

407-A WRA  
Tulelake Project  
Newell, California  
August 30, 1942

Hello Virginia:

Shib probably has written to you about the strike which we had ~~last~~ week or so ago. The people did not call it a strike; they merely said that they were too hungry to go to work and didn't. The following step ~~was~~ to determine the cause for the food shortage and after that to go to the administrative ~~see~~ <sup>to</sup> see what could be done about it. The colonists did just that. I thought we might be getting something exciting out of it, but it didn't turn out that way. It cooled off. Tomorrow or the next day we might have another farm labor trouble. It has been in the air for the past few days. The workers are seemingly using any and all pretext to get into some sort of a fight. It might be just to get some excitement. And on the other hand it might be just the expression of their restless nature. The sore point is the mess house out in the field which was supposed to be put up weeks ago but it hasn't been and the weather is getting colder each day. It rained last Wednesday and Thursday. For the past three or four days it has been very cold. The food they get out in the field is relative better than the camp food but it must be eaten out in the open. The patience of the farmers is wearing thin. Mr. Hirrell has informed the farm group that the 12 dollars class will be automatically be raised to 16 dollar class. The tractor drivers who are receiving 16 dollars per month said that if the common laborers are to get the same amount for wages as they, they will walk out. Just how that will be rectified I do not know. There are rumors that the mess hall is being built but I haven't seen the lumber out on the field yet. There are dozens and dozens of outhouses from the CCC camps here, but shucks what good are piles of outhouses on the farm anyway.

We just shipped out a carload of mixed vegetables- turnips and ~~table~~ beets (half and half) to Manzanar and Poston. Because of lack of raw materials and of supplies, altho we were to have shipped out the car three days ago, the car was not loaded until yesterday. We had to work until 10:30 PM last nite. On Friday we started to pack but since there were no rubber aprons and rubber boots the men refused to pack. Even now men are complaining that the cold ice is ruining their clothing and shoes. They want warm clothing and safety type shoes (iron toes) when working in the sheds. They are just griping right now but it could very easily turn into something else. If these men wanted to, they can put out great number of cars in one day, but they just don't want to for the sum of 16 dollars (new policy effective immediately for shed workers, but effective Sept. 1 for others). The men were persuaded to work in the shed last nite because we told them if they did not work ~~there~~ <sup>the</sup> people in Manzanar or Poston will have to go without fresh vegetables because the SF office had cancelled the Quartermaster orders for turnips and beets assuming that Tulelake would furnish them on ~~at~~ a certain date. We will have to do our work on schedule for if we tell the men this every time the car is late, then the men will begin to say that we are ~~just~~ saying that the people in Poston or Manzanar would go hungry ~~which is not true~~.

At present there is a rumor that the men will lay off work as soon as they get their farm clothing allowance. The clothing is 1918 army coats and breeches.

Yesterday I understand that the CCC people ~~are~~ asking for their trucks so we will lose about 40 trucks. I wonder how we are going to get 500 men out to the fields for cultivating and harvesting work let alone hauling the stuff into the packing shed here in camp. The trucks remaining will have to do double and triple duty running at nites to haul food to the mess hall, haul coal and lumber for heating and cooking.

The whole set-up in agriculture section is still disorganized or should we say unorganized. This is true also of the packing shed.

Til later so long..

Regards to Bill....

Raj

The enclosed check is a  
payment for rent for  
June

Lloyd W. Lehmann



November 13, 1942

County Tax Collector  
Alameda County  
Oakland, California

Dear Sir:

Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas, 207 Giannini Hall, University of California, has been authorized to receive rental payments from the residence of Haruo Najima, 331 Sixth Street, Oakland. Mr. Najima is now at the Tule Lake Resettlement Project.

Will you, therefore, send the tax receipts against the residence at 331 Sixth Street to Dr. Thomas at the above address. Payment of these receipts will be made by Dr. Thomas.

Yours very truly,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology

GLM/vp



November 13, 1942

Mr. Haruo Najima  
407-A, Tule Lake Relocation Project  
Newell, California

Dear Naj:

I was commissioned yesterday as communications officer in the Navy. I will, therefore, be unable to take care of your property in the future. However, Dr. Thomas has agreed to take over the control of your house and to receive and account for the rental payments. She will also take care of the payment of your city and county taxes which are due this month.

As soon as I am permanently stationed, I will send you my address.

Very truly yours,

George L. Mehren  
Instructor of Agricultural  
Economics

GLM/vp

P.S. It would probably be wise for you to have drawn up a power of attorney, authorizing Dr. Thomas to perform the same duties and exercise the same powers which you accorded to me. Any Notary Public or any member of the Bar can draw this instrument.



November 13, 1942

Mr. Lloyd Lehman  
331 Sixth Street  
Oakland, California

Dear Mr. Lehman:

This will acknowledge receipt of your  
cashier's check for \$30 of October 30, 1942.

Will you please send all subsequent  
checks to Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas, 207 Giannini  
Hall, University of California, Berkeley. Dr.  
Thomas will take care of Mr. Najima's finances  
hereafter.

Yours very truly,

George L. Mehren  
Instructor in Agricultural  
Economics

GLM/vp



Dear George Mehren —

I am sorry to trouble  
you again but I lost  
the name of the new person  
to handle Mr Najima's  
business. Would you send  
me it again.

I Lehmann

Lloyd Lehmann  
381 6th st  
Oakland



December 4, 1942

Mr. Lloyd Lehman  
331 Sixth Street  
Oakland, California

Dear Mr. Lehman:

This is in response to your note asking for the name of the person who is to handle Mr. Najima's business. This person is:

Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas  
207 Giannini Hall  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

Yours very truly,

George L. Mehren  
Instructor in Agricultural  
Economics

VP



exl. 9600.

Geo L. Mehren

Dear Dr Thomas

This is the last note I received from  
6 Mehren. It is the response to my  
~~first~~ request to get your name and  
address the second time because I lost  
it when I first sent. The important fact  
is I enclosed as months went with  
the note. There is the record of a  
\$30.00 money order drawn on Nov  
28 at the 8th St branch of Bank  
of America to substantiate this. Possibly  
you can contact Mr Mehren's secretary  
to ~~refresh~~ refresh her memory as to what happened  
to it.

must have received stub  
of check. He should go  
to bank & stop payment  
can't be traced without great difficulty, without # of

Yours truly

Lloyd Lehmann

stub.



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

EVACUATION AND RESETTLEMENT STUDY  
207 GIANNINI HALL  
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

December 4, 1942

Mr. Lloyd Lehman  
331 Sixth Street  
Oakland, California

Dear Mr. Lehman:

This is in response to your note asking for the name of the person who is to handle Mr. Najima's business. This person is:

Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas  
207 Giannini Hall  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

Yours very truly,

*Geo. L. Mehren*  
George L. Mehren *ty Y.P.*  
Instructor in Agricultural  
Economics

VP

*over*



December 18, 1942

Mr. Lloyd Lehman  
331 Sixth Street  
Oakland, California

Dear Mr. Lehman:

As you know, I have taken over Dr. Mehren's duties as the administrator of Haruo Najima's property. It suddenly occurs to me that I have not received your check for the December rent, and I wonder if there might be some mixup in the matter. Dr. Mehren has left for naval duties and it was my impression that he had informed you to send the rent checks to me. However, in the rush of his last minute preparations he may have forgotten to do this. In any case, I would most appreciate hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

D. S. Thomas  
Professor of  
Rural Sociology

DST:rj





Naval Training School  
(INDOCTRINATION)  
UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
TUCSON, ARIZONA

Melrose

Dear Dorothy:

I return your welcome greeting. You will be pleased to know that Tucson becomes quite bearable. There is but one secret - if one follows the crowd and carefully avoids all thoughts, other than those peculiar and unmentionable notions appropriate to week end liberty, he prospers mightily. And so I have relaxed into a lethargy disturbed only by that damned 0530 bugle.

The last check with which I recall having contact was the one dated deposited 11/13 to your account. The balance there was \$154 as I remember. Any check map as that referred to by Mr. Schmann should be available at the bank at which he drew it. I really don't remember the situation but I am sure that no such check came to me.

