

# ANDERSON HOTEL

MODERN FIREPROOF  
JEFF L. ANDERSON  
MANAGING OWNER

SAN LUIS OBISPO  
CALIFORNIA

Oct. 12, 1942.

Dear Mr. Thomas:

I guess it seems funny to be getting a letter from this place, but this is where I am, and have been for two days now. We left San Fran Oct 6, and took the Daylight from there to go to Los Angeles. Around San Jose my father looked a little ill, and had to go to the men's washroom. When he returned he looked a little pale and sickly so we made him lay back in the chair, with a pillow in back of him. At Santa Margarita we had to get off of the train, due to a freight car accident ahead, and detoured to San Luis Obispo by bus. By this time my father was in a sort of stupor and had to be carried off and on the train. We became worried and while waiting for the train to get under way once more, we called a doctor. He took one look and said: "This man has had a stroke and should go to the hospital at once" - Well, had to re-ally, we could not stay with him - although the guard wired back to the Center. The guard was a very nice man, patient and considerate and did everything he could for us.

We arrived in Arizona around noon the following morning due to missing our train at L. A. since we were about two hours late. As soon as we arrived at the camp, I went to see what could be done about getting out of camp. Fortunately Mr. Fryer,

(Regional) Regional director of the WRA was there, taking Mr. Eastrom R. Smith's place. until someone else could be found as Project Director. This enabled us to cut a lot of red tape, and the following day (Thurs) I received authorization to come back.

The telegram we received stated that my father was still unconscious and all in all he was in that state until ~~into~~ Saturday. I arrived Sunday evening at 6 p.m. After a long drive up with a Mr. Sol Kimball who was returning to San Francisco. Mr. & Mrs. Earl Waterson of the project were with us, as Mrs. W. was assigned to be my escort.

My father's condition is pretty serious as he is unable to talk at present - his vocal cords being paralyzed, and all we can do now is to wait until he is able to travel, and then take him to Arizona, and to the hospital in the camp so that we can be near. There will probably be after-effects - what - I don't know. I suppose we should be grateful that he has been spared thus far, but when I see him lying on the bed, unable to talk or think, deep down in my heart I feel that it has all been so unnecessary.

I thought you might like to know about the family so besides this, everyone is well. Charlie is the camp social welfare staff and seems to be doing all right.

Well Mr. Thomas, so much for that and my best to Virginia and the rest.

Sincerely, Alice Kikuchi.



October 13, 1942

Mr. Charles Kikuchi  
Camp 2, 65-9-B  
Gila River Relocation Project  
Rivers, Arizona

Dear Charles:

With this note I am including the outline of the Preliminary Report which the group up at Tule Lake hopes to work out. I thought, in looking it over, that you and Earle and I might do something along a similar line.

I wish you would look it over, give Earle his copy and together you might submit something of a like nature. We can discuss it more in detail when I return.

Yours very truly,

Robert F. Spencer

RFS:vp  
Encl. 2

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	CABLE LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	WEEK END LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

# WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

NO.	CASH OR CHG.
CHECK	
TIME FILED	

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

10 - 14 - 42 19

To **Mr. John Landward**

Street and No. **Gila River Relocation Center**

Place **Rivers, Pinal County, Arizona**

~~Charlie's father critically ill.~~ Please check with Charlie as to father's condition and sister Alice's whereabouts. Does Alice need money? Wire answer collect. Charlie has address.

Bob

*Telephoned  
3:47 P.M.*

SENDER'S ADDRESS  
FOR REFERENCE

SENDER'S TELEPHONE  
NUMBER



## ALL MESSAGES TAKEN BY THIS COMPANY ARE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS:

To guard against mistakes or delays, the sender of a message should order it repeated, that is, telegraphed back to the originating office for comparison. For this, one-half the unrepeatable message rate is charged in addition. Unless otherwise indicated on its face, this is an unrepeatable message and paid for as such, in consideration whereof it is agreed between the sender of the message and this company as follows:

1. The company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the unrepeatable message rate beyond the sum of five hundred dollars; nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the repeated-message rate beyond the sum of five thousand dollars, unless specially valued; nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of its lines; nor for errors in cipher or obscure messages.

2. In any event the company shall not be liable for damages for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for the non-delivery, of any message, whether caused by the negligence of its servants or otherwise, beyond the sum of five thousand dollars, at which amount each message is deemed to be valued, unless a greater value is stated in writing by the sender thereof at the time the message is tendered for transmission, and unless the repeated-message rate is paid or agreed to be paid, and an additional charge equal to one-tenth of one percent of the amount by which such valuation shall exceed five thousand dollars.

3. The company is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward this message over the lines of any other company when necessary to reach its destination.

4. Domestic messages and incoming cable messages will be delivered free within one-half mile of the company's office in towns of 5,000 population or less, and within one mile of such office in other cities or towns. Beyond these limits the company does not undertake to make delivery, but will, without liability, at the sender's request, as his agent and at his expense, endeavor to contract for him for such delivery at a reasonable price.

5. No responsibility attaches to this company concerning messages until the same are accepted at one of its transmitting offices; and if a message is sent to such office by one of the company's messengers, he acts for that purpose as the agent of the sender.

6. The company will not be liable for damages or statutory penalties in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after the message is filed with the company for transmission.

7. It is agreed that in any action by the company to recover the tolls for any message or messages the prompt and correct transmission and delivery thereof shall be presumed, subject to rebuttal by competent evidence.

8. Special terms governing the transmission of messages according to their classes, as enumerated below, shall apply to messages in each of such respective classes in addition to all the foregoing terms.

9. No employee of the company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

### THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

INCORPORATED

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

## CLASSES OF SERVICE

### TELEGRAMS

A full-rate expedited service.

