

Relocation

ALSO AVAILABLE ON MICROFILM

86/97 c

[RE CAMP]

1/82

D.T.U. letters

- 1- From Lopez Church &  
Coop - on his departure
- 2- Copies of letters supporting  
his release from Montana.
3. Letters requesting  
lifting of "Parole" status.

# Montana Letters <sup>(1)</sup>

## Concerns in letters

- 1 - Heard alias permitted to withdraw up to \$100/mo. from a/c. Tells K to withdraw from his a/c with help of Mitani Nisei - Tells location of passport - ~~which~~ <sup>where</sup> extra withdrawal details.
- 2 - Worried about church friends with shops etc...
3. At S.F. - ~~Shipped~~ <sup>dropped</sup> of everything in possession - even handkerchiefs.  
Some men bro't in from golf course in golf clothes - No food from 4:00pm → 7:00A.  
In ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> few days - eventually given some money to buy candy
4. Hearings - expected to take a long time - so all determined to put up with long stay. - Asked M. Sill to write ltr.
5. [We sent some clothing - coat hangers, razor blades, sock, stationery, Cans etc.]
  - Permanent Resident since 1966
  - Left Mitani April 12, 1939.
  - Good record of service to YMCA, Church etc.
  - Letters affidavits

} helped  
secure  
release

12/17/44 I writes he learned that 3/4 of men to be transferred to Missoula - He included Tells us not to worry - Send <sup>to</sup> Rosen to friend.

His address: Camp #30, U.S. Interning. Detention Camp  
Missoula, Montana



12/20 letter -

Entrained with about 85 J.

Left Oakland at 4:00 p.m. -

✓ 48 hr ride - sitting

arr'd. Friday about 4:00 p.

Camp is new & clean, bedding better than S.F. & atmosphere fresher.

Food better I feel settled

Train - grew on the way with cars from  
✓ L.A., Portland, Seattle added on.

met many old friends - L.A. men were put in County jail & very bad treatment.

no word yet on hearings - but paper

reports members of Board of Review appointed

Probably long slow process - be patient  
Board from ex-local area to come up & conduct cleanup in people

He was app'd Chmn of the Welfare Cttee to

work in Camp Wexon - with 15 other workers

Bury securing speakers for mtgs in each Camp - no place for all

- snow on ground - but houses warm. <sup>mean to get</sup> to meet fog.

- 6:30 - Rise, cold shower & rub down.

15 min. mass exercise before bkfst.

Then 10 men <sup>assigned to</sup> clean the Barrack -

Twice a week - 1/2 hr lectures -

Free time to wash + relax

lunch - kitchen to be op'd by J. from 12/25.

Laundry - op.'d by J - for large objects

Individs work on hdkf - 80%



12/24 - Personal effect released - (3)  
+ up to \$45 cash - Finally began  
writing with pen. Up to then pencil  
only.  
- Sent us \$50 check on Yokohama Spec.  
Bank.

Ours was only Xmas play to arrive in time.  
They ~~took~~<sup>put</sup> up all the wrapping paper, ribbon-  
tags - + decorated tree. Tacked up Xmas cards.  
We sent games, etc.

Candy + nuts distrib by Gov't.

Center opened - so adequate candy etc.

- Temp 31° below -

12/29 - Tomorrow our turn to help kitchen -  
20 boys from Camp 30 - He is one of them -  
He looks forward to work - so must go from  
ea. camp every day.  
Must feed 625 people.

He got up at 6:30, fed himself, + waited on  
table 22, feeding 40 people coffee meals +  
toast. Writes "Oh, it was such fun + interesting  
work. - He also looks forward to working as cook  
with white chef cap + apron."

1/4 - ~~So~~ truly almost forgot Anniversary.  
Mom's wire reaches him - D's neighbors + he  
have hot lemonade + Ritz crackers to celebrate -  
- News travels - all men come to congratulate  
him - + decide to have party in Camp 30.  
7:00 p.m. party with Boni, songs, dances,  
speakers congratulating, D. sang Hino Kureni - <sup>all singing</sup>  
all men sign card to send Mom - Happy evening ends 10 p.  
union bells -



- Gov't issued warm pants, coats & shoes. But I lends his to Portland man who came in thin clothes - & didn't have any.

Average age 59.3. Some men 76. oldest is 82. 2 men sent to hospital outside seriously ill. 1 man has 2 sons in the army. - Welfare cttee planned to petition for early release of elderly, sick, & those with sons in armed forces.

From 1/4 - Each camp has to send 6 men to work as cooks & cook help.