You will probably continue to have your unusual experiences while your project goes on. Between



us, I have had quite a few  
myself in the last 2 days. (There  
are only 39 to go.)

I would be greatly pleased  
to show you those parts of  
Jussou I know - viz, the ship  
and the bars. But let me know  
well in advance. We get out  
from Saturday about 4 P.M. then  
Sunday to 9:30 P.M. If we stand  
watch, we get less time. So drop  
me a note about a week in  
advance.

Say hello to everybody, give  
my regards to W. S., and an  
especially large amount thereof  
to yourself.

George

Drop a note whenever you can  
It gets down dull here. Address  
Battalion 3, Company 2, Platoon 4,  
USN TS; Jussou, Ariz



December 30, 1942

Mr. Lloyd Lehman  
331 Sixth Street  
Oakland, California

Dear Mr. Lehman:

I feel sure that my letter of December 18 calling your attention to the fact that I have not received your rent for December must have gone astray. It would be a great convenience if you could send me the December and January rent by return mail, if possible and I should greatly appreciate it if rent for the following months would arrive as soon after the first of each month as possible.

Very sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology

DST:vp



Dec 30, 1942

Dear Dorothy Thomas,

I am very sorry to have put you to the trouble I have concerning the rent for this house.

Professor Mohren recieved the December rent, for which I have the receipt. My plan was to write you when sending the January rent and clear this matter. It has been my habit to send the rent in during the first week of the month, the continuation of which will be satisfactory, I assume, from the letter just recieved.

Yours

Lloyd W. Lehmann



Jan 2 1943

Enclosed find the rent for  
331 6 St Oakland

Lloyd Lehmann



January 7, 1943

Mr. Lloyd Lehman  
331 Sixth Street  
Oakland, California

Dear Mr. Lehman:

Immediately upon receipt of your letter, I wrote to Ensign Mehren. He tells me that the last check he received from you was the one deposited on November 11, and that no check arrived any time during December. I am sure that your memory is playing you false and that the receipt you have from Ensign Mehren is for the November rent.

I hereby acknowledge receipt of the January rent, and urgently request that you check up immediately on the situation and send me the check for December so that I could straighten out poor Mr. Najima's account.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology.

DST:mw



January 18, 1943

Mr. Lloyd Lehman  
331 Sixth Street  
Oakland, California

Dear Mr. Lehman:

Your letter received regarding Money Order  
for \$30.00 drawn on the 8th Street Branch of the Bank  
of America.

I must apologize for troubling you, but I  
find it will be necessary for you to take the stub of  
the Money Order you sent Mr. Mehren to the bank and  
have the check stopped. The bank will then make out  
another Money Order in the amount of \$30.00, which  
kindly forward to me.

It would seem that Mr. Mehren took your note  
out of the envelope and left the check in the dis-  
carded envelope.

Hoping you will manage to get this straightened  
out and clear the matter up.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

mw.



Feb 4

Dear Dr. Thomas,

As you requested, I enquired at the bank concerning a duplicate of the lost Money Order for my December rent. The assistant manager gave me the following instructions to the person who misplaced it:

1. Go to a notary Public and swear the money order lost.
2. Deposit a bond with the bank of at least \$60 value. This should preferably be a property bond as it must stay in the hands of the bank a number of years.

Enclosed is my February rent.

yours  
Lloyd Lehmann



February 6, 1943

Mr. Lloyd Lehman  
331 Sixth Street  
Oakland, California

Dear Mr. Lehman:

This will acknowledge receipt of \$30.00 for Mr. Najima's February rent.

In order to clear up the question of the December rent, I have consulted the Evacuee Property Division of the War Relocation Authority, and one of their agents will probably call on you in the near future.

I sympathize with you in this position, and I believe that you did send the "lost" check. However, Mr. Mehren's absence complicates the entire procedure, and I am so pressed for time that I can't do any more myself. To handle the matter through the official established channels seems the best way. I presume the War Relocation Authority officer will want to see your receipt for the December rent, and I think you will expedite matters by having it available when he calls.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas



February 6, 1943

Mr. Russell T. Robinson  
Chief, Division of Evacuee Property  
War Relocation Authority  
Whitcomb Hotel  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Robinson:

Confirming our telephone conversation of February 6, I hold the power of attorney for Haruo Najima, formerly of 331-6th Street, Oakland, California, at present at 407-A, Tule Lake Relocation Project. He owns a house at 331-6th Street and has rented it to Mr. Lloyd Lehman at the rate of \$30.00 per month. When he was evacuated, Mr. Najima gave power of attorney to Dr. George Mehren, Instructor of Agricultural Economics at this University. Mr. Mehren got a commission in the Navy in November, and at that time the funds which had accumulated were turned over to me. I obtained power of attorney on January 5, 1943, in Modoc County.

When Ensign Mehren turned over the funds to me on November 13, 1942, he gave me a money order for \$30.00 covering Mr. Lehman's rent for November. This was acknowledged. The December rent had not arrived, and I wrote to Mr. Lehman on December 18 to check up on the matter. Mr. Lehman replied on December 30, as follows:

"Professor Mehren received the December rent, for which I have the receipt. My plan was to write you when sending the January rent and clear this matter."

I wrote to Mehren about this, and received a reply early in January as follows: (Mr. Mehren's address is Battalion 3, Company 3, Platoon 2, U.S. Naval Naval Training Station, Tucson, Arizona)

"The last check with which I recall having contact was the one deposited on November 13 to your account. The balance was \$154 as I remember. Any check such as that referred to by Mr. Lehman should be available at the bank at which he drew it, but I am sure that no such check came to me."

Mr. Lehman's claim that he has a receipt must be erroneous, although I am inclined to believe that did draw



February 6, 1943

the money order. I therefore wrote to him on January 7 and asked him to check up immediately on the situation at the bank. I am quoting his letter just received:

"As you requested, I enquired at the bank concerning a duplicate of the lost Money Order for my December rent. The assistant manager gave me the following instructions to the person who misplaced it:

1. Go to a Notary Public and swear the money order lost.
2. Deposit a bond with the bank of at least \$60 value. This should preferably be a property bond as it must stay in the hands of the bank a number of years."

Since we seem to have reached an impasse, I should be grateful if one of your agents would call upon Mr. Lehman and ask to see the receipt and clear the matter for me as I do not want to bother Ensign Mehren unnecessarily.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

DST:mw



Dear Dr Thomas,

The Bank promises to make  
out a duplicate money order  
next week for the Dec rent. I  
will send it right on

Enclosed is the rent  
for March

Yours  
Hoyd Lohman



LETTER TO H. NAJIMA RE STATUS

OF PROPERTY BANK A/c

ENCLOSING STATEMENT

Filed in H. Najima Misc. Corres.  
File

March 11, 1943



Dear Dorothy

This comes the other  
day and I send it on to  
you.

My last letter from  
Noy seemed to reach  
the very depth of despair -  
and I could loan him  
Peter for a while - then  
he wouldn't have time  
to brood.

My best to you and W.J.

Glen Melman

2-25-43



March 30, 1943

Mr. Lloyd Lehman  
331 Sixth Street  
Oakland, California

Dear Mr. Lehman:

This will acknowledge receipt of \$30.00 for Mr. Najima's March rent. I haven't acknowledged your check earlier, as I have been waiting to receive the check from the bank for the December rent, which according to your note was to have been sent the following week. This check has not been received to date, and as the War Relocation Authority has notified me that they want to close this case, will you be good enough to get the matter settled with the bank immediately.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

mw.



## WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

In reply, please refer to:

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, OFFICE  
WHITCOMB HOTEL BUILDING

Evac. Prop.

February 25, 1943

Miss Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
207 Giannini Hall  
Berkeley, California

Dear Miss Thomas:

We wish to inform you that we visited Mr. Lloyd Lehman at 331 - 6th Street, Oakland, California, shortly after we conferred with you relative to the payment of \$30.00 rent for the month of December for the property belonging to Haruo Najima.

He informed us that he had purchased a money order on November 28, 1942, for \$30.00 from the 8th and Broadway Branch of the Bank of America and that he had mailed it in a letter which he mailed to Professor Mehren shortly after that date.

