

J 4/2/45 Monday

1. Dorothy on Eastern Defense Command

Dorothy said that she had a difficult time with an official from the Eastern Defense Command, who is an old friend of hers. He seemed to be convinced that Japanese were potentially dangerous. If they were not actually disloyal at the time of evacuation, they ought to be after the way they were treated. He did not seem to distinguish clearly between alien Japanese and Nisei. That his bias was anti-Japanese and not anti-Oriental was indicated by the fact that he thought that the Chinese were a wonderful people. The Eastern Defense Command is evidently thinking of following the example of the Western Defense Command to exclude certain Japanese from the eastern coast. This officer practically has not seen a Japanese before except at Geneva and recently at Tule Lake. Dorothy said that she did what she could to correct some of the wrong impressions that he had, and W.I. pitched in, too. But she doubts that she was able to make much of a dent in him. Evidently he is just as prejudiced as DeWitt, if not more so. The sad part of the whole thing is that one agency does its best to throw all of the inmates of the relocation centers out, while one division of the War Department attempts to restrict the movements of some of them. It doesn't make much sense, especially when the war in Europe is about to be ended. (That's what a lot of people expect, anyway.)

2. Grace Imamoto on People in Camp

Grace Imamoto dropped in to see Dorothy today about students getting out of paying the non-resident fee by having their parents sign a statement to the effect that they plan to return to California. Both Dorothy and I believe that the parents should be willing to commit themselves to this extent on paper for the sake of their children.

Grace is about 25 and is an active Christian. Her parents were Japanese school teachers in Norwalk, California, more educated and cultured than the average Issei family. Her father spoke English fairly well and attended the University of California. He is a soft-spoken and impractical sort of person. There are about four girls in the family. One of them is married, and the others are still going to school in various parts of the country. Grace was taking courses in education before the war, doing housework as she went to U.C. She did not seem to do especially well in school, although she seemed to be adjusted in terms of association with others.

Grace left camp (Rohwer) early to finish her education. Now she wants to do graduate work in social work, since it is desirable to have graduate training to go into this field. She seemed quite confident of her plans for the future in this line of work. She ~~then~~ said that her parents thought that it was about time for her to go on with the more practical aspects of life and get a job. But she wants to get all the training that she can. Someone in Whittier evidently has given her an offer of some sort of assistance, and she



J 4/2/45 #2-2

was thinking of possibly attending U.S.C.

Concerning her father and people in camp, she had a Kunitanish point of view:

"I told my father to teach Japanese for the Government. He's received lots of good offers in teaching Japanese. He refused to consider them, saying that he was interned for teaching Japanese. I can't understand it. I thought thought my father was broad minded. He speaks English and went to U.C. He's afraid that he's going to get beaten up if he accepts work of that sort. All the people in camp are like that--they're afraid. Mich Kunitani was furious when he heard that. He said that if my father were working for the Government, he could send me to school instead of someone else. It's a funny thing because my father said that he didn't intend to return to Japan when he was released from internment camp. I told him that if he worked for the Government he would have a chance to get his citizenship, but he doesn't believe me. He doesn't want to come out, but I told him that he'd have to cooperate with me. He's impractical. He says that he wants to do domestic work if he's going to have to come out. He thinks that he ought to leave by July if the center is going to close."

Dorothy asked her what would happen if the Government changed its mind. Her reply was: "Some people said, 'For goodness sake, tell your parents to come out before they Government changes its mind.'" What they meant was that they should come out before the Government decided not to let them out. What Dorothy was thinking of was that her father might want to stay if the Government decided to let them stay longer.

We discussed WRA grants, and Grace did not seem to care too much whether she received her grant or not. Dorothy said that she should get as much as she could from the WRA, and may have shocked her a little bit. After all, she is a good Christian girl.

### 3. George Ura on Chicken Dinner

Received a card from George Ura, giving me more information on where to get a chicken dinner. The only trouble with this note was that he didn't say how much the chicken dinner would cost.

COPY

Mar 30th

My dear

Mr. James Sakoda

I have for-gotten one good place for real good chicken dinner. When you have spare time go to "Old South" restaurant on End of Ashby st., East end near Tunnel Rd. This is mighty good place for chicken and Turkey.

George S. Ura



J 4/2/45 #3

4. Community Analysis Section on Housing in Berkeley

Dorothy today pointed out a section in the Weekly Summary of the Community Analysis Section, March 4 - 10, 1945, # 12, which stated that housing in Berkeley was not too bad. She thought that the Community Analysis Section was mistaken in making such a report, which in turn was attributed to evacuee sources. Except for housing in exchange for domestic work, neither the WRA nor the Inter-racial Committee has anything to offer at the moment. The paragraph read:

"Ex-Berkeley residents at Topaz held a meeting to discuss their mutual problems and to listen to ascout report on their home town. In general, his report as well as letters written from other evacuees in Berkeley are extremely favorable - even housing is not quite as bad as elsewhere, although still bad. A "hospitality group" there has been helpful in finding temporary quarters at least. At the meeting evacuees talked of establishing a Co-op for the Japanese who would return to Berkeley, mainly to handle Japanese products. There was some doubt about the feasibility of forming one in Berkeley, although all felt there was a need for it." (p. 4.)



## 2. Interracial Committee Meeting

Last night Mrs. Macfarlane took me to the Interracial Committee meeting. The committee had been organized by Dr. Tolman. Mrs. Brunswick picked us up in her car, an arrangement that had been made to conserve gasoline. The most surprising was how a poor driver like Mrs. Brunswick was able to drive without becoming involved in a wreck.

I was surprised to learn that the committee was comprised of a large number. There were probably about 150 in attendance, about every third or fourth person a Negro. Part of this probably was due to the fact that the meeting was held in the Community Church in South Berkeley in the Negro district, if one could call it that. A large number of those present were women. There were a number of college professors and students. From the tone of the statements made by one or two, there were representatives from the labor group and those who believed in the idea of a class struggle.

Most of the active work evidently was done in sub-committees, the names and activities of which indicated some of the work being done by this committee. The problems of two minority groups seemed to occupy the major part of the energy of the committee--the Japanese and the Negroes. A committee on Japanese-American resettlement, headed by an energetic woman named Stanslowski, has been aiding returning evacuees to find housing and jobs. Most of the jobs have been domestic work, and most of the housing offers have been those in exchange for domestic work. A Discrimination Committee, headed by Miss Lila Anderson, reported that the discrimination against Nisei employees in a sandwich has been settled. A real estate case was still pending. She also mentioned another case. A Legal Committee, headed by an able Negro, reported on the progress on the discrimination against Negroes on the Key System. The matter was taken to the Fair Employment Practices Committee, and hope for a favorable settlement was expressed. The discussion of a state Fair Employment Practices bill in the state legislature was announced, and cards and telegrams were made available to those present to request their local representative to act favorably on the bill. An Education Committee set up a library in the church to lend out books to members.

The chairman was Dave McIntyre. According to Mrs. Macfarlane, the nomination committee had selected a Negro for the second chairman, but the Negroes themselves preferred to have McIntyre. After reports from the various committees, the main speaker for the evening, Paul Rodin, who spoke on the fallacy of the classification of races. He had been asked to testify in court that a particular tenant was a Negro, and after taking one look at him the speaker said that no one could prove that he was a Negro. Then he went on to explain the origin of race classification. It



- 2 -

J 4/4/45 #2-2

was not until ~~after~~ about the 17th century that people began to think definitely in terms of different races. Two groups, the Negroes and the Mongolian, were given definite race characteristics, instead of conceiving of race as a range of various characteristics. In order to apply one name to those living in Europe it was necessary to allow a great deal of variation ~~within~~ in the racial characteristics within the group. He went on to explain that present day racial classification was largely a matter of prejudice and not scientific at all. He thought that very little could be done to wipe out the prejudice of adults and of children who were brought up by them. It could not be eliminated unless a social system like that of Russia, where class distinction was not allowed, was set up. He also attributed prejudice largely to economic competition between groups.

After the meeting many of the members stood around talking with each other. I went up to Miss Anderson to say "hello." I was introduced by Mrs. Macfarlane to Mrs. Stansilowski, and when I said that I was looking for an apartment, she said that they were difficult to find, but would see what she could do. I saw Tuttle, who introduced me to Sachi Matsumoto. I asked Tuttle about my check, and he merely said that he didn't know anything about it. I told him about the discrimination that I had run into, and he merely said that something should be done about it. I saw Dr. Iriki present with another Japanese, and I nodded to him. I didn't get a chance to speak with him. I also talked with Jane Davis.

I forgot to mention but Mrs. Stansilowski estimated that there were 40 or 50 in evacuees in Berkeley. Tuttle was asked to give his figure, and he said that there were probably 150 in the whole East Bay. I'll eat my hat if there are that many back in this area.

### 3. Ruth Hayashi

I ran into Ruth Hayashi helping a Chinese girl majoring in architecture to sketch a part of the building. I stopped to talk with her for a few moments. She wants to become a librarian, but is afraid that she might find difficulty getting a job in that field. She is wondering whether she shouldn't go into social work.

### 4. Study Publication Plans

Dorothy has been working on a colonel from the Eastern Defense Command who is supposed to be a good friend from way back. She says that she has never met a person who was so prejudiced against Japanese. He and a major came in to discuss matters with her. She didn't want to see them because she felt that they would be hopeless--anything that she told them about Japanese would have no effect. Today Dorothy



-3-

J 4/4/45 #4-2

Kuznets

called in the staff on hand--Rosalie, ~~Guzness~~ and myself--to ask our advice. She said that these two men came and she got nowhere. They asked to see some of her case histories. Charlie's cases were on the table, and she told them to pick up one. Both of them fortunately grabbed case histories of single females. They were surprised to learn that Nisei could be so Americanized and so human. They kept saying: "Say, listen to this one," to each other. They were favorably impressed with Dorothy's thesis that Issei and Nisei were no more dangerous than any other group and that there was no necessity for further exclusion from the East or West Coast. When they went away they said that they had been "indoctrinated."

Dorothy had given some thought to plans of publication. She had it figured out that by and large it was best to publish the whole thing as a series after the war, possibly in two years. There was a great deal of pressure from Morton to publish his thesis on the activities of the West Coast pressure groups at the time evacuation, but she was against publishing matters which were political in nature which would incur the wrath of a large number of people and damage the reputation of the Study. The material would not be suppressed, but it would have to appear as a part of a larger study of the whole evacuation process. Using that material for the purpose of social action, she thought, could not be considered at the moment.

However, the effect of the case histories on the two stubborn Army men had started her thinking. She was wondering whether or not selected case histories, which were to be published later as one of the series of monographs, could not be presented first as soon as possible. It would help to make Nisei understandable as individuals, where academic discussions would not succeed. Dorothy was willing to consider this aspect along with the professional question of the right time and method of presentation of the material. She had expected to present a comprehensive introductory, ~~and~~ volume, in which she would draw on all available data and state whatever conclusion she has arrived at. If the case histories were to be published first, an introductory section outlining the steps of the evacuation and resettlement process and reference to other volumes to be published would be necessary. Otherwise, the publication plans would not be upset a great deal by this change. What she was thinking of was not political propaganda, but sociological influence. At any rate, she has shown herself to be social-minded. All of us agreed that it was a good ~~xxx~~ idea. ~~Guzness~~ wondered whether or not a complete history of evacuation could not be presented at the same time to avoid the impression that the Study was represented by a mere collection of case histories. But Dorothy maintained that the whole history, which belonged in the comprehensive volume, could not be published at this moment. The Study is finally breaking out its ivory tower.

Kuznets



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J 4/4/45 #4-3

Personal I was glad to hear that Dorothy considered publishing the case histories first. I have had doubts in my low moments whether all the effort that was being put into the study, aside from a scientific value, would do any good for Japanese in America as a whole. I felt this most when it was necessary to record protest against the draft, attachment to Japan, and the like. As an observer I had to be honest. On the other hand, as a member of the group I was touching on a subject which was often considered to a sort of a taboo to reveal publicly. On the other hand, at the time of registration many people indicated ~~ix~~ officially their stand by answering "no" to Question 28. Also, the amount of ignorance of facts about the Japanese, such as the difference between Issei and Nisei, and the common assumption that some Japanese were disloyal gave room to the Study to increase understanding through an honest study. It shall be a pleasure to point out to my friends that the case histories are being published first.



J 4/6/45 Friday

1. Buying a Divan

Hattie took the day off from school to shop for something to sleep on. Dorothy, Johnnie, Mrs. Wilson and others have been telling us how expensive furniture is. We were advised to look in the newspaper for secondhand divans, or to get ~~unfinished~~ unfinished furniture, and the like. In the morning Hattie went to some of the secondhand places that were suggested to her, and she said that she could find nothing that she wanted--much less something to sleep on. I took the afternoon off to shop around for a divan. First we went to ~~Mr~~ Gorman's, where they showed us a new one, priced around \$80. We went to Sears in Oakland--nothing that we wanted. By this time we had given up considering even seeing a reasonable secondhand one. We took time off to find a place to eat chop suey, which I wanted to eat, but finally ended up by eating hot tamale. Then we made the rounds of the furniture stores in Oakland. In the second store that we went to we were shown a divan which Hattie liked very much. Its good features were:

1. Price--\$69.50
2. Construction--coil springs, no arm rest.
3. Color and design--Cream, blue and orange stripes, modernistic, informal.

At the other places most of the divans were \$80 or \$90 or more. There were some for \$59, but the construction was very poor and had what was called "sagging springs." There were some divans for about \$80 of good construction, but they looked formal and old-fashion. So we finally came back to the second store, and bought the divan for \$69.50.

We also looked for a suitable kitchen table. We looked at tables both unfinished and finished, but the best bargains were sold out. They were a table and four chairs, finished, for \$13 and something. We were satisfied, however, with what we got. Hattie was surprised that she was able to get something that she liked at a relatively low price.

Mrs. Walker commented that it was very expensive, and advised us to save as much money as possible. Others commented on the expensiveness of the furniture sold these days.



3 4/8/45 Sunday

1. Rent at Macfarlane's

Since Hattie and I had decided to move out on Monday, I went upstairs to settle the rent with Mrs. Macfarlane. When we came she said that if we cared to we could work about an hour a day for our room, but we decided that we would prefer to pay rent. We hadn't decided upon the amount of the rent, and Hattie thought we would have to pay about \$30 or even more because the room was furnished. When I approached Mrs. Macfarlane on the matter, she said that she would be happy if we paid only for the utilities and she knew that she wasn't losing anything. She said that \$5 would more than cover any expenses that were involved. I knew that this wasn't true because she had bought a hotplate, some chairs, and had gone to some trouble to furnish her study for two to live in. She said that it was nice having us stay with them, and said that her mother especially would miss us. I said that it was very nice staying with them, and that we had been able to get a good chance adjusting ourselves in Berkeley. I offered to pay her \$10, although this would not really cover the rent for the room and all. She said that \$5 was sufficient. I insisted. In haggling over a matter of this sort a Japanese--even a Nisei--has an advantage over an American because he's used to it. Mrs. Macfarlane and Mrs. Walker certainly have been nice to us.



J 4/8/45 Monday

1. Moving into New Apartment

Yesterday I spent the afternoon at the new apartment, getting it ready for occupancy. I tore up the divan that was left there, and salvaged what material I could. I was surprised to find that there were no springs used whatsoever, that there were only two slats, a very light canvas, and some cotton underneath the cover. The lumber was also of a very poor grade. It must be one of the first makes turned out after the war began and metal became difficult to get.

I borrowed a University car to transport the things that we had, and George Sabagh helped me. Dorothy said that she was justified in letting me use the University car for moving purposes because if the government had not moved us, the Study would have ~~xx~~ had to. It took three trips to transport the many boxes that we had.

2. Tuttle on Resettlement

Tuttle came around today. He said that he reported that there were probably 150 in the East Bay, and asked Dorothy whether this was a good estimate or not. Dorothy said that it seemed a little high to her. Tuttle said that the WRA wouldn't know of most of the returning evacuees because most of them were coming from resettled areas like Denver.

3. Tuttle on Camera Forms and Check

Tuttle said that he had forms which I was to fill out to get my camera in Glendale back again. Dorothy then asked:

"What about his check?"

We've been asking Tuttle that for a long time now. He said that he didn't know.

