

001129 Eyes

Well, a lot has happened since that last email was written on Sunday afternoon. My eye became much worse during the course of Sunday night. I awoke on Monday morning unable to open my right eye without shearing pain. However, keeping the eye closed did not stop the pain. It felt as if there were pieces of sand on my eye that tore as I moved my eye or blinked. Tears continuously poured from my eyes and any sort of light made the situation worse. I have had torn corneas in the past and I have had conjunctivitis in the past. But, I have never experienced pain like this, not even when I had surgery on my eye. So, early Monday morning the decision was made to see a doctor in the States as soon as possible.

I am actually writing this to you from Canton, MA on Wednesday afternoon EST. I arrived home this morning via Seoul, Anchorage, and JFK. The plane ride is a blur since I could not read or watch the movies. Instead, I could only look down and keep my eyes closed for the 32 hour journey.

I have just returned from the eye doctor. The problem is not conjunctivitis as the Chinese doctors had thought. Instead, there is a "sizable tear" on my cornea. It will probably take several months to heal during which I will just need to take care of it.

I have had torn corneas in the past, so I am upset that I left China for only that since it will heal with time. But, the intense pain was real and was made worse by the misdiagnosis in China.

I will send out one last email to everyone once I have collected my thoughts after the whirlwind several days.

Take care,

Jeff

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