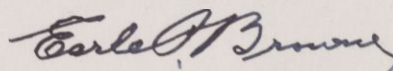
He stated further that he had received a reply to questions asked in that letter but no mention had been made of the money order having been received. We later checked with the bank and found that such a money order had been purchased by Mr. Lehman on November 28, 1942, but that this money order had never been presented to the bank for payment.

We thereupon arranged with the bank to issue a duplicate money order to Mr. Lehman upon his filing a surety bond to protect them against the original money order being presented.

The details of this arrangement were conveyed to Mr. Lehman over the phone and he agreed to execute such a bond and obtain a duplicate money order which he informed us, he would forward to you to clear up this situation.

We should be pleased to have you let us know as soon as this money order is received by you so that we may close our files on this case.

Sincerely yours,



Earle P. Browne  
Evacuee Property Supervisor  
Evacuee Property Office





March 29

Dear Dr Thomas

At last I finally got the money for  
the back rent thanks to the help of Mr  
Evans.

You will find both checks enclosed —  
for April and last December

Yours

Lloyd Lehmann



April 3, 1943

Mr. Haruo Najima  
407-A  
Tule Lake Relocation Project  
Newell, California

Dear Naj:

We finally got the matter of the 'lost' check for the December rent cleared up with Mr. Lehmann. This morning we received two checks from him, one for December and one for April. So we are up to date now, and everything is all right.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

mw.



April 28, 1943

Mr. Lloyd Lehmann  
331 Sixth Street  
Oakland, California

Dear Mr. Lehmann:

This will acknowledge receipt of check in the amount of \$30.00 in payment of the rent of 331 Sixth Street for the month of May.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

DST:mw



April 3, 1943

Mr. Earle P. Browne  
War Relocation Authority  
Whitcomb Hotel  
San Francisco, California

Re: Evac.Prop.

Dear Mr. Browne:

We received a money order this morning from Mr. Lloyd Lehmann in payment of the December rent of 331-Sixth Street, Oakland, property of Haruo Najima. We are glad this matter is now cleared up, and thank you for your co-operation.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

mw.



April 3, 1943

Mr. Lloyd Lehmann  
331 Sixth Street  
Oakland, California

Dear Mr. Lehmann:

I am glad that the matter of the December rent is finally cleared up. The two checks, one for December and one for April, arrived this morning. I will write the War Relocation Authority and inform them of the receipt of the check.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

mw.



May 31, 1943

Mr. Lloyd Lehmann  
331 Sixth Street  
Oakland, California

Dear Mr. Lehmann:

This will acknowledge receipt of your check for  
\$30.00 for June rent of Haruo Najima's house. Thank you  
for the check.

Sincerely yours,

Morton Grodzins  
Research Assistant

MG:mw



June 23, 1943

Dear Naj,

Please reply to this letter airmail. The Lehmann's have bought a house and are moving out. A very nice Negro woman wants to move right in. Her name is Mrs. Frances Mason. Her sister, husband and son would be with her. Her sister works in a Nursery school, her son works at Moore Dry Dock and her son at the Army base. She herself works for Mrs. Lehmann. To tell you the truth, she impressed us (Morton and me) more favorably than did Mrs. Lehmann. But I don't know whether or not (purely from the property standpoint) you would feel that there is any reason not to rent to Negroes. If so, for Gods sake, let me know immediately. If your decision is adverse, maybe you had better wire me. (Morton says he trusts the Negro woman much more than "the fishy eyed white lady who looks like a dishonest Jew" to him) Anyway, there is certainly a nice mixture of racialism.

The Lehmanns, without permission, moved the bathtub downstairs. I don't know what I can do about it. It needs a piece of linoleum under it. Guess I had better provide it. Also, the roof has been leaking, so we will get someone to look it over, give an estimate, and repair it, for it is not good for the property to have the thing go too long.

I certainly hope we are not taking any chances with your property. Morton and I will drive down to see the house, which I have never seen. Since I didn't see it before, I won't be able to tell the extent of deterioration, but can give you some idea of its general state.

Morton wants to know whether we should ship your camera and photo equipment to you, and if so to what address.

All here send regards,  
Yours,



5152  
3408-13th St. N.W.  
Washington, D.C.  
June 26, 1943

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Apologies for not having written to you. No excuse except that I am lazy as hell and this d---- Washington weather has been "getting me down". As far as the weather is concerned I have become "acclimated" more or less. The work-- is sort of interesting- get to know a little ~~about~~ bit of what is going on in this office, but "it gets you down". If you know what I mean. Men here say this or that should be done because of past experience but god damnit will they ever get off the two bit piece and do something. And then.... do they know what they want and how to "propagandize" to get these things done. So far I haven't found things much more stimulating than at Tule Lake...

Regarding the house. You may rent it to anyone who you think will make a "good" tenant. In fact, I would be highly pleased to have this negro family use our place. They are having one hellava time finding a place to stay, if Washington is any example of how the negros are treated. From your letter and Morton's professional observation this family seems to be "tops".. so proceed. I had asked my brother who is at Tule to send you the list of stuff I left with the Llehmans, but just in case he forgot this is the list:

- 1 brown twin bed with Simmon springs and blue stripped mattress
- 1 small brown table
- 2 (?) book cases
- \* kitchen chairs (probably about 4, excluding the chairs ~~with~~ with the dining table \*)
- \* 1 large movable plywood clothes closet (upstairs room)
- 1 floor lamp
- 1 end table
- 1 piano bench
- 1 sofa and 1 overstuffed chair
- 1 rug
- 1 dining \*\*\* table with leaves for expanding and 6 (?) chairs
- 2 pipe wrenches
- curtains and blinds in most rooms (except one room upstairs, bath

These are

room and kitchen)

kitchen

These are the only things I remember. The piano, stove and <sup>refrigerator</sup> are theirs. The small gas heater in the front downstairs room belongs to the house. If any of the above is missing, don't worry about it. Hell one would expect to lose things. I hope I haven't lost too many stuff\* stored downstairs in the basement.

Regarding the bath tub, I think Llehamm mentioned that he wanted to move it, I think I told him that it would be o.k. As far as the keeping up of the house goes, I leave that up to your discretion. I don't know just what is wrong ~~and~~ I'm in one hell of a position to say anything about it. I hope I am not putting too much burden on you. Mrs. George Peterson (Dr. Peterson's widow), I think, has the copy of my house insurance, I will write to her and ask her to mail it to you. The insurance should be good for almost a year more, if not will you have it extended. Because my status here in Washington is uncertain will you ask Morton to keep ~~where~~ on the Coast. He might as well use it. If he will bring it to George Merwin, photographer on ~~The~~ Telegraph Av and Sather Gate, George can have the camera sent up to Portland and a leather ever-ready case made for it. It might be easier for Morton to use the camera then. I will pay for the case. Because of scarcity of films it might be wise for Morton to purchase a photometer, General Electric is the best to my knowledge,



July 3, 1943

Dear Naj:

The enclosed letter was dictated by Morton. Its purpose is to put a scare into Mr. Lehmann. He is obviously a very careless fellow. We know perfectly well that you haven't got the Bills of Sale for the items listed, but we would like you to estimate their value. I think we can clear this whole matter up very quickly, but let us have a letter from you by return mail, if possible.

Mrs. Mason reported that there definitely was a heater in the front room which was moved, but Mr. Lehmann claims that it was his heater. The mattress is a great mystery, and I think he must have it because I don't see how he could have used the bed without the mattress.

There's one item that I wish you would pay particular attention to. You have said several times that you have stuff stored in the basement, whereas there are many boxes, pictures, etc. actually in the open under the back part of the house. If Lehmann moved those things out of the basement, I will insist that he move them back.