4. Tuttle on Hostel Aid

WRA has released a administrative instruction stating that hostels can be provided with equipment from the center. Dorothy showed him her copy, and Tuttle read it with interest, stating that he hadn't seen it yet. He remarked to me later that he thought this was going to mean that all of the residents in the centers could be scattered throughout the country in hostels. I pointed out to him that money was necessary, too, in setting up hostels. Furnishing equipment is only a drop in the bucket. It's funny that the WRA can't be more realistic about the problems facing evacuees.

5. Tuttle on Matsumotos

I asked Tuttle how the Matsumotos were getting along. He said that a funny thing had happened. An ad had been put



J 4/9/45 #5-2

in the paper asking for room and board for four in exchange for domestic work. One of the four expected to be drafted soon. But they received no reply. In another town, Tuttle, said, there were twenty offers to a similar ad in the town paper. Therefore the number in the family does not necessarily account for the lack of response. It was mentioned in the paper that the family was a Japanese-American family.

6. Tuttle on Shibatas

The Shibatas returned to Hayward to continue their nursery work, and brought back with them a skeleton crew of 6. All of the thirty or so Caucasian and Filipino workers quit in a body, and the Shibatas are in need of more workers.



J 4/10/45 Tuesday

1. Tuttle on Check for Relocation Grant

Tuttle called up and said that the project had sent him word that it had sent out our check for \$50 already, and that he was able to locate it in San Francisco. He said that it would be sent to him, and that ~~he~~ would bring it over himself. Dorothy wanted to know what he should waste his own and our time only to bring over a check when he could send it just as well.

2. Hattie at School

Hattie was out of school for several days because of having to move. The students, who have dwindled down from about 15 to about half that number, said that they missed her, even though she didn't know any of them. The teachers said that they missed her, too. Only one Chinese girl refused to have anything to do with her.

3. Macfarlanes' Thoughtfulness

Mrs. Macfarlane and her mother dropped in on us suddenly. They didn't know exactly where we lived, but finally found our apartment by asking up and down Grant Street. They brought us a card and several packages from George, Hattie's brother. Hattie was afraid that her brother had been drafted. Mrs. Macfarlane also brought along some pictures to hang on the wall. For some reason she brought us a picture by a Japanese, and some picture of the campus done by Obata. I had an idea that Hattie preferred not to have Japanese pictures up on the wall, but so far she has not voiced any opposition to them. We had malted milk and cake together.



J 4/11/45 Wednesday

1. Mortimer's on Broken Toilet

Last weekend I had called up Mortimer's to tell them about the broken toilet, and had left my key for the plumber to use. They hadn't done anything until today, ~~xxx~~ and so I called up to ask whether they had the key. The lady in charge said that she remembered now that I had made the request, and said that she had forgotten about it. By the time I got home it was already fixed. I didn't want to sound demanding, and I have gotten results, anyway.

2. Gardening with George

Yesterday I mentioned to George that I had a plot of victory garden in the university plot. He was interested in it, and I said that we could work it together. I soaked some seeds last night, and in the late afternoon George and I went out to plant them. George didn't seem to know very much about gardening. I have one season's experience, and I can tell George how things are to be done. I think we're going to have fun working on the garden together.

3. Galen Fisher on Myer

Galen Fisher dropped in to see Dorothy today, although I was not around to see him. According to Dorothy, he is indignant at Myer's closure policy. Mrs. Kingman is supposed to be in Washington opposing Myer's program. Fisher has suggested that evacuees who relocate be given bonus. Dorothy thought that this would be unfair to those who could not relocate. I agree that some means of enticing people out should be taken.

4. JACL on Closure Program

Dorothy showed me a news item in the S.F. Chronicle with a Salt Lake City dateline, which stated that the JACL believed that the all-center conference proposals were "unrealistic." We both agreed that the JACL had gotten off on the other side of the fence again. I mused that it made a convenient scapegoat. It was blamed for the evacuation, for the draft restitution, and now they could be blamed for the closure program. In view of the fact that most of the friendly groups are opposed to Myer's program the stand taken by the JACL seems awfully silly. Larry Tajiri didn't used to be like that when he first began to edit the Pacific Citizen.

5. WRA Statistics on Relocation

Dorothy and I have watched with interest the rate of relocation since the announcement of the liquidation program. Until a little while ago the rate was only slightly above last year's rate. The latest figure indicated a jump from about 500 to 666 per week. Actually the statistics are difficult to make out because mention is made of people assigned to projects from assembly centers as only recently being



J. 4/11/45 #5-2

added in to the total number who relocated. The people in Tule Lake who were interned were added to a number of different columns, making the resulting figures difficult to interpret. The peak in relocation should come between July and September, when the peak usually comes and when the schools on the project close and schools on the outside begin. At some point when the relocatables are gradually taken out and the more unrelatables remain, the rate of relocation should start to fall. Minidoka's high rate of relocation in comparison to other centers is surprising.



J 4/12/45 Thursday

1. Tuttle Brings Check

Tuttle brought the long-awaited check over this afternoon. I noticed that the check was made out on March 14, when it was requested in February and we left on March 9. It was received by Ross on March 19. It is strange that I haven't received it sooner, because I sent a card to Ross giving him my address and telling him that I want him to send me anything due to me. I'm not sure, but I think what happened was that Ross, not having received the check, sent the card over to the Oakland office, and Tuttle has been running around in circles ever since. There are three WRA offices in San Francisco all in different places. First the regional (Pacific Coast) office headed by Cozzens, which is being abolished. According to Tuttle, the offices were made separate and in different places because Cozzens didn't want to be bothered by evacuees coming in to see him. Then there is an area office for Northern California. There is still another district office for ~~xxxx~~ San Francisco and the surrounding area. Tuttle, by the way, has a new supervisor over him now. I think he needs one. He offered to take me out to Hayward if he could.

2. President's Death

I feel that I'm behind in my work, and was trying to get as much done as possible, when the janitor who speaks with an accent came in and asked me if I heard the bad news. "The president died. A fellow told me in the hall a few minutes ago." I didn't know what to think. Certainly the people upstairs wouldn't know about it. I raced upstairs, and Johnnie and Mrs. ~~Macfarlane~~ <sup>Wilson</sup> stopped their work. I asked them:

"Have you heard the latest rumor?"

I must have grinned because Johnnie accused me later of seeming as though I was going to announce something pleasant. I said:

"The President died. The janitor just told me."

Dorothy came in and wanted to know what the rumor was. She told Mrs. Wilson to call up the Oakland Tribune to find out if the rumor were true or not. They all thought it was awful to lose the President at this time when the people of the world were looking forward to his leadership. The telephone operator told Mrs. Wilson that it was true that the President had died. Someone else called up and mentioned his death. Then W.I. called up Dorothy and wanted to know whether she had heard that President Sproul had died. His neighbor had told him that the President had died, and when W.I. asked whether it was President Sproul or not, the neighbor, who was deaf, said that it was. Dorothy must have been shocked because she said that it was ~~worse~~ bad enough having President Roosevelt die. The other two for a moment hoped that it was Sproul rather than Roosevelt, they said. Mrs.



J 4/12/45 #2-2

Wilson called up the operator and learned that it was President Roosevelt that died.



Center Liquidation Program--



J. 4/16/45 Monday

1. Mom on Divan

Here I've been trying to educate Hattie into not buying anything expensive, and look what happens. Mom sent us \$50 for sembetsu (farewell gift) and for my birthday. We were to be sure to buy a substantial couch, and not one which broke down right away. We paid enough money for what we bought, but it also happened to be among the cheaper divans that we could find. Hattie liked it, but she would probably have preferred a better one. You can see the influence of her family background there. Well, I should be appreciative of the help, anyway.

2. Mrs. Erdahl on Jap Work

George Sabagh went into the Stat Lab today to get some work done on a Japanese population statistics. Mrs. Erdahl, the Jap hater, told him that she wasn't going to do anymore "Jap work." George went straight to Dorothy. D.S. hit the ceiling, and went down to see her right away. She said she hadn't been so mad for a long time. She told Mrs. Erdahl that she wasn't going to stand for any nonsense about not doing Jap work. Mrs. Erdahl said that she understood. Dorothy also said that she didn't want her to label anything "Jap births," as she had once done. Furthermore, she would have a Japanese American assistant come in to ~~xxxx~~ direct her in some of the work to be done and she expected courtesy. She said she understood.

She is the woman for whose benefit Dorothy coined the terms "sheep" and "goats" in her Tule Lake statistics. She is the one who greeted Naj, who returned in uniform, so coldly as if he were the enemy.

According to Dorothy, Dr. Wellman was pleased to hear that Mrs. Erdahl received a bawling-out.

Evidently her anti-Japanese prejudice is deeply-rooted, for she was later trying to tell Mrs. Wilson how bad Japanese were, whether they were citizens or American-educated. She thought it was a mistake to let them study in American institutions. She brought up stories of how dangerous they were.

George seemed scared by her belligerent attitude. I wonder how she'll like my giving her directions.



J. 4/19/45 Thursday

1. Mrs. Kingman on Closure Policy

Dorothy came in today and said that she had had an interesting conversation with Mrs. Kingman of the Fair Play Committee. "The Fair Play Committee has consistently a supporter of the WRA and Dillon S. Myer. In fact, she says: 'We've been a stooge for the WRA.' In the closing of the center business WRA washed their hands of the housing problem, and told the Fair Play Committee that they expected it to handle it. She has one parttime secretary and no connections. She's also concerned with public relations. On the whole, the Committee has done a fairly good job--they've worked very hard. I thought that efforts could have been placed in other places, but I hand it to them. She went to Washington and the housing agency. First they ~~asked her~~ told her that WRA must be a wonderful organization to have everything arranged so that everyone could come back. She found out that the WRA had not even checked with the housing people. She saw Fortas, who is Myer's boss. He said that people will be able to come back. She went back to housing and asked how long it would take 300 ~~xxx~~ families to get into San Francisco. They said that if the families were naval personnel, it would still take them at least a year. The result is she is now opposed to WRA. Myer is out on the Coast again. She told him that she wasn't going to listen to the same thing that he fed the people in camp. The Committee wasn't going to handle his program for him. It's up to the WRA to be realistic, she said. Myer's reply was that if she took that stand, a radical change may be necessary. It seems that he may resign. She is writing a strong statement to Fortas. She told him that the time to save face was over. The program should be modified while there is time. She said she agreed with me, and I asked her how she knew where I stood. She said that she had lunch with Burling....Fortas is coming to the S. F. conference. He was just about a former student of mine. Mrs. Kingman is so mad about the closing program that she would even like to have Myer resign. According to her, the only chance to get housing is the War Department, but it hasn't been approached yet. It would take three months to manipulate and three months more before any housing would be available....Myer pays no attention to people like Spicer."

Comment The situation looks slightly hopeful. Certainly hope that more aid is forthcoming for evacuees, even if it means Myer's resignation.



J--4/15/45

Calvin to Jim

Dear Jim and Hattie---

Long time--no write---so sorry, please. (All kidding aside, how are my California dew-covered friends ~~still~~ doing?? Is that "rain which blows over from Nevada" still bothering you? My, my, these Californians---always apologizing for their lousy weather. Oh well, these native sons will never learn that the best weather is in Idaho. (Cough, cough) (Did that come out of me???)

Are you Calkifornians making yhe perfect adjustment on the outside?? Plenty of juicy things are happening in Minidoka, Jim---how about considering a return to the sagebrush existence?? (Well, you don't need to be so emphatically negative---just imagine how much help you would be to Father Joe and Tom. Also Elmer and all the rest of the "agitators".)

Father Joe

At the present time---Father Joe and Elmer and Yoshi are in Seattle stirring up trouble---trying to orient those cussedly conservative pros to become active in our support. They will all return to Hunt about the end of this week---so they'll probably give you all the facts about their impressions in a letter to youse (The Perry Winkle influence). They also were going to take in Spokane, Seattle, Kent, and Portland on this ten-day trip---so all he---'s breaking loose in Washington, and northern Oregon---I hope.

I wrote a letter to Bob Coombs, who is in the city by the Golden Gate working for the Savoy Opera Company, that you folks were in Berkeley. I hope you will be able to see each other soon---that is if you want to.

Kimball

Now about the quiet camp existence. Nothing much actually happens in Minidoka---Dictator Stafford just goes his own way and the people reluctantly follow. To keep you up with things here---yesterday, we had a memorial service for our late president. The services were held in the auditorium and guess who is back in Minidoka---none other than Solon Kimball. Yep---he's here to tend to "business"---what ever that means. The thing that's wrong with that fellow is that he's so "safe" all the time. Always trying to play both ends with the net result that we, the people, don't gain anything. Now to get back to the services---Stafford, Kimball, Oyama, Shoji, Clement (of the Catholic Church), etc. etc. took part in the hour and thirty minute program. According to Mrs. Okawa, the entire program was well carried except for Oyama who got off the subject and started to talk about Tokyo's ~~reactions~~ reactions, etc.---getting way of the subject. Jim and Hattie, you can just about imagine.



### President's Death

As I'm writing this letter---the radio before me is blaring forth with "memoriams" to the late president. I bet I can just about repeat the president's whole life---about his goodness---his humanitarianism, etc. etc. I bet if he knew how much trouble and mourning he was going to cause---he would have waited until after his fourth term before succumbing. By the way---are you people democrats---oops, I'm sorry.

### Graham

Now---about the worn-out Irrigator situation. Mister Graham (the pro-Stafford cuss until the latter stabbed him in the back) is in very hot water. Yep---the other day he had a "civil service hearing" and you know what that means. Mr. Stafford apparently called for this hearing because the said culprit, John, mis-used the transportation facilities. He had the IRRIGATOR and the now cancelled Matineers using too many vehicles and John got it in the neck. John is worried plenty of his civil service status and he is---according to Tom analysis, willing to have a show-down on the Idaho boys---using the people as the "foul guys." You see---Stafford went over John's head and consulted with the Irrigator publishers in Jerome and found out that the 'gator could be published or at least on the presses by 5 p.m. So he sent down a memorandum to John and ordered that the Irrigator crew be back on the project by 5. Naturally that caused resentment on the part of the staff who promptly accused John for mishandling everything. John, caught between Stafford and the staff, says that he put out his neck for the evacuees on the Irrigator deal and if they don't support him during this crisis, he is going to discontinue his support of the evacuees. Of course, the people don't know that Graham is supporting the people so---John is left in the cold. He is casting for all his support on the arrival of Alan Markley of the Washington Reports office and show that he is in the right. Boy, what an optimist! Enclosed is some of our doings for the week of April 14....which were tossed out by John. About the editorial---he says--- personally it's fine---but from the administration viewpoint--it stinks.

### Law and Order

Elmer is still neck-deep in the juvenile delinquency problem and when Tom comes back---he'll have that problem again too.

Father Joe has done quite a bit of traveling the past few weeks---the other week he and Tom and I went to Boise and spent a few days. The purpose of the trip was to rest---so the two bought a bottle (not pepsi-cola) and stayed up till 4 p.m. I had to come back to Hunt to rest up from the trip---guess that's life.

### Stafford

Well, things are getting tougher in here by the day---and



the old "pick-handle" psychology is showing its ugly face again. One of these days---Stafford is going too far and then---good-bye dictator---I hope. For one thing---the food situation is terrible and there seems to be no let-up. The April 14th issue of the Irrigator gives the story of another labor cut. Like Tom says---"They can't do this to us!" Well---it's happening and it's going to continue happening.

Too much gabbing is no good and no doubt this is all old stuff to you intellectuals---so I'll cut this short. Keep up your good work, Jim and Hattie, and hope that we'll hear from you very soon. How about a visit to Hunt before the big end?? Best wishes...

As ever...yours,

"Calvin"



Jimmy

May 17, 1945

Dean J.D. Hicks  
Campus

Dear Dean Hicks:

I am writing to ask whether the program of the Graduate Division is sufficiently flexible to make possible the planning of a field of study for the doctorate which might be designated "Far Eastern Studies." This program would be comparable to the one now listed as "Latin-American Studies" in the Announcements in The Social Sciences of the Graduate Division.

I have a student who is well qualified to begin such a program of study, and who is deeply interested in getting adequate training in this field. He is an American of Japanese ancestry, who was in Japan from 1933-1939. While there he finished a three-year college course in Japanese and Chinese classics and ethics, and was able to obtain a first-hand knowledge of the customs and ways of thinking of the Japanese. He has a very good speaking and reading knowledge of the Japanese language. He is a graduate of this University, in the general curriculum, with special training in Psychology. For the past three years, he has carried on research in relocation centers under my direction (as a staff worker of the Evacuation and Resettlement Study). In this connection, he has obtained extensive first-hand knowledge of the patterns of culture and behavior carried over by Japanese immigrants to America. He anticipates some demand, after the war, for scholars competent not merely in linguistics but also in the culture and history of the Far East. I concur in his judgment in this matter, and would like to see a program worked out which would prepare him for a career in this field.

