1-24-1919

Letter from May-ling Soong Chiang, 1919-01-24, Shanghai, China, to "Grandad"

May-ling Soong Chiang

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Dearest Grandad:

Your lovely smile is beaming on me from the mantelpiece! I do think you are so handsome in your uniform. And Emma told me that you actually were afraid that you looked a bit stout in it. But mercy me, you are just fine in all its glory, and really truly it is a huge success. Emma too sent me some pictures of herself and the ship "DeLong." I think I forgot to thank her in my letter to her. Will you convey my thanks?

And how was army life? It is a great disappointment to me that my family would not allow me to take a nursing course, even after I had sent in my application. [page break]

I am helping to run a Girls’ Club in the city. It is good fun, and I enjoy doing it hugely. You have no idea how some of the much bepowdered and...
bepainted young Chinese
damsel enjoy playing
games altho at first they
were inclined to be stiff
and straight-kneed as a
ramrod.

In spite of their very
advanced ideas, my family
would not let me take a [page break]
course to be a physical
director. They think that
that is being something
like a "gaiety" girl, and
a front row one at that.
And so I cannot return
to America to see you
all on the pretext of study-
ing to be either a doctor
or a physical director. But
I think of you all just
the same, and love you
just as much.

Granddaughter.
30 Heywood Road
Thorpeai —
24 January, 1919.

Dear Grandad:

Your lovely smile is beaming on me from the mastheadlines! I do think you are so handsome in your uniform. And Emma, too! I think you actually were afraid that you looked a bit stout in it. But mercy me, you are just fine in all its glory, and really truly 

Grandedaughter.
I am helping to run a girls' club in the city. It is good fun, and I enjoy doing it hugely. You have no idea how some of the much we powdered and repainted young Chinese dancers enjoy playing games at first they were in China to be stiff and straight-kneed as a ramrod.

In spite of their very advanced ideas, my family would not allow me to take a nursing course, even after I had sent in my application.

It is a huge success. Emma too sent me some pictures of herself and the ship "Ta Tong." I think I forgot to thank her in my letter. Will you convey my thanks?

And how was army life? It is a great disappointment to me that my family would not allow me to take a
I am helping to run a girl's club in the city. It is good fun, and I enjoy doing it hugely. You have no idea how much she powdered and repainted young Chinese dancer's face playing James Austin at first they were in chinos to be stiff and straight. knees as a ramrod.

In spite of their very advanced ideas, my family would not allow me to take a nursing course, even after I had sent in my application.

It is a huge success. Emma Too sent me some pictures of herself and Che Tsa "Yo Feng." I think I forgot to thank her in my letter to her. Can you convey my thanks?

And how was army life? It is a great disappointment to me that my family would not allow me to take a nursing course, even after I had sent in my application.
course to be a physical director. They think that that is being something like a "quiet" girl, and a front row one as that.

And so I cannot return to America to see you all on the pretext of studying to be either an doctor or a physical director. But I think of you all just the same, and love you just as much.

Granddaughter.

30 Reynolds Road
Thompson -
24 January, 1919.

Dear Grandpa:

Your lovely smile is beaming on me from the mail stamps. I do think you are so handsome in your uniform.

And Emma said she that you actually were afraid that you looked a bit stout in it. But mercy me, you are just fine in all its glory, and really truly,