On the whole, I don't think your house has suffered any great damage. It really looked quite good to me. Of course, after the war you'll have to make some improvements, but it ought not to be too costly. I shall go into the question of having your roof repaired, however, for the kitchen ceiling shows stains that indicate it is leaking. According to my Power of Attorney, I am authorized to make expenditures of no more than \$25.00 at a time. I wish you would write me a special note saying that you authorize me to have the roof repaired, and to use my judgment as to how much to pay. I suspect it will cost more than \$25.00. I believe the Masons will take better care of your property than the Lehmanns did, as they seem to me to be persons of responsibility and to be genuinely sympathetic. I hope I am not wrong about this. Incidentally, you may be amused to know that Mrs. Lehmann is Italian, so she isn't the "dishonest Jew" that Morton suspected, though she may be a dishonest "wop." I'll telephone Mrs. Peterson right away and find out about the insurance. With all those things under the porch, there is certainly a considerable fire risk, and it would be a shame to risk losing your things. Do you think your insurance is really adequate to replace your property in case there were a fire?

So much for your house. I'll keep you informed of



it will save many pictures and number of films used. I will need one some day, so if he will buy one ~~for me~~ now and let me pay for it, it will be swell.

Dies Committee has been putting the pressure on the ~~Dies~~ WRA and since Myer is to go to a Hearing next week we have been busy as hell getting information, particularly statistical in nature, ready for him. Registration reports have been pouring into the office from the centers, they sure are interesting reading. We are also reading over the questions and answers to the Dies investigators as they come in from all centers. The latter reports on Dies investigators are transcript records.

Tom wrote and asked for some info and also asked me to keep my eyes open, ears open and my "nose clean" .... I'll try. No promises. I might not be able to keep them. My stuff ..notes etc just arrived yesterday from Tule. Have them hidden in the basement of the place I'm staying. Dies has been investigating or rather rumored to have investigated certain of the evacuee WRA workers.

Thanks for everything and my regards to Morton, Virginia, and to Miss Lynn and Cummings.

sincerely,

*Ray*

P. S.

Met MRB on the streets the other day.

Have some interesting news on the Joel side trip. What do you know on the Joel side, mine is from the CIO headquarters.

*Ray*

P - C - L - R - U  
or 1 331-6th St  
L C - A - R - L - E  
- C - 6 - A - U - 6 - 7



$$\begin{array}{r} 147 \\ 20 \\ \hline 940 \end{array}$$



later developments. I had a long letter from Kay. As you know, he has had tremendous difficulties on his job and has finally resigned. He is looking for other work now. He is planning to write up his part of the report on the farm for us, and he informs me that you are also writing up your part. This is indeed good news, for the Tule Lake report will certainly be inadequate unless we can get that farm section in hand. We had a quiet month on the study in which not much progress has been made, but everybody is working hard again, and I feel quite optimistic. W.I. sends his best.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure



3408-13th Street NW  
Washington, D.C.  
July 5, 1943

To Whom it May Concern:

An extension and addition to the Power of Attorney for the property located at 331-6th Street, Oakland, California has been given to Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas.

Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas shall have the right to employ or hire men and to purchase necessary materials to repair the leaky roof of the house located at 331-6th Street, Oakland, California. Dr. Thomas is authorized to make expenditures over twenty-five (25) dollars at any one time on this job.

HN

Haruo Najima

*Haruo Najima*



3408- 13th St. NW  
Washington, D.C.  
July 5, 1943

Dear Dr. Thomas,

It appears that I am causing you great deal of trouble on this house deal. You know it might not be worth all the trouble. After all they aren't worth very much anyway.

The stuff which you mentioned stored under the storeroom was placed there by us. The basement proper was, as far as I remember, empty of any of our stuff. At the time of evacuation the potential "colonists" were so ~~rased~~ rushed and scared that they didn't know what to do. Many of my folks' friends have asked us to store their possessions. It was with their approval that ~~many of~~ the stuff you ~~can~~ find under the house, under the storeroom where ~~placed~~ stored. I have no way of knowing just what things were under the storeroom and what things were under the house. I have a rough idea, but that is about all. When it comes to the question of number of each item, I am lost. However the people who stored the stuff under the house did so with the understanding that it might possibly get lost. I hope not, for in many instances these few items represent the total material "wealth" salvaged at the time of evacuation.

Regarding the gas heater and mattress. Lehmann might be correct, but I feel quite certain that I left those items out for him to use. In fact, as far as the mattress goes, I'm quite sure that I left it out for him. The gas heater issue is somewhat vague, but I "sorta" recollect that his heater was too large to fit onto the gas line. I do not remember storing it. However you might check the storeroom. The heater is a small brown one. It's dimensions are such that it might ~~basely~~ fit into the former fire place with few inches to spare at the top. Both items are cheap stuff anyway, so if it takes too much time or if there is too much fuss we might as well pass over it.

The insurance, I think, was for only \$1000- sort of a token insurance. I doubt very much if I could have even gotten that if the company knew that the house was being used partially for a store house.

now just

I don't know ~~just how~~ how I should word the note stating that you are authorized to spend more than \$25 dollars for repairing the roof, but I'll make a stab.

I don't know just what arrangements should be made with the Masons with respect to the kitchen range. We have one stored, but it is in the back room and it would be "awful" difficult to get it out. I understand that kitchen ranges should be furnished with the house. Please advise.

I'm still waiting for some of my stuff to come from Tule. Had a brush with Tokio Slocum at the Dies Hearing. Not in a very comfortable position right at this moment. Will write details later. Can only say that Dies and Costello are b.....ds. Masaoka and Tajiri at the Hearings. Myers to go on Wednesday.

Could you send me Kay's address? Did Bob B. get you the copy of the unfinished report we were working on for the Tule High School? I understand it wasn't very good, at least my section was pretty bad.

What is Morton going to do about the camera case? I might be able to find a taylor made one here in Wahsington.

Regards to WI and Morton.

sincerely,

P.S. 'Xmas typing, but what can I do about it?



July 3, 1943

Mr. Haruo Najima  
407-A

~~Tule Lake Relocation Project~~  
Newell, California

*Statistical Division*

*W.R.A.  
Washington, D.C.*

Dear Naj:

We have had a little excitement with regard to the rental of your house, and I write this letter (1) to inform you of what is happening; (2) to tell you the measures we are taking; and (3) to ask some information and advice from you.

Since the Lehmann's moved out several days ago, I decided to visit the house yesterday so that I could be sure your building and your furnishings were in good order before the Mason's moved in. I took Morton Gredzins, in his capacity of legal adviser, with me. We went over the house very carefully. It showed some marks of usage, and was in the usual state of disarray that a house gets in when it has just been vacated. However, the building as a whole seems in well enough order. We checked the inventory of goods you sent us very carefully, and found the following items missing:

1. 1 Twin bed with springs and mattress,
2. 1 Piano bench,
3. 1 Small front room heater,
4. 2 Pipe wrenches.

Since we had the new address of the Lehmann's, we immediately went there to inquire about these missing items. We could find nobody home except Mrs. Lehmann's sister, who said she knew nothing about the household affairs. However, I had Mr. Lehmann call Morton yesterday evening, and Morton reports the following: Mr. Lehmann acknowledges that the movers took from your house by mistake: (1) the bed and springs (but not the mattress); (2) the piano bench; and (3) "at least" one of the wrenches.

Mr. Lehmann says, however, that before you left he told you that he would not have use for either the front room heater or for the mattress, and that you, consequently, put them away. He had not used them, though he thinks, nevertheless, that they may have been moved with the rest of his stuff and that he may be able to find them. Mr. Lehmann called Morton a second time to say that he would have somebody clean up the house thoroughly before the Mason's moved in.

Morton reports that Mr. Lehmann appeared to be very sorry



Mr. Haruo Najima - 2.

July 3, 1943

to have caused us trouble and anxious to rectify any errors made. He will move back those things he has at the beginning of next week. However, I am still concerned about the unaccounted for mattress and front room heater. It is my understanding that you have in your possession the original Bills of Sale for your furniture. I wish you would send them to me immediately. If you have no recollection of storing, yourself, the mattress and the front room heater, I will make every endeavor to locate these items for you. I feel personally responsible for the safety of your goods, and I will take every legal measure possible to restore them to your house. I do not think that the Lehmann's are in any sense dishonest, but I do think that a year can dim memories rather seriously. Once supplied with a fuller description of your goods, it will be legally possible for me to execute a search warrant, to be certain that the Lehmann's memories in this matter have not grown over-dim. I hope that other new discoveries by the Lehmann's, or new information from you, will make this action unnecessary.

