

1945

September 1945 Mum turns twenty-three. As Mum's diary opens she is still in Macau and keeping house for her Aunt Dorothy (George Kotwall's widow) and as ever, teaching. Following the Japanese surrender August 15th and the end of the 'three years eight months', some time late August early September Mum returns to HK, followed later by the rest of the Lang family on an ocean going junk!

1945

JANUARY						
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FEBRUARY						
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NOVEMBER						
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DECEMBER						
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- Mum's Diary Entries

- Feb 6 Manila falls

- Aug 6 Atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima

- Aug 15 Japanese surrender HK

- Nov. 1 First mention of Jack Kruse

- Nov. 26 Hazel weds Eddie Gosano

- Dec 7 Mum parts from Jack Kruse

- Dec 13 Prometheus and JK leave HK

- Dec. 20 Mum finishes at DGS and on the 28th moves home to King's Terrace

The population of Hong Kong dwindled from 1.6 million in 1941 to 600,000 in 1945. While in Macau Mum continued her teaching, probably in league with Joyce Anderson, (see Bea's experience at the end of this years diary) including amongst her pupils English students who sent her a thank-you card (August 29th 1945). It is probable that Mum was in Macau until September 1945 when she returned before the rest of the family to assess the situation in HK, living and teaching at DGS. Eddie Gosano returned earlier, at the end of August (see below) and was able to help. One of Robin's fond memories is of the Lang family returning from Macau to Hong Kong on an ocean going Junk, an exciting if seasick making experience.



Junk passing US aircraft carrier, HK harbor 1945 Tattered and Lost refers to the AC.

Macau

“With its Hong Kong Planning Unit set up in London in 1943, Britain was obviously well prepared for a Japanese capitulation that became increasingly imminent after the American bombing of the Japanese homeland and other events. As it transpired, the British Army Aid Group (BAAG) heading up the anti-Japanese resistance in and around Macau alongside the Chinese Nationalists was not assigned a role by British military planners in the liberation of Hong Kong, especially given sensitivity towards Chungking on this issue. In fact, Whitehall (the

British Foreign Office) took the running. With Macau neutral territory and with the British consulate in Macau also covertly connected with British military authorities in Chungking, in February 1945 the British Consul John Pownall Reeves, was also brought alongside in planning for Hong Kong's reoccupation."

*"On 19 August 1945 Reeves received instructions to facilitate transport of certain internees in Hong Kong, who wished to cross over to Macau owing to food shortage. Besides mobilizing the Portuguese Red Cross to contact Japanese authorities in Hong Kong to facilitate the release of these pows, Reeves was also charged to coordinate a mission to Hong Kong to make contact with Franklin Gimson, the former Hong Kong colonial secretary in captivity in Stanley camp and with the territory still under Japanese military occupation. In the event, the mission was assigned to three resistance members, namely Macau comprador and undercover agent Y.C. Liang (leader), the Macanese **Dr. Eddie Gosano**, and **Rogério** (future 'Sir Roger' see pg. 239) **Hyndman Lobo** (the then 22-year old son of Macau's economic boss, Pedro José Lobo). Departing Macau by sailing junk on the night of 21 August and navigating through mine-strewn waters, the party arrived in Hong Kong the following afternoon. Bearing letters of credential from the British consulate as well as a sealed letter patent, the all-important document drafted by Whitehall as to the reestablishment of British authority in Hong Kong, the party duly made contact with Gimson. As Gosano explained in his memoir, *Hong Kong Farewell*, their party of three (himself, Lobo and Y.C. Liang) 'disguised as fishermen', reached Hong Kong well before the first British naval vessels arrived." (From blog China in WWII)*

In August, following the dropping of atomic bombs on Nagasaki and Hiroshima, the Japanese surrendered, and Mum helps prepare for her families' move back to Hong Kong from Macau as indicated in a letter to her mother (pg. 266). Due to fears of the Chinese taking Hong Kong back "*Very much afraid these nights of invasion of Chinese from border behind*" (Feb. 6), the British quickly reinstate rule and the population returns to, and soon exceeds prewar levels. Infrastructure is repaired and Mum teaches at DGS. Joyce Symons has the following memories of this period.

"Miss Gibbins was repatriated to England to recuperate from the arduous years of internment. (During internment in Stanley she organized a school for students up to matriculation level). Looking back on those months, I shudder to think of the tremendous responsibilities I accepted so blithely. I had no letter of appointment, no contract, no salary... ..All I could offer the staff was the opportunity to work until they could be paid by the Council or the Government. From Macau I collected one teacher I knew I could rely on, young Phyllis Lang, who was intelligent and keenly interested in education.

In anticipation of repatriation, initially to the USA, Mum starts contacting eminent HKU academics for references. With elation at the end of Japanese tyranny and the presence of numerous allied forces – Mum resumes an energetic social life.

Jack Kruse

“All the stars fell into my lap – was beside myself realizing that I have decided to go to states. Jack offered to lend me money for passage. Said he wrote to his father and will read reply together with me. “

November 1st diary entry

Jack Kruse born 1918 Davenport, Iowa. Died November 8th 2000 aged 82 years. Studied architecture at Cornell University and naval architecture at MIT (source Cornell Alumni News June 1st 1946) Lieutenant in the US Navy for 4 years. Jack was serving in the US Naval Reserve on the Prometheus, a US repair ship. Mum appears to have fallen for him in a rush, and with the idea of repatriating to the States to continue her studies. She seems to have been able to share with Jack her love for books and academia – and although his intentions seem ‘honorable’ he was doubtless pressured by the navy and perhaps his parents, not to make a rushed and unsuitable match. Aware that being Eurasian would pose a problem, she discloses to Jack. (30th Nov.) *“Told him of breeding and ancestry Great Grandpa Patterson”* and then (1st Dec.) *To Gloucester where I told Jack Family Bogey.”* What could the family ‘bogey’ have been? Perhaps the concubine branches in the family tree.

Eventually after a whirlwind romance centering on visits to the ‘Prom’, dinners and dances, and mad drives around HK and New Territories in a Jeep (like something out of one of the Hollywood movies Mum loved); Jack or rather Dr. Millar breaks the bad news (Dec. 7th) *“On ship to dinner. Met Mr. Dr. Millar. J. shaved got ready. Waited on deck. Punched at club. Man to man talk. When J had to stand away. Cried and cried over Dad and all.”* The use of the expression ‘stand away’ implies that the navy took charge of the break-up. The last line, perhaps, says it all – Mum’s search for a ‘father figure’ after the death of her father and uncles, someone to look after her. *“Up to stars. Down to sing songs with the Vestal. Capt. Says I look like a beautiful Aztec. Said goodbye to Jack”* An interesting aside, I remember my sister Antonia telling me that in her teens a stranger told her she looked like a North American Indian – must be the Parsee blood.

Although Jack eventually leaves aboard the Prometheus, Mum continues to write to him frequently – and even after her repatriation to the UK in 1946, he sends her catalogues from US universities. Jack’s first marriage occurs shortly – in 1946 – so perhaps a bride was already picked out back home in San Francisco. Mum’s reaction to one of his letters indicates her disappointment *“I resent that letter. Too complimentary and discouraging.”* (16th December)

Receiving invites to visit naval ships in the harbor was a common occurrence in HK (Mum also refers to visiting the USS Charleston and HMS Artifex – a British repair ship) and even after the war – I remember as a child in HK in 1962 visiting naval ships with my Mum and sister. I imagine the abundance of food and other items on board the Prometheus, together with the health and size of the American sailors must have been a revelation after the severe deprivations of war. British POWs remarked on this when being repatriated from work camps in Japan by American sailors.



“Last breakfast with Joyce when she informed me that my bungle of averages prevented two promotions”

December 24th diary entry

Joyce Symons (nee Anderson)

Born 1918 (four years older than Mum). Joyce receives several mentions in Mum’s diaries during 1945 – Mum must have been in daily contact with Joyce during her time in Macau and at DGS where Joyce took over as headmistress, culminating with them sharing a cabin on the Strathmore and sailing to England together in 1946. Born in Shanghai, Dr. Symons came to Hong Kong at the age of two and began her association with DGS as a pupil at age seven. An arts grad from HKU (enrolled September 1935, graduated May 1939), she taught at DGS 1939 to 1941, was then a refugee in Macao (1942-1945) teaching English and learning Chinese. While in Macau she organized weekly meetings of DGS girls *“we shared wartime recipes, shopping tips, and more importantly, news of Hong Kong and Hong Kong folk”*. Her sister Phyllis had a Portuguese husband in Macau with whom she went to stay. Phyllis worked for BAAG and so must have known Eddie Gosano. Her brother Donald was with the HKVDC, and died fighting the Japanese in December 1941. Requested by Bishop Hall (mentioned in Mum’s diary 11th November), Joyce reopened DGS in October 1945, was married to Robert Symons in March 1946 in Shanghai, taught in London in 1947 while working for a Teacher’s Diploma (London University), and returned to Hong Kong in 1948, becoming Headmistress of the DGS from April 1953 to March 1985. In Mum’s 1963 diary she describes being taken round DGS by Joyce, plus several visits with Joyce including Antonia and myself. She settled in Surrey, England where she published her memoirs *‘Looking at the Stars’*. My sister Antonia Seldon (nee Rollins) recalls a conversation when Joyce was visiting our family home in England when Joyce took her aside and told her that Mum escaped the attention of Japanese soldiers by hiding in a locker room. Dr. Symons passed away at the age of 85 on 11th June 2004 in England.

Life at DGS (For more on life at DGS see Appendix F)

The following extract is from a letter Mum wrote to Jack Kruse:

“Joyce came in and called me down to impart rather grim news. It was an awful blow – she had just returned from the school committee meeting and was informed that the head will not be coming back for 2½ years. I doubt if I should bore you with the details but actually it is of such significance to us that I think you may be interested. You know what the school means to Joyce and I and how we feel that with the new principal we had just before the war we would have a much needed modern system of education – you remember the previous head I had told you about – the tyrannical old geyser – being a conservative disciplinarian. I must admit that we have learnt by her rigid standards of propriety – But, she was a typical product of the genteel Victorian girls school and did she take it out on us? I might add for your amusement that she was a spinster of 40 and she staffed the school, with the exception of 3, with spinsters from the last



war. In the junior forms it was all right, but as we grew up they clamped down on us to the extent of making us wear long black woolen stockings [can you imagine this in an HK summer!!]. This was only 5 years ago.”

I realize it must have been a kind of resentment so you can understand how we felt when after having gone thro’ our school yrs. under this regime we had such a person as the new Mrs. Gibbons when we were matriculating. We took off our black stockings and rolled up our sleeves to help her and the place and that was when the new wing was built. Can you understand and now why I couldn’t leave. And now Gibs can’t come back because her mother is bed ridden and hasn’t long to live. They have appointed a certain Miss Hurrell Oxford MA, 50 yrs. old. Who cannot be removed for at least 2 years. It rather knocks the bottom out of things..”

*from: Miss. E.M. Gibbins
Broughton Giffro Rectory
Melksham
Wilts.
England*

*To: Miss Phyllis Lang
Diocesan Girls School
Jordan Road
Kowloon
Hong Kong*

Dec. 9 1945

My Dear Phyllis,

Thanks for the 2 letters.

Your Aunt I am afraid I can do nothing about [Aunt Mary] - her place was right in Malaya. So glad you have some news now. Asked a man who knew the locality well. He said I could do nothing either in Rangoon or Penang.

I am sending you a testimonial on this.

You are doing a jolly good job at DGS. Bravo I am pleased.

*You may or may not know to my great grief that I can’t come back at present as my mother is too frail to stand it. But we have a really 1st rate person coming to you, Miss Hurrell, *** than I, but very highly qualified and up to date. She is used to ***** school work and please ask her advice for yourself. She will be all too keen to help. She is already v. interested in you all – has the school photo etc. and I need not ask you to make her welcome, I know you will. She is first rate.*

Ask Joyce before you tell anyone I’m not coming back – unless she has already.

Much love,

Betty Gibbons



Cedric

“Answered Cedric’s letter”

11th December diary entry

Cedric arrived at the Innoshima work camp (Hiroshima #5B) along with other Hong Kong pow’s (HKVDC) on January 24th 1943 where he worked as slave labour for the Hitachi Dockyard Company for more than 2½ years. Twelve pow’s died in this camp, including four from Cedric’s HKVDC draft.

“Cedric had a hard war” Pc. John Rollins to me (Jonathan).

Lowe at Innoshima 11th Jan. 1944: *“Big scare on now re beriberi. Bruce has it and had a heart attack. We’ve been weighed and all lost weight. Mugford, RAMC, has done a lot of hard work in bringing to notice of Comm (Japanese Commander?) how bad the food is and he deserves great credit for his work”*

Lowe at Innoshima 29th March. 1944: *“Damn cold month and gosh how I’ve felt it. Got loot today. Coxhead beaten up for pinching Nip rice ration”* (dockyard work provided opportunities to supplement rations).

From *We Shall Suffer There*, Banham pg. 156 and 159

Two other Innoshima entries in September 1944 record the deaths of two pow’s due to beriberi and associated cardiac damage. Then in November *“service for the ashes of Ashton Hill and Stirling Lee are laid on the altar alongside those of the 8 RAF men who died before our arrival here.”*

Following the dropping of ‘the bomb’ August 6 1945 on Hiroshima 45 miles away, and the Japanese surrender, Innoshima pows including presumably Cedric took a train from Innoshima to Yokohama, then on September 12th by ferry to HMS Ruler to Sydney Australia. (See 6th December card from Cedric to Mum and pg. 251 for photo.).

“In 1945 waves of super fortresses (B29s) swept over us. Standing outside our shallow air-raid shelter one day, I counted them in Japanese (for the benefit of our foreman), reaching 150 on one occasion. Later, as we were being repatriated, our train passed through the blackened square miles of former cities, with scarcely a building standing. The two atomic bombs, however, achieved a profound change. Hiroshima was only 34 miles away, but on 6 August 1945 we were unaware of any louder blast than usual since heavy bombs and naval guns could be heard constantly. It was providential that the wind was not blowing in our direction that day.”