The program I have in mind would not fit into any one Department of this University. It should cut across the boundaries of four Departments (Oriental Languages, History, Political Science and Anthropology) and one additional field of study (Sociology). It should include training in the Chinese language in addition to Japanese, in which the student is apparently already fully qualified; training in historical, anthropological and sociological techniques of research; and study of the history, government and culture of the Far East. If such a program were approved, I suggest that a committee consisting of Professors Boodberg, Bingham, Kroeber, Mah and myself be appointed to work out the details.

If a program of this sort cannot be planned under present departmental restrictions, I believe that the whole matter is sufficiently important to warrant action by the Graduate Council. It is apparent that other qualified students will, in the course of the next few years, be interested in pursuing this and similar types of programs.

Sincerely yours,  
Dorothy Swaine Thomas



Thomas to Sakoda

June 2, 1945

Dear Jimmy:

We were certainly sorry to hear that you missed your connection. I hope you have better luck on the return trip. Travelling is no joke these days.

Enclosed a notice re your garden. You are facing evacuation again.

Relocation from Minidoka continues to break all records. Note in the last community analysis report, which suggests a point you should follow up: "At Minidoka the council continued to discuss the school problem. Although it arrived at no new program of action, the rumor got out in the center that the Council was suggesting that residents having school children refuse to relocate because of what they felt to be pressure to force them out. Minidokans think that the issue of the schools may be one on which they can get support from people outside of WRA."

I have made considerable progress, I hope, in settling my difficult administrative problems. Frank's registration report received, and it is good, decidedly his best. I have set a July 15th deadline for his structural report and asked him to come out here on July 20th for a month during which we proceed with revisions and with coordination of his yours and Rosalie's. Absolute and unbreakable deadline for completion of all Frank's and Charlie's work on Chicago material including skeletal report by end of this year. If desirable (as I think it will be) Charlie to come out here a few months beginning January to do field work on Nisei resettlers in this area; you to work with him on your part-time basis by getting the Issei picture, etc.\* George to drop the plan for an economic monograph (since it is apparent we are not going to get the material we need for that segment, that is through no fault of his, but because we have started too late to get the essential facts into our framework, to concentrate on his studies until he passes his exam without pressure from me, later to help me on several chapters in which he has expert knowledge). Hankey seems to be coming out of the fog, and is writing her later material up in an excellent and clear way. Somehow I feel better, although I know I still have a hard road ahead.

I look forward eagerly to hearing how things are going with you.

Sincerely yours,

"Dorothy"

\*This, of course, subject to your approval. Details to be worked out later.



Anderson on Hiroshima Nikkei Club news

Box 788  
Crystal City, Texas  
May 28, 1945

Dear James:

Your letter was most welcome, as I had completely lost touch with the Sakoda family.

Indeed I am distressed to hear of the loss of your beloved sister Ruby. I remember that she was troubled with her heart in Japan and recall how anxious we all were about her the day we climbed the mountain. She was a dear child, and I shall always be grateful for having known her. I remember that she designed our H.N.C. pin and that she always made a contribution to the club in her own sweet, quiet way. It was through her efforts that we were able to have our reunion in L.A. just after I came back from Japan, and that is another of my happy memories. I know you are all happy that the baby was saved.

It is good to hear of your own marriage and of your work at Hunt and plans for the future. I am happy that you are going back to Berkeley and I wish you every success and joy as you go on with your studies. I do want to keep in touch with you, for I intend to visit my friends in Oakland one of these days and hope to see you then too and meet your wife.

I am glad to have the news of May and George. More power to them both!

Caz Iwasa always writes me at Christmas time. She is Mrs. G.Y. Umemoto, Minto Mines, B.C., Canada; and her sister Sadako's address is 1068 Mountain Street, Montreal, P.Q., Canada.

Toshi Sato's is 4805-A, Newell, Calif. By the way Toshi said he heard from Ned and that he was at home with his mother. I wonder if he is disabled, or how he got to go home. In fact, there are lots of things that I wonder, just as I know you do too--about people we know and love over there.

Harry Fukuhara was in the Philippines the last time I heard, which was soon after the invasion of P.I. Clarence Osaki left for the European Theater just before V-E Day.

If you know news about any of the others of our old gang, I should like to have it. I am always delighted to hear about any of those we knew and had fun with. Oh yes, Betty Niho - now Mrs. Henry Minami, is at Bldg. 26, Apt. 942, Harrison Street, Seabrook, New Jersey. She has two children and seems happy in her new situation.

Let me hear again. My best wishes to you both.

"Myra Anderson"



Kurose on Army life

May 17, 1945  
Thursday nite

Dearest Ne-san,

Yassuh, hyar ah am in the South dancing to the merry tune "Deep in the Heart of Texas." How are you and Jim coming along? No doubt things keep you occupied - so darn many things to do, neh? By the way, is your hand ok now? I hope so, for Jim's sake as well as yours. Day before yesterday, my back fan mail arrived - ten of them. (Popular kid, eh wot?) Included were letters from Dad and Mom. They're both doing fine, in case you didn't know. Probably you hear from them often, so I needn't include m any news of them.

There's quite a bit to tell you, so get set for a rather long manuscript. Might as well start from the beginning. The bunch from Mini pulled into Salt Lake City on the morn of Wednesday, 2nd of May. We looked over the town and reported at Fort Douglas in the afternoon. I reckon I mentioned about the bed-making deal in the previous letter - or was it a postcard. Anyway, we had six fine days at Douglas. Pulled K.P. twice and we all griped and bitched (emphatic griping is known as bitching) like good soldiers. While at Douglas I met Mrs. Inaba and Yosh. A fellow from Mini knew the family and they came to see him. Ken wasn't with them unfortunately. Mrs. Inaba promised to send him up the following evening, and as luck would have it, we were shipped out. One good thing happened for us at Fort Douglas. The Salt Lake City gals threw a dance for us fellers - had a pleasant evening with the charming S.L. City girls. Some were alreet!

We shipped out on Tuesday (8th), heading east. Speculations as to where our destination was were flying wild. The pessimistic fellows stated Texas - very prophetic, it was. Our journey of 56 hours took us from Salt Lake City, Utah, thru Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, and into Texas. We made several stops - Pueblo, Colorado; Arkansas City, Kansas; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and Fort Worth, Texas. Camp Wolters is about 45 miles West of Fort Worth. You know, this part of Texas isn't too bad - in fact, it's rather pleasant around here. Instead of cacti and sand, there's green grass and trees surrounding the place. The training camp covers 16,000 acres - lots of room for marching.

At the reception center, we took an Army General Classification Test (AGCT), and I think I made the highest score. As a result of this test, I was permitted to take the ASTP test for Foreign Language. Made it ok, so I'm slated to go to some school to learn Japanese after 13 weeks of training. This deal is different from the one at Snelling. The instructor said the ASTP men were supposed to be better qualified men. Guess what he meant was if a fellow knew Japanese, he could get into Snelling, regardless of his AGCT score; to get into



ASTP language dept. a fellow has to have a score of 130 or above in the AGCT.

Sunday morning  
11:15 P.M.

The foregoing two-and-a-half pages are old news now. Gads, things pile on so doggone much, I hardly get any opportunities to write. I was planning to finish this letter Thursday nite, but didn't make it since the fellow dragged me over to the PX. The lights were out when we got back. Friday nite was really the limit. After supper we got our second typhoid shot and our smallpox vaccination. Then we were issued new rifles - had to clean off the grease from them. All of us (Co. C) stayed up until past twelve, too. Last nite was free but since the mail doesn't go out today, I didn't write last nite. Instead, I went to see Greer Garson and Gregory Peck in "The Valley of Decision." Enuff for my excuses!

As I was saying, I have a chance to go to some school to study Japanese. What I'm wondering is: Which is better, Snelling or ASTP? What do you think?

Army life is pretty rugged. They certainly keep us on the go all the time. Up to now we have done much except listen to lectures and see films on first aid, chem. warfare (gas), personal and sex hygiene, and a host of other subjects. Time seems to pass slowly cuz we're always waiting for the sun to set. Only one week has past since our training cycle began, but it seems like months. There are two things I look forward to each day, and they are: letters, lots of them; and the time to hit the bunk. The biggest anticipation is the day when I'll be through with this basic! Boy, it can't come too soon for me.

It's about time I put an end to this letter, neh? Getting kinda long. I certainly miss the typewriter. Long hand writing takes too long and doesn't look half as neat as typing. By the way, did you get the typewriter. It should've been sent out right after I left Mini.

Well, I'll be bidding thee adieu. Farewell, me love. Don't strain yourself too much. Regards to Jim. He must miss his chicken terribly. So do I!

Love,

George



Katayama on Hood River

May 27th

Dearest Hattie:

It's high time I took a pen in hand and put a few lines of thought off to you, ne? Bet you've drawn all sorts of conclusions concerning me and my whereabouts. Despite the publicity precipitating from this valley, I'm very much alive and safe too. Perhaps you thought I may have left the good earth. Oh - you aren't speaking to me anymore after my long silence? But I'll bet you're reading this missive, ha - quit your grinning in that knowing expression . . . . makes me self-conscious and ashamed.

Meanwhile, how have you and Jim been? I hope you've become adjusted to your environment and again settled at your new address. George gave me your new address at the gate just as I was leaving. Are you residing in the "re-conversion" or is it some other housing area? Do tell me all about your new home and the facilities you have at your disposal. How far are you from work and school. Do tell me all about it.

Your verbal description of Berkeley sounded nothing short of Paradise. I'm happy you like it there, Hattie, and here's hoping you continue to enjoy life there. Honestly, you had me "drooling" over that colorful description of greenery and flowers while I sat in bleak old "Mini" and continued my rotting process. But, not for too long.

At the time of our return, the valley was really gorgeous. With the cherry blossoms coming first, pears following and concluded with the beauty of the pink apple blossoms, it was Paradise. Just as we all realize nature's beauty is endless and so stimulatingly refreshing. We couldn't realize we had been away for three whole years. Everything and everyone had remained so much the same and only in the growing youngsters and maturing adolescents could we find evidence of our absence. Of course, we could see the 2 yrs. growth of unmowed lawn (pasture is a perfect description for it in its April 24th condition) and strata deposit of foliage from the trees and shrubbery in the yard. We found tulips in our irrigation ditch, Lily of the Valley in the middle of the lawn and all hoe handles and grass cutter handles had been cut off to impair their use. Honestly, they destroyed from the sheer joy of destroying I believe. Anyway, it's a good thing you weren't on hand to hear the voluminous vocabulary during my "discovering" period. Some of these blankety blank ----??? They stole our living room and bedroom rug so now we have linoleum. One consolation - I got back my living set, end tables, doffee table, floor lamp, home radio, piano, washing machine, refrigerator, and my car's out of storage too. What we have is ours and it's no more G.I. this or that. We're on our own now.



The day of our return was cloudy but we had two weeks of enervating sunshine almost like summer. Then the rains came and we appreciated it the first day or two but 10 days is a long time. It wasn't welcome rain but there's not much we can do about it.

Since our return, Mother and I haven't been working at all. On an orchard there's no work for women at this time of the year. We let the "man of the house" earn and support his "maid" and his "cook." Sounds extravagant, doesn't it? Anyway we get a kick out of teasing Dad about it.

Let's see - I wonder how many of these H.R.-ites you know. Kiyo Ogawa will be home soon from Cleveland. May Ogawa got an office job at the Portland WRA. It's been hard for them with no income to speak of from the farm. She made a trip to Tule in the company of Mr. Linville and they gave her a "rough time." Called her a "dog," "stool-pigeon," "stooge," etc. Tsk, tsk - what these Tuleans don't say? Anyway she came home with a nervous breakdown. Poor kid! I can't understand the Tulean psychology. One H.R. girl left her father and is now in Hood River again.

Naomi Namba Yagu will be coming home soon with her mother and Dad.

Hear Perry Saito and Fumiko Yabe are parents now. How time does fly?

Do you hear from Bette Sato Takei? She's in Detroit but all I've rated is a postcard. What about the Dick Satos? Do tell me all.

Wasn't news of V-E Day wonderful? I wish I'd hear from my hubby but it's been no letter since his of April 30th. I'm so worried.

Well, I'd better drop anchor for tonight and wait to hear from you again - soon, I hope. My regards to Jim and hellos from my folks.

Much love,

Yuki



Takasugi to Sakoda

June 1, 1945

Dear Hattie and Jimmy:

Had written a letter last month but was unable to mail it because Tadd (must of) tore up your letters and cards (Blame everything on Tadd!) This morning your letter came so will answer now.

I'm so glad you are both getting along so nice. I'm just hoping and praying that someday soon we can call you Dr. Sakoda. I can well see how hard it will be for Hattie but after you get there you'll both be so glad. I think Far Eastern Studies are interesting, at least Mrs. Barnard said so when she studied for a while for her Masters. She's now connected with Adult Education in P.J.C. instead of a mere teacher. Here's lots of luck to get to your goal.

I think belonging to a church is more an asset to us specially now. Hattie has so much to offer, you should make an effort to go anyway, Jimmy. I was so glad when I found that Kingo was eager to go to church instead of having to coax him.

Well, our minister found a place for Pa and Ma. A Dr. Ketcham, president of the College, has a huge home and has a nice apartment on top of his garage. If pa mows the lawn and fix the furnace, he can have the place free. Our minister's looking for a job for him now. Ma will be able to get plenty of house work. They'll be sort of protected by the Ketchams and will be able to associate with nice people.

Takasugis

Well, I told you about Yoye's letter, the one that tortured me. It was definite then, they didn't want to come here to us. Then I wrote a letter and said I'll get Tayochan to come and help me and that they can come anytime they wished. Ma was sort of hurt, I think, to ask someone out of immediate family and offered to either she come out or send Yoye. I couldn't ask Yoye because I know she doesn't care for kids, a poor house keeper (I mean she hates to cook and clean the house) and besides she said in that letter that I really should get either my own mother or Ruby, and I have neither. But I did ask Kingo, shall we have Yoye over to help? And I was relieved because he said he wanted Yoye to bring Pa and Ma over when their ready to come. Kingo was definite all along that they'll come, but I wasn't. Specially because Pa wrote a letter to Neisan saying he didn't want to come here and live with us.

Then something made them change and a letter came from Yoye saying their packing and etc. I was really glad to hear



that. We planned to live together for a while anyway so instead of looking for a larger place I started to make cupboard spaces and etc. But this good offer came and I'm just so tickled. I think they wanted to live close by and be independent although we'll have to help them financially. Kingo was saying he was going to send \$100.00 before they started out. You know they haven't much.

Yoye wrote yesterday and said Pa's permit hasn't come yet. Yoye would wait till about 2 weeks ago to do something about it. (It's too bad I have such ill feelings against her. Hope I won't hurt her in anyway when she comes). She hasn't any plans what she'll do. She did say sometime ago that there were 2 or 3 boys in Cleveland asked her to marry. She'll have to work and I'm afraid she'll be stuck here in Alliance because of Ma and unless she could stir up more courage.

The WRA thinks Cleveland is too full now and trying to relocate people here in Alliance and vicinity. A Robert George came to see Kingo at Taylorcraft and will come again on June 13, when Kingo wants me to prepare a dinner for him.

On Thursday night Kingo made a talk to a group of young business men. They had dinner together and I expected him home around 9 or 10. He stumbled in around 12:30, drunk. He said he never drank so much in his life but said he had a grand time.

We have new wallpaper put up in our kitchen and living room. We got a studio couch and plan to make a cover for it and matching drapes. Then we'll be all set to have people come to see our new baby. Am having a young girl come help me clean the house. Out here we have to wash down the woodwork and wall paper etc. Women here have to work about 5 times more in homes than out in Calif. This girl wants me to teach voice so we exchange. She can also take care of Tadd when I want to go out but Tadd is so strange with people it provokes me. I want to go out Wed. night to our club (card party).

Remember, Toshio Oisawa? She just got married leaving Yoye and Toshi Haramoto the only ones left of the older girls. They were the most popular girls too. I'm hoping Yoye will find someone and get married, too.