Morton and I have looked into your back storeroom, and it seems in very good order. We are somewhat worried, however, about all the stored material in the open space beneath these storerooms. Did you leave the things there yourself, or might they have been moved out of the basement? I certainly hope you have left nothing valuable in this open space since, obviously, depreciation will be rapid and extensive. I am also somewhat concerned about the fire insurance for the property, and I will check with Mrs. Peterson to be sure that it still is in force.

Please write me by return mail, sending me the requisite Bills of Sale, as well as fuller descriptions of the mattress and the heater. Also give me your comment on Mr. Lehmann's account of your storing these two items.

Morton joins me in sending you best personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

DST:mw

cc. Mr. Lloyd Lehmann



July 3, 1943

Mr. Lloyd Lehmann  
402 Haight Street  
Alameda, California

Dear Mr. Lehmann:

My understanding of your conversation with Morton Grodzins is outlined in my letter to Mr. Najima, a copy of which I am enclosing. I will visit the Najima home next Thursday, and I trust that I will find at least: (1) the bed and springs; (2) the piano bench, and (3) the wrenches there. I also hope that you will exert every effort to locate the missing mattress and the missing front room heater. I appreciate your co-operative attitude and, with you, I regret that the movers made such an unfortunate mistake.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

Enclosure  
Copy of Letter to Mr. Najima



July 12, 1943

Mrs. Frances Mason  
331 Sixth Street  
Oakland, California

Dear Mrs. Mason:

This will acknowledge receipt of your money order.  
Thank you very much.

Will you be so kind as to telephone me at the office (Ashberry 6000, local 349) as soon as you can? I should like to make an appointment to come down to 331 Sixth Street sometime soon, in order to check up on what the Lehmann's returned, and also in order to look over the things in the storeroom at the back. I have found the name of a roofer, and will see to it that the leaky roof is repaired.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

DST:mw



July 14, 1943

Mr. Russell Robinson, Chief  
Evacuee Property Division  
War Relocation Authority  
Whitecomb Hotel  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Robinson:

In reference to our telephone conversation of this morning, the following is the situation in regard to the evacuee property that I discussed with you. Mr. Haruo Najima is the owner of a 10-room house at 331 Sixth Street, Oakland, California. Mr. Najima has given me Power of Attorney in regard to his property, and I have rented the house out to a tenant.

I find that the insurance situation with regard to this property is most unsatisfactory. Najima carries only \$1,000.00 fire insurance on Policy No. 203934, issued by the Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Company, and the agent is Schroeter and White, 516-18th Street, Oakland. The policy carries a 70% average clause. The rate at which it was insured involves a premium of \$50.38 for a three year period, expiring April 10, 1945. There is no insurance whatsoever on the household goods which Mr. Najima has stored in the house. There are some very valuable items included in the storeroom, such as a frigidaire, a very fine gas stove, beds and household furnishings in general, which are of good quality.

The house itself is in what could be called a sub-standard area. Its valuation, however, is not, in my opinion, low. It is a 10-room house with modern plumbing; the floors are hardwood and in good condition; the kitchen is very large and has excellent equipment, including a large modern sink extending the length of the room, and very good built-in cupboards above the sink. It is clear that \$1,000 represents no more than token insurance. It is further clear that the premium is excessive.

I have checked on the matter with my own insurance agent, Mr. Bailey of Mortimer and Company. Mr. Bailey tells me that the reason for the high premium is that sometime back in the early 1930's the house was used partly as a photographic studio. When it was taken over for dwelling purposes,



Mr. Russell Robinson - 2.

July 14, 1943

the rate was never adjusted. Mr. Bailey says further that most reputable companies will not handle fire insurance for orientals. He thinks that he could get one of his companies to handle the insurance, and that the rate could be reduced. He is obviously not enthusiastic about taking the case. He would probably do it because of his connections with me. I feel, however, that he will not be willing to recommend an adequate coverage. My guess would be that the house should be insured for around \$2,500.00, and that the furniture should be insured for \$1,000.00, assuming that I can get rates that are at all reasonable. Furthermore, the minimum war risk insurance of \$3,000.00 should be added as an additional item.

I should be most appreciative if you could have my crude estimates checked, and if you could advise me as to the next step in getting adequate coverage at a reasonable rate for the whole of the property.

Thank you for your past courtesies and cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

DST:mw



July 14, 1943

Dear Naj:

I can report some further progress in regard to your house and your household goods, but I still haven't got things settled yet to my satisfaction. Please don't worry about what you call trouble that you are causing me, for I am only too glad to go into this matter, and I do hope that we can get a more satisfactory arrangement.

First, in regard to the Lehmanns. According to Mr. Lehmann's own story, he has returned the bed and springs, the piano bench, some book shelves, the pipe wrenches and a length of pipe. I haven't been able to check on this yet, but I have asked Mrs. Mason to let me know when I can get into the house. Lehmann sticks to his story that the gas heater is his. We will look into the storeroom and see if yours is there. The question of the mattress is still in dispute. Mrs. Lehmann is very vague about a mattress that they have which is in striped ticking and is filled with hair. She "thinks" that somebody gave them the mattress, so she asked me to check with you as to whether the one you had has a hair filling or not. Please let me know by return mail, for if the mattress is yours there is no earthly reason why you shouldn't have it back.

Regarding the insurance, the enclosed is self-explanatory. It is quite obvious that you have been gipped for a long period, since the rate that you have been paying doesn't apply to dwelling houses. The WRA will advise me as to procedure. I didn't realize that insurance companies had such a prejudice against orientals, but I imagine you could tell me a good deal about that point. Anyway, I think it is very inadvisable not to have insurance on your furniture, for it would certainly cost a great deal to replace it, and you have some excellent pieces. Finally, I think we might as well take out the war risk insurance which costs only one dollar per thousand, in case an incendiary bomb should happen to land on Sixth Street. Everybody out here takes out insurance of that sort as a matter of course. What I'm trying to do is to get your rate readjusted and get average coverage, so that the total premium that you pay would not be more, and probably would be considerably less, than the amount you are now charged. I'll keep you informed as to my success on this project.

You asked whether you shouldn't let the Masons use your kitchen stove. The answer is emphatically "no." At



- 2 -

\$30.00 a month there is no expectation of equipment going with the house. They are, I think, very much pleased to use the furniture that is in your rooms, but they have never raised any question about the stove, and I am sure they will not.

You wanted Kay's address: it is, c/o Mrs. J.A. Macready, 307 N.W. Bailey, Pendleton, Oregon.

Let me know just as soon as you can about the mattress, and maybe we'll get all this straightened out pretty soon.

Everyone here sends regards,

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

Enclosure



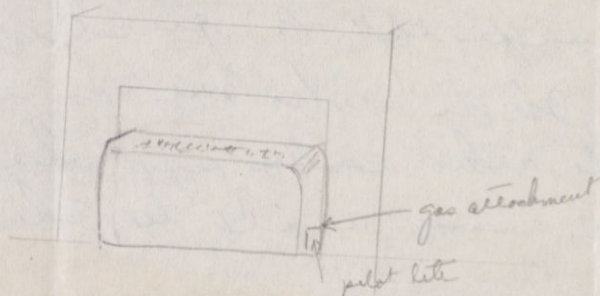
3408 - 13<sup>th</sup> N.W.  
Washington D.C. (10)  
or 830 Barr Building, WRA  
17<sup>th</sup> & K N.W.  
Washington D.C.

July 21, 1943.

Dear Dr. Thomas,

I asked my brother to send you a more complete description of the mattress in controversy. Hope you got it from him.

The gas heater, I'm certain (almost) that I left it such that as stated before it is a brown one fitting almost into the fire place. As follows:



Its size was such that it would not set into the fire place. The bulge at the side touched the <sup>side</sup> ~~fire~~ preventing it to fit in. It was purchased in 40, I think, from Sears catalogue (L.A. warehouse). It was, I think, a 2-3 room heater. I have forgotten the exact B.T.U. capacity of it. It was worth ~~only~~ about \$15 or \$18. ~~For~~ ~~shucks~~, let's drop the matter.

