

cameras focused on the many figures in the Tiger Balm Gardens. The Aberdeen fishing village seemed to tell the story of the crowded land. Thousands of refugees spending their entire lives living on tiny sampans and junks because the earth can hold no more.

Rickshaws were a common means of transportation and all of us agreed that the slit skirt style the women wore was very fashionable. The big guy was in suits. It felt good to try civvies on again, especially when they were custom made English tweed.

Christmas Day finally arrived and Bennington was host to some four hundred orphan children. Nearly everyone volunteered for a "duty daddy" assignment and when the shoeless, pitiful orphans came aboard we all forgot about ourselves and concentrated on giving them a day of happiness.

It was truly a Christmas we will never forget.

FISHHEADS & RICE - An elderly woman settles down for her sole meal of the day aboard her sampan.



JEEPNEY - The reconverted Jeeps from World War II make up one of the major means of transportation in the Philippines.



SOUVENIR ALLEY - A Japanese woman, wearing western style clothing, strolls along the shopping district in Yokosuka.

MANILA

Flight operations over New Years took us up to our arrival in the capital of the Philippines on January 3. Swimming and sunning was the main recreation while the USO did a wonderful job of entertaining us with dances and free chow in the Manila Hotel.

SUBIC BAY

Divisional parties were the keynote for our two week stay

in this remote spot of the Philippines. A fine resort was available at nearby Bagio and many took leave for several days rest.

YOKOSUKA

From February 20 to March 3 we had another opportunity to see the sights we missed on our first visit to the "Land of the Lotus." Big Ben looked like Macy's bargain basement by the time we left.

KOBE

We finally got a look at the Takarazuka girls that James Michener described so vividly in "Sayonara." They were even more beautiful than we had imagined.

So we close this chapter in Bennington's history book as we return to our families and loved ones in the United States. But as we do, the fantasy of the old Orient and the reality of the new Japan, will remain vivid in our memories long after we have bid the people of the Far EastSayonara!