

During the past three months I have been with the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey which was organized by the War Dept. directly through orders of President Truman for the purpose of making a survey of the bombing damage as it effected the production of various war plants and also the lives and psychology of the people.

I left San Francisco for Tokyo last October by air plane via Hawaii, Guam and Iwo Jima. I arrived in Tokyo 5 days later and soon afterwards went to Nagasaki by a U.S. destroyer and saw the terrific destructive power of the atomic bombs. From Nagasaki we moved from place to place by jeep for the purpose of surveying the various targets, such as Omuta, Yawata, Kokura, and Moji in Kyushu. On the 2nd of November, after 6 days on Kyushu we crossed the channel to Shimonoseki on Honshu Island and then moved up to Hiroshima, the first atomic bomb target, via Ube, Tokuyama and Iwakuni. Then we crossed the Inland Sea to Shikoku on the 15th of November and spent 10 days in Niihama and Matsuyama. Our last stop was Kure, once the largest naval base in Japan, and from there we sailed for Tokyo Bay and thus prepared to return to the U.S.A.

I spent my last 4 days in Tokyo with my native fellowmen. There are about 60,000 Chinese Formosan youth in the Tokyo area, a great majority of them were students. I talked with the executive committee of the Formosan Association in Tokyo which was orgnized after August 15 when Japan surrendered. I learned of their urgent needs and the various problems which arose at the end of the war. After the war ended they were considered Chinese by the Japanese government (through the Cairo Declaration) and accordingly they were not able to receive the food ration given to Japanese. As they were students in Japan they depended upon monthly financial support from home but this support is cut off at the present time. The Chinese government had not sent any officials to receive them and to take care of their needs at the time I left on the 1st of December. I went to General Headquarters and was able to make arrangements for getting both proper food rations and necessary loans from the Japanese government to tide them over this period of waiting. They are now receiving the "foreigner's" ration which

is far better than the regular ration for the Japanese.

Most of our young people are looking for help from American churches for relief and missionary work and for the educational field because they know how extensively American churches have helped China in past years. I have been wondering if there would be any interest in American colleges and universities to establish a seat of learning in Formosa such as have been established in China proper, Yenching University for instance, which has been supported by Harvard University. There has been one university in the city of Takao, the Imperial University, established by the Japanese government, but I do not know its situation now.

There will be much work to do in Formosa, complicated by the transition from one government to another, not the least of which will be the spreading of Christianity. I feel a strong responsibility to be working toward something constructive to help achieve missionary and educational support while I am here in this country waiting for the time I can get passage to Formosa.

I want to contact missionary boards and schools as soon as possible but I am not sure how to proceed. I would appreciate very much your suggestions to work toward this end.

If you know Mr. William Benton very well I would like to ask you to write me an introductory letter to him. I would like to go to the State Dept. to talk with him about my going back to Formosa.

My wife joins me in sending best regards to you and Mrs. Colwell. I am sending a small gift which I brought back from Japan.

Sincerely yours,