He has to work as cook once in 100 days -

Also - 3 men daily to help clean hospital. & take care of stores.

1/17 - Censor held up mail for 1 week. now restricted to 3 ltrs/week. - outgoing.

- Mom knit warm caps for D. & for 2 other Italian men in Bariack.

- Package restriction begins.

- 1/19 - Received 1 Bldg for church services - Had Union only of Kns, Budd. & Shinto.

275 men gathered. - Prayed for their families. Some men haven't heard for 3 wks.

D-ordered hymn books I can't find outside speakers

- no word yet on S.F. Hearing Board

# U.S. District att'y. from S.F. supposed to come up to handle hearing for S.F. people

for more detainees. 2/27 to make room for more detainees. - Sad. But dad's give up now changed in 2/27 to make room for more detainees. - Sad. - Store -



1/19 (?) D's a/c not blocked. He is entitled (5)  
to \$500 - living expense + travel, so  
Bank withdraw. Tells K. not to use her savings a/c.  
will approve. D wants also to buy defense bonds if  
his funds can be released.

- ~~Bank~~ Has 1 blocked a/c? But could  
buy Bonds from it!  
Jan 31 - Christ. - D has cold and - Jan.

Hearings for S.F. group to begin Feb 3.

after hearing, recommendations + papers  
to be sent to Wash. - Att'y Gen'l  
there to make final decision. - so expect  
to take several weeks.

? Bank of America Savings a/c was blocked  
K. authorized to withdraw only \$100 -  
living expense per month.

some ? of being able to withdraw 500 -  
K + Y got jobs

Feb 10 '42 - D's hearing conducted.

men told to be pessimistic so they won't  
be disappointed.

Feb 11 - classes began - D helps organize + attend all  
classes  
10:30 - 11:30 - English conversation } all taught by  
75-100 men 1:30 - 2:30 - " ltr-writing } men there.  
2:30 - 3:30 - Am. history  
40-60 y.o. p.m. - Law  
old:

Warned on writing too many letters.



- Spanish Consul - Vice Consul represented I. interest in U.S. during war. Came to inspect camp.

2/6. 74yr old dies of pneumonia -  
1st death Had remarried at 60, has 3 children  
eldest 13. in L.A. with small restaurant.  
Body shipped home directly from morgue  
500 men gathered in hall - with guard.  
Mem'l service - Buddhist service - all donated  
10¢ (\$60) - for flowers, candles, incense, wine  
- rest - money to family -  
- also mem'l service for son of one I. man  
killed in auto accident

2nd death Man removed from hosp - after surgery -  
not coming to Missiona hosp - dying -  
ch. came to visit - died before they came. Mem'l service

D. Worrying about Evacuation Rumors

more & more arrests - These men sent to Ho Dakota  
one was man at church (Geychura - shoe  
repair man - Mbr of J. Society)

March 20/ - more men coming from Seattle &  
Portland. Meeting old friends -

4/12 - 1/2 of ~~community~~ Their Camp shipped to  
So. Camp in Oklahoma - Very sad for them.

Our friends scattered:  
- Ellis Island, Camp Livingston, La,  
Fort Sam Houston,  
Lordsburg. Internment Camp, N. Mex.



1 ltr to Mr Hershens from Tanforan

sent to

- ① Missoula, Mont
- ② Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Tex
- ③ Internment Camp, Lordsburg, N. Mex.

- Not repatriated to Japan
- Return to Sender
- " c/o P.M. San Bruno
- Finally returned to Delta, Utah.

movement  
of both  
sides

My father <sup>being</sup> a cheerful, optimistic person - in all his letters never showed any real discouragement or sadness - <sup>he was in good health & spirits</sup> always told us not to worry - & not to expect an early release because the Review Board & hearing would probably take a long time. Aided in rubber-soled shoes, winter clothing, pullover, rubbers, gloves.

Not only was he concerned about his own hearing - but about our ability to run things at home without him <sup>& to have adequate living fund</sup>.

- ① - Be sure to withdraw allowable funds signed withdrawal slips - <sup>Yokohama Bank - Am.</sup>
  - ② - Location of passport.
  - ③ - FBI - <sup>look & kept all his</sup> ~~take up all~~ keep - safe slip - Box - so <sup>be sure everything is there - notify FBI of anything missing. Sent 3/20</sup>
  - ④ - Location of important papers & J. real. <sup>finally noted 3/20</sup>
  - ⑤ - Car - 1800 mi service/oil change <sup>How is garden - Bros need pruning</sup>
  - ⑥ - Comb Laddie every day & pet him.
  - ⑦ - Koden to deceased friend
  - ⑧ - Yemas contrib to \$15 to our church
  - ⑨ - Endorse checks & keep record of income. <sup>Endorsed authorization for K. to endorse.</sup>
  - ⑩ - Check ownership of car? <sup>Print slip in S.V.</sup>
- (We had 18 calls in 1 day - worried about us)

Man of great enthusiasm & energy - found it fun to wait on tables.