It just occurred to me that Mr. Lehmann's Mother wanted to use our old vacuum cleaner. It wouldn't run well, but she said she'll have Lloyd fix it and use it. I don't recall ever having it back. Could you ask Lehmann's about it. It was an old ~~cheap~~ cleaner ready to fall apart but Mother was quite attached to it. This item is less worth arguing about



than <sup>even</sup> the gas heater.

WRA is definitely launching its program of segregation <sup>starting August 1st</sup>. I'm told, at least.

Ney is out in the field. Jones, <sup>and</sup> head of employment, Barber, community services, and Anne Freed will be at Dulles trying to have it go off smoothly. Jones will have several of his field (Regional) relocation supervisors out there and they will try to relocate <sup>as</sup> many as possible before segregation to other centers starts.

If this fails (or terminates) Anne Freed will start interviewing those who refused to register, answered "qualifiedly" to question 28, or said "no" to #28. Those who are assumed to be "loyal" will be sent to other centers and those "disloyal" will remain in Dulles. Dulles will be the camp for the "disloyal".

Coverley, you probably know, ~~has~~ has resigned to go into the Army. Best of Leupp Center will take over the refens. People here feel that he will do ok. Was a former labor organizer and is supposed to understand people and situations.

My folks are still in Dulles so I might return there.

Thanks for everything.

Sincerely  
Ney



Dear D Thomas

Your two recent letters were received and as a result we decided to do the following:

1. Re: the mattresses, we brought the one we have here back pending the return of the soldier <sup>three years ago.</sup> who gave us one also fitting that description, when final identification will be possible.

2. Re: the vacuum cleaner. Mr Najima told us we could use the old one they had provided we had it repaired. We did after which we asked the company to estimate the value of the machine which they did as being exactly the cost of the repair. We took for granted considering the improvement we made that we would use it until the Najima's return. However, if knowing the facts, Mr Najima wants it back now, we consider it his and will return it.

3. Re: the stove. The description exactly fits the stove I helped Mr. Najima remove before installing my own. I didn't see what he did with it, but I might suggest the easiest solution for you to go into their store-room where the chances are very good you will find it.



4. Re: several small articles. We have collected a few things which recently came to light, which, not being ours, we presumed to be the Kajima's. These we returned.

I regret this trouble more than you do. And I hope you people who have the custody of the property of the Japanese are in all cases as active as in this one, because I feel they need every protection in face of the racial incitements being made today.

Yours Truly

Lloyd W. Lehmann  
402 Haight Ave  
Alameda



July 21, 1943  
414-a

Newell, Cal.

Dear Dr. Thomas,

I have just received a letter from my brother Hideo Rajima, telling me to describe a certain mattress left at home.

The mattress is of blue stripes, filled with hair. Serial number I believe is No. #10. It is of single or twin bed type.

Most sincerely,

Hideo Rajima

P.S. Thank you very much for all the trouble you are going through.



July 23, 1943

Mrs. Frances Mason  
331 Sixth Street  
Oakland, California

Dear Mrs. Mason:

Some time ago I wrote and asked you to let me know when it would be convenient for me to come to 331 Sixth Street. I should like to come over on Wednesday or Thursday of next week and could easily come between five and six o'clock, if that is convenient to you.

Kindly let me hear from you by return mail.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas



July 23, 1943

Mr. Lloyd Lehmann  
402 Haight Street  
Alameda, California

Dear Mr. Lehmann:

I have obtained a description of the mattress which Mr. Najima left with you. It is of blue striped material, filled with hair, and is of the single bed type. The serial number, he believes, is #10. Since this corresponds to the mattress which Mrs. Lehmann described to me over the telephone, and as she was uncertain as to ownership, I shall appreciate very much if you will return this before Wednesday, July 28, to 331 Sixth Street, Oakland, and kindly inform me that the transfer has been made.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas



July 24, 1943

Dear Mr. Lehmann,

Since writing you yesterday, I had the following letter from Mr. Najima:

"I asked my brother to send you a more complete description of the mattress in controversy. Hope you got it from him. [This refers to the description I sent yesterday. DST]

The gas heater I'm certain that I left it with them. It is a brown one, fitting almost into the fire place. As follows:

Its size was such that it would not set into the fire place. The bulge at the sides touched the side of the fireplace preventing it to fit in. It was purchased in 1940, I think, from Sears catalogue( LA warehouse). It was, I think a 2-3 room heater. It was worth about \$15 or \$18.

It just occurred to me that Mr. Lehmann's mother wanted to use our old vacuum cleaner. It wouldn't run well, but she said she'd have Lloyd fix it and use it. I don't recall her giving it back. Could you ask Lehmann's about it. It was an old cleaner, but Mother was quite attached to it."

Now, Mr. Lehmann, will you PLEASE clear these matters up this weekend? Mattress, heater, vacuum cleaner. I certainly do not want to have to take the matter up with the government agency, but if we can't settle it between ourselves, I am afraid that is what I shall have to do.

Sincerely yours,



AUGUST 9, 1943

Dear Dr. Thomas,

As you have probably heard Sule Lake is being segregated with the eventual use of Sule as the "segregated camp for the disloyal." In spite of the fact that <sup>everyone felt</sup> it was coming when it actually was announced, only feeling one had was that of rather bitter resignation to the fact. In our families one can say they have pretty liberal people in the WRA, but the bureaucratic machine precluded any, what I would call, sane solution to the problem of camp management. Although they know that registration is no criteria of loyalty they have used it. (Their use of statistics appeals me. Somebody ought to tell them the place of statistical technique and statistical inference and policy formation.) Segregation follows the same old patterns as at the time of registration. It was predicted that passive resistance will meet segregation and that seems to be a reality according to Opler, the Community Analyst at Sule. I have seen his reports and they are super. He seems to be able to get at what is bothering the people, well. Apparently, WRA has not yet seen the just possibility that the "loyal" people will be used in labor gangs. (Although they have promised the workers they will not be forced to move out of the centers.) The statements of War Manpower Commission the need for manpower farms, all point that way.



Since WRA pays just heed to Congressional  
Committees, soon some Committee will get a bright  
idea that the loyal Japs ought to work. We  
then <sup>can</sup> expect more "disorganization" of the Centers. I  
can ~~almost~~ <sup>almost</sup> hear the "disloyal" laughing at  
the "suckers" who believed in WRA as being  
their friend. It happened at Sule, according to  
some information I saw, because the loyal  
are being moved from Sule when at registration  
they were told the signing of registration questions  
offering time did not mean they would have to  
move. WRA prestige took a big down drop. ~~that's~~

What my future plans will be <sup>that's</sup> very uncertain.  
I am getting damned fed up with the work in  
WRA as a statistical clerk. I have to do too many  
things which seem "unscientific" to me, just  
because some Administration officer wants it.

Would it be ok. if I ship my books at  
Sule to you? If so, could you tell me where  
to ship them or to your home. I have about 4  
packages, I think will fit at Sule.

So long for now.  
Sincerely  
Ray.

P.S. My regards to Miss Cumming, please.



August 12, 1943

Mr. Russell Robinson, Chief  
Evacuee Property Division  
War Relocation Authority  
Whitcomb Hotel  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Robinson:

On July 14, I wrote you about the status of  
Mr. Haruo Najima's insurance. I wonder if anyone in  
your office has been able to get any light on this  
matter and, if so, whether you would kindly inform me  
about it.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas



August 12, 1943

Mr. Haruo Najima  
3408-13th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Naj:

I certainly was glad to get your letter of August 9. We have felt very sad about the Tule Lake situation. Jimmy is writing detailed reports on the thing, which gives us a good picture of what is going on. I feel that the whole thing is quite unnecessary, and that it certainly is going to be accompanied by some sort of resistance, even of a passive sort. Anything that you can pick up about it from the Washington angle will be very helpful.