Account by Norman McKenzie pow in Innoshima from *Dispersal and Renewal*

January 1945

Lay thinking abed through night.
 About - my craving for care and affection.
 monthly resolutions. This one speed in
 all. My failings - mental distractions,
 laziness - greed. But necessity to rise to
 face future. Too much aimless, distract-
 ed thinking.
 Aunt D. seems to care for me says
 I remind her in many ways of uncle.
 Asks me to stay with her for \$80.
 Then my religion - all I ask is for
 my faith to be strengthened. How weak
 it must be to have gone like this,
 no effort made.
 I must learn to love more - not to
 create emotions - Try to be at peace -
 Sun 7th Jan.
 Didn't do chi. up late. Knitted. Tied
 to patch coat. Stitched on B. looked after
 kids. Hockey against BSA. B. was
 infuriated at bad sportsmanship.
 Church - Aride with me. all very
 cheering also. Somehow Montgomery

Saturday January 6th 1945

Lay thinking abed through night about - my craving for care and affection.

Monthly resolutions. This one speed in all. My failings - mental distractions, laziness - greed. But necessity to rise to face future. Too much aimless distracted thinking.

Aunt D. (*Doris Kotwall, Jimmy's widow*) seems to care for me says I remind her in many ways of uncle (*Jimmy?*). Asks me to stay with her for \$80.

Then my religion - all I ask is for my faith to be strengthened. How weak I must be to have gone like this, no effort made.

I must learn to love more - not to create emotions - Try to be at peace

"Aunt D. (Doris Kotwall) seems to care for me says I remind her in many ways of uncle (Jimmy)"

After James was executed, Doris, with two children, Monica and Lawrence to care for, must have been lonely. She turned to Mum (and Mah Jong) for company. Was mum something of a loner and rebel, like her uncle Jimmy?

mention of Miss Lobo's curiosity about
 me. Tea at Sprinkles. Bath at
 home. Thought I owe attention to
 Maxwell. She also had been trying
 to arrange to stay elsewhere - I'm
 quite independent of her - but later on
 when we move to more room at
 Aunt D's - she's welcome.
 Tomorrow work starts with Biology
 & 1 hr. Chi. in A.M. Started to teach
 Aunt D. Am feeling better about life.
 Resol. Manhana
 This. Chi. Biol. / Am. Chi. Teach
 Pm. Chi. Knit

Sunday January 7th 1945

Didn't do Chinese, up late. Knitted.
 Tried to patch coat. Stitched on
 buttons. Looked after kids. Hockey
 against BSAB. Was infuriated at
 bad sportsmanship. Church -
 Abide with me - all very cheering,
 also, somehow Montgomery's
 mention of Miss Lobo's curiosity
 about me. Tea at Sprinkles. Bath
 at home. Thought I owe attention
 to Maxwell. She also had been
 trying to arrange to stay
 elsewhere - I'm quite
 independent of her - but later on
 when we move to more room at
 Aunt D's - she's welcome.
 Tomorrow work starts with Biology
 and 1hr. Chi. in a.m. started to
 teach Aunt D. Am feeling better
 about life.
 Resol. Manhana (*Portuguese for
 this morning*)
 1 hr. Chi. (Chinese) Biol/am Chi.
 Teach
 pm. Chi. Knit

"Am feeling better about life."

Jan. 17th Wed.
 Too uneventful to write of.
 Helping with kids etc. no time
 really to do anything.

Jan 27th Sat.
 The days continue. mornings chi notes
 & always see into house. Aunt D has been
 away Mah. jonging for past days &
 well gone where she may forget & I
 may be unhampered with my duties
 here. P. 23 teaching. Wai Yi. new pupil
 Gonzalo Leitão & lessons. Hockey
 practice. new friends. Salez. & by the
 time I'm in T. Shan again & am tired.
 And whenever tired I'm sad. The
 raids over H.K. have been ghastly.
 upon some whom I hold dearest.
 Have visited Glenda who came here.
 & have told her the truth of the matter
 where she is concerned - suspicion.
 She v. hurt & bitterly resentful about
 this return to her loyalty & aid to Aunt D.
 in H.K. Told this to Aunt D who was
 upset. & Doreen et al abandoned
 & sent to school here. My religion does
 not abide - nothing does.

Wednesday 17th

January 1945

Too uneventful to write
 of.

Helping with kids etc.
 no time really to do
 anything.

Saturday 27th January
 1945

The days continue.
 Mornings chinese and
 notes and always
 seeing to house. Aunt
 D. has been away mah.
 jonging for past days
 and well gone where
 she may forget and I
 may be unhampered
 with my duties here.
 pm's teaching Wai Yi,
 new pupil. Gonzalo
 Leitão and lessons.
 Hockey practice. New
 friends. Salez? and by
 the time I'm in T. Shan
 (Tai Ping Shan? old
 neighborhood in HK)
 again I am tired, and
 whenever tired I'm sad.
 The raids over H.K.
 have been ghastly
 upon some whom I
 hold dearest. Have
 visited Glenda who

came here and have told her the truth of the matter where she is concerned – suspicion. She v. hurt and bitterly resentful about this return to her loyalty and aid to Aunt D. in H.K. Told this to Aunt D. who was upset and Doreen et al abandoned and sent school here. My religion does not abide nothing does.

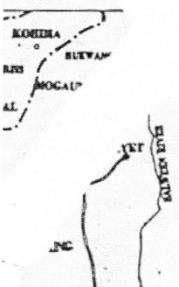
*“The raids over H.K. have been ghastly
 upon some whom I hold dearest.”*

Hongkong News

Shows 17th Year, August 1. TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 1945. VOL. LXVI

UNDETECTED: THAN

enemy, a... third convo, four division.



Daihonyei Bu' RAIDERS TOY

14 (Domel) - on a communique 1:30 p.m. this evening announced: "Firstly, approximately 60 B-29s from the Ana Islands this afternoon, January 14, raided only Nagoya and its vicinity... Secondly, the enemy, dropping several bombs in the compound of the Grand Shrine of the Outer shrine of the Shrine, caused two... The enemy lost three planes shot down during these raids, while two others were damaged. During the afternoon, one enemy plane was shot down into the harbour, the hit being witnessed by a jubilant crowd of spectators along the waterfront.

3 ENEMY PLANES DOWNED OVER H.K.

Flying in "Ladder" formation, the China-based United States Air Force for the first time this year raided Hongkong at 9:10 a.m. yesterday. There were many tens of enemy planes, and the "All clear" was not sounded until 11:30 a.m. At 2:15 p.m. another formation of over ten P-51 and P-38s raided Hongkong again, when they were met with fierce anti-aircraft fire from our batteries. All bombs were dropped into the sea, while no damage was sustained by us. The enemy lost three planes shot down during these raids, while two others were damaged. During the afternoon, one enemy plane was shot down into the harbour, the hit being witnessed by a jubilant crowd of spectators along the waterfront.

16 Jan 1945, WW2 Air Raids over Hong Kong
The raid was reported in the next day's Hongkong News:

Hongkong News

Registered as third-class mail matter Shows 17th Year, August 1. WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1945.

25 Enemy Planes Downed Or Damaged Over Hongkong, While Thousands Of Onlookers Clap Hands In Praise

OUR DAUNTLESS WILD EAGLES



Members of a Special Attack Corps undergoing strenuous training before taking off on their self-sacrificing attacks on the enemy.

An official announcement issued by the Information Bureau of the Governor's Office at 3:30 p.m. yesterday, January 16, stated: "Since 8:30 a.m. this morning until dusk enemy fighter and bomber formations, comprising about 200 planes, raided Hongkong. "Up to the present, the results achieved by our anti-aircraft defence units are: 14 enemy planes definitely shot down, 11 probable, and about 10 damaged. "Some damage was sustained by our side."

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American B25 Mitchells bombing Hong Kong harbour

February 1945

FEBRUARY.

1st. FEB. 1945.

Monica & Joy start school at the Sacred Heart College. Intention is for them to learn to speak English meanwhile continuing their Chi. with Mr. Chung. Their teacher Miss da Roza. A grubby little Portuguese but refugee. War news very good 70 mls. from Berlin & Manila falling. Feeling v. tired. Am getting down to work now that their school has started. p.m. Ah Ying gives trouble & notice. Out to teach. Then Police Station. Fr. Cooney for Psychology. Rejected Biology. A.B.E. Social. Enjoyed dancing. Max moved to Randall's. Home with her & dinner there. v. cute place. Back to T.S. news of letter from Gran. asking for relief & with intention to come. Heartbreaking.

February 1st 1945

Monica (Jim/Doris's daughter) and Joy start school at the Sacred Heart College (see below).

Intention is for them to learn to speak English meanwhile continuing their Chinese with Mr. Chung.

Their teacher Miss da Roza. A grubby little Portuguese (sic) but refugee.

War news very good 70 mls. from Berlin and Manila falling. Feeling very tired. Am getting down to work now that their school has started.

p.m. Ah Ying gives trouble and notice.

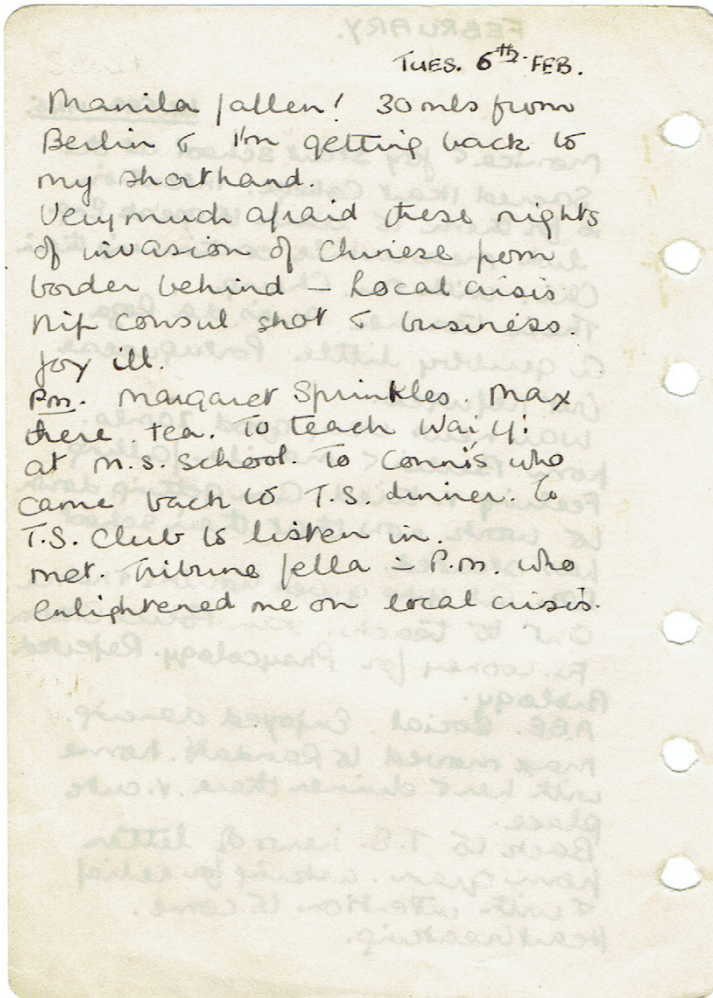
Out to teach, then Police Station (see permit to reside in Macau below).

Father Cooney for Psychology (sic) Rejected Biology.

A.B.E. Social. Enjoyed dancing. Max moved to Randall's. Home with her and dinner there. Very cute place. Back to T.S. news of letter from Gran. Asking for relief and with intention to come. Heartbreaking.

“Monica (Jim/Doris's daughter) and Joy start school at the Sacred Heart College”

Sacred Heart School in Macau was the sister school of the College in HK. It was established in 1939 with 24 students – the school building being a converted match factory. The school developed rapidly in the 1940's with the influx of refugees from Japanese occupied HK.



Tuesday 6th February 1945

Manila fallen! 30 miles from Berlin and I'm getting back to my shorthand. Very much afraid these nights of invasion of Chinese from border behind – Local crisis, nip consul shot and business (4th Feb. the Japanese consul in Macao, Yasumitsu Fukui, was murdered, probably at the behest of Chinese nationalists).

Joy ill.

Pm. Margaret Sprinkles (tea shop?). Max there. Tea. To teach Wai Yi at M.S. School (could be Pui Ching Middle School, Macau). To Conni's who came back to T.S. dinner. To T.S. club to listen in.

Met Tribune fella – pm. who enlightened me on local crisis. (Tribune, a socialist magazine published in London)

“Manila fallen! 30 mls. from Berlin & I’m getting back to my shorthand.”

6th February diary entry

Translation of document below


Head of the central division of civil administration

I hereby certify that, in accordance with the terms of this Government, the retro-appointed individual has been admitted to this colony, for which reason he has been given the present title, valid for only one year, which is signed by me and sealed with the blank stamp in use on this Central distribution

The chief of services

The Fee Due Was Paid

19  45

S.  R.

REPARTIÇÃO CENTRAL DOS SERVIÇOS
DE ADMINISTRAÇÃO CIVIL

FOI PAGA A TAXA DEVIDA

TÍTULO DE RESIDÊNCIA N.º 1062

DE

PHYLLIS KATHERINE LANG

CERTIFICADO


António Telles de Vasconcelos
Chefe da Repartição Central dos Serviços de
Administração Civil. int^o

Certifico que, nos termos das portarias
dêste Governo n.º 1:959, de 16 de Novem-
bro de 1935 e 2:412, de 25 de Dezembro de
1937, foi admitido nesta Colónia, o indivi-
duo retro designado, pelo que lhe foi passado
o presente TÍTULO, válido só por um ano, o
qual vai por mim assinado e selado com o
sêlo em branco em uso nesta Repartição
Central.

Macau, 6 de Fevereiro de 1945

O Chefe de Serviços, int^o,

António Telles de Vasconcelos



Nome Phyllis Katherine Lang
Filiação John C. Lang
e de Susan Nancy Lang
Nacionalidade Ingleza
Naturalidade Hongkong
Procedência Hongkong
Idade 22 anos Estado Solteira
Profissão Doméstica
Morada Rua Horta da Companhia N.º 23

Mum's one-year permit to reside in Macau

Dear Mr. Shanks,

Thank you so much for your card dated ----- which I received yesterday. It was most cheering to hear from you.