### NIGHT MESSAGES

Accepted up to 2:00 A.M. at reduced rates to be sent during the night and delivered not earlier than the morning of the ensuing business day.

Night Messages may at the option of the Telegraph Company be mailed at destination to the addressee, and the Company shall be deemed to have discharged its obligation in such cases with respect to delivery by mailing such night messages at destination, postage prepaid.

### DAY LETTERS

A deferred day service at rates lower than the standard telegram rates as follows: One and one-half times the standard night letter rate for the transmission of 50 words or less and one-fifth of the initial rates for each additional 10 words or less.

#### SPECIAL TERMS APPLYING TO DAY LETTERS:

In further consideration of the reduced rate for this special Day Letter service, the following special terms in addition to those enumerated above are hereby agreed to:

A. Day Letters may be forwarded by the Telegraph Company as a deferred service and the transmission and delivery of such Day Letters is, in all respects, subordinate to the priority of transmission and delivery of regular telegrams.

B. This Day Letter is received subject to the express understanding and agreement that the Company does not undertake that a Day Letter shall be delivered on the day of its date absolutely, and at all events; but that the Company's obligation in this respect is subject to the condition that there shall remain sufficient time for the transmission and delivery of such Day Letter on the day of its date during regular office hours, subject to the priority of the transmission of regular telegrams under the conditions named above.

No employee of the Company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

### NIGHT LETTERS

Accepted up to 2:00 A.M. for delivery on the morning of the ensuing business day, at rates still lower than standard night message rates, as follows: The stand-

ard telegram rate for 10 words shall be charged for the transmission of 50 words or less, and one-fifth of such standard telegram rate for 10 words shall be charged for each additional 10 words or less.

#### SPECIAL TERMS APPLYING TO NIGHT LETTERS:

In further consideration of the reduced rates for this special Night Letter service, the following special terms in addition to those enumerated above are hereby agreed to:

Night Letters may at the option of the Telegraph Company be mailed at destination to the addressee, and the Company shall be deemed to have discharged its obligation in such cases with respect to delivery by mailing such Night Letters at destination, postage prepaid.

No employee of the Company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

### FULL RATE CABLES

An expedited service throughout. Code language permitted.

### DEFERRED HALF-RATE CABLES

Half-rate messages are subject to being deferred in favor of full rate messages for not exceeding 24 hours. Must be in language of country of origin or of destination, or in French. This class of service is in effect with most European countries and with various other countries throughout the world. Full particulars supplied on application at any Western Union Office.

### CABLE LETTERS

For plain-language communications. The language of the country of destination may be employed, if the Cable Letter service is in operation to that country. Subject to delivery at the convenience of the Company within 24 hours if telegraphic delivery is selected. Delivery by mail beyond London will be made if a full mailing address is given and the words "Post London" are written after the destination. Rate is approximately one-third of the full rate; minimum 20 words.

### WEEK-END LETTERS

Similar to Cable Letters except that they are accepted up to midnight Saturday for delivery Monday morning, if telegraphic delivery is selected. Rate is approximately one-quarter of the full rate; minimum 20 words.

John C. Henderson  
Gila river Relocation Center  
Rivers, Arizaon

Straight Telegram  
Oct 17

~~XXXXXX~~ please check ~~XX~~ condition ~~XX~~ Kikuchi's father and family  
~~XXXXXX~~ financial status. Wired Landward Tuesday; received no reply.  
Wire reply collect-~~XX~~ 2710 Garber St. Berkeley.

Thomas

Bo



## CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION (55)

1201

## SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NT = Overnight Telegram

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENTNEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD1942 OCT 18 PM 2  
C. C. CLEVER  
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

FV139 31 DL COLLECT=RICERS ARIZ 18 1055A

DOROTHY THOMAS=

C-119

DUPLICATE OF TELEPHONED TELEGRAM

2710 GARBER ST BERKELEY CALIF=

KIKUCHIS FATHER SERIOUS CONDITION BUT NOT HOPELESS DOCTOR  
SAYS UNABLE PREDICT ACCURATELY FOR TWO MORE WEEKS RECOVERY  
FAIRLY CERTAIN BUT MAY TAKE MONTHS NO FINANCIAL PROBLEM AS  
WRA MEETING EXPENSES=

J C HENDERSON

OK charge to  
T/H 89833028 mail  
Rd

KIKUCHIS MONTHS WRA

alice haruka kikuchi

Oct. 18, 1942

Dear Mr. Thomas:

I guess I should have written sooner, but things have been so rushed and hectic, I haven't had much chance.

Thank you so very much for inquiring about my father's condition, both you and Mr. Spencer. As far as we know, there is no immediate danger - my father has had a paralytic stroke, and is unable to move his right side at all. When I was in San Luis Obispo - he had just come out of his coma, and as far as I could see, he did not recognize me except at intervals.

The doctor has reassured me that he will come out of it all right, and as for after effects - it is still a little too early to tell. For, as he says, he is a rather old man who has been sick before, and who has had a stroke once before.

The present plan is that as soon as this hospital in Camp is ready, we are to notify the hospital, who in turn will let



we know if he is able to travel. If he is, he will be brought to Arizona and put in this hospital. The doctor in charge says that it will be a long recovery, but he thinks it will turn out all right.

From my observations, my father did not seem weak at all, in fact, he seemed quite normal, except for the fact that he is like a new born babe - cannot think - only to obey his natural instincts such as eating, and just looking at people. He cannot talk at all, and makes no attempt at speech. This was caused by a paralysis of his vocal cords.

As for your doing anything to help - I really appreciate the gesture (as does the whole family) but there doesn't seem to be much of anything to do - only to wait until the blood clot dissolves and he recovers his speech. Eventually he may have to have massage treatments, which we could do, using his barber's massaging

machine.