Doctor said I was gaining weight too fast so I cut down on sugar and starches and I lost weight of 1 lb. in 3 weeks. He warned me not to go over 150# or I'll have trouble and become a fatty. I weight 151½ lb. now. Boy! when I see a slim waisted person I get so envious and make up my mind to take exercises after I get over all this. Never knew I'd ever have to worry about getting fat.

Am planning to burn up my diary before leaving for hospital. I'm going to leave all the things to go to Japan (including Ruby's things) in one box. Noby never sent us her compact with



her hair and ring and funeral picture. Am beginning to form a different opinion of him. Do you ever hear from him?

I don't know why but I haven't gotten a thing for our new baby. Probably will make Kingo rush to the stores at the last minute. I'm kind of glad I'm having them close, now. Next time I'll certainly use my diaphragm and jelly. I was scared to use them after I have Tadd, lest I not be able to have any more babies. You know Taha and Michi don't have any after 5 years.

Tadd has been walking for 2, 3, days now. The sound of his footstep is so cuite. He's still a pretty good baby. I'm having trouble with him and gas stove. I've hit his hand hard as I could whenever he turned the gas on but no use. Maybe if I let him turn it everytime I use the stove, might be a solution?

Mimaki's

Tomaye and Pete are planning to go to Whittier in middle of June. They have a land of flowers and orchards which took time to get back. Am glad someone close is going back. Gee, how we long to go back.

How is Michy and Frank. I often think about them. Does Michy still have to fight bed bugs and etc.? Am glad I don't have to worry about that but there are a lot around these old towns. I hear girls talking about them.

Well, I'm running out of news so I'll close. Hope Hattie, you'll not have much trouble finding a job. Will you both go to Minidoka? How's George?

Love,

May



Sakoda to Sakoda

2627 Indep. Ave.  
K.C. #1, Mo.  
June 5, 45

Dear Hattie and Jimmy:

So dear Hattie is all alone - and will be for 3 solid weeks. Mm - that's a mighty long while if I may say so. Well, don't let the mice around the place scare you.

I've kept silent for a long while. Why? I don't know - I used to write so regularly. Perhaps I've got too much on my mind and Kenny on my hands.

Tonight, May has gone to see "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn." This is her first show since the birth of Kenny. And I've persuaded her to see many a good picture, and she has mentioned when this picture comes along, or that picture comes here - until tonight. Well, so Kenny is in my arm, and being fussy while I write this off tonight.

The rent has been raised to \$42.50 again, and we're furious. It seems as if two government agencies are at work, the Federal Housing and O.P.A. I prefer the agency that lowered the rent, because certainly, a one room, unfurnished affair isn't worth no \$42.50. Well, we're just catching our breath as to what to do - and in the meantime we're paying \$42.50.

Heard from Matsuda, the other day. Says he's planning to get married at long last and goes into detail as to his matrimony with a girl in Tule, evidently Aachan. Then he adds a P.S. to his ending and writes, "Who wants to get married anyway! and turns the whole letter into a joke, - two pages of hand written stuff at that.

#### Nakagiri's

In Jimmy's last letter, he mentions about the Nakagiris, and wonders whether they're planning to relocate. Well, this may be a shock. Mitz and Tadao and the other boys are in N. Mex., a repatriate camp. All of them are planning on returning to Japan, and no doubt all have renounced their U.S. citizenship. There seem to be many like them in Tule, whether we like it, or not.

#### Resettlement

May's folks are willing to relocate, if we find a house. Mother is willing to go out and relocate, but father, though willing, don't seem too anxious. But the housing situation is so acute, that I'm inclined to forget about looking for a house for at least another half a year. Next time I move, I'd like a house and a plot of ground. This life of not seeing and feeling sunshine all day long plays tricks on a fellow, in time, I think.

Joe is still in Fort Snelling and will be for another 6 mo. or so.



While we were in Amache, we visited Corky Kawasaki. He was intent on going to California, but recently he received his long awaited letter from the army, and the result was 'No California for him,' so he is looking elsewhere and sites Louisiana. While there read Art Morimitsu's letter to him from Burma - quite a surprise, though an evident piece of news when one thinks about it.

Well, May is still busy washing diapers, etc. She plans to resume making flowers, but Kenny takes up all of the time. A few days ago Ken's temp. went up to 103°, due to a smallpox shot - and gave us quite a start. Come to think of it 103° is a normal temp. for a rabbit.

Like you say meat situation is pretty bad. I can notice it in my evening meal. Well, I'll have to remember to get a rabbit home from Breon, soon. I've bred so many rabbits that now I can bring home some, occasionally. We're fortunate, that way. As to rats, we can't make use of them at home, but I sure got them to a point where I can produce more rats. And Dr. Heuber got me doing more tests, too.

Bye,

George



Kurose on camp life

April 13, 1945  
Friday afternoon

Dearest Ne-san,

Thanks a lot for your three-and-a-half-page manuscript. You must have gone to quite a bit of trouble writing such a long letter. I know just how things stand (on their feet, of course) - you know, about neglecting your correspondence. Remember when I was going through that? I used to write only three or four letters a month sometimes. I don't blame you one bit, though, for going to school, taking care of an apartment, etc. entail a lot of work. You can't spend all your time writing letters.

Roosevelt's death

Didn't the news of Roosevelt's death come as a shock? I couldn't believe it at first. You ought to hear some of the "kichigai isseis" around here. They say "omatsuri wo sena kereba naran." Gee, they're really nutty. And some think that Roosevelt's death is going to change the outcome of the war. It may affect the peace conference and possibly the progress of the war (maybe), but I can't see how his death will change the outcome - which is evident as the flat nose on my face. By the way, the "isseis" are throwing around latrine news by the dozens concerning the nature and time of Roosevelt's death. They think that the funeral's a little too soon. I'm taking all these stories with a big sack of salt.

I'll be sure to write to the bank in Tacoma. Mom and Dad think it's best to just keep things as they are. I'll write to the bank and have them change your name and also send me a statement. I think I'll just switch everything over to the savings, so we won't have to worry about the check account.

Sat. Yuki (former Miss Katayama) is leaving for Oregon on the 23rd. I'm planning to go over to her place today. Someone said she might go down to Denver before she leaves here, so she might not be home. Anyway, I'll take a chance and trot down her way. There's nothing else to do around here. The camp is having funeral service for our late president this afternoon.

Nothing much cooking in camp. It's a sad place for me - not a soul around here I chum with. If my call doesn't come this month (it might be delayed since I moved down here), I think I'll go out some place. Three weeks in camp is enough for me (and Mom, too). I'm sharpening up on my "nihongo," but it's rather difficult when there's no one prodding me along. Which reminds me, I'll have to look up Father Joe pretty soon and see what the score is on the Snelling deal. Gengi wrote and told me to hustle over to Snelling. He sez since he's getting along, it ought to be a cinch for me. (I doubt that cinch part.) He mentioned having dinner with Kunio, too. Gee, I wish we can have one grand reunion soon. It'll be good to see those old cronies again. Iku dropped me a line yesterday - she's really tricky. Here's something she wrote:



A man is but a worm of the dust...  
He comes along, wiggles about a while  
And finally some chicken gets him.

Sharp, huh?

Everyone is healthy and getting along fine. "Papa was mainichi abura o utte imasu." He expects to go out as soon as I leave. Mom is busy as ever, and you should see the grub she puts out for me. Chicken, "sashimi," "sukiyaki," etc. And you needn't worry about my behavior. It's most exemplary. (And I don't make the Ad area my stamping grounds.) Maybe some people think I'm queer since I stay home all the time and don't go anywhere. (I hope they don't think I'm a snob.)

Did the two packages get to you? You must be running around like a chicken with its head cut off, trying to settle down in your new apartment. When you get it good and ready, I'll drop down one of these fine days. Be sure to have the "welcome" mat dusted off for me. It's tough about Jim's missing the scholarship. Keep plugging along, though. He'll get it the next time, I'm sure.

That's the "three-o" mark for today. Don't overwork, now.  
'Bye...

Love,

George

PS. Am returning the snaps of Geroge's baby. He's a  
cute sonavagun. (see) GK.



Kurose to Sakoda

April 28, 1945  
Saturday morning

Dearest Ne-san,

I just got back from the Ad area - trying to get a measely \$6.20 refund and had to earn it! Now I have a first hand experience with the "buck passing" and what-not which goes on in this camp. To make a very long story very short, the thing in a nutshell sounds like this: I came in as a private in the enlisted reserves and paid for two weeks board. When Mom and I went out to Twin to shop, the buzzard at the gate charged me the balance which was due since I had stayed over two weeks. Well, when I came in that same day, they told me I didn't have to pay since the ruling had been changed on the 16th (I came in on the 8th.) Well, I found out I had paid past the 16th, so tried to get a refund. You should've seen the merry-go-round. If I didn't want the \$6.20 refund so badly (I can always use money!), I would've told those guys to just go to and stay there! Ran around half of yesterday afternoon and half of this morning just to get Kibby to hand over that six-twenty. I'm discombooberated to say the least. I suppose you're well aware of the situation in camp. More than I do, so I don't need to explain about how many guys I saw and how many times I bounced back to the same office. The poor guys who are trying to relocate!!!

How is your itty-bitty hand? I do hope it's much better. Better take care of yourself. If you don't, who is? (Jim can't nursemaid you, after all.) Your apartment sounds simply orchidacious! (New word I heard in the movies.) I'll have to look in one of these days. It must be a lot of fun furnishing your own place - and at the same time, it must be a lot of work. Well, when you get it good and ready, I'll come around to "isoro."

Cripes, Yone and Bill getting the knot tied? Well, well, well. That is good news! Can't quite get over it. I suppose it was coming along all the time. As you were wondering, who is going to change Fumi's name. Has she dropped any hints or anything to that effect? She's a swell girl!

Speaking of guys and gals, what makes you think there's a special attraction in Heart Mt.? My ole pal Fred is there, and that's the main reason I wanted to stop there. Yeah, I'll admit I'd like to see Iku again, but that wasn't the compelling force. And for your information, my heart hasn't leaped from Colorado to Wyoming. It's still here in Hunt, inside of "Boston Blackie" Kurose. You know, I really don't know how I feel about Betty. (The feeling I have for Betty is something different from the one Jim has for you. Hmmm! You still blush, do you?) Yup, I think I'm still looking for the gal. You sort of spoiled women for me. I set my standards by you and it's too durn high. I've met some nice girls but . . . there's no use in my trying to explain things to you which I myself don't understand. But you get what I mean, don't you? Well, I'm not seriously thinking about girls anyway. After all, I have two



years of schooling to finish after I get out of khaki. And Lord knows how many years after that two. Incidentally, though, Iku has a sense of humor which I haven't found in any other girl yet. Surely is a kick in the pants (my pants).

Father Joe

I joined the circle of friends you and Jim associated with - fine bunch! Calvin is quite a lad. Nope, he didn't get his call this month. I think he'll get his in June, for he was inducted a month after I was. I sat in a few of those well-known sessions conducted at 4-12-F. My education being lopsided, it didn't help me much in that group. I did a lot of listening and tried to assimilate some of the comprehensible matters. Sociology is something I know absolutely nothing about and something which doesn't interest me, but I don't think my time is wasted at Father Joe's. There's one thing which concerns me, and that is, "Father Joe isn't going to last very long!!!" I think one of you close friends ought to try to slow him down. He doesn't sleep very much, he smokes to an excess, and drinks whenever there's drinking friends. The way I see it, he's not going to last very long, and that's definite. You should know this better than I. Hope someone tips him off, or better yet, forcibly put a lid on some of his activities. He's too great a guy to go to pot, believe you me.

This letter is getting to be a manuscript, neh? Well, I better not ramble on too long. I have six letters here to take care of. Popular guy, ain't I? There's three full days left before I leave here. I better straighten out my junks (books n' such), answer all my letters, and get a good start in the army. "Yard Bird" Kurose! Fine, eh wot?

Mom wants about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  yards of black lining material (coat). She doesn't care whether it costs \$1 or \$2 /yd. The material for her three-piece suit - she wants to know what you think of material suitable for spring or autumn. Something about like your coat you bought just before leaving here. If you can't get anything as ordered above, she wants to know about material suitable to make a coat out of - for summer wear. And lining also for this coat. If you can, try to get various samples, for that'll simplify things. And she wants buttons for her suit and coat. (Different sizes for the suit and coat - you ought to know what she wants. I'm in the dark. Just typing along as she makes the order.)

Enuff fer today. I'll send the typewriter as you directed. It's in good condition. Be good. Regards to Jim. Love from Pop and Mom. 'Bye.

Love,  
George

P.S. A package is on its way to you.



Bulletin Issue

Berkeley, California  
June 13, 1945

Dear Mr. Kitayama:

I had expected to stay in Hunt until the 15th but was suddenly called back to Berkeley to report for my physical examination. I had hoped to give you my opinion about the circumstances surrounding the discontinuance of the Irrigator mid-week bulletins, and am doing this through the mail. As I have explained to you, a person who has dropped into the center from the outside finds difficulty in understanding the complexities of conflicts within the center. But I see no reason why you cannot have the benefit of my opinion as a third party, unless freedom of speech has ceased to exist since I left the center in March of this year.

There are a number of difficulties in reconstructing the story. First of all, the points of view of all those concerned are not available. It is possible that the translation of Bulletin No. 5 was partially responsible for differences of opinion. The two translations cited "Want Ads-Man Wanted", "Upholding the Law by Offices of the Department of Justice" are certainly inaccurate counterparts of Kyujin kokoku (Help wanted) Shiho Kanken wa yoroshiku byodoken o hogo seyo. (Law enforcement Officers Should Uphold Equal Rights).

Even with an accurate translation, however, there is still room for differences of opinion. On the one hand, the bulletin can be considered purely an administrative organ in which the official view of the administration is set forth. From this viewpoint it is possible to include only items of value to the relocation program. On this basis only the positive news items can be included, and the negative ones excluded. On the other hand, the bulletin can be considered a relocation supplement to the newspaper. On this basis, the editor has at his disposal a large range of news to make the bulletin an effective one. It is possible for him to include news which he believes people will read, which is the first requisite of an effective bulletin.

You asked me whether I thought that the criticism of the bulletin by the administration was justified. From the first point of view I think it was. There is no reason why an administrative organ should carry items in its bulletin of which the administration disapproves. Since the project director is the final judge on the project level of what is to be the official point of view, he is entitled to set down what should or should not be included in the weekly bulletin. Since the negative news is widely circulated by other newspapers and by word of mouth, there are adequate grounds for emphasizing the positive news.



From the second point of view, the criticisms are open to question. A sinister motive is read into some of the news item which are designated as being calculated to focus "the attention of the prospective relocatee on an unfortunate instance", or "to undermine the evacuee confidence in the Government as a whole". These criticisms overlook entirely the insurmountable difficulties faced by a newspaper on the project attempting to maintain objectivity. The adverse news receive so much publicity through newspapers in English, the vernacular press, and by word of mouth, that merely printing the positive stories results in its being considered sheer propaganda and usually not being read by the residents. This was the fate of the mass of information distributed through the relocation office. You have employed what seems to be at least a practical approach to the problem of making the bulletin acceptable enough to residents for them to read it regularly. You have taken the positive aspects of some negative stories. Florence West's statement, the editorial on acts of violence on the Coast, and the editorial on the Sumio Doi case are all much more positive in nature than the treatment of the same news by the American and vernacular press. After the bulletin was read regularly by residents it might have been possible to increase the space allotted to relocation news.

The most deplorable of all to me is the fact that differences of opinion have lead to the discontinuance of the weekly printed bulletins. The printed bulletin is a superior medium of communication to the mimeographed sheet. More important than that, it seems to me, is that you have been indirectly accused of "undermining the evacuee confidence in the Government as a whole" and have been forced to wash your hands of the whole affair for your own protection. Your faithful work was misunderstood or was possibly a casualty of personal animosities. At any rate, I believe it was highly regretable that differences of opinion on this matter was not settled more amicably in the best interest of the relocation program and hence the welfare of evacuees in general.

I hope you will carry on your high quality of editorial ability on the Japanese section of the IRRIGATOR.

Very sincerely yours,



Izumi to Sakoda

9 July 1945

Dear Hattie:

I received your letter couple of days ago. Gosh, I sure was glad you answered. You sound as if you and Jimmy are really enjoying yourselves in Berkeley. I guess the getting away from the stagnant camp life and the change of environment make life much more enjoyable.

Did you finish your stenography course? I hear that this Armstrong College is rather an exclusive one for a business college. What about the job?