Morton will arrive in Washington on September 13, and will spend a good deal of time around W.R.A. Mr. Myer has offered to cooperate completely and to give us access to confidential information. Mr. Myer has also approved that we may have access to the administrative files at Tule Lake, and I am sending Bob Spencer up there for the first week in September. If you have any suggestions about what we should look for, particularly in the files relating to the farm, I shall be most appreciative if you will send the suggestions to me.

I sympathize with your feelings about W.R.A. statistics. I have had quite a time getting the tables from them. Not from lack of cooperation, but because, apparently, so little of fundamental value has been done yet. I certainly wish they could, as you say, work the material up in a more scientific way.

Yes, it will be perfectly all right for you to send your books to us. Send them to Room 338, Giannini.

I still am not sure where I stand with Mr. Lehmann and the mattress, and the stove. I am enclosing a copy of the letter I got from him. Several things are still up in the air about your house. Mrs. Mason, unfortunately, is not being very prompt about sending the rent, but I don't expect to have any trouble getting it out of her. I want to get into the storeroom before Morton leaves, and see whether the stove is there, and if Mr. Lehmann has returned the mattress put it in the storeroom for there is no reason why the tenants should have the use of it. As I told you, I wrote W.R.A.



Mr. Haruo Najima - 2.

August 12, 1943

about your insurance situation, but haven't had any reply from them. I will check on it again and, as soon as that is straightened out, I will see about the roof.

Everyone here sends cordial regards.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

Enclosure



August 16, 1943

Mrs. Frances Mason  
331 Sixth Street  
Oakland, California

Dear Mrs. Mason:

This is to acknowledge receipt of the Money Order in payment of the August rent. In future, I must ask that the check reach me by the first of every month.

I should like to come down to your house on Thursday afternoon. Will you please leave the key under a brick on the front steps, the way you did last time? Will you also leave in the front hall the mattress which Mr. Lehmann has returned, and the other small items which he mentioned in his letter to me. I want to put those in the store-room for Mr. Najima. Will you also leave me a list of all the things belonging to Mr. Najima that you are keeping for your own use?

I shall have the roofer come down to examine the roof very shortly.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

P.S. I shall be down on Thursday unless you telephone me not to come.



August 19, 1943

Dear Naj:

Dorothy and I went to your house today to put the mattress in the rear storeroom. When I got into the storeroom, we immediately noticed that the stove and the electric refrigerator were missing. To put it mildly, we were both mad as hell. Mrs. Mason, your new tenant, had left the mattress outside, since she had told Dorothy that she would not be home and that we could not, therefore, get into the house. Nevertheless, I knocked loudly and authoritatively on the door. When no answer came, I spied an unlocked window and, with the permission of the holder of the Power of Attorney, I stuck my foot in the window. Immediately, Mrs. Mason came running and offered to open the door for us. We went to the kitchen and there, in apparently very good condition, were your fine stove and fine refrigerator. To put it mildly again, we raised hell. Mrs. Mason had no excuse for her borrowing, except for the ~~fact~~ lie that the storeroom door was wide open and that she thought she was free to make use of all the items therein. The attached letter to Mrs. Mason explains the outcome of this interview. (Please return the letter for the files). As a result of this experience, we suggest the following alternative courses of action:

1. We could get a carpenter to securely board up the windows and attach strong new locks to all the doors. No matter what we do, however, we feel that dishonest people will be able to get in. Further, your stuff will rapidly deteriorate in value as dust gathers.

2. Therefore, we recommend that you sell your refrigerator<sup>and</sup> stove. As you know, these items command a very good price now, and it is probable that you could get for them the full purchase price, less only a ~~very~~ ten or twenty per cent. It's even possible that we could get more than the original purchase price, though that is nothing that can be promised.

3. If your family will have use for these items in the near ~~immediate~~ future, it would certainly pay for you to have them crated and sent to them. We would be glad to arrange for this.

4. In any case, no matter what you decide, Dorothy is going to try to have some of the more valuable things stored by some of your friends in Giannini Hall. Dr. Erdman has promised to take a few of the things and put them in the basement of the house he has just bought for Peggy Lee. We



will inventory the things we place in this fashion.

If you want us to sell the stove and the refrigerator, please send us immediately the original purchase prices. Also send us the minimum price you would accept for them, though you can be assured that we will try to get a maximum.

We would also like to clear up the mystery of the allegedly open storeroom door. This is the door that opens into the storeroom from the small bedroom back of the kitchen. Did you ever give the key of this door to the Lehmanns? If not, then we are quite sure the Masons must have had a key made because, on our last visit, the door was definitely locked.

Please let us hear from you immediately.

Your obedient and 'umble servant,

P.S. I am leaving for Washington the end of this month and, after a week in Chicago, will arrive on September 14. I think I have a place to stay but, if I haven't, do you know of a spare soft bath-tub in which I could sleep? I would appreciate your keeping your eyes open for me.



Please return

August 19, 1943

Mrs. Frances Mason  
331 Sixth Street  
Oakland, California

Dear Mrs. Mason:

Whether you realize it or not (and I think you must realize it), you have committed a grave breach of faith in your relations with both the Najimas and with me by taking the refrigerator and stove from the Najima storeroom and using them without anyone's permission. Further, you have committed a breach of the law. For this the law can be put on you and you are liable for heavy fines, if not worse.

If you live up to the promise you made me today, that is, if you immediately return the stove and the refrigerator to the storeroom, I will not put the law on you. However, you must return these items immediately. I will come back to inspect the storeroom one week from today on Thursday, August 26, in the afternoon. If the refrigerator and the stove are not disconnected and returned by that time, I will immediately go to the police.

As one who has had many contacts with, and who likes, the colored races, I am gravely disappointed that you should take advantage of a person who is in trouble because of his race, and who faced many of the same problems you and your race do. It makes no difference that you intended to take good care of and to return the refrigerator and the stove. These things belong to the Najimas. They do not belong to you or to me. The Najimas have been very fair in renting their house with some furniture supplied at such an extremely low cost. It is not fair of you to, or honest of you, to use their stove and their refrigerator without their permission.

I will see you next Thursday.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

M.G.



WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

3

SAN FRANCISCO / CALIFORNIA, OFFICE  
WHITCOMB HOTEL BUILDING

In reply, please refer to:

Evac. Prop.

August 20, 1943

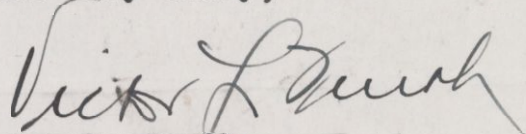
Prof. Dorothy Thompson  
338 Giannini  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

Dear Professor Thompson:

In accordance with our telephone conversation of this afternoon, I am sending you the necessary forms to request storage of Mr. Haruo Najima's household goods. Two copies of the form should be completed and returned to this office, the extra copy being intended for your file. Will you attach a confirmed copy of the Power of Attorney given you by Mr. Najima.

Our Transportation Section will endeavor to call for this property within a short time, and we take it for granted that you will have given the necessary instructions so that the property can be picked up whenever the truck calls at the house.

Yours very truly,



Victor L. Furth  
Assistant Chief  
Evacuee Property Office

Attachment





August 20, 1943

DAY LETTER

HARUO NAJIMA  
3408 THIRTEENTH ST. N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

RE MY LETTER OF AUGUST NINETEENTH. HAVE CONTACTED WRA  
PROPERTY DIVISION. THEY WILL MOVE ALL OF YOUR BELONGINGS  
TO GOVERNMENT WAREHOUSE IN SAN FRANCISCO WITHOUT CHARGE  
AND KEEP IT FOR YOU UNTIL REQUIRED. PLEASE WIRE APPROVAL

D.S. THOMAS

Sent 3:45 p.m.



Mrs. Frances Mason,  
works for

Lloyd. Athens Club.  
~~was. Lehigh~~  
~~402 Harget Ave.~~  
Alameda.

← Winnie Curry -  
works for nursery school.

James ~~Wason~~ Fore.  
works ~~for~~ Dry Dock

Ter. Jimmy ~~Wason~~  
Dry Dock.

JP 292

Dr. August

Un. ~~Bureau~~ 'Bee' road  
no ~~beverage~~ ~~was used~~  
philosophy ~~for~~  
Bonds  
\$5000.00

JB. Clark + Son.