As for money - my trip and expenses, plus the escorts, was all paid for by the WRA, and Mr. Fryer, who is the Regional Director, has been most considerate. My escort, Mrs. Earl Watterson, is the wife of Mr. Watterson who used to be in the Administration as Acting Supervisor, or something similar, and was very nice to me the whole trip.

Upon my return to camp, I found that Charlie had secured additional leave of three days for me, however, I was already on my way back. There was nothing I could do there at the time, so that was all right, I suppose.

The doctor has stated that he will ask for my presence when my father is brought here, and we have asked Mr. Fryer too, so it may be that I will be able to go out once more to accompany him back.

Well, that is about all

I can say now - we are awaiting developments and the patient in the next bed has promised to write me a post card every other day or so, to let me know how he is progressing.

Must close now to go eat lunch - we all appreciate your interest in our family, and are grateful in having such friends on the outside who think of our welfare. Will write you any new results.

Sincerely,  
Alice Kikuchi.



Letter to Alice Kikuchi from Tapa  
A rather full and significant document.

November 4, 1942

to be  
copied

Dear Alice:

Thanks a lot for your letter and I hope that both you and your dad are feeling much better. When do you expect him back, or rather, when will he arrive at Gila.

Am working in the Warehouse, but the setup is so different and since I have nothing to do at all, am quite bored. Since Mrs. Endo was very kind to give me a senior rating I should have no kick coming, but if you know me, I like to be busy once in awhile. The personnel and supervisor are not half as nice as they were at Tanforan.

I do not know whether you have found it so at Gila, but the attitude here is very different. I just can't seem to place it, but including me, I feel so restless. It seems utterly useless to work your best and one is always thinking of getting "out". Perhaps this is the reason why nothing has begun here. No talent shows, no Forum, no musicales, no nothing. Just a movie. None of the recreation halls have opened as almost all of these are used for such things as offices. The school building have not been built, so barracks are being used and half the time, there is no school on account of coal shortage or inclement weather.

Everyone was congratulating me because I missed the terrible dust-storms that raged and they thought that another like it would not come up since most of the roads were paved, but their guess was wrong. Yesterday from morning till late at night, the wind just blew and blew and the dust was everywhere--like a dense fog. Inside the rooms the dust accumulated. They just seeped through the cracks along the floor and under the window casings. There is still snow on the ground and it is past noon. The sun is out, but the air is nippy. Most of the workers including girls are receiving mackinaws as our coats are just too thin for this cold. So everyone is wearing the complete costume of headgear, leggings and breeches looking like a Manchurian police. My jacket comes down to my knees so I wear it as an overcoat.

Just as I thought, all the good office positions have been taken by the first comers and even though I am experienced, no one is going to kick another amateur out just to make room for me. So here at the Warehouse, I am more or less supposed to be the head of the girls, but since I came last, am taking orders from someone just twenty years old, and that sure gripes me no end.

I suppose you have been receiving letters from your friends telling you how desolate and barren this place is, and that by just looking at the same grey barracks without any green foliage, you feel so discouraged and forlorn. If any more days like yesterday come up, all of us will really go crazy. You live, breath, and really eat dirt. Even the tea tastes that funny dry dust smell. It is so dry here that stale cookies and crackers soon become dry and crisp!



Both Harry and George are working here and so is George. George is only a part time worker as he has to go to school. Harry feels the same way about his job. Gets no enjoyment out of it as at Tanforan.

How are your chances of getting to Chicago? I have written to all the Civil Service Agencies in California regarding my civil service eligibility, but to date have not heard from them. Am just keeping my fingers crossed, and hope for a half way decent and courteous reply. Hope you will get out of camp soon. If there are any possibilities for me there, please let me know.

Our Young People's advisor at our Church in Oakland finally arrived here from Florida to teach in the High School. She sacrificed a good job with the Relocation Committee in Chicago to be near us and to help. So far she is quite disgusted at the way things are planned and enforced, but since she is here only as a teacher nothing can be done. She says that some of teachers cannot even spell and that some of the Nisei college graduates who are cadet teachers are far superior. Just by looking at the teachers, I think I could teach ~~her~~ better than they, and that is not saying much either.

One thing my friend told me is that living on the outside is getting more difficult every day and rationing is making them suffer too. She says that she will not be able to save any money by working here as taxes are so high and there is the 10% bonds that they are more or less obliged to purchase.

Two of my brothers are out of camp, and at Provo picking apples and they are due back "home" very shortly. ~~xx~~

At your hospital there is a Caucasian Nurse working, Mrs. Frances Singh. She is a very good friend of my family, and if you should ever come in contact with her, please tell her that you know me, and I am sure that she will be very friendly with you. Certainly wish we had nurses here who are cooperative with the Japanese. The ones we have here are very inhuman and discourteous to the doctors and workers. So far they kicked out the dirty nurses, so I suppose the hospital will be rid of undesired Caucasian nurses if they yell loud enough.

For every meal including breakfast we eat potatoes and turnips. We hardly see meat and although the quality may be better than at Tanforan, we certainly do not get much of anything. I can classify myself as a vegetarian--not vegetarian, but a starchian or something. Today for lunch we had rice, creamed potatoes, beets, corn (canned), turnips, and tapioca pudding. Do you see anything green and nourishing in this meal? Oh yes, mustn't forget the bread with apple butter.

Am sorry that this letter is not on the cheerful side and from the looks of things I do not expect much improvement unless something drastic happens. Everyone raved about the perfect administration, but there are only a few who are truly sincere and think for the betterment of the Japs interned here. One of the young Caucasian Administrators was called down for being friendly with us. You see, he is more broadminded as he went to school the



same time I did--in fact the same school. All the old foggies are not quite so broad in their views and work here only for the materialistic goal. I suppose this is the same everywhere.

