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'LL DO ANYTHING TO GET HIM BACK'

Jap Bride Mourns Yank Husband



SAD NEWS FROM PANMUNJOM—Kyoko Araki, Japanese bride of American PFC Claude J. Batchelor, 22, of Kermit, Texas, sadly reads a letter in Tokyo from her husband, one of the 22 Americans who have elected thus far to remain with the Communists, in which he tells her it is impossible for him to return to her. The letter was in reply to one from her in which she asked him to come back to Japan. "I don't understand, I don't understand," she sobbed after reading the letter. "He says he wants to see me and his friends and go places we used to."

By JOHN RANDOLPH
Associated Press Staff Writer

TOKYO (AP)—Rassi, the dog, is dead. Tama, a cat, is an old grandmother. Younger sister Toshiko has grown up. She is a pretty young lady now.

Three Christmases have come and gone since boyish Cpl. Claude Batchelor, 22, of Kermit, Tex., taught his little Japanese war bride to sing "The Tennessee Waltz" and went off to war in Korea.

In a few days the fourth Christmas will be here.

"Circumstances made it impossible for me to return to Tokyo now," read a typewritten letter received Saturday by the bride, Kyoko Araki.

It was signed by Batchelor, one of 22 American service men held in a Panmunjom, Korea compound after refusing to quit Communism.

"We know what we are doing now is right and a step toward a better future for mankind as a whole," the letter said, "especially for working people who now have to undergo continual suffering."

"I have changed immensely since I last saw you. You would not believe I was the same man. I have learned that happiness does not come with money as I used to believe but that it comes from struggle born of the fight for the emancipation of mankind from the shackles of war and capitalistic exploitation."

The letter advised her to go to the Japanese Communist Party for help and guidance.

Phrase by phrase, an interpreter turned the words into swift, staccato Japanese. With each new sentence, the little figure on the office sofa seemed to crumble anew.

Kyoko received the letter in The Associated Press office. Associated Press correspondents had carried to Panmunjom her letter begging Batchelor to return, then brought back the reply.

"I don't understand," she kept saying.

"He may be a Communist now. He's been in prison camp so long, but if he came back here he'd forget it soon, very soon."

Then she smiled quickly, and said she wouldn't think of contacting the Japanese Communist Party because of her hatred for Communism.

"I write him again," she said. "I will do anything to get him back. I'll go to the neutral zone to see him. But I won't go to Communist China."

His letter had hinted of plans for reunion soon in a Communist country.

Kyoko borrowed a fountain pen and paper, went over to a steel desk and started writing.

"I fear the happiness of us two is being taken away for good," she wrote. "My Darling Claude."

Whooping Cranes Make Slight Gain

By DAVE CHEAVENS
Associated Press Staff Writer

AUSTWELL, Tex. (AP)—Winging in this week on a north wind from the arctic, three whooping cranes put the nearly extinct birds slightly ahead in their battle for survival against men and wild animals.

Now 24 of the stately white birds are feeding in the swamps of their ancestral home—three more than left here last spring on their annual migration to the Arctic Circle.

Julian A. Howard, manager of the Aransas Pass wildlife refuge on Blackjack Peninsula, had been watching for the last three or four weeks, since they had been reported seen in flight from the far north.

Where they dallied on the way is anybody's guess.

Howard and his crew of half a dozen young wildlife scientists zealously guard the nearly extinct whoopers every winter at this South Texas refuge of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

They stand watch on shaky, 20-foot observation towers and patrol the swamps and waterways by jeep and boats equipped with two-way radios.

One of the toughest jobs is standing between the whoopers and sightseers who are sometimes more curious about the big birds than they are concerned whether they live or die out.

The flock of 21 that migrated north last April included only two young from the previous summer's hatch. The National Audubon Society and the Fish and Wildlife Service have put on intensive campaigns in the whooper's flyway north and south from Canada to Texas to educate people who might be inclined to shoot at them—just for the sake of shooting. Many have been slain by careless or malicious hunters.

About half the blindness in the United States could have been prevented by proper care says the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness.

"You used to sing for me Tennessee Waltz," she recalled. "I can now sing it well. Our cat, Tama, is now an old grandmother. The dog, Rassi, is dead. Please, my darling, come back to me. I want to hear you again chuckle softly with your lips slightly bent. . . . You mentioned 'circumstances' that do not allow you to reunite with me right now. What are those circumstances? . . . Why don't you come back right now and explain to us from your mouth your ideas? You can go for your own ideas living with we. . . . I know that you can come home simply by talking to an India guard and telling him so. . . . My mother sobs whenever she speaks about you. I try to calm her down, telling, 'He'll be back before Christmas.' But while trying to do so, I sob too. Let's reunite as soon as possible. I cannot continue this letter for tears now gush in my eyes."

The imprint of her lips was on the envelope when she handed it to a newsmen for relay to Panmunjom.

Public Records

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Legal actions filed: Josephine L. Sherris by her guardian Richard Sherris vs. William Charles Wisegarver; action to recover \$15,000 general damages and \$750 special damages alleged due from auto accident Aug. 4, R. T. Finney vs. Jessie Rose and Carma Jean Thompson; action to recover \$5,000 general damages and unspecified special damages alleged due from auto accident Oct. 30, 1952, Motors Insurance Corp. vs. Jessie Rose and Carma Jean Thompson; action to recover \$1,286 alleged due as damages from auto accident Oct. 30, 1952, Mack Motor Trucks Corp. vs. Gustav Walther, Quonset Repair Shop; action to recover one 1948 truck or \$6,678 alleged due in default of chattel mortgage.

Suits in equity filed: Winfred Lindholm vs. Ted E. Prindel; married Aug. 1936, plaintiff asks \$100 support money per month for two minor children. Kerman E. Miller vs. Harry W. March, Harry's Auto Sales and Sherman W. Carter; plaintiff asks satisfaction of chattel mortgage or recovery of 1947 sedan.

City of Eugene vs. Mountain States Power Co. and Harris Trust and Savings Bank; suit to condemn land.

Divorce suits filed: Donovan L. Bennett by his guardian Irene M. Bennett vs. Lorna Bennett, married Aug. 1953, plaintiff alleges cruel and inhuman treatment. Milton E. Reed vs. Blanche Reed, married April, 1946, plaintiff alleges cruel and inhuman treatment. Daisy Decemer vs. Edward Decemer, married Sept. 1942, plaintiff alleges cruel and inhuman treatment and asks custody of three minor children, \$150 per month support and property settlement.

married Sept. 1945, plaintiff alleges cruel and inhuman treatment and asks custody of three minor children, \$150 per month support and property settlement.

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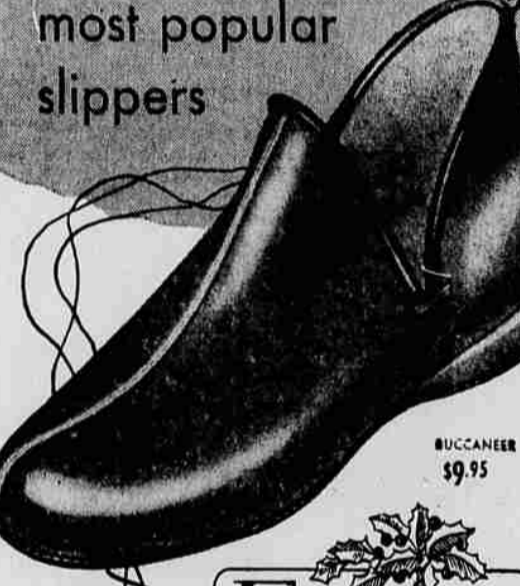
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