

VIII - 75 - 22. Letter from Lt. Col. Evans F. Carlson, R.F.D. #2, Box 353-E Escondido, California to Miss Agnes Smedley, Yaddo Estate, Saratoga Springs, New York. Envelope postmarked November 6, 1944 - Letter dated November 5, 1944.

After 10 days, return to

Lt. Col. Evans F. Carlson  
RFD Rt #2, Box 353 E

ESCONDIDO, CALIF.



*Via Air*

Miss Agnes Smedley  
Yaddo Estate  
Saratoga Springs  
New York

*Answered*

RFD Rt #2, Box 353 E  
Escondido, California  
5 November 1944

Dear Agnes:

I appreciated your letter so much, with its warm friendship and the cordial invitation to rest and work at Yaddo. Please tell the folks there that I am grateful for the comradely offer, and someday I may take advantage of it. At present I can do little writing because I know too much about things which cannot be revealed while I am still in the service, and I can't write, of course, without being completely honest.

Those were grand articles you did for PM. Bernstein wired me about doing something on the China situation and I referred him to you as the best authority on the subject. It is good to have the spotlight turned on the true state of affairs inside China. Stilwell has done a magnificent job. I know of no other man who could have accomplished what he has in the face of all the obstacles out there. And while doing it he supported the highest ideals of American democracy and decency.

I had a letter from the era about a week ago signed by Chu Teh, Chow En-lai, Yeh Ching-yin, and Nieh Yung-chen. It was a beautiful letter reflecting their faith in themselves and their democratic philosophy, as well as their faith in the justice and democracy of the American people. I'll send you a copy eventually. I want to get it cleared with the Boss first. I would give much to be back there in North China.

What has happened to Walter Judd? That was a lousy statement he made about Stilwell's recall.

Had a letter from Ed from Moscow recently. I was deeply touched by his dedication. He did his usual honest job of reporting in that book and it should exercise considerable influence. I liked Belden's book despite the strong emotional quality. He too is honest, and he laid it on the line, especially in the last chapter. There are a lot of people in this country who are going to be rudely awakened from their dream of yesterday's Utopia within the next decade.

I am beginning to feel human for the first time since I was wounded. It wasn't my wounds so much as physical, nervous and emotional exhaustion. This made me an easy victim to malaria and jaundice. The arm was really pretty badly shattered, they tell me, and the wound is just now healing. A bone graft will probably be done in the next few weeks.

Peg and I have taken a ranch house three miles north of Escondido. It is a grand place to rest, being quiet and isolated. Peg is a grand companion. She thinks down the alley with me, of course, and has a depth of perception, a tolerance and a warmth of feeling for humanity which frequently astound me. I am eager for you two to know each other. She is a great admirer of you, Agnes.

Let me know how things go with you. I feel that you are finding yourself more and more, by which I mean that you are creating an ever increasing sphere of influence for yourself.

*with love, as always,* Evans