Hope this letter did not tire you too much and that you too will find time to write more. So far you are the only one I know at Gila aside from Tom.

As ever,

Sachi

Tom Kibuchi

14-1-B

Riverside, Arizona

Dec. 7, 1942

Dear Doctor and Mrs. Tomas,

I received the canvas a few days ago and didn't write to write you sooner because I was busy making Christmas presents.

I didn't use the canvas yet because I don't think my chair is good enough for it.

Charley took my garden and made it bigger to make a lawn so I guess I have to find another place for my garden.

On my way to school this morning I saw a Jap flag flying up on top of the hill and a airplane flying around above it so some twelfth grade boys went up and tore it down.

Later I was asking the boys about it and found out that some Issii men put it



there. They also said they should have  
left it there and stuff like that so  
I called them dirty yellow japs and  
left

Well thats about all I can  
say so I ll stop now

Sincerely  
Tom



Camp 2  
65-9-B  
WRA Project  
Sacaton, Arizona

Dear Jack and Alice:

I had meant to write right away, but I couldn't get up the ambition immediately. You are probably anxious to know everything. Yesterday, Bette and Emiko wrote and I don't know just how much they covered so I hope you will bear with any repetitions.

I may as well be realistic and describe things just as they are. Now don't get a premonition of anxiety; it's not that bad. Yes, it is hot, but cooling off rapidly. Yesterday it was only 98% and there was a breeze in the afternoon, which was transformed into a dust storm because of all the dust around here. However, I am getting ahead of the story so I will jump back to the beginning and progress forward.

We had to ride into S. F. in that panel truck all stuffed in with the luggage. As I passed through the gates, I suddenly became conscious of the fact that I was leaving Tanforan, probably for good. The ride into the city was terrific. All that carbon monoxide poured into the car and Tom and Earl got sort of sick. I thought for a minute that Tom was going to throw up. It was quite a thrill to get into SF again. For the last time, we felt that dripping fog. I was amazed to see all of those cars going to defense plants with war workers. We got caught in several jams and had to crawl along. Things have definitely changed. ~~Even~~ The city was plastered with billboards all carrying signs and ads with a war motif. Even the political signs were like that: "Re-elect Olson", blah, blah,.

We were unfortunate in having a very stupid guard "Fuddy Brains" who tried to give the kids a lot of scare talk about the ugly feeling against the Japs in the camps and how there was a danger of mob action, etc. From the beginning, we had no incidents of any sort and the ~~only~~ only looks that we got were glances of idle curiosity. The first thing that Tom did in the station was to go buy a lot of funny books, and Emi and Bette got some movie magazines to read on the way. I did not have a chance to phone Mrs. Jarvis as the train was pulling out at 8:15. We made the unfortunate mistake of lugging two heavy grips along, plus the blankets! Gad, they were heavy! Emi took her phonograph also. We kept lagging way behind and our dear guard got all excited because he thought that we would miss the train. A negro porter came along and offered to carry the grips in his hand truck! I wanted to give him a tip, but he would not take it, saying "keep it, boy, I know how it is to be shoved around by the white boys."

There is not much use in describing the details of the trip since Emi and Bette have already done that no doubt. I don't think that the guard liked us very much because we were not submissive enough. He wanted us to ask him permission to even go to the toilet, but we just ignored him.. The trip down on the Daylight was very pleasant. The kids were slightly carsick and they dozed most of the way down. We thought that we would have a chance to see LA, but old fuddle is like an excitable lady and he said that it was too dangerous, etc. We snuck outside for a few moments anyway, and Tom got caught by Fuddle and he was given hell. ~~Yusa~~ Yusa and company stayed in that stuffy MP office and Earl's mother got all excited and tried to bawl me out for not making the kids behave. Tom met one of his old sailor customers from Mare Island in the terminal building and the fellow said hello to him. The rest of the time we just sat around and gabbed with the MP's about the movie stars. They treated us swell and were very nice to us. They even took us on the train for Arizona through a special door so that we would not have to stand around too much.



What a difference between the Daylight and the Argonaut. The "A" was an old fashioned car and we had to sit in stuffy old seats. It was a full train and every available seat had to be used. You can imagine the torture we went through that night. The lights went out around 11:30 and we tried to sleep. We could not put the shades up because of blackout regulations. Emi and I made a lot of cheese and cracker sandwiches and passed them out to the Portuguese family who were traveling with us. The rest of the time we just read or talked. It was so damn hot just as soon as we hit LA, Tom finally got a card playing board out and put it on the floor and slept on it. He slept like a log. But he kept pushing out into the aisle and we had to keep pushing him back in so that he would not get his head stepped on by the people passing. Around 2:30 Earl, Tad, and I went to the ice room between the cars and we got nice and cool. Ear had some grape-fruit juice and we iced and drank that. The train did not leave the State until 3:30 and there was nothing but miles and miles of desert. We happened to be out there yet when we hit Yuma. The only thing notable about that town were the neon signs advertising justices of the peace for marriage ceremonies. We could of jumped off the train easily, as they opened up to load on some more stuff. They unhitched the car and we had to rush back inside our own so that we would not be left behind. The moon and stars were about the only things to look at beside the desolate desert. For the rest of the night we slept very fitfully.

Tom was a bit peeved the next morning because he lost his pearl handled knife. We made up by ordering a 1.25 breakfast and Fuddy got mad at us. It started to get hot right away. I will start the applications for your transfers immediately but you will have to go to the hospital and make them get sleeper accommodations for Mom and Pop because they can not walk up and down those aisles and it will be too hard for them to stand all of those discomforts that we went through.