Don't you ever tattle to Fumi - not before the transmutation, anyway. I gave Genji your message and he said, "You tell Hattie that I'm single yet. I'll tell her when I get married. Tell her I'll write when I have time (study and women)." I think he'll graduate sometime in October. Nope, Tah Matsuda is not in my class - he's in the highest one. I'm in the class next to his. From what our instructors say almost everybody in his class are candidates for instructors. I'm going to finish my course on 30 June and will graduate 7 July. Then a 21-days furlough, and after that overseas. The "chinameshi" in S.F. is a date.

I haven't heard from Jumbo for three weeks. Mom said she hasn't heard from him for a month. That indolent guy believes that saying, "No news is good news" too much.

My regards to Jimmy,

Yours  
Sincerely  
Jack



Asaba to Sakoda

Hunt, Idaho  
June 12, 1945

Dear Jim and Hattie:

Here are the letters you asked to be typed. I don't know if this is the way you wanted the memo to Graham but anyway I hope these letters are satisfactory. If not, send them back ..... Oh, yeah!!!!

It was really good to have seen you again Jim. Seemed like old times when you were here. There's one thing though the "big three" weren't together this time. It's too bad Tom and Father Joe had to be out when you came in. Anyway you didn't lose out on your sleep....or did you????

You've got me somewhat puzzled on what we were talking on. Mich and Father Joe.....What's the score or is there any???? I recall though, that Mrs. Okawa did ask me something about Mich.....she's going to Oberlin, a nice girl, John's sister, etc. Gee, maybe there is something behind that. Well, it's none of my business but yet my ears are willing to hear things.....

Kitayama

Gee, but that Mr. Kitayama gets me!!!! Today he tells me that this thing I'm typing for you is confidential and that he wanted me to be aware of the fact. In front of all the rest of the Irrigator staff at that too. He says for me not to tell or show any of this to the AP's too. Well, there and then, in front of the other Irrigator staff I told him why did he ever show it to Graham then. Well, he stammered a bit and said something or other to get away from it. Well, I told him that much and it made me feel good. Gee, wiz!! I don't go around telling everyone what I type and what I heard. I certainly know when a person wants things confidential. Well, sometimes anyway.....Father Joe gives me enough confidential things and.....oh focey!!!! Well, Mr. Kitayama did make me get mad and make me lose confidence in the fella'. I guess I know why now, that the rest of the staff there don't trust him....Nuf x of that....

Sachi left for Seattle today. Sure hated to see her go. I guess the Irrigator has lost one of their best reporters again. Poor Johnny, he's really worried about the paper and I don't blame him. He too, is the worrying kind. I guess one can't help worrying about things now a days. Me? Oh, worry, worry, and more worry but it hasn't got the better of me yet. (and I hope it'll never get me....)

Well, Hattie, I was disappointed not seeing you here with Jim. We would have so liked to have you. Next time, though



don't let Jimmy leave you behind. Okay? (gee, wiz, my typing....so-called typing anyway....)

Not much more....Hope you had a pleasant trip back Jim....Yo terayama sends her regards. So does that "fiancee" of mine Johnny.....Don't take us wrong..... Well, till again then.....

As ever,

Yoshi



Egashira case

February 22, 1945  
3:07 p.m.

Dear Tom and James:

Didja ever see me "hooting tooting " mad? Maybe I should wear a sign "Beware - Dangerous - Might bite!"

When I came to Seattle, I thought I'd forget those C.C. days when I used to go home all hot and bothered, but, no, here I am getting emotionally upset again.

I can't write and tell you all the details of the problem on hand.. Tak Hari will tell you all about Mr. Egashira's problem (darn this haisihi business anyway!)

I'll tell you part of it. Well, Mr. Egashira had contacted Rainier Heat and Power about renting Jackson Cafe again. Just the right time cause the Cafe is closed now. The present condition of the cafe does not meet with full approval of the health inspector, so the Chinese who was operating it had to close it. Mr. Egashira was willing to invest \$5,000.00 to remodel and fix the place and start in again, but the R.H.P. said "no."

I accompanied Mr. Egashira and Mr. Sawa (Mr. Eg's brother-in-law) to an interview with ex-Judge Arthur E. Griffin (president of R.H. & P. and one of the trustees of estate) to interpret for Mr. Eg. to see what could be done about getting the place. Mr. Thumner (manager of R.H. & P.--also one of the trustees) was there also. I went as an interpreter, but I turned out to be as Griffin said "a good advocate." Really, I tried all forms of argument to make them see our point-of-view, but Griffin just wouldn't budge. (It seems that Thumner and Griffin had talked the matter over, and had prepared the definite answer before our interview with them). Griffin said that he was afraid that a Filipino might throw a bomb into the cafe. Then - the bldg. would be damaged, tenants would vacate Bush Hotel (also operated by R.H. & P) and the loss would not compensate for the \$120.00 monthly rental income from J. Cafe. Moreover, the Chinese staying at Bush Hotel would not patronize J. Cafe if it were operated by a Japanese and it is the desire of the R.H. & P. to serve the tenants of Bush Hotel. Griffin said Japanese shouldn't come back yet .. that the gov't was too hasty in opening the coast. Thumner and Griffin told Mr. Eg. to find another location, etc. Mr. Eg. does not want to start anywhere else. He doesn't want to take out the fixtures .. and the main thing is .. he wants to continue in the restaurant business at the same location even though he may have to wait years before he gets opportunity to get in there.

But you're wondering how I got mixed up in this business. Ever since our arrival, a U.S. Naval Intelligence man has been coming over to visit us often .. an elderly Irishman (with Irish temper too!) who has more or less encouraged us on by offering any assistance we might ask of him. He says we've been checked thoroughly by the F.B.I., W.R.A., Western Defense Command, etc.



and found to be loyal so we should be given equal chance to do business as other people here.

\* See Insert attached

As yet, I don't know how the Eg. case will come out. Have appointment on Sat. morning with Mr. Eg. and Mr. Watson (Mr. Eg's manager more-or-less who has his power of attorney).

Maybe, I shouldn't get as concerned about this matter. As Elmer said, "It's an individual matter." If Mr. Eg. had a thoughtful and understanding landlord, there wouldn't be all this trouble. But, I just can't stand to see Mr. Eg. being so discriminated and W.R.A. so nonchalant about it -

I keep wondering what the ex-Judge thinks about me. Judge or no judge, I came out and said what I really thought about it all. During course of the interview, he asked me if I was married. Wonder what made him ask such a question. I told the judge, "Mr. Eg. had the guts to come out and try to reestablish himself in his former business -- give him at least a fighting chance." .. but, darn it, they said they couldn't afford to. It would be too late to do anything after damage was done. They were paid to look after the interests of the estate, and they thought the risk was too great at this time to rent out premises to a Japanese.

In spite of all this confusion, I feel down deep inside that everything will work out for the best. There will come a day Mr. Eg. will be operating his restaurant again at his former spot, and Japanese will gradually get settled down again. And instead of discussing the problem of white people discriminating the Japanese, it will be "Whither these Southern Negroes?" These negroes from the South are very much disliked by even among the negroes (long time residents of Seattle) here. I find that Italians are being discriminated - Germans are being discriminated - in fact, who aren't being discriminated?

Well, thanks for listenin ..

Got a few camp news from Rev. Fukuyama today - saw quite a few new faces today from Hunt and Spokane. All is well on the western front. Will attend church services for first time this Sunday at First Presby. Church .. about time I got a little spiritual food, neh? Haven't had a chance to see a movie yet. Exactly one month today since we left Hunt. How time flies!

Am I missing much of camp excitement? Heard about the 32 broken glass panes, wreckage of Mrs. Stillinger's books, short summary of Mr. Myer's talk.

Do take good care of yourselves -

As always,  
Betty



INSERT

Since Mr. Eg. hit a snag in his plan, he came and asked me to talk to this U.S. man and see what could be done. So I did. One morning the U.S. man came down to our place and talked with Mr. Eg. U.S. man talked with U.S. Naval Int. headquarters and the hdq. said that it was the responsibility of the W.R.A. to do all they can to help Mr. Eg. get back in his former business.

So, we went to W.R.A. office, but Mr. Fistere said the landlord had the perfect right to refuse (property rights, etc.) and told Mr. Eg. to start business elsewhere. I came out bluntly and told Mr. Fistere that it was downright discrimination (he didn't like my saying that!) .. but Fistere just said .. "Can't do anything about it." Sheldon Hegen offered same advice -- can't remember it 'cause I didn't think much of it.

What's the W.R.A. doing in Seattle anyway? It might as well fold up. Maybe, you think I'm rather hasty in my judgment, but I'm one-tracked minded anyway. If the W.R.A. wants people to come back and start in business as before, they've got to assure and promise these people that they'll fight to the limit to get them on their feet again! If W.R.A. doesn't fight discrimination now, they'll never get anyplace. As far as I'm concerned, you can tell the residents in camp "stay in and gambaru" until W.R.A. guarantees that they'll do all they can to help reestablish the evacuees in their former businesses, provide jobs, housing, etc. They have every right to demand it.



Ogawa to Sakoda

10-5-C Hunt, Idaho  
April 3/45

Dear Hattie and Jim:

Bull session

We miss you. We need your help. Without you, our bull-fests somehow lack a punch, or something.

Elmer, Father Joe, Calvin and I usually meet almost every day, or oftener at night, compare notes, unload our woes, pet peeves, and hatch plots.

Actually, nothing of a really calamitous nature has happened here, but we seem daily to be involved in something which appears both pressing and important.

Law and Order

Juvenile delinquency problems are probably in No. 1 spot just now. The case of the 8 boys is about to be closed, as far as we are concerned. The 6 guilty (?) are on probation here, and when no a.p. would accept job as Probation Officer, I had the C. Council appoint a Juvenile Board (now O.K. by Stafford and the Judge of Jerome) of 3 members: Genya Oye (chairman, Hunt U.S.O. aged 27), Father Joe and Dick Kanaya. I'm acting secretary. The Juv. Board is acting as Probation Officer - so the boys will now get a break.

In my arguments with the Judge, to get the boys back here, not sent to reform school, I used, among others, the point that "why crack down on these boys? There were 15 or more involved. What's the point in making an example of the boys when others involved haven't even been apprehended"?

So; Stafford, Kleinkopf, Harper plus a group of teachers, went all out, had the F.B.I. agent in here, who turned in a list of 9 more boys with the comment:

"These are the missing 9 who were afraid to come forward. These are constant trouble makers. With your consent we will take them out permanently."

!!!!!!

So I got the boys, 9, together - and they are swell kids! Elmer got all excited, of course. I found out for sure that only 3 out of the 9 could even possibly have been involved in the H.S. vandalism. Elmer and I worked on the boys - have them behaving like angels in school - I worked on Barrett - and, as things stand today, I believe that the case is dropped - nothing will happen to the boys. I've threatened an expose of the H.S. mis-handling; Elmer is working out a case history of the boys to prove educational bungling.



Learned today (secret) that Sam Yanada and Henry Tambara, both out of original 8, are required by the WRA to relocate; their families, too!!!! and pronto! We'll look into it, verify it, and go to work, of course.

Enclosed copies of letters exchanged between C. Council and Stafford may be of interest. I wrote one of them, sold the approach to the C. Council, just for the hell of it - an experiment. Haddoyuhknow? no answer, nothing, not even a peep out of H.L.S., even in later meetings!! I don't know what the score is.

#### J.A.C.L. on closure

I've got the official minutes, English, of Salt Lake Conference, and have written for an extra copy to send to you. See Bill Hosokama's criticism in P.C. column? I wrote P.C., asking what it was intended to do - for whose eyes was it intended ~~to~~ - ~~am~~ what it hopes to accomplish - explaining reaction of every group to the article. Less public relations - the better.

#### Closure

Several a.p.'s have told me that it's been decided somewhere (Justice Department?) that it is subversive to fight the closing of the centers. Hinder the war effort - 70,000 to relieve manpower shortage. Warning to me? Where does the 14 man committee stand? Literal translation sounds like - "Committee to find facts, investigate, re problems connected with closing of center" but what is it, actually?

#### C.T. Takahashi

Did I tell you? C.T. is now a detainee, segregate! Secret. But he's living in here as visitor, paying for his room and board! He's started preparations for making a court case out of it - Habeas Corpus plus "show cause." Don't forget, he has a letter from the U.S. Army giving him a semi-official status as recruiter for the Sioux Depot! and a C-gas ration out of it.

#### Santa Fe riot

Hear about riots at Santa Fe? 250, about, new Tuleans came - 2 agitators" were sent elsewhere, demonstration, tear-gas bombs, 4 internees badly beaten up by guards, altogether 15 sent away, destination unknown, and the Tuleans now separated, confined to barbed wire double fence enclosure, within the camp!

Rumor: a delegate to Salt Lake Conference has recently been interned at Santa Fe. He says all delegates will be interned unless they stop working against center closures. I don't believe it - but seems true that that delegate was interned.

So much for now.



I've seen all your letters, I think, except the longest one - it's missing among Father Joe's stack of papers, I believe. Thanks, lots, for the letters.

Ogawa

Hope you can read my scrawl.

I'm frustrated - confused. Actually tried to sell Lillian the idea of relocating, with kids (they've got to have a school to go to) and leave me here - no response, yet. I'm interested in this place.

Minidoka

Pressures are increasing. Employment cuts here and there. Yet hospital, and many important offices in ad. area (Relocation office, for one) are actually bogging down due to the best stenos, etc. relocating rather faster'n I expected. What they gonna do?

Relocation office

Your suggestion about doing something about Relocation Office- I now know why. I tried help some neighbors get processed. Wow! I'm mad. Inefficiency, discourtesy, - terrible! Besides: Relocation, Welfare, Evac. Prop. and Reports Office are not coordinated - actually antagonistic, - open warfare! Hope I can stay out of it, for a while.

Regards from Lillian.

Cheerio,

Tommy Ogawa



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

March 19, 1945

The Community Council  
Block 22  
Hunt, Idaho

Attention: Mr. I. Oyama, Chairman

Subject: Recreation Hall, Block 39

Gentlemen:

It appears that persons who seek to embarrass the Council and Block Commissioners have committed vandalism in the above recreation hall. Evidence of a desire to burn down the building and thereby imperial (sic) other buildings in the Block is apparent by the exposing of the ends of live wires where short circuits would normally result from contact of the wires.

With the belief that the Community Government will wish to make an investigation, and hold hearings, so that the hoodlums responsible may be discovered the matter is herewith being referred to the Council. The Council has the power to summon witnesses and hold hearings. The Staff of Internal Security are ready to aid in the investigation. If the Council as a whole is unprepared to take charge of this matter the Judicial Commission should be convened.

If, by any possibility, the Community Government does not consider that this destruction of Rec. Hall 39 comes within its investigational responsibilities, we will appreciate a report to that effect. In such event we will place the matter in the hands of the F.B.I. so that further cases of malicious destruction will be avoided.

Cordially yours,

H.L. Stafford  
Project Director



OFFICE MEMORANDUM

3-20-1945

TO: W.E. Rawlings, Ass't Project Director  
in charge of Operations

FROM: C.E. Plank, Senior Engineer

SUBJECT: Estimate of Damage to Rec. Bldg. #39

The following is an estimated cost of materials and labor that would be necessary to repair recreation building #39.

50 pieces $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 48" x 96" Celotex	\$80.00
32 pieces $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 48" x 120" Celotex	64.00
2 3'0" x 6'8" 5 panel doors	8.00
4 rim locks	1.80
33 10" x 12 window glass	3.30
Electrical fixture and wiring	15.00
Labor	<u>133.40</u>
Total	\$305.50

Senior Engineer



COMMUNITY COUNCIL OFFICE  
Minidoka Project  
Hunt, Idaho

March 22, 1945

Mr. H. L. Stafford  
Project Director  
Hunt, Idaho

SUBJECT: Recreation Hall, Block 39

Dear Sir:

This response to your communication regarding the subject topic, under date of March 19, 1945, is in line with careful deliberations accorded it by Councilmen and Block Commissioners in Special Joint Meeting held this afternoon.

You will be interested to learn that our first reactions consisted essentially of a majority opinion that the making of investigations for the purpose of discovering the person(s) responsible for the vandalism, is obviously a matter falling within the duties, functions, and jurisdiction of the project administration's Internal Security force, according to our understanding of W.R.A. administrative manuals and instructions.