I trust that you are keeping well and was very pleased to understand that your friends out here have been able to help you – I shall not fail to thank all mentioned for you.

We are all fit and are of good cheer. The children are just as lively and seem to thrive on the simple food thank god. They all wish to be remembered to Uncle Shanks and look forward to you coming to dinner again. They are doing their studies at home now.

Kindly convey my best regards to Mr. and Mrs. Ring and remind them not to hesitate over any requests.

I'll say cheerio now and look forward to hearing from you again. Please let me know if there is anything that I can do for you.

Sincerely yours

Above, a draft written by Mum dated February 10th (no year) to Fred Shanks who along with Mr. and Mrs. Ring were British civilian pows interned in Stanley. I believe Fred was a Lang family friend, at one point Grandma Susie reminds Mum to write to him. The Rings are also mentioned in Mum's Diary. Julius Ring was John Charles Lang's supervisor in the Govt. Assessors Office (see pg. 271). He was appointed commandant of the HK Auxiliary Quartering Corps (in charge of billeting) prior to the invasion.



Fred Shanks (center)

19  45



DEAR PHYLLIS,

MANY
THANKS FOR CARD RECEIVED
YESTERDAY, AND ALL YOUR
KIND THOUGHTS AND GOOD
WISHES. TRUST FAMILY
WELL. HEALTH GOOD.
KINDEST REGARDS,
Fred Shanks
(FRED SHANKS).

FROM:
FREDERICK SHANKS,
BRITISH,
ROOM 21, BLOCK 8,
MILITARY INTERNMENT CAMP,
HONG KONG.
15TH MAY, 1945.

Letter from Fred Shanks (interned in Stanley) to Mum in Macau (Fred is mentioned elsewhere in Mum's diary)

Lyric by:-
E S A N I P .

(Slow Blues)

Music by:-
Andy HIDALGO.

YOUR HEART

(Humbly dedicated to Phyllis, the inspiration of this song.)

Ask the star if its beaming light
Has not seen my forlorn heart cry;

Ask the moon in a rapt'rous night
If my sighs do not reach the sky.

Ask the breezes that sadly moan
If my sufferings are not deep;

Ask the clouds if I do not mourn
For the heart that I cannot keep.

--- Chorus ---

Where is the heart I wish to own,
Does it really beat in your breast?

I search for it, for it alone
So I can give it my life's best.

And one day when I find your heart,
I give it all my darrenses;

I will bring it when I depart
For my sweet home in Southern Seas!

Bairro Tamagnini Barbosa,
Macau, 4th June, 1945.---

A musician, Andy Hidalgo receives mention in *The Lone Flag*, memoir of the British Consul (Reeves) in Macau. The Bairro Tamagnini Barbosa was an area of cheap housing built in Macau just before WW11.

TOISHAN MERMAID.

I'm more than gratified
To have a visitor to-day;
She's a pretty mermaid
Of Toishan's dirty sea.

Her hair is like seaweed
That smells muddy water;
She's such a lazy maid,
She doesn't take a shower.

She swims with all her might,
Blowing like a porpoise;
When jellyfish hugs her tight,
She awkwardly changes her poise.

One day she was swimming
From the breakwater nearby;
In the water she was screaming
As jellyfish kissed her eye.

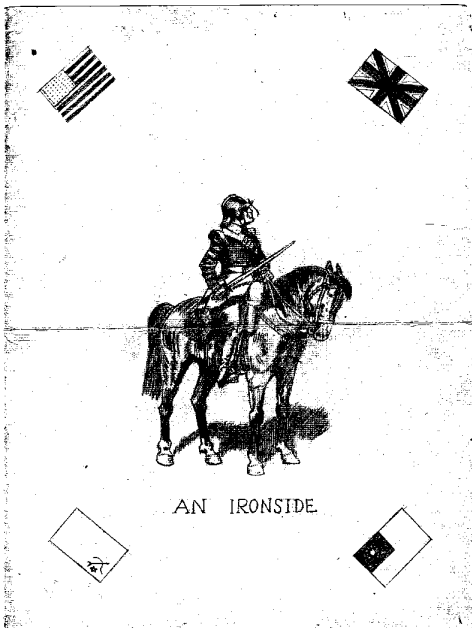
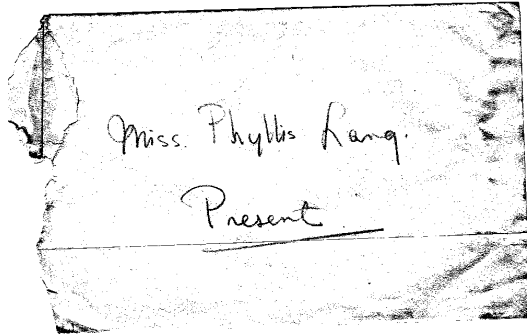
She walked like a tired Amazon
After her swimming feat;
It seemed she lost her reason
When she kissed jelly meat!

----- JELLYFISH.

Toishan, 9th June, 1945.

Toishan is in China, just west of Macau. Mum told me of an incident where she swam into a jellyfish and was badly stung. Mum was The Toishan Mermaid.

Japanese surrendered August 15th 1945



Macau.
Aug. 29th 1945.

Dear Miss Lang,

Thank you very much for teaching us through the Summer Vacation. It is very kind and unselfish of you to have given us so much of your time and energy, when you could have enjoyed yourself elsewhere.

We have benefitted a great deal by your teaching in this short time.

We hope we have not given you too much trouble.

Before long we may be leaving Macau for different places, and we wish you the best of luck for your future success and happiness wherever you may be.

Your sincere pupils;

Ronald Perry.

Noel Peters Jean Mather Richard Molyse

A letter written shortly after the Japanese surrender, with British, USA, HK and Russian flags. Mum was obviously teaching in Macau for some time prior to this letter being penned by grateful pupils.

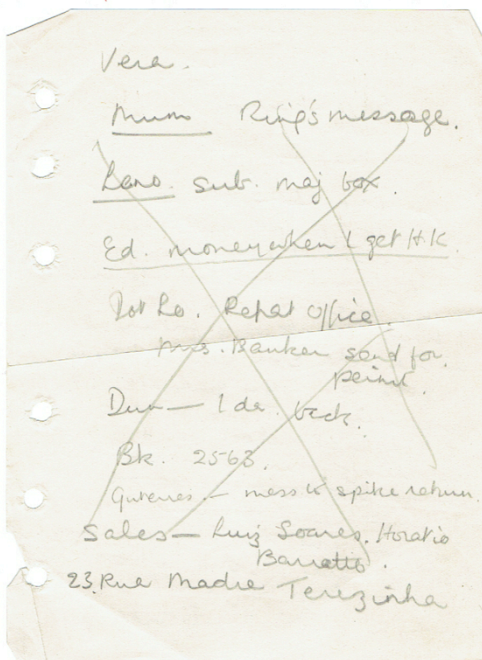
DGS was reopened by Ms. Gibbins in September 1945 upon her release from Stanley Camp.

“Gibbins hurried back to reclaim the school premises despite difficulty in crossing the harbour, thus saving the building from being looted.’ DBS was a mess having been used as an ammunition dump by the Japanese, so at first the boys also attended the Girls’ school.”



DGS 1 Jordan Road, Kowloon

The following is undated and crossed out in the manner of a ‘to do’ list, but on the reverse is a long letter written on Mum’s usual diary paper from Mum to her Mum (Grandma Susie) in Macau. Maybe a draft.



Vera.

Mum Ring's message

Leno sub. maj box

Ed. money when I get H.K.

Dot Lo. Repat office

Mrs. Barker send for permit

Dun – Ida back

Bk. 2563

Guteues? – mess to spike return

Sales – Luiz Soares Horatio Bauetio?

23 Rue Madre Terezinha (Macau)

① Return, - then pension.
 ② Flats. 2 Things,
 also can collect.
 Boys at school.
 ③ Kenneth.
 Aunt Mary.

my apols for delay in
 writing to you but have been
 so v. busy that I decided only to
 write when I have full information
 on yr concerns. To begin with,
 I have been ~~to~~ very fortunate
 in that the Edu Dept is paying
 me \$160 as a 1944 graduate. BA.
 disregarding war. I am boarding
 & lodging at school for \$100
 according to your wishes. ~~but it~~
~~is only that cheap because we~~
 I have heard something of yr
 return but it is very expensive
 to live here - Dou* will ~~ex~~
 tell you this. As far as I can
 see, after you are off sub. you

1. Return - Then pension
2. Flats. 2 Things
also can collect
Boys at school
3. Kenneth
Aunt Mary

My apologies for delay in writing to you but have been so very busy that I decided only to write when I have full information on your concerns. To begin with I have been very fortunate in that the Education Dept. is paying me \$160 as a 1944 graduate. BA. Disregarding war. I am boarding and lodging at school for \$100 according to your wishes. ~~But it is only that cheap because we~~ I have heard something of your return but it is very expensive to live here - Dou* will ~~ex~~ tell you this. As far as I can see, after you are off sub. (subsidy?) your

only sources of income is your pension & rent. Insur. etc. I don't think you will be able to collect for some time. The pension is only paid to you and only to those of your child under 21 after your death. So at pres. none of us will get anything. Ah Ming came up for my advise on yr letter of the 6th to him in which you req. him to

- ① Vacate all flats & 2/ To repair and white wash them.

Regard to former, this is actually not allowed but we think it may be wangled. But the pt. here is that once they are vacated you must have occupants as the looting is still v. bad. So unless you have a def. date of return.

only sources of income is your pension and rent. Insurance etc. I don't think you will be able to collect for some time.

The pension is only paid to you and only to those of your child under 21 after your death.

So at present none of us will get anything. Ah Ming came up for my advice on your letter of the 6th to him in which you req. him to:

1. Vacate all flats and
2. To repair and white wash them.

Regard to former; this is actually not allowed but we think it may be wangled.

But the point here is that once they are vacated you must have occupants, as the looting is still very bad. So unless you have a definite date of return

we cannot take steps,
 Secondly as regards repair -
 This would be a most ex-
 pensive business - but
 the fact is that the building
 (judging from our flat) is
 in perfect condition & in
 my opinion not even dirty
 so ~~that~~ it would be most
 unreasonable to spend money on
 it - In any case I think
 you must come back to
 decide for yourself - and
 as it is certainly habitable
 so don't worry. One thing
 remains and this is that
 it is my personal opinion
 that you should leave as
 many flats free for renting
 as you can manage because
 flats are extremely in de-
 mand at very high rents

we cannot take steps.
 Secondly as regards
 repair - This would
 be a most expensive
 business - but the
 fact is that the
 building (judging
 from our flat) is in
 perfect condition and
 in my opinion not
 even dirty so ~~that~~
 it would be most
 unreasonable to
 spend money on it -
 in any case I think
 you must come back
 to decide for yourself
 - as it is certainly
 habitable so don't
 worry.

One thing remains
 and this is that it is
 my personal opinion
 that you should leave
 as many flats free for
 renting as you can
 manage because
 flats are extremely in
 demand at very high
 rents

and really about
~~Elaine Ho.~~ your only source of
 Daph. income — I think
 Julia Ruby and us should
 try to manage in 2 flats
 at the most.
 As regards Kenneth —
 tell him that, so far, all
 offers of jobs have not
 been satisfactory — but
 I have just received
 been given an excellent
 letter of recommendation
 for him by my Headmistress
 & that should get him
 something suitable — mean-
 while he must be patient
 as Eddie & I are doing our
 best and something definite
 should crop up soon.
 We have no ~~reply~~ ^{reply} Aunt.

really about your only
 source of income.

~~Elaine Ho~~
 Daph

I think Julia Ruby
 (Aunts Julia and Ruby)
 and us should try to
 manage in 2 flats at
 the most.

As regards Kenneth —
 tell him that, so far, all
 offers of jobs have not
 been satisfactory — but
 I have just received
 been given an
 excellent letter of
 recommendation for
 him by my
 Headmistress and that
 should get him
 something suitable —
 meanwhile he must be
 patient as Eddie and I
 are doing our best and
 something definite
 should come up soon.

We have no news
 reply Aunt

Mary. But Miss Gibbins
 will be dropping at Penang
 on way to England I have
 asked her to enquire person-
 ally. That's all news for
 time being if anything
 else please let me know.
 Keep your chin up
 mum. Everything will
 be O.K. Look after your-
 self and for heavens sake
 see that Ron & Arch
~~st~~ stay with the Jesuits
 & work hard. Tell Julia
 I am enquiring into
 her concerns - also I
 am arranging for free or
 part free schooling for all
 the kids. Tell Dr. Guts
 his brothers all have work.
 In case you are soon

Mary (Grandma
 Susie's sister lives in
 Penang). But Miss
 Gibbins (Miss Gibbins
 was Headmistress at
 DGS and Mum's boss)
 will be dropping at
 Penang on way to
 England and I have
 asked her to enquire
 personally. (See letter
 pg. 270).

That's all news for time
 being if anything else
 please let me know.
 Keep your chin up
 mum. Everything will
 be O.K. Look after your
 self and for heavens
 sake see that Ron and
 Arch (Mum's brothers)
 stay with the Jesuits
 and work hard (The
 Irish Jesuits organized
 a school for refugees
 from Hong Kong in
 Macao). Tell Julia
 (George Kotwall's wife)
 I am enquiring into her
 concerns - also I am
 arranging for free or
 part free schooling for
 all the kids*. Tell Dr.
 Guts his brothers all
 have work. In case you
 are soon
 (rest of letter missing)

*When myself and Antonia visited HK in 2016 the Kotwall 'children' thanked us for our mother getting them all borders' places at DGS that set them up for their future lives. This was a huge legacy of Mum's.

19  45

October 1945

Tel. 33944.

Fisheries Office,
Mercantile Bank Building,
2nd. fl.
Hong Kong.

15th October 1945.

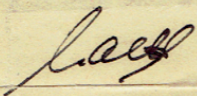
Lt. Colonel Gordon King.
% Medical Department.

Miss Phyllis Lang, before the war was a first year student in the Arts Faculty of Hong Kong University. She is desirous of continuing her studies at any University with a view to obtaining a degree and then teaching if no opening occurs in Biology of which subject she is particularly interested.