The train did not arrive in Casa Grande until 10:30. Bob Spencer, the fellow working on the UC project was there to pick us up and he let us do a little shopping. You should have seen those townspeople crowd around the doorway to look at us. Some of those little Indian girls look just like Japanese. We drove the 15 miles in an Army truck. Felipe, the Indian driver, was very good to us. He is a big 250 lb. Indian and he said that the Pima Indians sort of resented the Japs moving in on their reservation. He said that we were different from the other Japs, because we spoke such good English.

It was hot as hell--102 degrees--but it felt like more. We were all tired out and were anxious to get settled, but this was not to be the case. Bob took us through Camp 1. This camp has about 6500 people in it and is much more complet than ours. It was a very trying time getting settled and our reactions were similar to that of the first days of Tanforan, only we had the heat and the dust to contend with. Yesterday, it was 98 degrees and the aide de camp here said that it is getting cooler daily. Naturally, we suffered much more because we were not used to it. The best way that I can describe the heat is to compare it to the peach picking weather up at Marysville, only this heat does not take so much out of a person. The fellow said that he was ffrom Utah where they were just setting up the camp there, and it was almost as hot there. They have a bigger problem in that water is scarce. You can realize that conditions will not be the same as Tanforan--from the climatic point of view. But we are already getting used to the weather. The evenings are nice. It cools down very rapidly. The first night we did not use any blankets, but last night we used one. There was a nice breeze blowing through. Tom has been making himself very useful by running to the mess hall to get ice water. I have to struggle with him from drinking too much, or else he will get sick. Bette has boiled out the kettle so that we could boil our water and Dr. Thomas has given us diet instructions and some medicine to prevent getting disintary.

The Army has been shoving people in here so fast that it has been impossible for



the Administration to house them adequately. Our camp is very incomplete and looks discouraging because of all the dust and ditches. They are putting the water lines in now and later on the roads will be fixed up so that there will not be so much dust. A lot of the barracks have to be built yet and until they are finished, the people will have to double up, six to a room. There are about 75 square blocks in this camp. The High School and Administrations buildings have yet to be built. Later on, couples and families of four will have separate places of their own. No screens have been put up yet so that we have to contend with the flies and the bugs attracted by our lights in the evenings. The rooms are fairly large and much better than the barracks at Tanforan. The roofs have a double roof--that is, there is one roof with tar paper and then a foot higher they have put on another slate or tiled roof. The walls are of asbestos and they go all the way to the top. Later on they will put in lawn and in the houses stoves and gas lines will be installed.

We had to go to about 11 different places before they found us a place. Nobody wanted to take us poor orphans. The housing head finally broke down and assigned us to a new unit, but he said that another couple would have to move in with us in a few days. I tried to get two medium units for our family, but they would not give us a place because of the ~~existing~~ crowded conditions. He said that he would give us one as soon as they finish building them. I think that I will be able to get two four bed apartments.

To date, Emi and Bette definitely don't like it here; and they have made many disparaging remarks about the place. Although they have not said so in words, they resent being brought here. But they only go on a comparison with Tanforan, and the fellow from Utah, ~~Em~~ says we are much more luckier to be here. Since I have not been in Utah, I don't know. Of course the attitudes of a person makes a lot of difference. The Administration here is damned good. They plan to set the place up on a co-op basis and all profits will accrue to the community. They don't have too many college Nisei around so that it will not be a hard matter to get a job. I don't know what I will be going into yet. I am taking it easy to adjust myself first.

Tom and I hung a couple of the blankets up on the rafters so that when and if a new couple have to move in, they can have the lower third of the room. This is a lousy setup, but only temporary. The kids have been swell helping around and we have not had one big argument yet--which is pretty good considering the trying conditions which we are under at first. From now on, the weather will be much cooler and perhaps by next summer they will be acclimated to the heat. Of course, you can realize that I am put in a difficult position, because everything will be in comparison to Tanforan, and not Utah. Eventually the physical facilities here will be much better. We have better food here, I think. We can take milk home. No dishes to wash unless we bring our own. Everything around the place is new equipment. I am getting some cheese cloth from town if Bob can buy it and then we can put it over the open windows. We haven't even opened up our blanket roll yet. We take lots of baths (me too) so that we have been just laying on the mattress and blankets (all new). There are odd varieties of bugs, but I have not heard of any snakes or scorpions around the camp yet. Felipe said that they have all been scared away. A lot of the kids go up into the hills for picnics. There is no fence around the place and only one military guard in each camp. There is perfect freedom to roam around between camps--3 and  $\frac{1}{2}$  miles away--and no curfew or roll calls or anything like that.

To the east of us, there is a large butte with a big water tower located on top of it. Every block has rec halls, latrines, laundry, mess halls, and ironing rooms. Each block has 14 buildings and each building will house only four families. Space is very adequate and there is much more privacy in the living quarters.



They have put searchlights and guards on the lumber piles so that it is difficult to get lots of lumber, but I don't think that you will have to worry too much about that. We will be able to collect some. Last night we swiped some from the pile, Earl chickened out on us and went to the scrap heap. Emi and Bette sure made a lot of fuss over bringing home one two by four--you would have thought that they were robbing a bank or something. We have collected about 7 of these nail barrels for seats and I have built a table with the able supervision of brother Tom. He gives it his unconditional approval and says that it is pretty good. I am not going to put up a lot of stuff here as we will soon be moving out--as soon as you arrive.

A lot of the people in this area have built ~~porches~~ porches as an addition to their house. Most of them have made some sort of platform or a bench to sit outside on. The latest fad is to plant cactus gardens and one old man we saw is making a cement rock garden.

Most of the people in our district are from Turlocks and quite rural. Some of these mothers sit out in the porch breast-feeding their babies, and they act quite countrified. Some of them have bad manners and come wandering into our room without knocking so that we are going to put a sign up. I ran into a Grant Shimizu who says he knows you, Alice. Jean Yamasaki lives around the corner from us. Yukio Wada, Dr. Baba, Verlin Yamamoto, are some of the other former Bay Area people.