Subsequent deliberations, however, crystalized into a majority acceptance of the following course of action:

The Community Council wishes to express its appreciation of your action in this matter, an obvious manifestation of recognition and confidence on your part, involving, as it apparently does, a delegation by the project administration to the evacuee government of certain additional responsibilities.

The Council has decided to undertake the making of investigations in accordance with your referral, on the condition that you delegate to the Council a certain additional measure of administrative jurisdictional authority, a step which is obviously a natural corollary to the delegation of added responsibility. Destruction, mis-use, and theft, of government property, all appear to be in the same category; and so we define "added responsibility" as mentioned in the foregoing, to mean Council responsibility to make investigations, summon witnesses, and hold hearings for the purpose of discovering the probable perpetrators of crimes in the above-stated category.

In any democratic or semi-democratic system, it is our understanding that the delegation of duties and responsibilities is accompanied by the delegation of privileges and authority, in similar proportions, as a matter both of practicability and sense of fairness. Hence we believe that the condition attached to our acceptance of the burden of responsibility, is justifiable and reasonable.



We hereinunder enumerate the items covering "additional measure of administrative jurisdictional authority which comprise our "condition":

1. Council responsibility to investigate destruction, mis-use, and theft, of government property attached to this project, be extended to all such cases. Investigations of any such cases be undertaken upon the initiative or instigation of the Community Council, as well as against referrals from the project administration. Since, in the majority of such cases, the finger of suspicion is pointed at evacuee residents, and it is a fact that a member of the appointed staff personnel may be involved in the guilt, (especially in cases of theft or mis-use of government property), the Council be empowered to make and finish comprehensive investigations even if the final findings would charge or accuse, as probably guilty, an appointed staff member.
2. Inasmuch as the Internal Security Section is to function under the Council, by assisting not the administration but the Council which makes investigations in such cases; the entire Internal Security Section be reorganized, and coordinated under the Council's jurisdiction, to the extent that the Council ~~is~~ possesses administrative authority to determine (a) its personnel, (b) the scope of its duties and powers, and (c) its policies, inclusive of the manner in which it shall assist in investigations.
3. Inasmuch as the Council is to function as an investigational organization in capacity similar to a municipal police department, with the added power of being able to summon witnesses, and without the duty of making arrests or of detaining the accused; in cases wherein the accused, identified as a result of Council investigation, is later made subject of determination of guilt or of penalty, in any regular court or by any authority, the Council be required, invariably, to have on hand its representation which is to be heard as a witness for the prosecution, and also is to present the result of its investigations pertaining to the case.

The vandalism was committed at Recreation Hall of Block 39, which constitutes the subject of your communication. It might be pertinent to inform you that our preliminary investigations have disclosed the following:

1. The subject building has not, for some months, been used, nor available for use by evacuee residents. It has been locked during that time, and the keys retained by the administration. We understand that



some residents of Block 39, on making requests of the Community Activities Section for use of the building for recreational purposes, were denied.

2. There appear to be evidences to support the probability that the vandalism occurred many months ago, perhaps as early as August of last year. There is also the possibility that the vandalism occurred over a period of time, perhaps by numbers of different individuals at different times.

This Council has only recently taken office. It is hopeful of creating the best of relationships with the project administration, and towards that end, is prepared to give full cooperation in return and asks full cooperation in return. Such, we believe, is the basis of "joint participation."

We again thank you for referring this case to us, as we are mindful of the fact that in a similar case of vandalism perpetrated last month at the project high school, you did not even bring the matter to the attention of the Council then in office. We refer, of course, to the case of the eight juveniles who were the subject of juvenile court proceedings at Jerome, Idaho, with wide-spread newspaper publicity. In consideration of public relations with the outside, at least, and also, perhaps, in the matter of determining the identity of the allegedly guilty boys prior to their arrest, we are inclined to believe that Council participation in the case from its earlier stages might have contributed something of value.

Kindly note that our acceptance of investigational responsibilities in the subject case, as per procedures you have outlined, might possibly be better held in abeyance, pending your obtaining of approval from the National Headquarters of the W.R.A., to the effect that the same may be included within the scope of functions of community government. We have in mind some unmistakably clear statements previously made to the Council, also the Judicial Commission, by W.R.A. authorities, that matters pertaining to theft, mis-use and destruction of government property, were not within the jurisdictional scope of responsibilities of community government.

Respectfully yours,

---

Iwao Oyama, Chairman  
Community Council



Takasugito to Sakoda

March 28, 1945

Dear Hattie and Jimmy:

It was so good to hear from both of you. Am so glad your both settled and happy in your new surrounding. I don't mind being in Berkeley, myself. I can still remember how beautiful it was and what an impression it made on our visit. So your both fitting right in like old times. I'm glad, but Hattie don't you try to overload yourself. After all, a home takes up quite a bit of time and energy. However I think your plans to brush up on shorthand and typing an excellent idea. If I was younger and if that work appealed to me more I'd do the same. If I take up anything it'll be sewing. Matter of fact I hope to be able to work after this baby comes at a nice dress shop, if ma is well enough to take over some of the house duty. Will like to hear more about everything as you take things in.

Was I surprised about your pipe and sitting at a desk and etc. Watch out for that business man's bulge, your much too young to start in on that. Say, please give our regards to Dorothy Thomas. I like her a lot too.

The conditions (reception to Japanese) out in Western coast doesn't sound so good. Guess we'll have to plan on staying here at least for the duration.

Kingo has given up the idea of getting a place or a car. What is your reason for wishing he didn't? Kingo is just discouraged. Have to pay so much for a pile of junk. Houses we can afford are like barns.

Kingo's folks are still vague about coming, although ma made it clear she's coming. She's suffering from (Japanese characters) on her leg so I couldn't expect much from her. Our minister has already lined up a good job for pa.

About writing to our folks about Ruby. Shall we wait till they ask about her? Niesan doesn't think we ought to tell them. I wrote and said our 3 boys were fine. If you could compose a note and make it plain she had the best of care and her heart couldn't take much more even without a baby, maybe it's best to write. But I'd like to read the note before you send it and ask Niesan what he thinks about it. You see he's thinking we shouldn't tell.

Made the lousiest looking fudge and sent it to you. Wish someone in camp could just keep it instead of forwarding it to you. I'm ashamed of it but I thought it would cheer you up (having to get held back in camp).

Have taken Tadd's picture and sent it to you today. He's not able to walk yet. People get's more amused with him because



he laughs and smiles. We got him a spring coat and I knit him a white tam and white sweater with blue elephant and white pants set. I'm so amused at myself, because I'm so happy when I dress him up (it just thrills me). Imagine what fun it will be to have a girl and dress her up in all kinds of cute clothes.

Am singing "I know my redeemer liveth" again this Easter. Our choirs giving a cantata. This Easter I'm not getting a thing except a gold bracelet and an earring. I'm beginning to show already and I weigh 146# already. Doctor said if I don't want to be a fatty to help my weight down to 150#. How am I going to do that if he tells me to rest and keep off my feet, and I want to eat like a horse, especially cakes and pies.

Well I better close now. Happy Easter to you both. Of course you'll be at some church Easter morning.

Love,

May



Father Joe to Sakoda

Dear Jim & Hatchan....

Thanks for your letters, one to the group, one to me, and the last one to Tom, Elmer and myself. (this is my typing all over!) I debated whether to accept the check or not, but finally decided to take it and make use of it here for our sessions. Gee, thanks a real lot....You can hardly realize how much it means to our young people to have an opportunity to sit down and talk about everything.

This week is supposed to be the sacred week, but so far I have been stuck with the most secular things only. And needless to say I am busy, so this must be very brief.

Graham

John Graham approached to Calvin to write a comprehensive report for him. It means a lot to us, because I know Com. Analyst, has the same idea. Those two departments in Washington never seem to get along. I don't know whether Cal is going to do it or not.

Law and order

Unprintable: Three or four evacuee gals have been sleeping at MP's and have gone out with them quite frequently. Irr. J. section wanted to print this story, but Tom discouraged them. After all, one of the gals is the wife of a serviceman, and it will not help the situation at all. Finally, Court Marshall took it up, and it will be taken care of by them. MPs apprehended by MPs, this is America.....

Yoshi is swamped with all the work for Easter, but she will write for the group immediately after Easter.

. . . . .



POSTCARD

60 Roble Rd  
Berkeley 5  
March 30th

My dear Mr. James Sakoda:

I have forgotten one good place for real good chicken dinner. When you have spare time go to "Old South" restaurant ~~maxx~~ on end of Ashby St., Eastend near Tunnel Road. This is mighty good place for chicken and turkey.

George S. Ura



March 11, 1945

Dear Hattie:

I'll have to apologize to you for not writing to you sooner! Really, Hattie, I was so unsettled with myself. I possibly couldn't concentrate and write to anybody. In the first place, my address was indefinite, so I couldn't write anyways. It really took me exactly a month before I was settled down with a job and a place to stay in. And was it a headache for me! No kidding! Thinking Chicago as a paradise was my great big mistake, and instead I found doubling disappointments! I was so disgusted over everything. I was ready to turn back home anyday. As far as the dirtiness of the city is concerned, I was warned ahead so much, it really didn't bother me too much! But it was my job and a place to stay that I found so much difficulties in. There's been so much red tape in accepting a job. I had to think twice before I took one. After all, I really came this way to go to a school and come home again! Oh, well, although I am not too contented and satisfied with my job and my home, I'm settled down for a while anyway, so please do not worry. I realize now that, all this time, I was running around looking for jobs and going for interviews was my most exciting time, although I was in with a lot of worries! I'm only too selfish! The life is really dull and monotonous now to me!

I am working as a typist at a Book Pub. Co. and am staying at a home working for my room and board. I hope to do some savings this way too! As if I will! I felt very lonesome and tight staying in with a family, but I'm getting quite used to it now. At least, I don't have any worries about the cookings! And it keeps me out of mischiefs, too, although I really came out here to have some fun!

Before I forget, I must thank you for the "s.....". You shouldn't have done it, Hattie! Please say thanks to Jimmie, too!

By now, I assume you have gained back your normal health. I hope so anyway. Please do take the best care of yourself!

I've come across many Tacomans and my camp friends, too, but I haven't had a chance to see Fumi, Yone and the group yet! I found out that they are living somewhere near my place, so I hope to look them up soon! Am looking forward to it with anxiety too!

Well, I must be closing now for I'll have to set the tables. Will tell you more later.

Always,  
Tamiko



Father Joe

March 12, 1945

Dear Jim and Hat-chan.....

Received your card from Shoshone. Gee, I miss both of you a lot!!! How dare you could walk out on us, hum, that's my sentimentality, of course. Anyway, so far nothing has happened, except three boys got hold of WRA car and went to Twin to see show. They were apprehended by the Twin Fall Police, who belong to the different county, and I'm expecting some kind of legal complication there.

When I asked Tom to see Helen about it this afternoon, to my great surprise, the High School authority was totally unaware of this fact. Such is efficiency.

It is around 6.00 a.m., and I'd better hit the hay, otherwise I'll be no good the rest of the day. If Mich were here, she could write my letters for me, but I have no secretary at night nowadays, so here I am...

I met Hatti's folks yesterday, and I will see them again about your brother. Don't worry, I will fix him up.

I just wrote a letter to my friend Dr. Thorlackson, 258 Stanford Ave. Berkeley 8. Tel. ASHbury 0150, asking him to look you up. He is a Lutheran Pastor, at present working for OWI. A fine fellow. Hope you can get acquainted with him.....Write me, ha... Tom is OK.

Always,

Fr. Joe



Ura to Sakoda

Mar. 24  
60 Roble Rd.  
Berkeley 5, Cal.

Mr. James Sakoda

Dear Sir:

Just received your kind letter of Mar. 20th.

As to the turkey and chicken dinners, I have eaten no. of times at 5-10-15 cent store restaurant. I did not notice the exact name of this store, but if I am not mistaken, it was one of Woolworth stores.

The dinner was only 75 cents, but whether they have turkey and chicken dinners every day or not, you might try someday.

About T-Bone steak. I have eaten one of those restaurants at down town.

You might try one by one and you might strike at last.

Wishing you a good luck.

Sincerely yours,

George Ura



March 19, 1945

Dear Jimmy:

It is with a feeling of great guilt I pen this note to you. I know that with your usual forbearance, you would forgive me without my offering any lame excuses. Such is not necessary among friends, but it doesn't ease my conscience any the less. The fact that I do not write is no indication that you are not thought of. On the contrary, I frequently vow and solemnly that I'd write but then, you know what wicked habit procrastination can be! It seems a shame too, because I have lost track of Kenny, Tomi and Tanstsu and many whose kindness to me made my junior year so memorable.

Spring has at last come here in Ann Arbor. Long wearied of this dreary winter, people are finding much joy and delight in even the slightest sign. There is a hidden joy and exuberance everywhere; in the sky, the budding trees, the greening lawns, singing birds, voices and faces, young and old. Spring and with it Easter: - may this find you and yours well and may I add Easter wishes for you.

Sincerely,

Reiko



WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION

153 Kearny Street - Sixth Floor  
San Francisco 8, California  
March 15, 1945

Evacuation and Resettlement Study  
of the University of California  
207 Giannini Hall  
Berkeley 4, California

Attention: Dorothy Swaine Thomas

Dear Miss Thomas:

This is in reply to your letter of March 12, 1945 in which you request our interpretation of the essentiality of your activity.

We understand that you are engaged in studying the problem of the relocation of the Japanese evacuees.

Group 53, Educational Services in the List of Essential Activities includes, "educational and scientific research agencies," and by this inclusion, we interpret the activity of your study group to be essential for purposes of War Manpower Commission regulations governing employment.

Our interpretation does not necessarily reflect the opinion of Selective Service.

Yours very truly

Sam Kagel  
State Manpower Director  
Northern California

By Larry Maringer, Chief  
Manpower Utilization Division



Kurose to Sakoda

April 19, 1945  
Thursday nite  
9:00 PM

Dearest Ne-san:

Hi, toots! What's cookin'? Received your most welcome letter this afternoon. Your life seems to be crammed full of things to do. It's a darn shame there's only two of you. You oughta have more around to do all the things you're doing. Too bad I can't be of any help. You can be sure I'm rootin' on your side. I know you've a lot of hardships to overcome yet, but I know you'll keep right along.

Everyone over here is fine. Jest fine indeed! I'm leading a bum's life - doing nuthin' all day long. Pop is still working in camp. He expects to leave a few days after I pull out. Which brings me to the news of my active duty call. My name is on the list of (sad) guys leaving this camp on the 1st of May. There's seven or eight of us, and I know not a one amongst them. Ain't it a shame though? My buddies are to be perfect strangers. I had great plans made for the next month. I wuz so darn tired of this place, I talked Mom into letting me go to Minneapolis via Heart Mountain. After Minneapolis, I was going to head towards Chi. The plans seemed to good to be true, and that's the way it turned out. Too good to be true! Yup, after all my planning, the darn notice showed up. I tell you, it would've made a preacher cuss. (Mebbe even Father Joe.)

Your lecture on my "principles and ideals" was carefully soaked in by your dear brother. He isn't so stupid that he can't see the wisdom of your words. Rest assured he will act according to - I mean accordingly to your advice. Father Joe is in Seattle and will be back on the 21st. I'll see him then and see what cooks. I hope you're not worrying about me. Please don't.

The feed Mom slings is terrific. Of all the "goshiso" - chicken, sashimi, Dad's wine, etc., etc. Doesn't that make your mouth water. Right now there's two chicken on hand. Gee, what Jimmy couldn't do if he were here!!! By the way, Mom wants you to look around for some material - no, she wants to know whether there's any suitable material for her to work on a three-piece suit. (I think she's going to make it for herself.) If you happen to come across any, send some samples, please. Got it? No order from me. By the way, seal your next envelope air-tight. I want to breathe some real California (SF) air.

A certain family left for SAc'to and they left their address which was to be sent to you. (I'm enclosing it with this letter). They expressed wishes of having you look them up if and when you happened to be up their way.



I sho' is dead in camp! I cooled my fanny long ago and I haven't seen anything yet that will warm it up. (Am I getting a bit - as they say in camp - corroded?) I've seen every show which came into camp since my arrival. Tonight I saw "Double Indemnity" - yes, again. Good, nevertheless. Oh, my, the gams and ---- on that Stanwyck. Woo, woo. "Sakamoto Ryuma" came into camp, and I saw that twice. Really was good. It was a treat to see a Nihon-eiga again. The actress was plenty sharp - I mean sharp looking. "Ryuma" was just sharp.

