

February 3, 1946

My dear Elder Brother Ai-jin,

I am very thankful to know that God has protected and guided all of you, my dear ones, through the hardships of war. I am very sorry to hear that our home and Ji-hia's hospital were partially destroyed by bombs but these can be restored in time. Also I am sorry to learn that Sa-hia suffered a most unfortunate experience with the Japanese government in Hong Kong. But thank God that He has protected him during that dark period.

Soon after the war ended Sa-hia sent me a cable from Hong Kong saying that he and his family were well and today I had lunch with Lt. Commdr. Kenneth Dowie whom you met in Formosa in December and he told me that he tried to contact Ai-le in Hong Kong at the address which you gave him (the office). Dowie arrived on Sunday morning and went to the office but it was closed, as it was on a Sunday, and he could not meet him. However Dowie saw Ai-le's nameplate on the door. Therefore I am sure that he is continuing his practice as before. I sent a letter directly to him through the regular mails.

As to my returning to Formosa I have written to Foreign Minister Wang in Chungking in order to secure a Chinese passport upon the instructions of the Chinese Embassy here in Washington, D.C. It will probably take some time in order to receive it. It is just as well that I must stay here longer, much as I would like to return and see you all, but it will take time to investigate commercial possibilities and in connection with the educational activity.

I am still working with the Government, first because of the immigration laws (I entered this country as a student and I will have to return to school if I give up my present job) and secondly because I must have a regular income to support my family. I will give up my present job if I can get some support in connection with raising funds for the educational activity. I am working hard at this now. I have begun contacts with a missionary board here and have talked over this problem with several government officials. At the present time I have no definite information to give you but I am sure something will develop in a few months or sooner.

Since this work is urgent and requires full-time activity on my part I may give up my job in the near future in order to be able to travel (I must go to New York) and to make better contacts. We can live for a few months on our savings without a regular income. If there is any way in which you can get a clear statement from the Formosan Church it will greatly help my work toward the goal of getting help from the U.S.A. and American churches. Please write a detailed letter describing conditions in Formosa, especially public welfare and health, church activities, and of education.

I heard from Dowie that Dixon and Montgomery are coming to Washington this week in order to get permission from the U.S. government to make a church visitation in Formosa. I am hoping to meet them here.



My wife went to the Dept. of Commerce, Foreign Trade Bureau, to make investigations of business prospects. She has still to talk with various officials there sometime this week and to get the Trade List of American firms wishing to export goods to foreign countries. After receiving the list we will write directly to the various companies and get full information on prices and shipping costs from here to Formosa. She is doing all this work for me as my job is located 70 miles from here and I can only come in for weekends.

We would like to know what steps you have taken in starting this enterprise. For example, have you approached the Chinese Government in regard to the exchange rate and the policy of the Chinese Government toward imports? Also, it seems that it would be better business if you had a local commodity or commodities to export to America and thus overcome to some degree the disadvantages of the present exchange rate.

We need an idea of the quantity of each type of goods which you can safely sell in Formosa, so that when we write to the companies here we can give them an estimate.

As you read the above you can tell us if we are interpreting your letter correctly. We are not sure on what basis you wish to do business, whether you wish several or all of the goods mentioned in your list, or whether to contact just one factory, for instance, the bicycle factory, and just import bicycles.

My wife, Ryo, has helped me greatly in various ways. BiHua is now 20 months old, in excellent health and very amusing at this stage. She says many words in English and if she cannot make herself understood verbally she can make herself understood by her actions. She is a great joy to us. We will have to teach her other languages soon. My wife is starting to learn Mandarin by book. I took a course at the University of Chicago in 1943 in Mandarin so I know a little.

We want to send you food and clothing but there is no way yet for sending these. As soon as we can send things we will, but let us know what you would like especially.

Our thoughts are with you and we pray for God's strength in each of us, to guide us until we meet again. Please send our best regards to our dear parents and all members of our family.

I was surprised to learn that you have retained your knowledge of English so well. Dowie also said he was surprised to know that there was a Formosan Chinese who could speak English as well as you can.

Sincerely yours,