Our 21 pieces of luggage has not arrived yet. When you come, be sure to check everything except the absolute necessities, Jack, or else you will have to be lugging everything. Emi and Bette were willing, but they got tired.. They did pretty good though. Tell Pop that there was only one hole in the floor and we covered it up with a board. Everynight we shake the blankets out for bugs.

I think that I will build a book case with some of that lumber we got. There is not much use of building a closet for somebody else, and besides I would make a horrible job out of it. Alice, you had better bring a lot of cotton cresses. Be sure to contact Dr. Thomas, Alice, and I will initiate proceedings from this end so that we can get together easily and with the minimum of red tape. Try to get a doctor's certificate or approval to be moved in a couple of weeks so that it will not be so hot by then and things will not be so incomplete around the place. Pop better bring some of his diet food on the train and for a day or so here. I don't think that we will have too much trouble getting him fixed up.

Can you tell the paper staff some of the details of the place? I had to borrow this typewriter and I won't have time to write another letter now. Give them my address so that they can send me the Totalizer. And if you are there when the final edition comes out, how about picking up my 15 copies. There is not a camp paer around here yet. Will write more details when I get around a little.

Love from all of us,

Chas.

January 4, 1943

Dear Mr. Thomas:

I am enclosing the filled out blanks you desired, and am writing to thank you for the nuts you sent at Christmas. We are enjoying every one of them and more so because they are scarcely seen in these parts.

Bob arrived unexpectedly Sunday morning and warned me not to lose the blank - because he saw with his own eyes that they were the last two at the University. He is still ① reading comic books ② catching flies and ③ annoying Blackie and ④ cursing all the little Children of the World. Other than that, we have not started work as yet because of the excitement of this morning - my release has



come through and all I have  
to wait for now is my permit.  
Mr. Randward is ~~wiring~~ wiring  
in for the permit tonight, and  
says it should be in within  
the next week. However,  
I will be allowed a two-week  
period to get ready.

It doesn't seem likely  
that my father will be  
transferred here within  
the next month or so, as  
this hospital is very under-  
staffed and there aren't  
adequate facilities.

We all hope you  
had a Merry Xmas and  
that this coming year  
will be the best so far.

Thank you again  
for your gift and W. I's,  
and a special thank-you  
from my mother who also  
sends best wishes to you  
both.

Sincerely -  
Alice Kikuchi.

January 3, 1943.

Dear Dr. Thomas —

Happy New Year to  
both you and the other  
Dr. Thomas!

I guess I'm sort of  
late to thank you for the  
de-lish-us nuts that you  
gave us for Xmas, but  
"better late than never" so—  
thank you very much Dr.  
Thomas.

We really had a very  
nice supper on both Christmas  
and New Year's day. Turkey  
for Xmas, & duck on the latter.  
It was really good!

Mother and the family  
all say hello to both you  
and Dr. Thomas and a  
happy New Year too.

Sincerely,  
Emiko Kikuchi.



Dec. 7th.

Dear Dr.<sup>and</sup> Mrs. Thomas,

It was really wonderful of you to send the sugar, canvas, and kool-aid. We don't know how to thank you for such a luxury as sugar. Tom was so surprised and pleased when he received the (can) canvas for his chair.

The weather has become very cold here in Arizona, especially in the morning. I dread to get up for breakfast and school. I have to bundle myself like a butterball when I leave for school and I'm still so cold. I feel as if I could break into a million pieces.

My mother sends her best regards  
and hopes both of you are well.  
Our best regards to two people  
whom we admire very much.

Yours respectfully,

~~Emiko~~ Kikuchi

Mrs. S. Kikuchi.



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

EVACUATION AND RESETTLEMENT STUDY  
207 GIANNINI HALL  
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

Sept. 21, 1943

Mrs. M. Wilson,  
University of California,  
Berkeley, California.

Dear Mrs. Wilson:

I am struggling along as an office manager pro tem of the Chicago office and I have taken care of the delivery of the last checks to the four persons to whom they were addressed. I have not been able to determine whether all of them have filled out their Employees' Withholding certificate but will do so as soon as possible. Enclosed is the certificate for Louise Suski. She received a check in the amount of \$70.56, dated August 31, 1943, and you indicated that your payroll showed \$88.20 for her. Evidently a straight 20% was deducted from her salary so that I suppose she will have to claim it from the government at the end of the year. Last month she received a check of \$24.00 for 50 hours of work so that evidently 20% was also deducted from that salary as according to our computations it amounted to \$30.00 without any tax deductions taken into consideration. Would it be possible for you to inform her how she can collect this refund as her taxes should not have been a straight 20% of the total. I assume that with the certificate which she is sending, that this difficulty will be straightened out for the following months.

Sumi Iguchi's check was in the amount of \$41.88 as compared to your payroll showing \$52.35 so that evidently a straight 20% deduction was taken from her. Tom just came in and he said that it was his understanding that there were certain brackets set by the Treasury Department and any person who is toward the bottom of a particular group is taxed the full amount charged to the entire group. Furthermore, taxes higher for those who work on an hourly or weekly basis than for those who are on contract or working on the monthly basis. Could you please send us some clarification on this matter so that our office help will understand the amount that has been deducted. I have not talked to Togo Tanaka or his wife yet so that I don't know what their correct checks should have been. The ones I am holding show \$49.90 for Togo and \$18 for his wife. Am I getting the whole thing confused?

Enclosed also you will find a receipt in the amount of \$7.50 for the renewal of the typewriter rental which Frank has asked me to get out for him again. Since I paid the amount the refund on the expense account should come to my name. Could you also send our office a supply of airmail stamps and some large envelopes 4x9. We have a sufficient supply of other office material at the present time.

