

1-24-1919

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

May-ling Soong Chiang

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

Transcription

30 Seymour Road
Shanghai
24 January, 1919.

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 [page break] 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 Feynsee Road

Phaenghai -

24 January, 1919.

Dearest Grandad:

Your lovely

smile is beaming on me
from the mailpieces! 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.

Uncle Tom sent me some pictures of herself and the ship "The Long" 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.

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 powdered and
be-painted young Chinese
dancers enjoy playing
games. At first they
were inclined to be stiff
and straight-kneed as a
bamboo rod.

In spite of their very
advanced ideas, my family
would not let me take a

course to be a physical
director. They think that
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like a "jeisty" girl, and
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And so I cannot return
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I think of you all just
the same, and love you
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Granddaughter.