- acts about church & people's businesses

⑪ Can't file income tax return or Bko.

⑫ Send monthly check to Grandma

⑬ Payment of car, house, life insurance etc.



Private party - 1 Barraele

ex - modii -

• made hot water in can on stove.

borrow dishes from kitchen -

25<sup>th</sup> ann'y - party -

1 man died - did funeral there - families  
can't come  
notify home - usually body shipped home.

I was Welfare Chief - took care & dead.

5-6 - 1 man operated - taken 2 - hospital  
in died  
sick taken -

man became insane tried to bite tongue.

1 man climbed fence - forbidden -  
shot & killed.

Paper forbidden - all papers open - <sup>boxes empty</sup>  
modii candy - no paper - dumped on counter -  
labels removed from cans -

Other forms - Unsanitary - protested -  
so Brown Shopping bag - used instead

all ltrs censored - ltrs held - 1 wk by  
censor - some papers missing -

mail del once/day - censor too busy -  
held up mail 3-4 days  
members not good -

Islebs 34" thick roof to ground - MONTANA  
coal stove burning all day - so roof gets hot -  
wall of rocks -

20° -

Made classes - English grammar class.  
ball room dancing

Corresp  
I taught themselves.

# to ban to clean barracks + latrine  
shining - except path to mess hall

30 barracks - about 30 in ea  
900 altop. - 1000

1 Big hall - dining hall.

Each day 10 people - took turns

1 - hand out trays

1 " " utensils

some became cooks - many prof'd cooks there.

Communiary - ordering + food done by Am.

Ate in 3 shifts - pile dirty trays.

dish washing also had to take turns.

Each barrack had a head who  
organised.



Army regulations -

Attlee formed to judge ~~ea~~

Presiding Commissioner

Johnny-  
Lawyer etc

5 people

Came from S. F.

~~ea~~ man questioned  
in 2-3 hrs. Who (a & ) win. U.S. or  
Japan. Who (a & ) win?

"I was born in J. I love my own de.

But Am, my adopted country - I am  
ag. war. Want neither to win. -

If J. soldier invaded - & I to gun - who is  
short? - I short in sky! -

Affidavits from Schwarz, Fisher, Con'd Bd  
photographed

1 old man 80+, from Pitaluma, did work like  
I. cumulate, Yorizawa - egg man.

His work was so like J. Official

He was photographed front & both sides after  
questioning - Knew he is set out

Then from San Diego - fishing mess - in light cot.  
clothes - Lin. Amulet. etc - freezing  
army clothes - issues

*Didn't  
use*

# SONG OF TOPAZ

(To be sung to the tune of "Missoula Bushi")

By

D. T. Uchida

Far out in the desert of Utah  
The City of Topaz was born.

Nine thousand folk there by strange fate  
Must temporarily dwell.

Unforgettable in Topaz are  
The glory of sunrise  
The glory of sunset  
And blinding storms of dust.

Let us all unite and cooperate  
Helping and protecting the weak.

Keep our spirits high  
And our bodies always healthy.

Older folk, do take care of your health,  
For the end of the drama, you must see.

Be thankful for the daily food  
Doubly rich since by comrades made.

Youth be not impatient  
Your future will be richer  
Because of hardships now.

Be kind to aged and youngsters  
Await the day of peace.

When the end of the war comes at long last,  
By special express we'll homeward wend.

(English translation by D. T. U.)  
1943



# SONG OF TOPAZ

(To be sung to the tune of "Missoula Bushi")

By

D. T. Mchida

Here we come with, Number One, Yosahoi no hoi  
Far out in the desert of Utah  
The City of Topaz was born. yoi yoi

Here we come with Number Two, Yosahoi no hoi  
Nine thousand folk there by strange fate  
Must temporarily dwell. yoi yoi

Unforgettable in Topaz are  
The glory of sunrise  
The glory of sunset  
And blinding storms of dust.

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Hitotsu deta wai nah  
Yosahoi no hoi  
---  
Yoi yoi

"Here we come with Number One  
Yosa hoi no hoi"  
" " "Two"  
etc....  
Before each verse.