Will you please tell Dorothy that I have been hav-

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

EVACUATION AND RESETTLEMENT STUDY  
207 GIANNINI HALL  
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

(2)

ing continued trouble with Bette's school problems. She has been kicked out of the high school and they will not readmit her until I have paid the non-resident tuition of \$196.00 a year. I have contacted a number of organizations but apparently the Board of Education will not change its ruling. I have also had to pay the full tuition fee for Emiko in the Junior College. Fortunately she received a scholarship so that this problem is not so acute. I will send her fuller details on the school situation as soon as further progress is made. Will you also tell her that Tom returned from St. Louis on Friday and he is happy at the progress he made down there. I presume that he has sent a letter already to this effect. Will you also tell her that I received a phone call from Michi saying that she had heard from Frank in Washington and that he is making very good progress but he suffered some stomach trouble the other day and he has to go on some kind of liquid diet. I don't know the full details of his ailment.

Tom dictating: Whatever most people say I take with a grain of salt but what Charlie says I take with two grains especially with reference with St. Louis. More seriously we are contemplating either cutting Sumi's rate of pay or dropping her all together. She has worked faithfully but her work is much too slow and consequently too expensive. I'll take the matter over with her and let you know. Before the 25th I'll send you the rate at which she is to be paid, if at all.

Tom says that he will send a check for the amount of money he did not spend during his trip to St. Louis. I am hoping to send in another case CH-11 within a week, I hope. The elevator in this building has been out of commission for about a week and it is indefinite as to when it will be in working order again. This means that we have to run up and down five flights of stairway to answer phone calls. Would it be possible for us to make some inquiries as to whether we could get a phone installed in our office. We make a number of phone calls during a month and it would be much more convenient for us to pay the bill in one lump sum. The arrangement will probably be a charge for each individual phone call so that there would not be much difference in the total monthly amount. All it would mean is that it would be easier for other people and agencies to reach us during office hours and it won't be necessary for Miss Torrell to come chasing up here and it will also mean that I would not have to exert myself physically so much which is the most and crucial consideration!

Very truly yours,

*Charlie*

Charles Kikuchi

CK:L  
Enclosure: 2



September 24, 1943

606

Mr. Charles Kikuchi  
502 Social Science Research Building  
University of Chicago  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Kikuchi:


Re: Withholding Tax Exemption

Your letter of September 15, 1943 to Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas of the Evacuation and Resettlement Study of this University has been referred to this office.

In order to change your withholding exemption status it will be necessary to execute the enclosed form W-4, and return it to this office.

We do not have any ruling relative to evacuees on leave whose wife and children remain at the Center, as you point out in your letter. Therefore, you may claim such dependents by following your understanding relative to the ruling of the Bureau of Internal Revenue in filing your corrected Employee's Withholding Exemption Certificate.

Yours very truly,

  
O. Lundberg  
Chief Accounting Officer

✓ Enclosure

cc: Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas

LFM:RA

100  
m. Symons

Rm 12 Social Science Bldg.,  
University of Chicago,  
Chicago, Illinois.

February 1, 1944

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Blumenthal:

I have consulted my legal adviser in regards to my housing problem which is of great concern to both of us. The following paragraph is the rough interpretation of the information which my legal adviser relayed to me from the Legal Office of the Defense Rental Control Division of the OPA.

According to the OPA interpretation, eviction from any apartment cannot be accomplished without formal charges through their office. In this particular case, the interpretation of our case was that the landlord must first file a petition showing that the apartment in question is going to be designated for the purpose of employee use. After that the occupant who is renting the apartment has 90 days before he is compelled to move. However, this order will not go into effect without conclusive proof that the apartment has been and will continue to be used for purposes of employee use. If the apartment is re-rented before a period of six months instead of being used for employee use, the manager of the premise is liable for penalties in violation of the OPA regulation. In the case in question, my legal adviser has informed me that it will only be necessary to produce the receipt for the first month I stayed in your building and this would be conclusive proof that I moved in on a rental basis and not as an employee. As far as the dissatisfaction with the work is concerned by my sister, this is entirely a secondary issue and does not pertain to the primary disagreement.

Although I realize that a strong case could be made in my behalf on the basis of legal rights, I have no intention of creating a major issue out of the situation. I have given the matter careful consideration and I have decided that life is too short to be creating resentments and emotional disturbances over such an issue as we are faced with. At the same time, I have fully realized that you are under some emotional and nervous tension due to the illness of your son. My sisters and I fully sympathize with you at this time because we know that you are laboring under a heavy mental strain. In view of this, I will attempt to locate another apartment as soon as it is possible. However, I know that you appreciate our position also, and it may take a little time to find suitable quarters. I have contacted a real estate representative to locate a suitable place for me. At the same time, we will also be looking on our own, however, I hope that you understand that we do not have a great deal of spare time to do this since I am working full time and my sisters are attending classes. If you have any suggestions as to



possible apartment prospects, I will appreciate it very much.

As for our personal relationships, I agree that you have been very fair-minded in all of our contacts and we do appreciate that. In return, we have also attempted to accommodate you as much as we were able. I hope that there will be a continuance of this favorable relationship.

In view of the fact that my sister's work has been a source of tension, I deem it most advisable that she shall not continue to do the work upstairs any further. I ~~hope~~ to find suitable housing arrangements as soon as possible. I know that you have an understanding heart about our position and it will take a little time. In a day or so I will send a check or money in the amount of \$15.00 for the rental of our apartment until February 15, and further rental payments will be forthcoming, if necessary. Again I re-iterate that as far as we are concerned, we have no personal feelings of antagonism on this matter. We hope that our relationships will continue to be on this favorable basis, as I am sure that it will. I am perfectly willing to discuss the matter further with you if you deem it advisable.

