

6-19-1958

## Letter from Dr. S.S. Huebner Dateline: Tokyo, June 19, 1958

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### Recommended Citation

Huebner, Solomon S. PhD, "Letter from Dr. S.S. Huebner Dateline: Tokyo, June 19, 1958" (1958). *Solomon S. Huebner Documents*. Paper 21.  
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LETTER FROM DR. S. S. HUEBNER DATELINE: Tokyo, June 19, 1958

This morning, at 8:45, by invitation, I visited Prime Minister Kishi, and was informed that I was to receive the Order of the Sacred Treasure (the third class). This afternoon at 3:00, by invitation again, I visited Vice Minister Morinaga (Finance Minister) and in the presence of quite a few people (the Chief of the Insurance Department for Japan, various other officers of the Finance Ministry, Mr. Hirose, Dr. Noguchi, Mrs. Huebner, and other insurance men of various associations) Mr. Morinaga conferred the Order, which, I was informed, was signed by the Prime Minister, the Head of the Order Division of the Government, and by the Emperor. The symbols of the Order are the decoration, the scroll, and a statement indicating the reason for giving the Order. One of the officers of the Financial Ministry explained that the Order was conferred because of my contribution to the welfare of the Japanese Insurance Industry.

Dr. Noguchi later advised me that the Order has eight grades, and that the third class is rarely given to foreigners, while the second and first classes are largely reserved for high officials of the Government. He said that educators, like University teachers, rarely received more than the fourth and fifth classes. He told me that Dr. Emory R. Johnson received the same Order 32 years ago for service in the field of transportation. It seems that the Prime Minister does the nominating, the Cabinet gives its approval, and the Emperor signs the Order.

Tonight Mrs. Huebner and I are given a final farewell dinner. Dr. Noguchi wants to show the decoration and the scroll to the assembled group.

Tomorrow, at 12:45 p.m., we shall leave for Manila. There the schedule is again tight for a seven-day period, until we leave for Australia on the 24th. Any number have been calling us up to advise us that they will see us at the airport tomorrow. But about this, I shall write you when I reach Manila.

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