Miss Lang's father died in HongKong in September 1942, early death caused by the war. Her only two uncles were executed by the Japanese during the Japanese occupation. George Kotwall was working with Colonel Ride's organization. He was taken by the Japanese and executed in 1943. James Kotwall was doing even more valuable work for the British Government, in reference to reports of shipping in HongKong Harbour; he was executed in September 1944.

Miss Lang's godfather John Lytton was killed in action in HongKong. (J.C. Lang. Govt. Assessors Office for 23 years on the sterling staff, under J. King.)

There is a real case here for practical assistance. A possibility is that Miss Lang might be given a grant to enable her to carry out her studies in England. Her age is 23; she is temporarily helping at the Diocesan Girls School. (reference Miss Gibbins now on her way home to England).



G.A.C. Herklots,
Officer i/c Fisheries.
(Civil Affairs).

Reference letter from Dr. Herklots – see September 13th 1941 diary entry

19  45

Medical Department.

Hong Kong Shanghai Bank Building, Hongkong.

17th October, 1945.


Dear Miss Lang,

I am in receipt of your letter dated the 15th of October, 1945, and venture to inform you that I referred it to Colonel L.T. Ride, C.B.E. who writes as follows:-

"We have the machinery to deal with such cases. The next of kin should send the claim to me, in this case that's a mere matter of form because we already know of the case."

May I take this opportunity of expressing my very deepest sympathy to you and to your aunt, Mrs. George Kotwall, on the irreparable loss which you have both suffered?

Yours very sincerely,



Director of Medical Services.

c/o The Diocesan Girls' School,
Kowloon.

/EX

The above letter was probably a response to a request from Mum for support for her uncle George's family following his execution by the Japanese due to his resistance activities. As head of BAAG and the HKVDF, Colonel Ride would have been the natural choice for Mum to launch an appeal.

Went Van & family to tea.
 To meet Tubby, dinner Sun
 Sun. In joy^{and} dance after he
 left. Chat with Joyce.
 Marjorie day. Wed. 31st. Oct.
 Last day of month. Pay day.
 \$195. Over to meet Aunt Eve.
 Tea. Gave her blue twin
 suit to alter. Sonny very
 spoilt. Met Gerald. Tram
 ride to visit Mr. Pang, to
 cemetery. Gerald over to
 dinner. Was quite encoura-
 ging about varsity in states.
 Sent stuff round to Kimber-
 ly Rd. after dinner for
 Keny to take over to folks.
 Fixed up for Percy Larkin's
 children to come to school.
 Hazel to be baptised tomorrow.
 Gave Dot. \$60. kept \$25
 + \$100 to pay for board.

*Partial entry Undated
 but probably Tuesday
 Oct 30th*

*.....Van & family to tea.
 To meet Tubby. Dinner
 Sun Sun. In joy a dance
 after he left. Chat with
 Joyce (Joyce Symons).*

Wednesday 31st
October 1945

*Marjorie? day. Last day
 of month. Pay day. \$195
 (note return to HK
 \$ from M ¥). Over to
 meet Aunt Eve (Auntie
 Eva). Tea. Gave her
 blue twin suit to alter.
 Sonny (Robin) very
 spoilt. Met Gerald. Tram
 ride to visit Mr. Pang. To
 cemetery. Gerald over
 to dinner. Was quite
 encouraging about
 varsity in states. Sent
 stuff round to Kimberly
 Rd. (K'loon) after dinner
 for Keny to take over to
 folks. Fixed up for Percy
 Larkin's children to
 come to school. Hazel
 (sister) to be baptized
 tomorrow. Gave Dot.
 \$60. Kept \$25 + \$100 to
 pay for board.*



Joyce Symons, a teacher at DGS and mentor to Mum (see 1945 introduction). Picture taken many years later after war when she was Headmistress of DGS.

“ In joy a dance after he left.”

November 1945

News: "Prom" may leave Thurs. 1st Nov.
 in 1 month.
 To "Prom" for dinner. Met Doc Collier. Saw boxing. Back to school & talked into the night. All the stars fell into my lap - was beside myself realizing that I have decided to go to states. J. offered to lend me money for passage. Said he wrote his father & would read reply to g. with me.

Fri. 2nd Nov.
 To Prom for dinner. Dance up at club. lovely time. Comp. of Doc Collier & all. Elbow bending. up hillside. to the stars. Jack liked smell of Lantana. Late down so stayed at Tai Wo. St. John's flowers.

Sat. 3rd Nov.
 Home. Showered changed. Jack rang. to cancel date. Stayed in. Early night. John Talbot came for chat.

Sun. 4th Nov.
 To church looked up Vi. not in. lunch with Lara. at hotel. Met Jack who was late. Went up to Mary's who was not there.

Thursday 1st November 1945

News. "Prom" may leave in 1 month ("Prom" is the USS Prometheus a US repair ship). To "Prom" for dinner. Met Doc Collier. Saw boxing. Back to school and talked into the night. All the stars fell into my lap - was beside myself realizing that I have decided to go to states. J (Jack) offered to lend me money for passage. Said he wrote to his father and will read reply together with me.

Friday 2nd November

To Prom for dinner. Dance up at club. Lovely time. Comp. (compliments) of Doc. Collier and all. Elbow bending (drinking). Up hillside to the stars. Jack liked smell of Lantana (genus of flowers in the Verbena fam.). Late down so stayed at Tai Wo. (in New Territories) St. John's flowers.

Saturday 3rd November

Home. Showered changed. Jack rang to cancel date. Stayed in. Early night. John Talbot came for chat.

Sunday 4th November

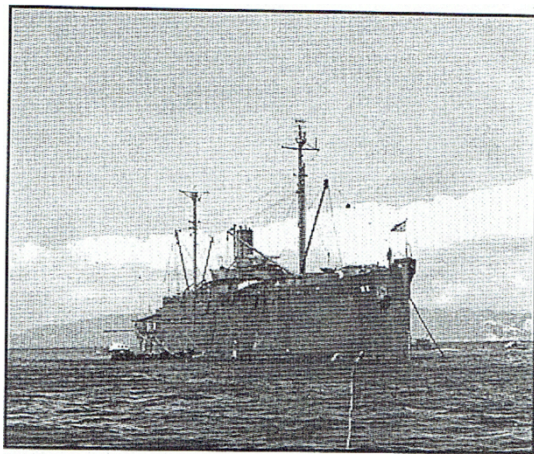
To church looked up Vi. Not in. Lunch with Lara. At Hotel. Met Jack who was late. Went up to Mary's who was not there. Tea and chat. Tubby. Mr. Cammiade. Came down together. J and I went to cemetery. Back to Gloucester. Drink and talk to Dr. Sneider. Clothes etc. Bored. Miserable. Home.



Sailors from US Seventh Fleet look down from Victoria Peak December 1945



View from Victoria Peak November 2016



SS Prometheus, Hong Kong Harbor, October 1945



Mum with Jack Kruse

19  45

Tea & chat, Tubby, Mr. Canniade,
Came down together. J & I went
to cemetery. Back to Gloucester
Drink talk to Dr. Snieder.
clothes etc. Bored, miserable,
Home.

Mon. 5th Nov.

Many absentees. Henry Litton etc.
Stayed in. Over to Commando's
for tea. Jeep ride.

Tues. 6th Nov.

Tea @ Mrs Wongs. with Mrs.
Goodtan. Met J. K'loon, over
together with Mrs. G. Finished
letter of application. Dinner
at shop. Chat. Ken. J told
me of his observations onboard
life etc. Met truck of
Lieut. Commanders, Allan etc.
celebrating. Up to club.
Home. J. was late back.
Cliff. invited us to R.A.F. dinner.

Wed. 7th Nov.

Rainy. Wet. Jeep lift to Ferry
met. Mary etc. at Wiseman's.
Tea. Had to tell Tub. leave

Monday 5th November
1945

Many absentees. Henry
Litton etc. Stayed in.
Over to Commando's for
tea. Jeep ride.

Tuesday 6th November

Tea @ Mrs. Wongs with
Mrs. Goodtan. Met J.
K'loon over together
with Mrs. G. Finished
letter of application.
Dinner at shop. Chat.
Ken. J (Jack - US
sailor from Prom) told
me of his observations
onboard life etc. Met
truck of Lieut.
Commanders Allan etc.
Celebrating. Up to Club.
Home. J. was late back.
Cliff invited us to R.A.F.
dinner.

Wednesday 7th
November

Rainy. Wet. Jeep lift to
ferry. Met Mary etc. at
Wiseman's. Tea. I had
to tell Tub. Leave early.
Dairy Farm dinner with
him. Met Jack. Hotel. Up
to Raf (RAF) dinner.
Lorna Mok and family.
Home. Jack broke



Jeep of the vintage mum rode around HK in.

19  45

early. Dairy Farm dinner with
him. Met Jack. hotel. up to
RAF dinner. Lorna met family.
Home. Jack broke window.
Thurs. 8th Nov.
Connie. Ken. Jacks here after
school. Out to Prom. to dinner
& cinema. Chat to Doc. Jack
showed Ken ship. Doc offered
Stanton Island help. Home
Jack broke window.
Fri 9th Nov.
Jeep out. met Tub lobby here.
to show "Gentle Sex". Tea eggs
at Wisemans. Sang songs
up to Mary's. Stayed night.
Sat. 10th Nov.
Waited. D.F. for Jack not appear.
Back to K'loon. Jack to lunch.
Mrs. Ander. Joyce spoke to
J. over ferry 'bout me. On
truck up to Donald Rd. scene
of action. Back to Glouces.
Tea. Us & Doug. came up to
speak. Sherries with Allan Zaf.
Neezy Alves. Dinner. Dance.

Thursday 8th
November 1945

Connie. Ken. Jack
here after school. Out
to Prom. To diner and
cinema. Chat to Doc.
Jack showed Ken ship.
Doc offered Stanton
Island help (*Stanton
Island re: emigration to
US?*). Home, Jack
broke window.

Friday 9th November
1945

Jeep out. Met Tub
lobby late. To show
"Gentle Sex" (*British
Leslie Howard 1943
Rom/Com*). Tea eggs
at Wisemans. Sang
songs up to Mary's.
Stayed night.



Saturday 10th November

Waited D.F. for Jack not appear. Back to K'loon. Jack to lunch. Mrs. Ander. Joyce spoke to J. over ferry 'bout me. On truck up to Donald Rd. scene of action. Back to Glouces. Tea. Us and Doug came up to speak. Sherries with Allan Zaf Neezy Alves Dinner. Dance.
Back. J. stayed night Marys. Chatted about H.K. blitz.

11-10-45:

③ 8 pens + 3 pens + 7 pens = 18 pens.

④ 9 bees, 12 bees, 2 bees = 23

⑤ 8 caps, 17 caps = 25

⑥
$$\begin{array}{r} 12 \\ 13 \\ \hline 25 \end{array}$$

⑦ 17 + 10 + 1 = 28.

⑧ 1 + 3 + 14 = 18

⑨ 7 + 9 = 16.

⑩ 6 + 6 + 5 = 17.

⑪ 5 + 4 = 9.

⑫ 6 + 12 + 2 = 20

Hugh, Vivian
Daphne, Katharine

14-30
1 = 30 15
Feb 12
288

Dictation.

A	E	I	O	U
BAT	BET	BIT	LOT	CUT
THAT	RED	SIT	FOT	RUN
SACK	SHED	BRIM	SHOT	FUN
TACK	BLED	SICK	FROM	SUN
RAN	TED	BACK	FROCK	CUP
RATTAN	FETCH	LID	TOM	LUNCH

The hat is in the sack.
I hat Ted went to fetch the red ball from the shed.
There is a bit of brick on the rim of the lid.
Tom took a lot of frocks from the hat.
It is fun to run in the sun.
I must take a cup to my lunch.

I am happy.
You are a girl.
He is far away.
She is coming short.
You are bad boys.
We are all here.
They are thin.

Syllabus . OCT DEC.

Arithmetic Tables. 2-12. Simple problems of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. 129 sums from "The Pupils' Class Book of Arithmetic." E.S. Casey.

Composition Verbs - is, be, To have. Vocabulary - formed from Reader and new words from other subjects. Construction of simple sentences with words from vocabulary. Fill in blanks - sentence exercises.

Dictation Passages from Reader. Words from vocabulary.

History Child's History of Hongkong. Stories from "Britain's Neighbours". Simple notes from the two above texts.

Oral - Questions on notes.

Reading Pronunciation, Intonation & Accent. Reader - Pixie Primers, Bk II. Poulson.

Kowloon Tong, Norfolk Road 8 year old.
Wendy Yeo

David Mok, Nathan Rd.
797 no. 2 fl. 9

Address
Age 9 years old
Live, Bel. Fern. Rd. 2nd. Suburb.
Jean May Wang

Address
Age ten years old.
Live, Norfolk Rd. No. 3
DAPHNE YEO

Address
Age ten years old
Live, Victory Avenue Road No. 14
Betsy Ho

Many pages of teaching notes were found with Mum's Diary, including pupils' names and addresses in their own hand. A few are included above.

10th Nov 1945
 10 Rua Adolfo Loureiro
 Macau.

Dear Phyl.

This is the first letter I have wrote to you.

How are you in Hong Kong. I am sure you have seen Hazel in Hong Kong or Kowloon, for she has just left Macau for Hong Kong yesterday.

Thank you for your flag and other things.

Grannie has come to stay with us last night and day before last.

I am sure you are happy there, for you can see the ship and the fleet, and the planes.

I hope to see you sometime

in this month end in Hong Kong.

Give my regards to Mary, and her father, and Hazel.

I am very lonely here for I have no more English to study, and I hope to go to Hong Kong to study soon in your school.

Please rite to me as soon as you can.