Very truly yours,

Charles Kikuchi



Nov. 21, 1944

Dear Mrs. Wilson:

In my Employee's Withholding Exemption Certificate I am listing the 3 members of my family as dependents on the basis of the illness of my mother and my monthly contribution to their added support. If I did not send the small sum, it would mean that they would be on relief in the center. My sister, Bette, was 18 on July 3, 1944 so I should receive the exemption for half a year for her. Since she is still under my support, I have added this cost and assumed that it ~~was~~ is a contribution to the general family support. I suppose some question may be raised about this, but I'll take a chance on it since it is unlikely that my card will be taken out as a sample to be checked upon. I hope I don't run afoul of the law but I think my reasons are legitimate and I really am putting out money for the support of the family.

We are in need of some more yellow second sheets. We have about 4 reams on hand but the shipments take quite a while so we are putting in an order at this time. We could use about 10 reams. We could also use a few typing ribbons and a couple of reams of bond paper. We have less than 50 sheets of Evacuation and Resettlement Study letterheads so we could use them too. We have sufficient envelopes for the present.

I sent in some Diary entries and a case document for Dr. Thomas this morning so could you notify her in the event that she has not left for the Salt Lake conference yet. I sent the stuff by express collect. I'll probably have some more things to send in at the end of the month or shortly thereafter, I hope. Thank you very much.

Yours very truly,

*Charlie*

Charles Kikuchi



4257 Cottage Grove, Apt. 1,  
Chicago, Illinois.

August 6, 1945

Dear Mr. Adamic:

It's been some months since I've last written to you but I have been very busy with my work on the University research. We have been studying problems of the evacuation and resettlement for the past three years. My work has been centered here in Chicago and I have been emphasizing individual adjustments and problems in my particular phase of the job. I have also been doing some field work on the resettlers here. It has been a very interesting and educational job; but on next Friday, August 10, I am terminating this work to be inducted into the Army at last. I am quite glad that I will be in the armed services since I believe that the principles involved are worth fighting for. My work during the past three years has contributed to the war effort in some constructive way, I think, but now I will be more directly connected with it--that is, if I am not rejected for physical reasons.

There are about 10,000 evacuees resettled in the Chicago area at the present time. The War Relocation Authority is planning to close the remaining nine centers by the end of this year, but it will be a tremendous job to resettle 52,000 more people into the normal stream of American life. The 50,000 plus who have gone out during the past two years seem to be making some satisfactory adjustments and many of the young people have had the opportunity to engage in various types of work which they never had a chance to before. Only about 7,000 have gone back to the Pacific Coast thus far, but there may be an increasing number by the end of this year. My brother, Jack, is out there in San Francisco now working in the shipyards while waiting to gain admittance into a medical school. He is married to a girl of Filipino extraction who has just graduated from Stanford University. Jack may be going into the Army very shortly too. My sister, Alice, is up in Minneapolis with her child; her husband is in the Pacific with the intelligence unit.

The remainder of my family is here in Chicago now. After 27 months, we have finally managed to get them together. One sister is in cadet nursing in the local Mt. Sinai hospital and making very good progress. Another sister is attending the University of Chicago. There are two younger ones still in high school. My oldest sister is also here in Chicago with her husband. Things seem to be turning out very satisfactory for us.

In the course of my work I did a further follow-up of my life history and I would like to know if the University study under the direction of Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas could have permission to use some of the material which you used in your book, "From Many Lands", on my life story. Dr. Thomas will write to you for specific permission for direct quotations and full credit will be given. I



don't know what she plans to do with the material, but I think that she has in mind the publication of a monograph on case documents. It is a very tentative plan as far as I know. The Study has not published anything yet because of certain restrictions placed upon the material. I believe that Dr. Thomas has plans for a series of monographs on the whole evacuation and resettlement which will come out after the war. We have had a fairly large staff up to now, but the draft and other causes have reduced it considerably. However, the Study will continue for some months yet.

I had been taking a limited program in the graduate school of Social Service Administration here but I have had to discontinue it with my pending draft. My post-war plans are indefinite and I haven't given it too much thought yet. I would like to work in some phase of race relations but I have not investigated the possibilities at all because of my work and studies up to this time.

If I ever get a chance to be near New Jersey after I get inducted, I shall make every effort to come see you and your wife. It is rather difficult to tell you of all my experiences since the time my brothers and sisters and I visited you and your wife at the Clift Hotel in San Francisco in 1940. The past five years have been crammed with interesting experiences, and I think that I have learned considerably. One thing that it has done is that it has convinced me that it is possible for minority groups in this country to become integrated into the American way of life, and that it is not an impossible dream to achieve such a goal even though the process may be difficult. The evacuation in itself gave the Nisei the impetus in this direction, and it was not completely in vain, even though certain of our democratic principles were strained during the hysteria following Pearl Harbor. I have talked to a large number of resettled Nisei during the course of my work and the consensus of the opinion seems to be that they no longer wish to return to the more segregated patterns of the pre-war Japanese communities on the Pacific Coast because of the greater opportunities they have found in the Midwest and East. There are still many problems facing this group but the outlook appears bright in many respects. Post-war adjustments may be difficult, but that is true of other groups. Some 20,000 Nisei from the mainland and Hawaii are now in the armed forces, and a large group are playing an important part in the Pacific War through their specialized intelligence activities. I doubt if I will be placed in a Japanese language Army center because of my lack of knowledge of Japanese. I don't particularly care to do that anyway because it would be too difficult a process for me. I'd rather serve in some other branch of the service.

At any rate, I shall try to drop you a line occasionally if the Army does not take too much of my time! Best regards to your wife.

Sincerely,

Charles Kikuchi