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Lee Ya-Ching Papers - Correspondence -- With Peter Doo, 1935 - 1941

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OVERSEA SERVICE CORPORATION

SHEET NO___ LETTER NO___ DATE___

June 7, 1940

Miss Lee Ya-ching
New York City

My dear Miss Lee:

At the suggestion of Mr. Peter Doo, a good friend of mine, I am taking this opportunity of writing to you, as a friend, and as an admirer of your excellent work which you have done for our Country. Regarding to your suggestion of a technical training school or institute, I am happy to write a few unrelated facts of which I believe I know fairly well. I am now writing as one who had charge of such training as you propose, some years ago, and not as a Prof. of Automotive Engineering, in an engineering college.

Your letter to Peter regarding this school, is I presume, based upon reports which you have received or heard from friends, that our rucks are not being properly looked after.

** 1) Aims. The aim is to better service the trucks and cars that are now operating in China. (Airplane repair being out of our scope).

** 2) Location. The location of this training school will ~~be~~ be somewhere near the border of Yunnan province and Burma. This being easily accessible from the outside. The supply of gasoline, oil and parts maybe transported easily over the railroad or river to the school site. At the same time it should be sufficiently far from air raid region so that the students work maybe uninterrupted.

** 3) Operation of School. This in my opinion is the most important point which must be clearly thought out. Will it be government operated or privately operated for the benefit of the government?

A. Advantages of Government operation:

- 1/ Supplies maybe had much easier, and less customs formalities. (This is not very difficult)
- 2/ Placing of the mechanics and fitters into government organizations.
- 3/ Petty jealousy of the immediate superiors.
- 4/ Official red tape of a government function, including some compulsory requirements.

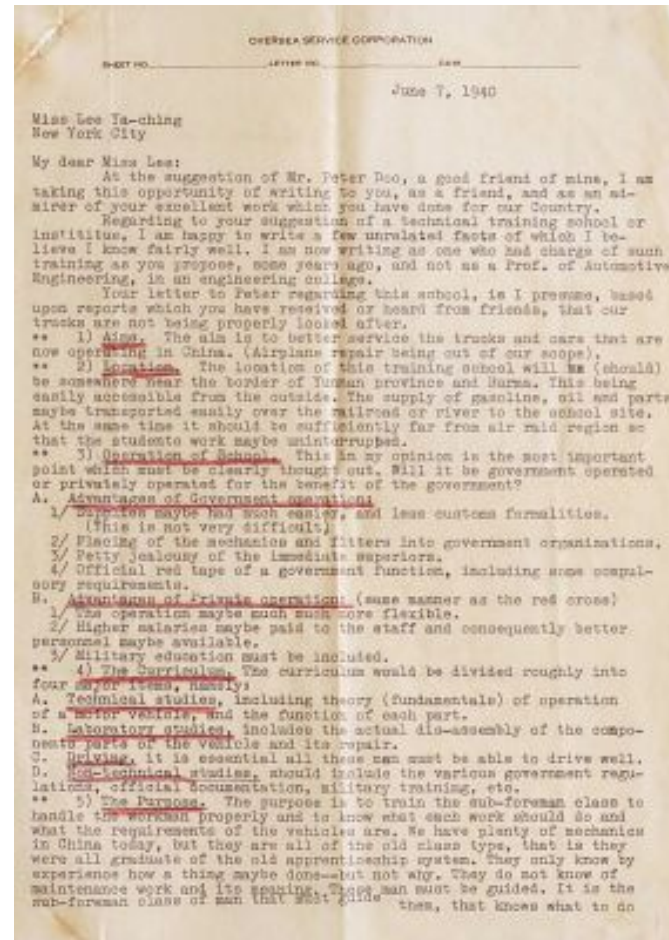
B. Advantages of Private operation: (same manner as the red cross)

- 1/ The operation maybe much much more flexible.
- 2/ Higher salaries maybe paid to the staff and consequently better personnel maybe available.
- 3/ Military education must be included.

** 4) The Curriculum. The curriculum would be divided roughly into four major items, namely:

- A. Technical studies, including theory (fundamentals) of operation of a motor vehicle, and the function of each part.
- B. Laboratory studies, includes the actual dis-assembly of the components parts of the vehicle and its repair.
- C. Driving. it is essential all these men must be able to drive well.
- D. Non-technical studies, should include the various government regulations, official documentation, military training, etc.

** 5) The Purpose. The purpose is to train the sub-foreman class to handle the workman properly and to know what each work should do and what the requirements of the vehicles are. We have plenty of mechanics in China today, but they are all of the old class type, that is they were all graduate of the old apprenticeship system. They only know



by experience how a thing maybe done--but not why. They do not know of maintenance work and its meaning. These man must be guided. It is the sub-foreman class of man that must guide them, that knows what to do

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