Your love
 Robin

10/11/45

Letter from Mum's 11yr. old youngest brother, from Macau to Mum in HK

10 Nov. 1945

10 Rua Adolfo Loureiro

Macau

Dear Phyl,

This is the first letter I have wrote to you. How are you in Hong Kong. I am sure you have seen Hazel in Honk Kong or Kowloon, for she has just left Macau for Hong Kong yesterday. Thanks you for your flag and other things. Grannie has come to stay with us last night and day before last. I am sure you are happy there for you can see the ship and the fleet, and the planes. I hope to see you sometime in this month and in Hong Kong. Give my regards to Mary, and her father, and Hazel. I am very lonely here for I have no more English to study, and I hope to go to to Hong Kong to study soon in your school. Please rite to me as soon as you can

Your love Robin

Back. J. stayed night. Maup.
 Chatted about. H.K. blitz.
 Sun. 11th Nov.
 Call Jack ^{up} who had left
 by 7. Left note. Chat. Madame
 Down to armistice service. ^{think I'll go.}
 Home. Tiffin. Mr. Ander. here.
 Ken Seyer tea party. Gerald
 here. In ~~to~~ for dinner.
 John Talbot came over chat.
 Bish Hall Eurasian sermon
 this A.M.
 Mon. 12th Nov.
 Holiday in all day. Played
 hockey. Read mags.
 Artifex & Medina "Prom"
 came tea & chat. Killed
 chain. What's Aunt Mary.
 Hazel brought me shoes.
 \$33
 Tues. 13th Nov.
 Worked hard directing towards
 Exam. Con. Pat Abloy to tea.
 To Con's for dinner. Farewell.
 Met. Mr. George Giffin.

Sunday 11th November 1945

Call Jack up who had left by 7. Left note. Chat Madame thinks I'll go. Miss Hahn (Emily Hahn see pg. 319). Down to armistice service. (Maybe at the Cenotaph) Home. Tiffin. Mr. Ander here. Ken Seyer tea party. Gerald here. In for diner. John Talbot came over chat. Bishop Hall Eurasian sermon this A.M.

Monday 12th November

Holiday, in all day. Played hockey. Read mags. Artifex (HMS Artifex British repair ship see pic.) and Medina "Prom" (SS Prometheus US repair ship) came tea & chat. Filled diary. Wrote Aunt Mary. Hazel brought me shoes. \$33.

Tuesday 13th November

Worked hard directing t'wards exam. Con. Pat Abloy to tea. To Con's for dinner and farewell (Connie Kotwall?). Met Mr. George Giffin

Bishop Hall preaches at the mid-day service at the Cathedral. He's a man who's

never made any secret of his left-wing views. After referring to the heavy losses among the brave defenders of Hong Kong, he tells the congregation:

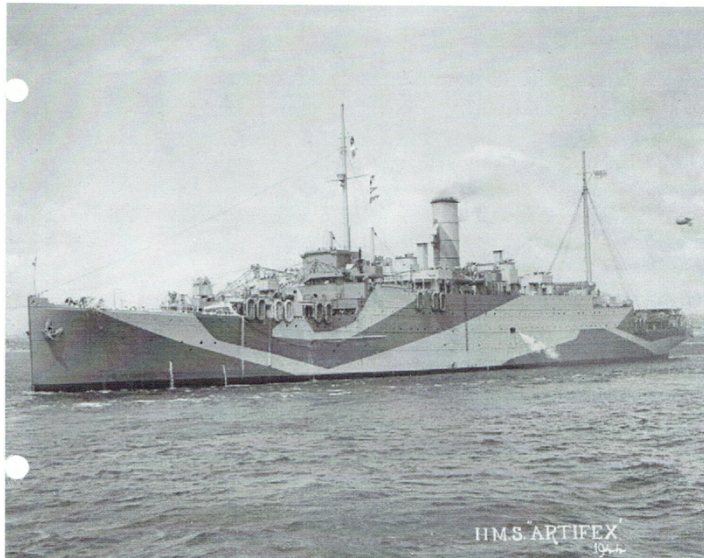
Under God we dare not stay in Hong Kong unless it is our purpose to build here, as part of the great Pacific civilisation of the future, a city in which truth and freedom and justice are not tainted by national pride or racial fear.

George Giffin was editor of the SCMP's sister paper, the Hong Kong Telegraph, when Hong Kong fell to the Japanese in December 1941. He spent 3½ years in Stanley Internment Camp, and, despite suffering from beriberi due to malnutrition, was one of the first to leave camp after liberation in August 1945, along with Harry Ching, to restart the South China Morning Post newspaper (see Harry Ching's Diary) and report on the British Fleet entering HK harbor.

19  45



Liberation of Hong Kong at the
Cenotaph 9th October 1945



HMS Artifex British repair
ship

Wed. 14th Nov.

Jack rang. Tiffin time to say he had been busy & on shore patrol till Fri. 3 P.M. To H.K. Tea Dot. heard Ivy is remaining at Tai Wo. Over on ferry with Jo & Ed. Letters in P.M. from Robin & Mike. Drinks officers club. Gerald. Bill O'Neil. Dinner. Cafe de Chine - I could talk with white wine. Back to Glouc. danced. Home. Ed. Jo.

Thurs. 15th Nov.

Bad day. Salary cut. Rang Mary. Gardening P.M. Good fun. Wrote Aunt Mary. Waited for Tub.

Fri. 16th Nov.

J. rang last minute unable to make it. Over to H.K. Tea with Gerald met Zeffors. arranged to go to "Prom." dance with him instead. Back to change. Dance enjoyed. Chatted to Allan. Sampan home.

Sat. 17th Nov.

Over H.K. to meet Dot. Letter from Mike of wanting to write Jck. Hair wash & mess. Had tif. at D.F. Jack & Dot. Chatted long while. To H.K. club for car up to Peak. Walk round Lugard Rd. & Peak side.

Wednesday 14th
November 1945

Jack rang tiffin time to say he had been busy and on Shore Patrol till Fri. 3pm. To H.K., tea with Dot. Heard Ivy is remaining at Tai Wo (New Territories). Over on ferry with Jo and Ed. Letters in pm. from Robin and Mike. Drinks at Officer's Club. Gerald. Bill O'Neil. Dinner at Café de Chine (popular hangout with students from UHK) - I could talk with white wine. Back to Glouc. Danced. Home. Ed. Jo.

Thursday 15th November

Bad day. Salary cut. Rang Mary. Gardening pm. good fun. Wrote Aunt Mary. Waited for Tub.

Friday 16th November

J. rang last minute unable to make it. Over to H.K. Tea with Gerald, met Zeffoss. Arranged to go to "Prom" dance with him instead. Back to change. Dance enjoyed. Chatted to Allen. Sampan home. (Sampan is a Chinese wooden boat)

Saturday 17th November

Over H.K. to meet Dot. Letter from Mike of wanting to write Jck. Hair wash and mess. Had tif. at D.F. Jack and Dot. Chatted long while. To H.K. club for car up to Peak. Walk round Lugard Rd. and Peak side. Lift down. Rush dinner at D.F. over K'loon. Dress. Back to H.K. Dance Gloucester. Up to stay at Dot's. In very late.

The many references to Mike are probably Mike Proulx, son of Benjamin Proulx, author of *Underground from UK*



War Memorial at Diosesan Boy’s School includes Mum’s uncles James and George Kotwall, Godfather John Litton, Bill Broadbridge and several other names mentioned in her diary



Sampans alongside Navy Ship 1945

Lugard Road is a beautiful service road that goes right round Victoria Peak. Antonia with Uncle Robin November 2016



On the right side of the cenotaph is the Hong Kong Club, which was for decades the exclusive meeting point of the 'white' elite. Chinese, Eurasians and Portuguese were denied membership. This policy was finally changed after WWII, which marked the end of the 'white supremacy' in Hong Kong. The original building was completed in 1897, but it was unfortunately demolished in 1981 due to excessive costs.



Cenotaph 2016, about 1km back from the shore due to land reclamation, and now surrounded by ugly modern tower blocks.

Lift down. Rush dinner at D.F.
 Over K'loon. Dress. back to HK.
 Dance Gloucester. Up to stay
 at Dots. in U. late.

Sun. 18th.

Church with Dot. Hair set. Liang
 You's. ~~Dot~~ met Jack, Adameck
 & Proctor. To D.F. drink talk,
 car from H.K. club to Mmes.
 Tub. there. Down to Mmes.
 Confab over me. Back to
 Gloucester. dinner. in library
 look see mags. Home to K'loon.

Mon. 19th.

Wrote Gibs. met Mary at dentist.
 Tired dull day. Mum arrived
 with Aunt's Robin. H.K. with
 Mary. Tailors. Snack at D.F.
 Back to K'loon. Dinner @
 Tung Cheong.

Tues. 20th.

Dinner on Prometheus. Chat
 in Alan's room. Bks from Jack.
 orange & paste. Allan up
 to Evan Parkers. stole Digest.

Wed. 21st.

H.K. with Jack. Tea at D.F.
 Jack told me about life
 B.H. navy. Walk down

Sunday 18th November
1945

Church with Dot. Hair set.
 Liang You's. Met Jack.,
 Adameck and Proctor. To
 D.F. drink, talk. Car from
 H.K. Club to Mmes. Tub.
 there. Down to Mmes.
 Confab (*confab is a chat*
or discussion) over me.
 Back to Gloucester.
 Dinner. In library look to
 see mags. Home to K'loon.

Monday 19th November

Wrote Gibs (*Miss*
Gibbons). Met Mary at
 dentist. Tired, dull day.
 Mum arrived with Aunts
 and Robin. H.K. with Mary.
 Tailors. Snack at D.F.
 Back to K'loon. Dinner @
 Tung Cheong.

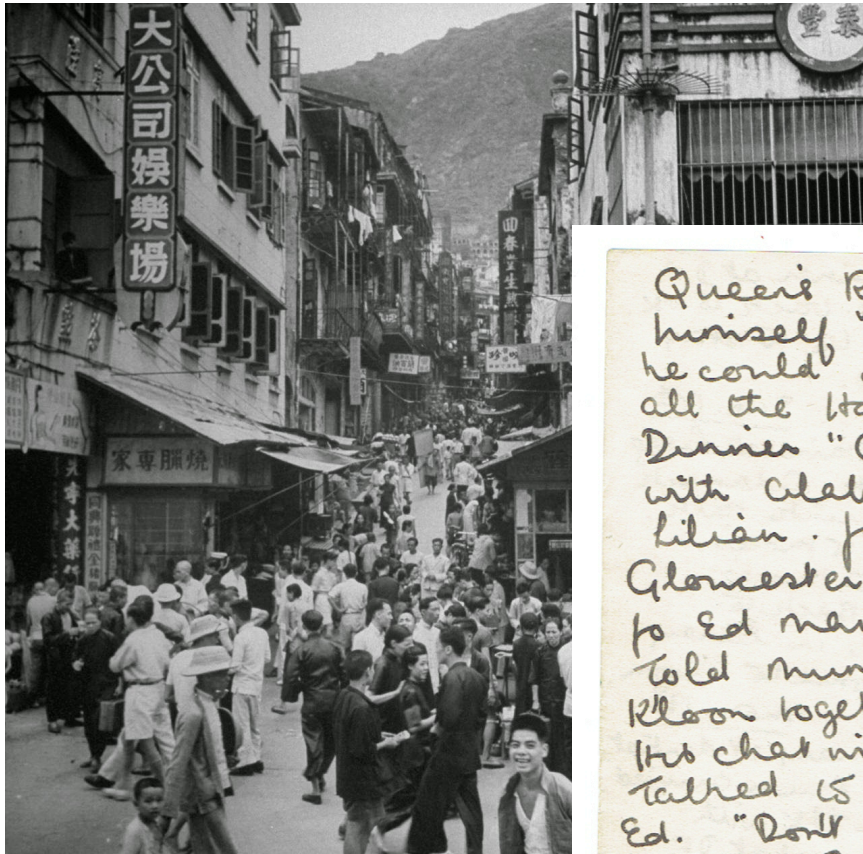
Tuesday 20th November

Dinner on Prometheus.
 Chat in Alan's room.
 Orange and paste. Allan.

Wednesday. 21st
November

Books. from Jack. Up to
 Evan Parkers. Stole
 Digest. H.K. with Jack.

Tea at D.F. Jack told me about life B.4. Navy. Walk down Queen's Rd. (*Queen's Road is a collection of roads along the northern coast of Hong Kong Island, in Hong Kong*) Told me of himself 'do bad' 'cos knew he could do otherwise and all the Hazels of the world. Dinner "Café de Chine" with Alabama. Rich, Myra and Lilian. Jack uses chopsticks. Gloucester. When mum, Jo, Ed, Mary and Pa (*Camiard*) appeared. Told mum my going. K'loon together. Back o' ferry. His chat with Ed. Car home. Talked to him about 'bout Jo and Ed. "Don't bother about other people" but my concerns are his.



Queens Road 1945

Thursday 22nd November 1945

Thanksgiving or Franksgiving (4th Thurs. of Nov. is US Thanksgiving) Home to tiffin. Missed Alan's phone and Thanksgiving dinner on "Prom". Over to meet Mary late. Tea. Gerald over. Bus to Mary's. Met Bet. Dinner M's Tubby. Could not see Mme. Stayed night with M. (Mary?)

Queens Rd. Told me of himself 'do bad' 'cos knew he could do otherwise & all the Hazels of the world Dinner "Cafe de Chine" with Alabama. Rich. Myra Lillian. job uses chopsticks. Gloucester. when mum to Ed many Pa appeared. Told mum my going. Kloon together. Back o' ferry His chat with Ed. Car home. Talked to him 'bout Jo & Ed. "Don't bother about other people" But my concerns are his.

Thurs. 22nd

Thanksgiving or Franksgiving Home to tiffin. Missed Alan's phone & Th. Give dinner on "Prom". Over to meet Mary late. Tea. Gerald over. Bus to Mary's met Bet. Dinner M's Tubby. Did not

19  45

see mme. Stayed night,
with m.

Fri. 23rd.

Dinner on "Prom".
Dance club. Got sunny.
met Sheila Tradamek.
B4. chat on Lang. with
Dr. Bissel. then got sunny
& stole jeep. in begin
hid from jek. who drives
well & fast. up to stars.
where jek said believe
me. have faith. Its going
to happen. tho' it will be
hard waiting. Bawled out
by Greg. went in again
had better fun. Sheila etc.
Dr. Cheun chat.

Sat. 24th.

H.K. met. Mr. Hargreaves.
Foley. Gave me tickets
message to jek. Bought.
Race. met mum ferry.
Beddo. chatted way over.

