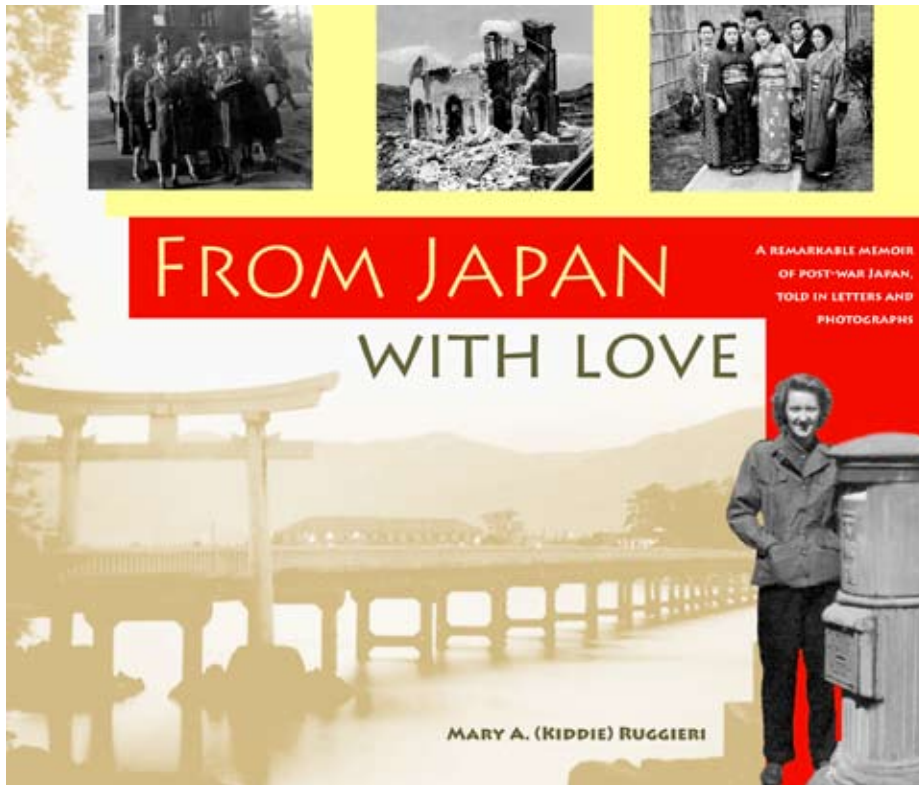


With echoes of WWII reverberating, Mary A. Ruggieri embarked upon the adventure of a lifetime in post-war Japan. In *From Japan With Love*, Ruggieri's personal photographs, letters and journals take readers back with her to that historic time sixty years ago.



Author Mary A. Ruggieri left college to join the Women's Army Corps during WWII and volunteered for postwar duty in Japan, 1946-1948.

From Japan With Love is an engaging account of an American WAC, at work and at play, coping with the U.S. Army, marveling at Japan's people, cultures and customs, lamenting the destruction and despair of war, and falling deeply in love with the American soldier she would later marry.

The culmination of a five-year effort, *From Japan With Love* is a personal and historical treasure, a story of East meets West, rich with details and striking, evocative images.

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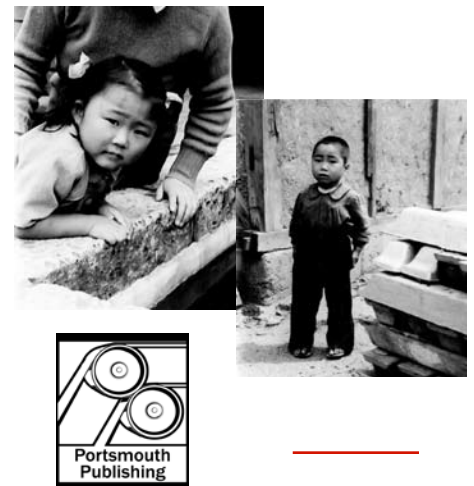
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From Japan With Love is a rare achievement, destined to become an important historical and biographical record.

◆ Over 400 B&W photographs of post-war occupied Japan, collected and presented to the public for the first time.

◆ A contemporaneous, entertaining and informative record of a young American woman in Japan, working, exploring and falling in love.

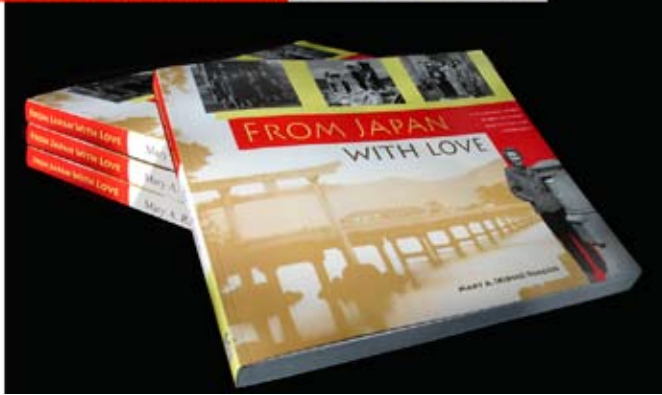
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Mary A. Ruggieri's personal letters, journals and photographs from 1946-1948, while she served as a WAC (Women's Army Corps) in occupied Japan immediately following WWII, make public for the first time a young American girl's thoughts, impressions and images, in an honest and innocent journalistic account, written over 60 years ago, that is remarkably contemporary.

◆ **ABOUT WAR** — “In the station we saw sights of war – sights that bring tears to your eyes and fire to your heart for man’s great inhumanity and stupidity. Japanese people, cold and shivering, hungry and in rags, crowd into corners and archways seeking some warmth and some comfort against physical and moral suffering that should not be borne by man”

◆ **ABOUT THE COUNTRY** — “I had never really before thought of a volcano as a living thing, complete with personality, drives and complexes just like the rest of us. But Mt. Fuji, the backbone of Japanese art and culture, definitely has its very own personality, and why not?”

◆ **ABOUT THE PEOPLE** — “The eccentric and fabulously wealthy Mikimoto-san wore a black kimono, a black derby, and his straw slippers; he stood with the help of a cane and grinned at us the whole time under big bushy eyebrows. We were later told that he affected this 'act' to convince his workers that he was crazy, as it is against Japanese philosophy to harm or to steal from an insane person. Could be, but I don't know... For us he simply removed his false teeth.”

◆ **ABOUT THE ARMY** — “The U.S. Army is actually quite an amazing structure. It is capable of sending thousands of men overseas and providing for their every need and supplying even the most minute bits of job-related equipment – and to sustain all of this for months on end – and often doing so under the most terrible – and often hostile – conditions. And yet, in my short experience so far as a 'soldier,' I have seen areas almost completely lacking in organization. Sometimes I wonder how we ever won the war.”

◆ **ABOUT THE FUTURE** — “We should arrive in San Francisco somewhere around the fifth of May – as free civilians – and then my most difficult job will begin, the job of shopping for an almost complete civilian wardrobe.....”