Dad is deciphering your letter at the present moment. Mom is taking a shower. She still goes to her English class everyday. I helped with her lesson yesterday and she got a "74" out of it. I ain't going to mess around anymore. Nossirrrreeee!!!.

That's thirty for tonite. 'Nite. Tell Jim not to study too hard.

Love,

George

A joke:

Teacher: Mary, who was Moses mother?  
Mary: The pharoah's daughter.  
T: No, your wrong. She's the one who found him in the reeds.  
M: Huh, that's her story!



April 8, 1945  
Hunt, Idaho

Dear Hattie:

I received your letter some time ago thru your father. Thanks a lot for writing to me when you are so busy settling down.

How does the "Land of Sunshine" appeal to you after such a dull life in camp? From what your mom informs me both of you are going to school, he. That's just wonderful! I know more schooling one does it comes handy in later life.

Camp is the same ol' place. Nothing new happens.

We are busy as ever at the store - Since you've left your mom doesn't show up so often. Golly! she must miss you both! I guess it won't be long until both of them will be joining you.

Mr. Fukiw was in visiting from Burley not very long ago. He tells me Micky, Dot Fujimoto and Miwako Fukuyama are in town of Tacoma looking the town over.

Have you heard about Mine-chan going back there the 1st part of May, taking all her family, too. Well, they have their own home so no worrying about housing problem. The last I've heard Hisa and Tanaku san were planning to relocate to Cleveland, Ohio.

Tsuyoshi Horike just came in camp for his spring vacation and to meet his new daughter Shirley Takeko born about couple of weeks ago. She resemble the Horikis. He wanted me to go back to town with him but I'm still scared. Sooner or later we all have to be out of here so the quicker the better but in my case everything is hard to decide. I almost go crazy trying to figure this problem out.

Good thing I'm occupied during the day or else I probably would be in Black Foot.

Well, Hattie, take it easy and let the lovely California sunshine soak into you between your studies. Please remember me to Jim.

Sincerely,  
Yone



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Evacuation and Resettlement Study  
207 Giannini Hall  
Berkeley 4, California

March 15, 1945

Office of War Housing  
Berkeley, California

Gentlemen:

This will introduce Mr. James Sakoda, Research Assistant regularly employed by the University of California's Evacuation and Resettlement Study. This study has been interpreted as "essential" by the War Manpower Commission. Confirmation of this statement can be obtained by telephoning Mr. Ziesenhenné, Garfield 8985 (State Office, Northern California, 153 Kearny Street).

Issuance of a card entitling Mr. Sakoda and wife to war housing will be appreciated.

Very sincerely yours,

Dorothy S. Thomas  
Director

Mr. Anderson Glen. 5631



Matsuda to Sakoda

April 11, 1945

Dear Jim:

Sometime ago I read with interest your first letter from Berkeley. My delays in letter writing is a habit, but long as I am at Snelling I can always say I am too busy with something.

Overseas duty

Time waits for no one - I have already completed over half of prescribed courses such as grammar, geography, seven texts of reading, sosho, and other major subjects which are restricted from disclosure. Up till now the weather was a real Minnesota weather. After a week of rainy days the lawns suddenly became green. Even Minnesota can be beautiful once a year. We take no physical training yet. All day and two hours in the evenings we sit and stare at bulky Harvard dictionaries. Some take interest, many get bored and fed up, most don't give a darn. In my class, which has the reputation of being the highest there a half of the class are willing to be assigned before graduation which is scheduled for July 7. Nobody wants to remain here as "temporary instructors." As the days get warmer young fancies start to boil and we all seek adventure. (Strictly military of course).

Exclusion orders

Recently my brother wrote to me stating that he was involved in "Exclusion Order" which I am unaware of. If I understand it correctly it provides that some nisei are unwelcomed in the three western states. He is finding some channel to clarify and erase that off his record. I met him on my way to N.Y. on my furlough. Next month we will get another furlough for a week again.

Tule Lake and parents

For security reasons no M.I.S. graduate or students are allowed to visit Tule Lake and although Mr. Takemoto is willing to help me get a permit, I have a very chance of seeing my folks. I'd better see them after the war is over. I guess I have to get home sick first. A Tulean friend writes to me and sends me "Newell Star." In spite of warnings by the Dept. of Justice they still practice demonstrations and expressed loyalty to Japan so many have been picked up and sent to N. Dakota. I am sure glad I didn't take my old man's advice. It seems as if I get to step on Japan soil before my repatriated parents.

Relocation

At the Fort a half is Hawaii and I don't hear any talks on relocation problems. Many are no doubt directly concerned but a soldier can't render help as much as he wants to. From what



I gather people seem to be slow in moving out of their beloved camps.

As the training progresses our minds are filled with future post. Nine out of ten I'll be passing through San Francisco this summer. I hope to be Sgt. Matsuda by then.

I am glad to know that that locker was satisfactory. The soldier who visited you in Hunt was my classmate. A "hello" to Hattie and may this missive find you in best of health.

Sincerely,

Tak

Italics by Sakoda



Father Joe to Sakoda.

The Church of the Holy Apostles  
22-7-C  
Hunt, Idaho

April 25, 1945

Dear Friends:

Thanks for your account of housing situation down there. Cal read it to the exclusive group, and he looked sort of embarrassed as he came to the subject of the toilet paper. George stepped in, and he too shared the joy of reading the actual situation from his brother in law. In fact, he is already in the swing of our life here. He helps us in typing, and joins in bull session.

Tom must have written you documents about our trip to Northwest. I asked him to accompany me especially due to the fact that various civic organizations and Church people needed good presentation, and I am happy to say that Tom was simply wonderful. As usual, I'm cooking something, and it may disappoint you if and when something should take place for Tom, however, I want you to keep it under your hat for the time being. Only please understand that I owe Lilian and kids to do something to reinstate Tom's status here in this country. It is nothing drastic as some people might guess, tho. I'll keep you posted, of course.

Sol Kimball was waiting for me when I came home last Saturday, Sunday, we had Sol, Elmer, Helen, John Graham, Cal, Fudge for supper and talked until late. Sol opened up and I rather suspect a bottle of brandy did a lot of good that night.

Monday night, Marklay came over, and Tom, Kimi, George Kurose, Mary Watanabe Frank's sister--, Calvin and Elmer went to town. Elmer was disgusted that night, as we did most of the talking. It did him a lot of good, too.

Tuesday night, we had Sol Kimball, George, Cal, Tom, Gerry Oye and Elmer for supper. We had an interesting evening with international problems and what have you. Right along, we have been missing you and small woman as you call Hatti. Honestly, it will do a lot of good to cuss Washington and local people up and down like we did lately.

We are still cooking up a lot of things. One important item of our discussion was the offer from Dorothy Thomas, of course. In view of the fact that Tom is not expected to stay here too long, I hope you and Dr. Thomas don't expect him to do this until the doom's day. However, I am working on Tom to dictate the materials daily or so to a girl and send it in to you..... I still feel sleepy as Sol, Tom and myself stayed up until 4:00 a.m. Anyway, last night I approached to Martha Higashida, who has been helping



Frank Miyamoto right along, and got her consent to be Tom's secretary while she and Tom are here. So, you will receive a letter from Tom about it, and hope it will work out all right.

But as to the future, I rather think it is important to impress Dr. Thomas that honorarium she offers will not be enough. Tom and Martha are willing to do whatever they can for you, but ordinary people no matter how small a time and labour they put in, they seem to expect more. Well, this is just to warn you so that when Tom left, you will be able to take it over with Dorothy, provided you still want it. If, however, we have college kids come back before their induction, the present scheme will be more than sufficient. I was just thinking aloud.

Sol is leaving today. He tells me that Stafford suggested to Oyama yesterday to have a joint meeting of ad members and COUNCIL and COMMISSIONERS regularly, without any preparation, just to see what kind of problems they have in common. I can see beautiful dangers of various kinds, but Oyama Oked it.

College Bound will invite Webb, Social Welfare and Young, Relocation, both from Washington, tonight, and after that we will take them to town. I have whale a lot of things in mind. Another wcc hour session, I must say.

Tomorrow, Harding will get here, and we are anticipating troubles on the matter of food.

So the life here isn't dull. Hope you can set the date for your visit, because both Tom and I have to leave, Tom for good and I for visiting purpose, and we want to stay here until you come. So, please hurry up, or shall we start a riot for you?

Enclosed you'll find a copy of my letter to Paul Rusch, and I'm sure things will be all right.

Always,

...

PS. Do you hear from Mich, Eugene and Renso? Please write to them sometime, as they seem to feel lonesome. Hat-chan, let me assure you that we are enjoying having George so very much. He is a nice, clean fellow and gals adore him when he works in the office. Don't worry because he knows what he is doing. He hasn't started smoking pipe as yet. Slow process, I should say.



April 25, 1945

Major Paul Rusch  
Director of Personnel  
Ft. Snelling, Minn.

Dear Paul,

Thank you very much for your publication for Easter. I'm also enjoying the letters from the Philippines through you. Recently I made a trip to the Pacific Northwest with my brother and Fujiko. Will tell you all about the highlights of the conventions we had over there. The Bishop of Olympia had a letter from his son John, who happens to be in the Philippine Islands. He stated that John had met Bishop Binsted, who was asking about us. I certainly hope that we will have a happy reunion of our friends in the near future.

Now I'm writing to you on behalf of my friend George Kurose, whose family I have known quite well. He is sending his application in to the MISLS, and I trust you will be interested enough to review his files and take some action on it. His serial number is 39524664 he is expecting to report to Fort Douglas on the first of May for active duty. I understand he has to go through basic training somewhere. I am advising him to keep you informed of his whereabouts. If he has to send in another application later, please advise me. George is a remarkable young man and has a pretty solid background of Japanese language. At the time of his induction, he was attending the State College of Washington. I'm sure he will be useful in your line, and if you need more information about his background and ability, I'd be most happy to furnish them immediately.

Also let me take this opportunity to check up on Pvt. Joe T. Shoji, ASN 39931209, Co. C 208 ITB, Camp Blanding, Fla. He will be through with his basic training shortly. With his background of Japanese language, I think he, too, will be most useful in your line. Joe's father is a Priest of the Church, having served thirty-five years in Seattle. At the present time, he working with me at Hunt. I know the family well and that Joe's acceptance into Snelling is the best thing that can happen, for both Joe and his folks have been thinking of ministry as his future, and the Japanese language is obviously needed. Joe had applied for Snelling some time ago. Will you look back on his files at your earliest convenience.

Some time ago, I wrote to you about Pvt. Frank Sugeno, ASN 39931197, Co. B 208 ITB, Camp Blanding, Florida. He, too, had applied for Snelling and is anxiously awaiting his acceptance. As I said in my previous letter, he is a brilliant student and has a good background. He was attending the Bates University in Maine.

Everytime I write you I seem to keep you occupied with the boys. However, you know by this time the boys I recommend will not disappoint you, and I hope these three close friends of mine will be given your special attention and kind consideration. May God bless you always. Thank you.

Most faithfully and affectionately,



J 4/20/45 Friday

1. Birthday and Pipe

Tomorrow is my birthday, and Hattie and I went out to eat for the first time. Hattie thought it would be a good idea if we ate a chop suey. I didn't object because I like it, but was afraid that we would not be able to get any decent Chinese food in Berkeley. We went to the place on University Avenue, and found the cooking very poor. I guess we'll have to go to Chinatown for good chop suey.

We went to look for a pipe for myself, something that Hattie had promised me some time ago for my birthday since I started to smoke. We stopped in a tobacco store, and the man suggested a Kaywoodie. I recognized the brand that Father Joe had suggested as being one of the best. After looking over his case I chose one for \$5. I also asked for some mild tobacco, and he gave me Old Briar, Seeman's, and G. and H. I guess I'll have to try them all before I settle down to a particular brand.

We were going to do some shopping, but discovered that Roos Brothers was not open Friday evening. Hattie insists that I buy more slacks to wear.

I suggested seeing a show, but Hattie didn't want to.



J 4/21/45 Saturday

1. Shopping for Furniture

Got a university car at noon to go shopping for furniture. I arranged with George Sabagh to go together. We picked up Renee, his wife, and Hattie, and first went out to the furniture factory on San Pablo Street. I picked out the largest desk they had for \$14 (unfinished). George and Renee picked out a chest of drawers. Renee said that she liked the book case with cut in steps--something that Hattie wanted me to make, but which I refused to. We also went looking for bricks to two places, but couldn't find any. We then went to Sears in Oakland to see what they had. We saw a kitchen table and chairs for \$17, and decided to buy it instead of looking further for unfinished furniture. We also paid \$20 for a cotton shag rug, 4 by 6. After we got home we found that the side had not been cut straight, and I had to return it the next day. It's the same kind of rug that Renee has, and so I didn't feel so bad about paying so much for it.

2. Eating at Bertola's

George and Renee said that they were eating at Bertola's, and I insisted that we eat there, too. I wanted to know what the place was like so that we would have a place to take friends who drop in. We went a little before 5, and had to wait until it opened. If we waited till later, we would have had to wait. When we left there were about a dozen groups waiting in line to eat. The food was very good and very plentiful--all for \$1.

3. Renee on Rosalie

Renee said that she was shocked to hear Rosalie talk at Morton's that night. I guess most girls would be shocked at that.

4. Renee and George

Renee said that she had a lot of dance records, and seemed to be proud of them. George said that they had more classical records, and the two of them started a little spit. It seems like cultural conflict to me.



J 4/22/45 Sunday

1. Fixing up the Apartment

Washed for Hattie because the burn on her hand isn't entirely healed. Then spent the rest of the day washing windows. It was a job, but the windows shined when I was through with them. They have revived some hope in Hattie that the room still has possibilities. We've discussed getting appropriate drapes to make the place look nice.

2. Steaks

Hattie paid 17 points and bought a porterhouse steak for tonight. There's enough for two meals, and they were delicious.



J 4/24/45 Tuesday

1. Painting Furniture

Now that we've bought an unfinished desk we have to finish it in some way. Hattie wanted a slightly reddish finish. I guess she doesn't want anything like red mahogany, because she didn't like that. Evidently she believes a "natural" finish is too light, since all of our homemade furniture in camp was done in this. This morning on our way we stopped in at the Dutch Boy store on University Avenue. We asked to see some shades, and we decided upon cherry. Since our furniture was unfinished, the man advised stain and varnish. ~~Taxation and varnish had to be~~ I also had to get a brush. To clean the brush I had to get a bottle of turpentine. I asked about an undercoat, and he advised shellac. Then I had to get alcohol to clean the brush when I used shellac. All of it ran into nearly five dollars. I decided that the experience would be worth the expense. I can also paint other things, too.

I went home and was going to sandpaper the desk and stain it right away when lo behold the top of the desk was noticeably warped right in the middle. Of course, it could have happened only because we kept the desk in the sun by the window, but I'm inclined to believe that the material is very poor. I spent some time and a lot of elbow grease planing down the top of the desk, and ended up with a fairly flat surface and some holes caused by planing in the wrong direction. This wasn't really my fault entirely because some planks were put together in the wrong direction for hand planing. I remarked: Yasumonokai no zeni ushinai, and Hattie said that she hoped I understood what that meant now. I guess she put one over on me. You can't expect anything better from wartime stuff.



J 4/26/45 Thursday

1. What to Take

Last night it suddenly occurred to me that since I was fairly safe from being drafted that I could try for a doctor's degree without getting a Master's in psychology. Today I discussed the matter with Dorothy, and found out that the whole thing wasn't as simple as that. In the first place, even if I wanted to get a degree in sociology, I would have to have preliminary training in the field, which I haven't got. Even if I did, a lack of a sociology department makes it impossible to get training in that field adequately. Also, I would still have to make up my language requirements.

Dorothy suggested that it might be better if I did not try for a degree at all--not even a master's. She thought I might profit more from a course of study suited to my needs than a year of work in the psych department. She was thinking of the Japanese language and culture angle that I was trying to capitalize on, and she thought that this would be a very good idea in landing a job. We tried to think of some way in which this could be arranged. I was thinking mostly of getting a degree first, and Dorothy thought that a degree might not mean as much as the proper training. I was also thinking in terms of the three years that I had spent in camp, soaking up a lot of sociological training in the field. I would also be tied up attempting to write up the material for Dorothy, and it would be convenient if I could use some of it for a thesis. Still that would not get me on in the Japanese culture field. She thought of anthropology, but I haven't had any course in that field. Dorothy suggested that I go and talk with Howie about the matter, because I was in need of expert advice.