Friday 23rd November
1945

Dinner on "Prom". Dance
club (H.K. Club?). Got
sunny (Robin). Met Sheila
Tradamek. B4 chat on
Lang with Dr. Bissel then
got sunny and stole jeep.
In the beginning he hid
from Jack who drives well
and fast. Up to stars
where Jack said believe
me, have faith, its going to
happen, tho' it will be hard
waiting. Bawled out by
Greg. Went in again and
had better fun. Sheila etc.
Dr. Cheun chat.

Saturday 24th November

H.K. met Mr. Hargreaves
Foley. Gave me tickets.
Message to Jack. Bought
lace. Met mum on ferry.
Beddo chatted way over.
Jack rang to say he could
come in A.M. Dot rang to
say no go.

"Up to stars where Jack said believe me, have faith, its going to happen, tho' it will be hard waiting"

Jack says he says he could
come in A.M. But says he
says no go.

Sun. 25th.

Communion with Joyce.
Jack came gave me hair-
brush. Down to station.
Train to Fairlip.
Hot dusty Rd to races.
Met Bailey Rich & orange
juice got sunny. Met
Paula. & Red. Saw
Jack's drawings. Met Talbot.
Home on jeep. more sunny
stared & stared at Jack.
Football barefoot on side
road. Dinah won't you blow.
Caught ducks. Best
car ride of my whole life.
Back to Nana Lopes. met
wire haired. walked to end
of Kimberley Rd. Tricycle
race. Russian food over H.K.

Sunday 25th November 1945

Communion with Joyce. Jack came gave me hair-brush. Down to station. Train to Fairlip (new Territories). Hot dusty road to races. Met Bailey, Rich and orange juice got sunny. (Rick got Sunny orange juice) Met Paula and Red. Saw Jack's drawings. Met Talbot (John Talbot?). Home on Jeep. More sunny stared and stared at Jack. Football barefoot on side road. Dinah won't you blow. (see lyrics from I've been working on the railroad). Caught ducks. Best car ride of my whole life. Back to Nana? Lopes. Met wire haired (terrier?). Walked to end of Kimberley Rd. (runs off of Nathan Road). Tricycle race. Russian food - over H.K. Jack told Rich he's been naughty.

"Best car ride of my whole life."

Jck told Rich he's been naughty
Monday. 26th Nov.
 Hazel's wedding. Beautiful
 wedding march.
 Ed sent me off in car early.
 Waited for Jck. Sales
 came for chat. Waited
 5-6.30. Back to school.
 Jck appeared at gate.
 He overslept. Felt bad &
 spoke in minor key.
 Punish himself. Dinner
 Jimmy's. Brought Kettle
 to Gloucester. Jck had
 letter from Mike.
 Sat at cenotaph wait
 for launch.
Tues. 27th Nov.
 Read "Fountainhead".
 Till late & Jck waited.
 To "Prom" farewell dance
 at Roof Garden. Doc. Collier
 kept trying to get prize for me

Monday 26th November
1945

Hazel's wedding. Beautiful
wedding march.

Ed sent me off in car early.
Waited for Jack. Sales
came for chat. Waited 5 -
6.30. back to school. Jack
appeared at gate. He
overslept. Felt bad and
spoke in minor key.

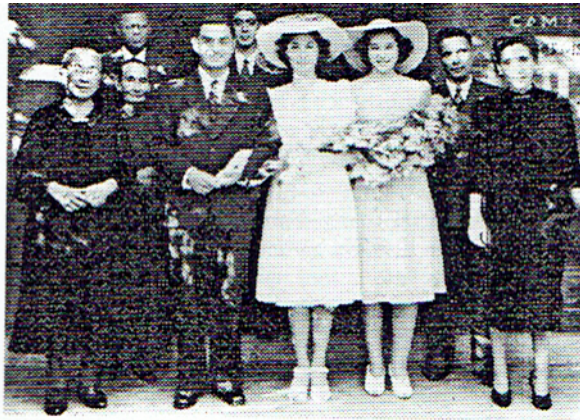
Punish himself. Dinner
Jimmy's. Brought Kettle
to Gloucester. Jack had letter
from Mike.
Sat at Cenotaph waiting for
launch.

Tuesday 27th November

Read "Fountainhead" (Ayn
Rand 1943) till late and Jck
waited. To "Prom" farewell
dance at Roof Garden
(hotel). Doc Collier kept
trying to get prize for me.
Judged waltz. Mrs. To
mistook me for Jo. Saw
Uncle Lauri. Sailor said **
on boat. Then Jck stared
back on way over.

Mrs. To was Daisy To mentioned in Bruce Chan's Forbidden Merchandise (Aunt Daisy pgs. xvii and 95). It was Daisy that revealed to Bruce that in her later years Wong Mui Kiu, William Patterson's 'kept or protected woman' operated a brothel at 21 Aberdeen Street. Daisy was a good friend of Mum, and my sister Antonia recalls visiting her during our HK visit in 1963. See Paterson geneology in Appendix.

"I remember Daisy To as a good friend to Mum when we were there. She seemed older, grey hair in a bun and dressed in 'peasant clothing', navy or black tunic and trousers. We played with daughter Helena, but sons Benjamin and Franklin were older"



Wedding day Eddie and Hazel St. Theresa's Church.
Susie on right. Father Joy officiates, Father Riganti assists

judged waltz. Mrs. To mistook
me for Jo. Saw Uncle Sam.
Sailor said to on boat. Then
Jck stared back on way over.
Wed. 28th Nov

H.K. mum Julia. Fixed
J's. reparation Mr. Ride. Mum.
Mr. Barton. up to Harry Gubbays.
Down H.K. Hotel. meet
Dr. Goll. Goll's trouble. Allan
appeared. up to dance.
Gardner's at table. Wing
Squad. Leader. Jones & comman-
der appeared. Stag dance
Alabama there. Sing songs.
Alan took me back school.
Thurs. 29th Nov.

Jck came for me. Read
downstairs while I waited
 $\frac{3}{4}$ hr. Rushed to ship on jeep.
Over to dinner. Teased Dr.
Goller. Cinema. "Bring on
Girls". Gave me ink. Powder.
& lot of stuff.

Wednesday November 28th 1945

H.K. Mum Julia. Fixed J's reparation. Mr. Ride
(Lt. Col. Ride?) Mum. Mr. Barton. Up to Harry
Gubbays. Down H.K. Hotel. Meet Dr. Goll.
Goll's trouble. Allan appeared. Up to dance.
Gardner's at table. Wing Squad. Leader Jones
and Commander (prob. Wing Commander)
appeared. Stag dance. Alabama there. Sing
Songs. Alan took me back to school.

Thursday 29th November

Jck came for me. Read downstairs while I
waited $\frac{3}{4}$ hr. Rushed to ship on jeep. Over to
dinner. Teased Dr. Goller. Cinema - "Bring on
Girls" (March 1945 Hollywood with Veronica
Lake).
Gave me ink powder and lot of stuff.

19  45



Hong Kong Hotel

Friday 30th November 1945

Jack late thro' moving rms. over to consulate. Talk Mr. C.S. Brown. Says OK in about 6 months. D.F. Tea. Told him of breeding and ancestry. Gr. Grandpa Patterson. Walked to school. Dressed. To Peninsula. Joined Sheila, Stan R***, Mary. She**ied spoke to Paddy. Went in next room. Major Evan Parker. Down to Hazel's 309. Had beer. News of mum's 160. Jck, sunny and rough. Back to school.

Saturday 1st December

In all day. Hangover in A.M. Wrote Mike

Extract from Jack's Letter to Michael 1/12/45:

"The other night when we were at a dance at the Peninsula Hotel she (Mum) insisted that we go down and visit her sister and her sister's husband (Hazel and Eddie) in their room on the third floor. It was only about four or five days after their marriage and try as I would I could not persuade her to give up the idea and let the happy couple alone."

"Told him of breeding and ancestry. Gr. Grandpa Patterson."

Fri. 30th Nov.
Jck late thro' moving rms. over to consulate. Talk Mr. C.S. Brown. Says O.K. in about 6 months. D.F. Tea. Told him of breeding & ancestry. Gr. Grandpa Patterson. Walked to school. Dressed. To Peninsula. Joined Sheila Stan R*** Mary. She**ied spoke to Paddy. Went in next room. Major Evan Parker. Down to Hazel's 309. Had Beer. news of mum's 160. Jck sunny & rough. Back to school.
Sat. 31st Nov.
In all day. Hangover in A.M. Wrote Mike.



Nathan Road 11/1945

Photo by JHR



Nathan Road 11/2016

Photo by JLR

December 1945

DECEMBER.
Sun. 1st.
 Hair wash. Set at Kong Bros. Mr. Anderson to tiff. Jck came 2. To Mary Batley's with message. To H.K. William Pok gave us lift to club. Walked part way there. Greg. Gese. R. Blee there. Listened Records. Closed shutters. Downtown Dinner. Mr. Flood. Parisian Grill. Talked about Jck & I. Girl Mr. F. knows who looks like me. Pilsil. Mr. Har-

Sunday 1st December 1945
 (actually Dec. 2nd)

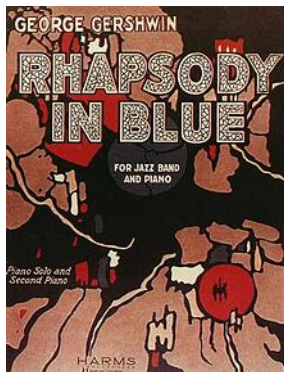
Hair wash. Set at Kong Bros. (*hair salon?*). Mr. Anderson to tiff. Jck came 2. To Mary Batley's with message. To H.K. William Pok gave us lift to club. Walked part way there. Greg G*ese, K. Po Lee there. Listened records. Closed shutters. Downtown dinner. Mr. Flood. Parisian Grill Talked about Jck and I. Girl Mr. F. knows who looks like me. Pilsil. Mr. Hargreaves.

Greaves. Sheila Trada.
 Capt. Skipper all there.
 To Gloucester. where
 I told Jack Family Bogey.
 Back to school & said.
 He does. Fell asleep.
 Met Tub at wharf. Mon. 2nd.
 Over with all wet trip.
 "Life of Gershwin" on the
 Prom. Jack. changed room.
 Letter from his sister.
 Left me at wharf.

Sheila Trada. Capt. Skipper all there. To Gloucester where I told Jack Family Bogey. Back to school and said he does. Fell Asleep.

Monday 2nd December (actually Dec. 3^d)

Met Tub at wharf. Over with all. Wet trip. "Life of Gershwin" on the Prom. (Prometheus) (probably Rhapsody in Blue 1945 Hollywood Movie). Jack changed room. Letter from his sister. Left me at wharf.



"To Gloucester where I told Jack about Family Bogey."

Tues. 4th Dec.

Revision & prep for Exam
in class. Letter from Mike.
Cold turn & bit o' drizzle.
Answered Mike. Enza
came. Jack rang B4 4.
15 say. Shore Patrol also
arrival of their relief
ship. H.K. to meet Dot.
Tea at D.F. Burkovitch
there. Told her of my
Quit intentions. Supper
at Gloucester with her.
Home. To cinema with
John Talbot.

Wed. 5th Dec.

Children wrote descriptions
of each other. Robin to
tea. Home to tiffin gave
Sam Kwoo alterations.
Rang "Beach Guard" Jack
answered my call. Chat
on stairs missed dinner.

Tuesday 4th December
1945

Revision and prep for
exam in class. Letter from
Mike. Cold turn and bit o'
drizzle. Answered Mike.
Enza came. Jack rang B4
4 to say Shore Patrol also
arrival of their relief ship.
H.K. to meet Dot (*Dorothy
Lee*). Tea at D.F.
Burkovitch there. Told her
of my Quit (*teaching at
DGS*) intentions. Supper
at Gloucester with her.
Home. To cinema with
John Talbot.

Wednesday 5th December

Children wrote
descriptions of each other.
Robin to tea. Home to
tiffin. Gave s**m Kwoo
alterations. Rang "Beach
Guard" Jack answered my
call. Chat on stairs,
missed dinner.

Thurs. 6th Dec.
 Jack rang late in evening.

Fri. 7th Dec.
 On ship to dinner. Met Mr. Dr. Millar. J. shaved got ready. Waited on deck. Punched at club. Man to man talk when J had to stand away. Cried & cried over Dad & all. Up to stars. Down to sing songs with the Vestal. Capt. says I look like a beautiful Aztec. Said Goodbye to Jack

Saturday 8th
 Took pill & slept morning. Waited pm for Jack & when didn't come knew he'd gone. Mabel Shea came pm. Walk with Joyce in evening. Jack rang! Over to dinner. Paris Grill! Gloucester. V. V. tired. Back in Capt's gig after Jack got records for me. Slept in Jara's room & came to say cheerio at dawn.

Thursday 6th December 1945

Jack rang late in evening.

Friday 7th December

On ship to dinner. Met Mr. Dr. Millar. J. shaved got ready. Waited on deck. Punched at club. Man to man talk. When J had to stand away. Cried and cried over Dad and all. Up to stars. Down to sing songs with the Vestal. Capt. Says I look like a beautiful Aztec. Said goodbye to Jack

Saturday 8 December

Took pill and slept morning. Waited pm for Jack and when didn't come knew he had gone. Mabel Shea came pm. Walk with Joyce in evening. Jack rang! Over to dinner. Paris Grill! Gloucester. V. V. tired. Back in Capt's gig after Jack got records for me. Slept at Jara's? room and came to say cheerio at dawn.

19  45

Airmail lettercard HK sent 26.11.45 in HK 6.12.45 to Miss P. Lang, 9 King's Terrace, Kowloon, HK.

*RMMV Stirling Castle
25.11.45
65 Sellincourt Rd.
London SW17
England*

Dear Phyllis, I hope you have all come through safely, as you can see I am on my way to England then across the states and back to HK. Please write to me and let me know all that has happened. We were at Hiroshima #5B (Innoshima) so its just as well that none of my letters with that address got anywhere. We were 28 miles from the bomb so escaped.

Dad arrived in Sydney and looked pretty bad, but when I left was doing nicely. He told me of the time he wrote you and put nationality 'Chinese' cause he didn't want to get you into any trouble so please don't be offended. Teddy (Fincher) and Bill Knox are aboard and wish to be remembered kindly to you. I can never forget what you did for me and I will be looking for something nice for you either at home or in America and will bring it back to HK with me.

