

Machinomea Japan
20 May 1948

Dearest Wife & Son -

Greetings from this station of the good old world again this day. A letter every now and then from me will give you an excuse to write a letter out this side ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~same~~ ^{same} the earlier ship now. But this ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~same~~ ^{same} so far. & another fellow just went after a towel so we should get our tools out & get ready to go - now there is a bar out for the day. and still time in my hand so on with the letter that I started to my family on the other side of the world.

You know this is a great old world. One has a hard time realizing just how large it really is, especially if he is in an ~~instance~~ ^{instance} to sit high ~~land~~ ^{land} ~~guards~~ ^{guards} at the gate to keep us in. Only about 10% can be away at one time & that is a low number.

Last evening a fellow who stayed next to me sold his wrist watch for 3000 yen - or 2000¢ - He gave \$7.50 for it when he was in Basic Training. That just goes to show how scarce articles are

Around here - 11

28 Nov 45

Another day and this day saw
4 letters for me - the Air mail letter
that you wrote on 11 Nov arrived but
the V mail letter hasn't arrived as
~~yet. Also a letter you wrote one week~~
before 29 & 30 - came where you took
Walter to Church & did a 3 week wash.

Say you know Wallin's M. must have
their hands full - 3 boys - Man we had
our hands full with one boy what would
it be like with three? But before
long now Wallin should be getting
out of the Army -

Did I tell you that I went to a
Japanese Opera last evening -
Pinochio - with the World Famous
Cherie Blossom girls. It was the
same Opera that Japan took to
The New York Fair in 1936 - They
had lots of American music & Jap fan
Dancing - Lots better than anything

Never expected to see over here in Japan - This over on the left side is the way the japs write from 1 to 30 and from there on up is just about the same - only 100 = 百 1000 = 千 - ten thousand is too big of a number for me to be interested in so I haven't learned that as yet - besides its lots more complicated.

In the Opera the only thing I could understand was - Thank you - "When Pinocchio was in the cage & some came up & told him shud let him out Pinocchio said the jap word for thank you. Then when the school kids had a party planned for Pinocchio they planned ice cream & lemonade -

If I could have understood more of the words I could have enjoyed the opera more - but Music is the same language in every country. I guess - They played the waltz that goes "Somewhere in Old Wyoming" or something to that effect.

While about 30 cherry blossom girls
in white dresses danced - quite a
show - I had a \$20⁰⁰ seat - A seat that
only the old Bald heads can afford in
normal times - The very front seat
about $\frac{1}{3}$ of the way to one side - The
Orchestra was right in front - of me.
~~the girls sat in the opera just~~
behind them.

This day I only cut 3 heads
of hair - total this week 21 so you
can see I about worked myself out
of a job. But they will begin to
come around again before a
week or so.

Thanks for the letters that come
they did my old soul a lot of good -
I was down to my eye when you told
me of Walter saying "Daddy gone!" -
But we'll be together again before
too long - Remember I love you
Keep smiling & keep up the good
work -
L. L. Wood