

CHINESE EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE NAVAL ATTACHE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Jan 7, 1944.

Dear Richenda.

Thank you for let me know about Lawrence's bad news. Both my wife & myself are very sorry to hear that. He has been my friend for more the last ten years, especially since he came to work in Washington, we have become closer & closer like two brothers. We wished that some day, after the war is over, we can be very good partner in business or any other kind of ~~good~~ work we consider that we should do in China. Before he left for China, he came to Washington & stayed with us for a week. We talked over in the evening about his opportunities & great future by serving in the American Air Force in China. I had the greatest hope that he will be very successful in his work. It is very sad that he was not even given the opportunity to demonstrate his actual ability on his own field & reach his destination - China.

I have tried to get some more information about his missing but unfortunately I do not get very far. I phoned up the War Dept. They told me that he was missing in North Africa since Nov. 26, but nothing more than I wish to know. I have also

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get in touch with another friend of mine who was connected with the branch of casualty information expect her to find out some more for me, but as far I have not heard from her yet. I have tried to get in touch with in the last two days, but without any success.

I know how much you feel about this bad news. In the years we lived together, he always mention about you & remember you. He is really the ideal young man one can find in this world. My dear Richard, there is no word which can express how much I sympathize with you. If there is any thing I can do for you please let me know. It is sad that my best friend has gone, but you are his representative in this world. If I can hear from you ^{from time to} sometimes, I do feel that I hear from him.

I am sorry that I delay answer you because I expect to have some more information before I write.

P.S. My wife dreamt about his return. Very sincerely yours
the other day, therefore she has the
greatest hope that he is saved. There is the possibility
for him to come back, I believe. Bird.