When you write please send a photo so that I may see what a big girl you have become.

Yours Sincerely

Cedric



RMMV Stirling Castle

“He told me of the time he wrote to you and put nationality ‘Chinese’ cause he didn't want to get you into any trouble so please don't be offended”

Mum being Eurasian, might have considered it an insult to be called Chinese, but it was safer, Mum being 'free' on a pass.

19  45

Sunday 9th December 1945

Sunday 9th
Over to church. Met Bea.
K'loon with Dot. met Mr.
Chittenden. Back to school
to change & was told by Mona
that message Lieut. Kruse
has gone.
Tiffin at Dots. Shing Mun.
Home in evening. Mike's
letter referring to ~~the~~ Jack's.
Bed early.

Monday 10th
HK. with staff. Challenge
Bk. shop. Xmas shopping.
Rang dot. filled reports.
Read Fountainhead.
Letter from Mike.

Tues. 11th
Robin came at tea to invite
me home to dinner. Wash
hair bath. Home. Robin
walked me back. Answered
Cedric's letter started one to
Jack. Joyce back from Com-
mittee meet. Called me about
Gibs v Cakes with Miss Sin,
not returning.

Over to church. Met Bea.
K'loon with Dot. Met Mrs?
Chittenden. Back to school
to change and was told by
Mona that message Lieut.
Kruse has gone. Tiffin at
Dots. Shing Mun (*now
Shing Mun reservoir and
country park*) Home in
evening. Mike's letter
referring to Jack's. Bed
early.

Monday 10 December

HK. With staff. Challenge
Bk. Shop. Xmas shopping.
Rang dot. Filled reports.
Read Fountainhead. Letter
from Mike.

Tuesday 11th December

Robin came at tea to invite
me home to dinner. Wash
hair bath. Home. Robin
walked me back. Answered
Cedric's letter. Started one
to Jack. Joyce back from
committee meet. Called me
about Gibs (*Mrs. Gibbons*)
v Cakes? with Miss Sin not
returning (*Mum giving her
notice at DGS*).



"Miss Sin not returning"

There was a Miss Sinn who taught
Chinese at DGS, but I think Mum
might be referring to herself here.

Wed. 12th
 H.K. to Glenda's. Tea. Wants me to go back to her.
 Dinner Cafe' de Chine. Gerald doesn't want me to go. & depressed me. Dinner with certain Colonel & Helen.

Thurs. 13th
 School exams start. Sent in my letter of resignation. p.m. Home Mum gave me stockings. Had bath. Chat Ken. Played with Robin. Tried to open trunk. Back to school final letter from Mike says he's coming Fri. to Peninsula. met. Chit. Mr. Hewitt. Lieut. Dew. Dinner. Dance. Saw Alabama up there. Down to Chit's room 'cos sore feet tight shoes. Chat. repatriation. Thinks I may be repat. to states. Dot got rats for 3 for Gran. Back to her's for night. Says Chit wants to give me shoes for Xmas

Wednesday 12th December 1945

HK to Glenda's. Tea. Wants me to go back to her (*Mum moves in with Glenda Wong Jan. 6 1946*). Dinner Café de Chine. Gerald doesn't want me to go and depressed me. Dinner with certain Colonel and Helen.

Thursday 13th December

School (DGS) exams start. Sent in my letter of resignation. Pm. home mum gave me stockings. Had bath. Chat Ken. Played with Robin. Tried to open trunk (*this might be the blue cabin trunk I have in my basement for which I have misplaced the key so can't open, it's a family tradition!*). Back to school final letter from Mike says he's coming Fri. to Peninsula. Met Chit, Mr. Hewitt, Lieut. Dew. Dinner, Dance. Saw Alabama up there. Down to Chit's room 'cos sore feet tight shoes. Chat. Repatriation.

Thinks I may be repat. to states. Dot got rats (*rations?*) for 3 for Gran. Back to her's for night. Says Chit wants to give me shoes for Xmas.

Repatriation is the process of returning a person to their place of origin or citizenship (Mum had a British passport). This includes the process of returning refugees or military personnel to their place of origin following a war.

Fri. 14th Dec.

Met mum & Mrs. Guts in town
Went shopping but did not buy
anything. Tea. D.F. To choir
practice & was amazed at
Dexter. To K'loon party with
Stokes etc. ENSA concert
amordeal. Dinner & Drinks
Peninsula.

Sat. 15th Dec.

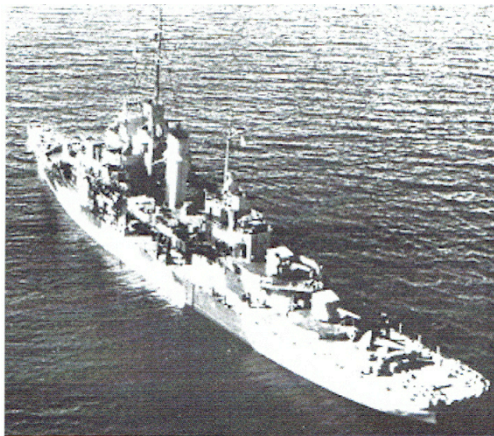
To H.K. with Ron & Gran.
Fixed them up for rations.
collected stockings. Went to
chat to Bill shocked by
"Prom" news. Met Alabama
Glenda B4 & Ivy. Told G
my terms surpassed myself.
Dinner on Charleston dancing
Alabama Ina Ceb. Quternez.
etc. Dancing. All amordeal.
Neezy & Blond roomy told
me about Jck. Baloney.
Ala. embarrassingly friendly.
shan't go out with them any
more.

Friday 14th December 1945

Met mum and Mrs. Guts in town.
Went shopping but did not buy
anything. Tea. D.F. to choir
practice and was amazed at
Dexter. To K'loon party with
Stokes etc. ENSA concert An
ordeal. Dinner and drinks
Peninsula.

Saturday 15th December

To H.K. with Ron and Gran.
Fixed them up for rations.
Collected stockings. Went to
chat to Bill. Shocked by "Prom"
news. (*Prom hit a mine, but no
casualties*) Met Alabama,
Glenda B4 and Ivy. Told G my
terms surpassed myself. Dinner
on Charleston (*USS Charleston
arrived in HK 25 Nov. 1945*)
dancing Alabama Ina? Ceb?
Quternez? etc. Dancing. Allan
ordeal. Neezy and Blon**
roomy told me about Jck.
Baloney. Alabama
embarrassingly friendly. Shan't
go out with them anymore.



USS
Charleston

ENSA Entertainments National Service Association was an organization set up in 1939 to provide entertainment for British Armed Forces personnel during WWII – otherwise known as Every Night Something Awful

19  45

Sun. 16th Dec.
Church choir. Mary's to
lunch with Mum et. all.
Ronald. Chat w Mum
her friend Mrs. Barker will
write to states for me. Mum
gave me address of pupils
prospective. Over K'loon to
meet Mike. Tea at Aunt
Nuna's. Mike sweet as
always. Gave me letter
from Jck. I resent that letter.
Too complimentary & discouraging.
Mon. 17th
Had a lovely time. Cold
wet day. Built fire in Joyce's
room. Read Fountainhead.
all day & evening.
Tues. 18th
Took firm stand in A.M.
situation when Joy came
running up to get me to invig.
out of turn. Dictation.

Sunday 16th December
1945

Church choir. Mary's to
lunch with Mum et. all.
Ronald (Mum's bro.), chat
to Mm and her friend Mrs.
Barker will write to States
for me. Mm gave me
address of pupils
prospective. Over K'loon
to meet Mike. Tea at Aunt
Nuna's? Mike sweet as
always. Gave me letter
from Jck. I resent that
letter. Too complimentary
and discouraging.

Monday 17th December

Had a lovely time. Cold
wet day. Built fire in
Joyce's room. Read
Fountainhead all day and
evening.

Tuesday 18th December

Took firm stand in A.M.
situation when Joy came
running up to get me to
invig. (invigilate an exam)
out of turn. Dictation.

*"Gave me letter from Jack. I resent that letter. Too complimentary
and discouraging."*

19  45

Did so, then home. Marg. did not come to tiffin. Mike came in p.m. talked about Jck's letter. Over to H.K. & brought up problem of replying Herklots. To D.F. tea with Paula Hollands. who has recovered heart break & is dating again. M.P.T.H. Home. met Ron & Bert on ferry. Walked me to school. Dinner. mooned around Read.

Wed. 19th.

To Glen's. she told me job no pay. To Mary's. met Eric Brown. CiNC's valet. Tub & girl friend there. Slept on J's bed. Mary will speak mum again about money. Thurs 20th

Break up. Childrens' sports. & all met Mr. Gordon Drew.

Fri. 21st. Dec.

Home to tiffin Mary Hazel Ed. Back to school with Mary. To H.K. late for choir. Back to K'loon

Did so then home. Marg. Did not come to tiffin. Mike came in p.m. talked about Jck's letter. Over to H.K. and brought up problem of replying Herklots (see letter). To D.F. tea with Paula Hollands who has recovered heart break and is dating again. M.P.T.H. (More Power To Her) Home. Met Ron and Bert on ferry. Walked me to school. Dinner. mooned around Read.

Wednesday 19th December 1945

To Glen's. she told me job no pay. To Mary's. Met Eric Brown CiNC's (Commander in Chief?) valet. Tub and girl friend there. Slept on J's bed. Mary will speak to mum again about money.

Thurs 20th December
Break up (start of school Xmas hols.) Childrens' sports and all met Mr. Gordon Drew.

Friday 21st. December
Home to tiffin. Mary, Hazel, Ed. Back to school with Mary. To H.K. late for choir. Back to K'loon

"To D.F. tea with Paula Hollands who has recovered heart break and is dating again. M.P.T.H." [More Power To Her]

Toni Botello on ferry says want date. School. Xmas chapel. Party. In Dexter Drew, Bea.
Sat. 22nd.
 H.K. Bea. Joyce. Coffee. Mrs. Phyllis Wong. up to see Mr Louis for job. coincidence his ad in papers also old chum of Dad's. Gloucester. said hello to Ed Bok. To Artifex. went over ship. Stayed to dinner. Back to school.
Sun. 23rd.
 Church. Met Dot lunch at Gloucester. K'loon to orphanages with Mr. Hall. Read Fountainhead motoring. Miss Langfords at Sha Tin onto Mrs. Bird's Fanling. joined Commando party for orphans. Car broke on way back. Took truck. Felt sick. To Peninsula Mr. Chit boozed. Met Bruce Bell-Simmonds & Fanny. Dinner at theirs. Nice people. Intelligent types. Back to school.

Toni Botello on ferry, says want date. School. Xmas Chapel Party. Fun Dexter Drew, Bea.

Saturday 22nd December 1945

H.K. Bea, Joyce, Coffee. Mrs. Phyllis Wong. Up to see Mr. Louis for job. Coincidence his ad in papers also old chum of Dad's. Gloucester, said hello to Ed Bok. To Artifex went over ship, stayed to dinner. Back to school.

Sunday 23rd December

Church. Met Dot lunch at Gloucester. K'loon to orphanages with Mr. Hall Read Fountainhead motoring. Miss Langfords at Sha Tin (*District in New Territories*) on to Mrs. Bird's Fanling (*also in NT*). Joined Commando party for orphans (*see pic.*). Car broke on way back. Took truck. Felt sick. To Peninsula. Mr. Chit boozed. Met Bruce Bell-Simmonds and Fanny? Dinner at theirs. Nice people. Intelligent types. Back to School.

Ronald Hall, Bishop of HK – a Brit. and Oxford grad. Hall ordained the first woman priest in the Anglican Communion – later revoked. This picture was on a display on Lugard Road on the Peak near a house where he presumably lived, seen by myself and Antonia during our 2016 visit to HK. Bishop Hall left Hong Kong Sept. '41, returning Oct. '45.

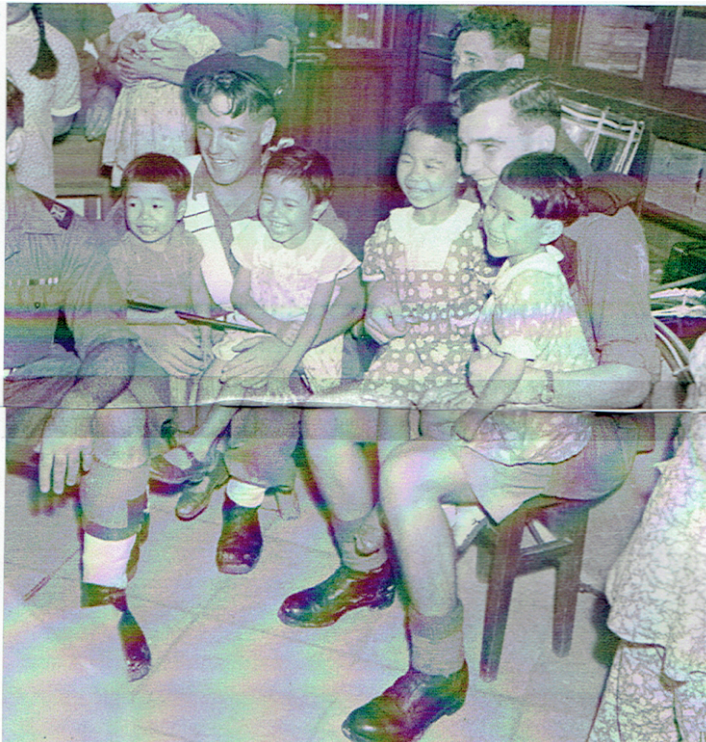


The following is an extract from a letter from Mum to Jack Kruze:

At the moment I am invigilating an examination. We are breaking up for holidays on the 21st and I shan't be coming back [to DGS]. I saw this Chinese lady [Glenda Wong] my previous employer the other day and she was very anxious to have me back so I sent in my letter of resignation yesterday and I shall go over to hers in January. Michael is arriving today and I am looking forward to seeing him again. Did you receive his reply to your letter before you left HK?

Last night I met some friends who told me that an American scholarship and a guarantee together with some official American signature qualifies me for passage to the States paid by the British Govt. This will be instead of repatriation. This must be done as soon as possible though. Now really must stop, with chin chins to friends on board.

Cheerio and God bless.