I thought about the matter during lunchtime. In the past my energies had been scattered in different fields, and the same is true now. I'm trying to go in too many different directions. I couldn't help feeling how really inflexible and so inadequate college education was. One thing that might fill the gap to some extent is research work in modern Japanese society. This will tie in with my teaching program in Japanese language and culture, if I care to go into that field. It will also serve as the connecting link with the present study of the Japanese in America. With that background I can also go into the field of international trade and cultural relationship. There might be a future in just doing research work in that field. The question then is, in what department can I fit in as a graduate student, and still be able to do that work? The only department in which I can do something like it and still get a masters is Oriental languages. The other alternative is to take courses without trying for a degree. I don't know what to do, but I think the thinking has done me good.



Saturday  
J 4/28/45 ~~Sunday~~

1. Initial Adjustment of the Shibata Family

My contact with the Shibata family is largely through Mrs. Shibata, who was one of Ruby's pupils in her Adult English class in Tule Lake. She liked to talk about things in the abstract--being intellectual, as it were--and she eventually told me something about her life when we were in Tule Lake. I knew Yoshimi, too, as a councilman and an officer in the Tule Lake Co-op. I've discussed the boy-girl relationship with him. I visited the family after they relocated to Illinois. When Yoshimi came to Minidoka to recruit for the hemp industry, I saw him then. I have not seen much of the rest of the family. The friendship is not of a long duration, but having been formed at a time of crisis, it has some durable qualities. Yoshimi (28, and the eldest son) said that he was returning to California in March when he came to Minidoka. More recently I heard from Tuttle of the Oakland WRA that the family had come back and had a labor difficulty when all their workers quit on them. I also read about their return in a letter printed in one of the papers, probably the Pacific Citizen. I called up the WRA office in order to find out where they lived. I thought it was Hayward, but it turned out to be a little town nearby called Mt. Eden. Hattie and I decided to visit them on a weekend, and to combine a field trip with a pleasure trip. George and Renee were invited to go along, but they decided not to because they did not know anyone out that way. We took a University car for the trip on Saturday afternoon, and did not have much trouble getting out ~~the~~ to the nursery. We met sailors all along the road asking for rides, but did not stop for any because we did not know where they wanted to go.

The family was busy when we arrived in the middle of the afternoon. Yoshimi was directing two Issei workers in leveling the road leading to the house. He seemed surprised to see us. I had sent a card on ahead, but it did not reach him because I addressed it to Hayward. Mrs. Shibata entertained us for a while in her garden, which was overrun with weeds. She was trimming a Japanese pine tree when we met her. Both she and Yoshimi insisted that we stay for dinner, which we did in spite of the knowledge that rationing made shopping for food difficult. While Mrs. Shibata cooked dinner we had a chance to talk with Mr. Shibata. During dinner I had a chance to see all of the family together, and listen to them discuss matters among themselves. I asked Yoshimi to tell me about the problems that he had met in returning, which he did obligingly, although he tends to exaggerate his story somewhat.

The following account of the initial adjustment of the Shibata family is organized under a number of arbitrary topics for convenience's sake. Wherever possible the opinions of different members of the family is differentiated.



Family Background The family consists of the father, mother, Yoshimi, P.A. (nickname), two other sons, and a daughter, who is completing grammar school this year. Two sons have been in the Army for some time now, and P.A. was drafted in April of this year. The family moved to a white zone (evidently) at the time of evacuation, and then entered Tule Lake, along with other people from the white zone. At the time of registration the family was one of the few in the block which maintained a "loyal" stand, and were one of the many families which were denounced by others as inu. Mrs. Shibata maintained a level of culture in the home, not ordinarily attained by immigrant Japanese in America. On the one hand the family entertained dignitaries from Japan before the war, and at the same time believed in assimilation into the American pattern of life. This combination of factors serves to set aside the family from the majority of the Issei family in America, and for that reason cannot be called "typical." On the other hand, many of the attitudes of the parents are the same as those held by most other Issei, and Yoshimi in many respects can be called a typical Nisei. The family, of course, is more typical of those who have relocated than those who have chosen to remain in the center. Soon after registration and prior to segregation the family relocated to a greenhouse in Illinois, at a time when family relocation, especially from Tule Lake, was infrequent. Most of the family members, except the youngest girl, were working on a wage-scale basis, and the family made a fairly good, although temporary, adjustment as laborers in a greenhouse. Yoshimi had some ambitious scheme for farming and starting in the greenhouse field in the Middle West, but when the exclusion orders were lifted, decided to return to his nursery in Mount Eden.

Property Over a period of about 25 years Mr. Shibata built up a substantial nursery business, growing flowers. He came to own a series of about a dozen greenhouses, a house, a Japanese garden and house, and some farming land. The family was well-to-do enough to allow Mrs. Shibata to indulge in the creation of the garden and a Japanese house. The family was also able to establish friendly relationship with neighbors and businessmen in the district. When evacuation was ordered, Yoshimi had already finished college, and was working alongside of his father. They contemplated selling the place, but reconsidered because they could not sell it for the price that they thought the place was worth. It was left in care of an Italian shipping (?) company. A manager, who was being paid, \$600 a month, was left in charge of the actual running of the nursery. The manager was living in the Shibata ~~XXXXXX~~ home during their absence, and was using their furniture. The ~~XXXXXX~~ Japanese house was left as it was, except that books, screens, and other things were locked into a closet.

Investigation Some of the nurserymen in the district met in January in Denver to discuss the possibility of



returning together. Yoshimi and another fellow were sent out to investigate the possibility. Yoshimi had feared violence and economic boycott. He decided that it was possible to return if he were not scared out by the opposition he would meet. He was given some encouragement by the shipper, but discouragement by the manager. Businessmen in town showed willingness to do business with him if he returned. He expected some labor trouble from the workers, which included about 15 or 20 Filipinos, and planned to bring back a crew of Japanese workers. He asked the company not to tell the manager that he was returning. He sent P.A. to Topaz, his father to Heart Mountain, and he himself went to Chicago to recruit workers. They were able to round up a group of seven Issei and Nisei workers, and the whole family returned to the nursery in the latter part of March.

Trouble with Workers When he returned he offered to keep all of the workers and the manager on the job on the same basis that they had been working. The workers (encouraged by the manager, Yoshimi believes) all threatened to quit. Yoshimi's stand, according to his story, was that if they didn't want to work they didn't have to. Some of the Caucasian workers decided to stay on the job. (He has some Caucasian women packing the flowers.) For a few days, however, the skeleton crew of seven had to do the work of 30. The Filipinos never returned to work, but he was able to build up his crew to about 22 in about a month.

The Filipino workers had a meeting, and seemed as though they might raise some trouble. Yoshimi went to the sheriff, and got them to patrol the place day and night. They promised to be within five minutes of the nursery at all times, and drove into the place occasionally on radio cars. He also told the leaders of the Filipino group that if anything happened they would be the first one to be suspected. He also told them, according to his own story, that evacuees were returning under the protection of the federal government, and that the FBI would protect them, if necessary. This placed the Filipinos on the defensive, besides having a group of ten Japanese (and not one or two) to face. Yoshimi believes that he was right in returning ~~ix~~ with a group of workers, instead of returning alone. He said that some of the Filipinos wanted to work for him, but could not because of pressure from other Filipino farm workers.

Yoshimi's general attitude toward workers is that one has to be tough with them. If they don't want to work, he says, he tells them he doesn't want them. They are being paid 95 cents an hour (his father said 75), and he can't get much work out of them. When he's not around, they don't do much work, he claimed. The Issei workers were good, he said, but the Nisei are lazy.



Other Discouragements The manager (and presumably others opposed to the return of evacuees) placed other stumbling blocks in readjustment. The shipper, for instance, did not handle the flowers for a short period, and Yoshimi got together two other nurserymen (evacuees) and threatened to do their own shipping. (The flowers are shipped daily to Los Angeles in a truck at a commission of 20 per cent.) ~~The~~ A member of the ration board was quoted (by the manager, presumably) that gasoline could not be given to Japanese, but Yoshimi found this to be untrue. Yoshimi evidently had played his cards well, and had won out.

Relationship with the Manager According to Mrs. Shibata, the manager cannot be disturbed from their home for ~~three~~ two months. They have decided to go ahead ~~and~~ and remodel the Japanese house and make plans to live in that rather than to ask the manager to vacate the house. The manager, now the foreman, is still receiving \$600 a month in addition to the use of the house and furniture and utilities. Mrs. Shibata believes that their mild attitude has ~~exasperated~~ aroused a guilty feeling, and he went to look for a house in Hayward, but could not find any. They haven't offered to give up the furniture they are using, even though the Shibatas are living practically without any furniture at all. Outwardly, the foreman keeps a very pleasant attitude toward his employers, but once when he was drunk he said to the workers that the Japanese came back too early. In addition to his salary the manager was making some money on the ~~side~~ side, Mrs. Shibata said, by selling fertilizer, plants and the like. He doesn't like it, she said, because he lost a comfortable source of money-making. Still he's probably anxious to keep the job because he is acting nicely towards the Shibatas.

Business Prospect All ~~of~~ the Shibatas mentioned that they were making money now. Yoshimi said that prices were about three times as high as pre-war prices, and the cost, except for labor, has not gone up very much because of ceiling prices. The manager put in some new plants which are producing flowers, and he is glad for this. He plans to put a lot of his profits back into the business by making improvements, but he's wondering now what is going to happen in the future--deflation or inflation. He believes that it is possible that there might not be a depression because of the abundance of savings at the present time.

Housing Yoshimi has called in architect from Oakland and has made plans to extend the ~~Japanese~~ Japanese house to remodel it for family use. It means that Japanese house, except for parts of it, will lose its pure (cultural) form. The house was built by a Japanese carpenter according to the method of carpentry used in Japan.

Reconstruction The family is intent upon reconstructing the place to its former beauty. Yoshimi is anxious to have the place looking nice as soon as possible, and believes



J 4/28/45 #1-5

that he could do it roughly in about a month. Mrs. Shibata is working on the garden by herself in her spare time. Weeds have grown all over the grounds, which was formerly covered with gravel. Trees are overgrown and need trimming. Fences are down. Children were using the garden and the Japanese house for a playground, and ruined the straw mat and sliding doors. A closet which was filled with books and other belongings was broken into, and many of the things were carried away. The driver of the shipping company actually brought back a set of bamboo screens, apologizing for his act! Mrs. Shibata's comment was that Hakujin were "cute/" (kawairashii), although she probably meant it in a sarcastic sort of way. Fences are broken down, cobwebs fill the nooks of the house, and in general the place looks very much rundown. Mrs. Shibata said that she was not telling anyone that she was back because she wanted to have the place fixed up before anyone came to visit her.

Neighbors I asked how the neighbors were, and she said that people that they used to know before came up and shook hands when she met them. They don't go out except to shop, and ~~doxx~~ do not come in contact with many people. There seemed to be a reluctance to wandering away from the security of the home.

Mrs. Shibata said that they should do what they can to improve their relationship with their neighbors for the future of the Japanese in America. ~~It~~ She believes in being on good ~~xxxxx~~ behavior, and in not upsetting. This could be observed in her attitude toward the manager. She also mentioned that the manager offered to get her chicken in the black market whenever she wanted anyway. But she didn't want it said that a Japanese had resorted to the black market, and has gone without any chicken until now. She herself was not buying in the black market, but she did not to be a partner in any such deals. Mr. Shibata said that since he had three sons in the Army he wasn't afraid of any Caucasian. He declared that it was necessary for a person to obey the laws of the country.

War Both Mr. and Mrs. Shibata showed concern over the fate of Japan. Mrs. Shibata said that it was foolish for America to bomb Meiji Shrine in order to eradicate the respect that the Japanese had for Emperor Meiji. She said that she hoped that the war would end ~~xx~~ in a compromise, but did not assume that Japan was losing it. Mr. Shibata said over the dinner table that Japan should fight a final decisive battle, since she was fighting for the colored people of the world. If Japan lost, he said, then the colored people would not have a chance for hundreds of years. He wondered how the Security Conference was coming along, and then said that he didn't know a thing now because he hadn't been getting the Japanese papers. He couldn't learn a thing, he said, from American sources. He opened a paper which had just come through the mail, and mentioned



that Japan had dropped down 300 American planes, and seemed to believe that Japan was regaining her strength. Yoshimi asked where this was taking place, in a somewhat skeptical manner. Mr. Shibata said the Ryukyus. Yoshimi did not say anything more, evidently not convinced that what his father had to say was true.

Draft Yoshimi was the last of the four sons in the family. ~~xxx~~ The year before he had done some farming, which had deferred him. Then he had worked for a short time as a recruiter for the war hemp industry, which again gave him an occupational deferment. When he returned, he went to the draft board, and looked into the possibility of being ~~xxx~~ deferred for farming on a 25 acre plot. He was told that he could not be deferred unless he was a bona fide farmer. His physical was coming up next month. He declared that he was going to take his chance with the draft and not dodge it. He might come back with a broken leg, he said. He believed that his ~~xxx~~ folks would be able to run the nursery. Mrs. Shibata said that Yoshimi acted as if he didn't care whether he was drafted or not, but was worried about it enough to work for the hemp industry. She wished that the Selective Service Board would leave at least Yoshimi, the eldest in the family, behind. However, she didn't want to make an appeal to the Board, because she didn't want it thought that a Japanese had tried to dodge the draft. Mr. Shibata brought up the subject of the draft without my mentioning it at all. He asked ~~me~~ what my status was, and I said that I was a 4-C for having been in Japan. He said that it was a fine thing because it was foolish to go to war and get killed. He said that if Yoshimi were taken, he would want some young and capable person to manage the nursery. He could do most of the managing, but when it came to difficult negotiations, it was better to have a young person who knew what he was talking about.

Other Japanese Yoshimi said that several other families were back in the nursery business. He thought that anyone who did not own their business would have a difficult time in getting back to the Coast. So far the family does not seem to have much contact with other evacuees back in the area.

#### Girls

Yoshimi asked me who were back in school. I said a bunch of young kids. He said that he ought to get married and settle down, but lamented that he couldn't make any progress with girls. He said that he met Michi Matsushima in the Chicago WRA office, and she didn't remember that she had met him at Father Joe's place.

School I asked Yaeko, the youngest daughter, how she was getting along in school. She said that she was treated "all right." I asked her if her former schoolmates recognized her, and she said that some of them only remembered her vaguely. Mrs. Shibata said that when they left Illinois



J 4/28/45 #1-7

the teacher at the other school advised her not to send her daughter to school in California because of the prejudice, but to let her finish in Illinois. Mrs. Shibata did not feel that she could leave a little girl behind, and the teacher then offered to write a recommendation for her. In it she mentioned that Yaeko was one of the best pupils in school and was being counted on to make a speech at the time of graduation. There were many Filipinos at the school Yaeko is attending now, and some of them are candidates for the speech-making. Yaeko, Mrs. Shibata said, is among the candidates.

Politics When I mentioned that President Roosevelt would go down in history as the greatest president, Yoshimi wanted to know what he had accomplished. Sensing opposition I said that he came through the depression and the war, besides setting up a lot of regulation for the employers.



J 4/29/45 Sunday

1. Akahoshi Family's Plan to Return to Coast

Ran into Seiko Akahoshi, now attending Cal, in a drug-store. She introduced me to Etsuko Honami, another student. I asked Seiko how she was getting along, and she complained that she couldn't get enough studying done. Then she said that her folks had planned to come back to the Coast. Her brother wanted to leave Chicago and come back here, and so her folks have decided to come, too.



J 4/30/45 Monday

1. WRA on Housing

Dorothy has talked with Mrs. Kingman today, and has seen the letter the Fair Play Committee is sending to Myer. They are advising that the WRA decide by September what is to become of the remaining evacuees. They suggest that evacuee leaders be consulted as to what steps should be taken. The WRA is advised to take responsibility for housing themselves.

Dorothy also brought back a copy of a memorandum on housing, which is supposed to be WRA's "revolutionary" effort to do something about the housing problem. The idea is to make someone in the WRA responsible for looking for housing, to sponsor local committees on housing for evacuees, and then to contact every possible source of leads, beginning with the newspaper ads and including newspaper carriers and milkmen. With the housing situation so tight it is doubtful that this meager approach can produce many housing for evacuees.