42 Marine Commando with some children from the Tai Po Orphanage located in the New Territories. Was Mum there?

Mon. 24th.

Last breakfast with Joyce when she informed me that my bungle of averages prevented 2 promotions & Miss. Yeo went to see her. Washed hair. Set. Home to borrow black jacket from Jo. To H.K. met Dot. ve. depressed. Church. lovely carol service & Xmas story. Chose to go with Bea instead. Dot. H.K. hotel dinner dance Gerald. miserable time. Back to church. Communion. Stayed night Bea.

Tues. 25th.

Christmas Day. Breakfast at D.F. with Bea. Church met Drew. Walk. Tiffin at Parisian Grill. Walk to naval yard. Tram to look for Mike's ~~house~~ Ended up looted house on hill. Down met Mike. on road. Back to town met

Monday 24th December 1945

Last breakfast with Joyce (Joyce Symonds, teacher at DGS) when she informed me that my bungle of averages prevented 2 promotions and Miss. Yeo went to see her. Washed hair. Set. Home to borrow black jacket from Jo. To H.K. met Dot. Very depressed. Church. Lovely carol service and Xmas story. Chose to go with Bea (Bea Greaves shown in DGS athletics team photo in Eurasian) instead. Dot. H.K. dinner dance. Gerald. Miserable time. Back to church. Communion. Stayed night Bea.

Tuesday 25th December

Christmas Day. Breakfast at D.F. with Bea. To church, met Drew. Walk. Tiffin at Parisian Grill. Walk to naval yard. Tram to look for Mike's. ~~Lea~~ Ended up at looted house on hill. Down, met Mike on road. Back to town, met

“Last breakfast with Joyce (Joyce Symonds, teacher at DGS) when she informed me that my bungle of averages prevented 2 promotions”

Bea. Pain not recovered.
 B. back to K'loon. Was de-
 pressed & bored. up to Glou-
 sherry. Pain appeared.
 Dinner Jimmy's back to
 Glou. night at Mission.
26th Dec.

Break. D.F. with Bea. Back
 K'loon. School. Mike came
 pm. over. H.K. to Kamin. but
 Kea at his instead. Back to
 town couldn't see Ride.
 Met Mrs. Bennett said she
 received letters. Rushed
 back to school after dinner.
 No letters. Read F.H. till late
 afraid of dark took sleep
 pill at 3am.
27th Dec.

Rushed to H.K. late. ate
 with Bill. lunch Glou. with
 Gerald. To see Ride success.
 Back to K'loon. No letter.
 Read F.H. Bath dressed
 Red Evening. Artex dance

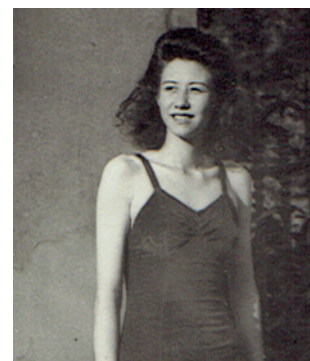
Bea. Pain not recovered. B.
 back to K'loon. Was depressed
 and bored. Up to Gloucester,
 sherry. Pain appeared. Dinner
 Jimmy's (*Kitchen?*) back to
 Gloucester. Night at Mission.

26th December 1945

Breakfast D.F. with Bea. Back
 K'loon. School. Mike came
 over H.K. to Lauri but tea at his
 instead. Back to town, couldn't
 see Ride (*could be Lindsay
 Ride – vice-chancellor of HKU,
 pow in Sham Shui Po – and
 commander of BAAG*) Met Mrs.
 Bennett (*wife of Chester
 Bennett?*) said she received
 letters. Rushed back to school
 after dinner. Read F.H. till late.
 Afraid of dark took sleep pill at
 3:00am.

27th December

Rushed to H.K. late. Ate with
 Bill. Lunch Gloucester with
 Gerald. To see Ride success.
 Back to K'loon. No letter. Read
 F.H. Bath, dressed. Red (*sic?*)
 evening. Artex dance.



Chester Bennett (American hero of H.K.)
 was a film director executed by the
 Japanese in 1943 – one of the thirty
 executed alongside George Kotwall on the
 beach at Stanley.

Photo. of Vivienne Jex found amongst my mother's photos. (see pg. 307 and genealogy in Appendix)



E-mail from Robin and Bea Hutcheon (nee Greaves) February 2017 Bea is 95!

Dear Jonathan,

Many thanks for your reply, and yes we did know Joyce Symons, Dorothy Lee and Jean Gittins, and were very good friends of Phyllis Gittins and her niece, Vivienne Jex (later Davies) and saw a lot of them and went on cruises with them. After returning to HK in 1945 Bea, Phyllis and Vivienne stayed at what was then Beaconsfield House, right next to St John s Cathedral. Phyllis was a war widow, her husband having been killed in the fighting shortly after her marriage. She had a son who now lives in UK.

Staying at the same hostel and frequent companions were three airmen, one of whom was Jack Cater, later acting Governor of HK and first chief Commissioner of the Independent Commission Against corruption, scoring some notable successes. I think Bea had an eye on Jack but he was already committed. Pity, she would have been a Lady now. We were also very good friends of Bishop and Nora Hall and visited them often in Tao Fung Shan, which was their rural retreat in the NT. He made me a Lay Reader at the cathedral and wanted me to be ordained but that was a bridge too far.

Was your grandmother Suzie Lang? We saw a lot of her in our time mixing as we did with many of Bea's old school chums and fellow hockey players such as Eva and Vivienne Churn, Mussie Fincher, Daphne and Stella Ho, though the latter two were not ball whackers. Bea was also very fond of Miss Gibbins and we visited her in U.K. the year Boris Becker won Wimbledon. We watched the match on her TV!

Letter from Mum to Jack sent from DGS dated Wednesday 26th Dec. 1945

Dear Jack,

Christmas is now over with; rather an anti-climax of a Christmas, but still, there are others to come. I'm afraid it must have been somewhat grim on board too – could you capture the spirit? Actually I would prefer to have been in your situation – I find it much easier to be alone than lonely in a crowd. Christmas Eve started off quite well, we had an impromptu carol service at the cathedral.

At present I am living at school alone, the housekeeper is very remote at the back of the premises. Joyce and all have gone home and I am such a windy one (I think its fraidy cat in your language). The building seems six times the size and what is still reassuring at the moment are the passing vehicles below...



St. John's Cathedral where Mum sang in the choir with Bea was converted into a club for Japanese soldiers following the invasion and many of the fittings and stain glass windows were removed. The first post war service was held September 1945. When Mum stayed with Bea following the Christmas Eve service 1945 it was in Beaconsfield house next door to the Cathedral.

"I find it much easier to be alone than lonely in a crowd."



Three former headmistresses of DGS at 1960 centenary celebrations, all mentioned in Mum's Diary. l to r (back row) Miss Hurrell, Miss Sawyer, Joyce Symons and barely visible Miss Gibbons. Far left is Bishop Hall. Front are senior prefects.

Amazed at information from Gordon. Home.
Fri 28th Dec.
 Moved home from school. To choir practice. Dinner with Hazel & R.A.Fs.
Sat 29th Dec.
 Hike with children. School & letter there from Jck for me. Gordon. Vi Henry Tong Manrai & Hugh there. Lovely time. Up Lion Rock espec. the summit was delightful. Home. Bath. H.K. See Gordon. Convinced me "Prome." struck mine. ^{casualties} Dinner at Jimmy's in a Daze. Gloucester. Yanks shouted at me. K'loon met Ron. Bert. Home.
Sun. 30th Dec.
 Church. Letter from Reg. Tiffin with Bruce. interesting talk. Steered boat to H.K.

Amazed at information from Gordon. Home.

Friday 28th December 1945

Moved home from school (from DGS 1 Jordan Rd. H.K. to family home 9 Kings Terrace, Kowloon). To choir practice. Dinner with Hazel and R.A.Fs.

Saturday 29th December

Hike with children. School and letter there from Jck for me. Gordon, Vi, Henry Tong, Manrai and Hugh there. Lovely time. Up Lion Rock (495m - 5hrs round trip great views over Kowloon) especially the summit was delightful. Home. Bath. H.K. see Gordon. Convinced me "Prome" struck mine, no casualties. Dinner at Jimmy's in a daze (Jimmy's Kitchen, Central estab. 1928). Gloucester. Yanks shouted at me. K'loon met Ron. Bert. Home.

Sunday 30th December

Church. Letter from Reg (Reggie Broadbridge mentioned in Ced's letter?) Tiffin with Bruce. Interesting talk. Steered boat to H.K.

"Steered boat to H.K."

Extract from letter Mum to Jack:

“I was out on a hike with the children on the 29th. I received your letter just as we were setting off from school, a British officer was along (he charts the minefields and plots courses)...”

Extract from letter Jack to Mum:

“We are just a couple of days out of Pearl Harbour, as I believe I have before mentioned, and the weather is lovely and warm.....How have you been keeping yourself Phyl? One doesn’t run across a friendship like ours often in a lifetime and that makes these more important. There is something so good about you, so naïve and honest, so believing and demure, so sensitive and friendly that a fellow just naturally likes you.”



Lion Rock then and now



Norman (5th row up, 6th from left) and Reggie (4th row up, 6th from left) Broadbridge HKVDC were in Innoshima 5B work camp in Japan with Cedric, and receive several mentions in Mum’s Diary. Also Paddy Pasco’s bf, Neville Matthews (top 2nd in from right)

Here they are during repatriation on the deck of HMS Ruler arriving in Sydney, Australia August 1945.

19  45

met uncle Laurie. up to
Dr. To's. tea. Dinner. Talk.
aunt D & all. Home late.
Bruce told me. Gordon's yarn
not true. Wrote Jack till.
9.30.

Mon 31st Dec

News in China Mail of mining
Prometheus. Wrote Jack. To
H.K. met Bill - lobby said
she'd left her Ma's. Met
Gordon Scratch. To tea D.F.
K'loon to tell all on. Gloucester.
Boring. Dinner Jimmy's. Waffle
on marriage. Church. Gloucester.
Home.

Met Uncle Laurie Up to
Dr. To's tea. Dinner. Talk
Aunt D. and all. Home late.
Bruce told me Gordon's
yarn not true. Wrote Jack
till 2.30.

Monday 31st December
1945

News in China Mail of
mining Prometheus. Wrote
Jack. To H.K. met Bill in
lobby said she'd left her
Ma's. Met Gordon
Scratch? To tea D.F.
K'loon to tell all on.
Gloucester. Boring. Dinner
Jimmy's. Waffle on
marriage. Church.
Gloucester. Home.

Although it would still be a while before Mum and Dad's courses crossed, Dad was already making stopovers in Hong Kong – and took the following pictures December 1945.

19  45



Caption on the back by my Dad reads: Crossing from Kowloon to H.K. on ferry. Building on top of hill is Japanese war memorial now being demolished by the Chinese 12/45

Jimmy Greaves and Dad HK undated



Children begging outside RAF mess, H.K.
Photo by Dad dated 12/45

19  45



Picture of HK from Star Ferry taken by Dad 12/45

Note HK and Shanghai Bank building left of center

Same view taken by me (JR)
October 2017 Shanghai Bank
building totally obscured by a
kilometer of reclaimed land and
skyscrapers.



Bishop Hall

THE "fighting Bishop" of Hong Kong - the Right Rev. Ronald Hall—is fighting to get back to his diocese, to minister to thousands of Protestants who are prisoners in the hands of the Japanese, Bishop Hall, who is in England, was here when Hong Kong fell, and for months has been trying to obtain permission to return. He has now been granted facilities for a special priority flight to China. He hopes he will be allowed to visit Hong Kong.

"The Japanese have permitted the Roman Catholic Bishop of Hong Kong to resume his ministrations, but he is an Italian," Bishop Hall told the 'Daily Mirror' yesterday. 6th July 1942 Gwulo Old HK

Bea's Experience

"To maintain myself I worked as a nurse in the Consulate clinic under Dr Ribeiro where there was a growing number of refugees from Hong Kong seeking treatment for all kinds of illnesses. Administering injections, even intravenous, sometimes with a thick needle, was what I hated most, and one poor lady fainted at the sight of the needle. There were four nurses, only two of whom were qualified and two of us with only first aid experience. But for the most part we provided an essential and valuable service, and Consul John Reeves was widely admired as a generous, caring and conscientious man."

"Food in general was in reasonable supply as Macau was a neutral port, used as much by the Japanese as by refugees, and local businessmen bought and sold, imported and exported as circumstances allowed. Certain items such as butter and milk were difficult to obtain. But we had bread, eggs and even coffee (imported from Portuguese Timor). And there were a number of Chinese bakeries operating. But hunger and starvation could be seen in the faces of hundreds of people and corpses were regularly picked up from the streets. I remember once going in to buy a pastry from a local bakery. As I emerged from the shop with my pastry in a paper bag, a young boy grabbed it, stuffed it into his mouth (bag and all) and then ran away before I had a chance to react. In retrospect he was more hungry than I was. I hope he survived."

"We ran a school for young Hong Kong children – T. S. Lo, son of Sir Man-kam Lo, was one of our students. The school was efficiently run by Miss Joyce Anderson (later wife of Dr. Robert Symons). Though I lacked teaching qualifications, Joyce had been a teacher at the Diocesan Girls' School and after the war became Headmistress and an Unofficial Member of Legislative Council. Also I studied book-keeping and shorthand typing to prepare me for a career after the war. We had various recreations and could play occasional sport. On the whole our lives were not seriously affected, many of our friends had come over as refugees. We could attend church services at the Protestant Cemetery Chapel on Sunday but had no priest to administer Holy Communion until Hong Kong's Anglican Bishop, R.O. Hall, then living in the unoccupied



interior of China, made a visit to ordain Miss Li Tim-oi, then a deaconess, to become a full-fledged priest. The decision caused an uproar in the Anglican Communion and Miss Li's Holy Orders were revoked after the war, but later reinstated when the ordination of women was accepted by Canterbury."

"Our lives continued to improve in 1945 when the Japanese occupation of China and Southeast Asia came under serious Allied attack. However the Consulate clinic continued until war ended in August 1945 when Hong Kong refugees began slowly to return to the liberated but greatly run-down and impoverished British colony."