\$3000.00 Latham ~~Some~~ Bly  
~~\$2500.00~~ ~~Okland~~



Palhoun

BAE + Thru. (Miss Miles)

Ashbury 500

Miss Miles



# 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

1220

# SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter  
NT = Overnight Telegram  
LC = Deferred Cable  
NL = Cable Night Letter  
RD = Radiogram

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
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

SB427 67 NL=ZV WASHINGTON DC 22

DR DOROTHY S THOMAS=

WESTERN UNION TELEPHONE CO.

AK 1943 AUG 27 PM 10 08  
922a  
mail

207 GIANNINI FOUNDATION UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

BERKELEY CALIF=

STOREROOM KEYS NEVER GIVEN TO LEHMANN'S ONLY KEYS IN YOUR POSSESSION. SUGGEST ASKING TENANTS FOR THREE REFERENCES FOR CHARACTER INVESTIGATION AND IN ADDITION NAMES ADDRESSES AND LENGTH OF STAY AT LAST TWO PLACES OF RESIDENCE. AUTHORIZING YOU TO HIRE AND PAY HELP NEEDED FOR SUCH INVESTIGATION. USE YOUR DISCRETION. SOME STORED PROPERTY FRIENDS ASKING THEM FOR DISPOSITION PLANS. WILL FOLLOW YOUR SUGGESTIONS ON STORAGE. LETTER FOLLOWS THANKS=

NAJ.

NAJ.



August 22, 1943  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Thomas and Morton,

It distresses me considerably to have you going thru so much trouble. I don't know just what I could do about the house situation except leave it to your judgment. Just the distance from Oakland from Washington makes me feel helpless.

I talked to Mr. Arnold who is in the WRA Property Custodian's Office in Washington. He suggested that I have my stuff put into Government storage. However, there are several difficulties. Great many items are not crated and putting them into storage would involve quite a bit of crating to be done. Furthermore there are many items belonging to other people in the storage room as well as down underneath the storeroom and the house. Many of these items are loose. I do not know just what these people would want us to do with their property. They stored them at our house with the understanding that it might be lost, but even with such understanding I hesitate to do any moving around. I hesitate further because there would be items which would be stored in Government storage, but there would be others which would be left. Obviously, every thing cannot be stored. Thus, if there should be some items belonging to friends not stored at the Government warehouse which might be lost, there would be some hard feelings.

Unfortunately because of lack of time at the time of evacuation, careful inventory of the stuff left by the people was not taken. I am writing to my folks and asking them to contact the people who have left things stored at our place to ask them if they would consent to moving their things or if they would prefer to leave it where it is.

At the present time I do not think the folks would want to sell anything because these items are all they have left. Certain feeling of "security" which they have would be gone if they had to sell their stuff.

I don't see how they got the stove and refrigerator out without taking other things out first. There is a relatively new vacuum cleaner in the storeroom which belongs to a friend will you see if it is still there? There is also a mirror about 15" x 30" which belongs to a friend in the first storeroom just behind the small bedroom behind the kitchen. Will you see if that is still there. (The vacuum cleaner was left by the doorway connecting the two store rooms.)

The keys to the store room were never given to the Lehmann's. Only keys available were in Mrs. Peterson's care, but Mehren got them to take some things out. I believe Mehren gave them to you.

Do you think you could get the tenants to give references so that you could check up on them? I suggested including in the references the last two places of residence. It might give some indication of the character of the tenants. My folks and I don't expect to have money accumulating from rents- so if you feel that it is necessary to hire someone to do clerical work or other things you can go right ahead. I hope you are reimbursing yourself for the telegrams, letters, and phone calls you have sent on my account.

Your letter did not come to me until late Saturday.

Sincerely, Ray



August 23, 1943

Mrs. Frances Mason  
331 Sixth Street  
Oakland, California

Dear Mrs. Mason:

Mr. Najima is very disturbed about what has happened, and has therefore asked me to put all his possessions in the hands of the Government. This I have done, and it is no longer a personal matter between you and me. The Government is now in control of the house and its possessions, and they will send a truck to pick up all of the things that belong to Mr. Najima. This includes the furniture that the Lehmanns used and that you have been continuing to use. You will, therefore, put all of these things in one room by next Monday, August 30. You will also send me, by return mail, a key to the front door, so the Government movers can get in, and tell me in which room you have put the things. Do not leave anything of your own in this room, and be quite sure that you have put in there every single thing that belongs to Mr. Najima, including bed, livingroom furniture, dining room table, and so on. Since you are now dealing with the Government, and not with a private individual, I must warn you that failure to comply with this order will be very serious. I am enclosing 25¢ for having a key made. This must be sent to me by return mail.

Since the Government is getting a complete list of all the things that Mr. Najima has in the house, including the storeroom, we shall expect to find every item on the list, or to have an accounting from you as to what has happened to it. If you have taken the washing machine, or any other items that I did not notice, I hereby warn you that they must be returned.

If you do not wish to rent the house under these circumstances, kindly notify me and I will get another tenant. If, however, you wish to remain there without the use of any of Mr. Najima's furniture, that will be all right, provided you pay your rent promptly to me on the first of every month.

Very truly yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

Enclosure



Post Office Department

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300



Return to 207 Granville Hall

(NAME OF SENDER)

Street and Number,  
or Post Office Box,

University of Calif

REGISTERED ARTICLE

No.

81423

Post Office

INSURED PARCEL

BERKELEY

State

No.

16-12421



## RETURN RECEIPT

*Received from the Postmaster the Registered or Insured Article, the original number of which appears on the face of this Card.*

1

*Francis Mason*  
(Signature or name of addressee)

2

(Signature of addressee's agent—Agent should enter addressee's name on line ONE above)

Date of delivery

*8/24/* 194*3*



August 24, 1943

Dear Naj:

I received your telegram. It is not at all possible to get character references for the tenants, or if they are gotten they mean absolutely nothing. I don't believe you realize what the recent wartime influx of population has meant in the Bay area. The people who are likely to be tenants are almost all incomers, and to investigate them would not in any sense mean that they could be trusted not to yield to temptation to open that storeroom and get out some of your fine equipment. After all, remember that you knew the Lehmanns quite well, and they moved out with a large number of articles. Incidentally, as far as I can discover, we have collected everything from the Lehmanns, and Mr. Lehmann seems to be correct in regard to the gas heater, since there is one in your storeroom. Therefore, I think the one he has must be his.

Yesterday, Morton, Georges Sabagh and I went down to the storeroom and made as complete an inventory as possible. It couldn't be complete because of the fact that we actually couldn't reach some of the things and there were, as you know, many miscellaneous items not put up in cartons. I am enclosing a copy of this tentative inventory. My suggestion is that I have Bekins (the movers) come in and put all of the small items that are around in large cartons. This might cost \$10 or \$15 I should guess, but I think it would be worth it. Then we will have an inventory of the number of cartons and so on, and the WRA will move everything without charge and store it in the government warehouse in San Francisco. This, I feel, is absolutely the only way that we can safeguard your interests.

I may say that it isn't only the tenants who might take your things. The storeroom could be entered easily from the outside. There may well be people in the neighborhood who would also like to have some of your equipment. For instance, the house next door is occupied by Filipinos. There are about twelve children of miscellaneous ages, some of them young boys, who have been eye-ing the storeroom every time we have been down there.

If the war lasts a long time, and I am afraid it may, the chances of really safeguarding that storeroom are very slight. I would like to reassure you about the state of the things that are there. I don't believe that anything has been taken out, except for the items we know about. That is, the



electric refrigerator, the gas stove, and the electric washing machine. The Masons are a strange family: I do not think they are really thieves. They justified taking the things out on the basis that they were going to take care of them for you and, of course, would have put everything back. They don't seem to get a real idea of the moral issues involved. Mrs. Mason says, indignantly, that what she did was far less of a crime than what Mrs. Lehmann did. Mrs. Lehmann actually took the things away from the house, whereas Mrs. Mason didn't and, according to her, never had any intention of doing so. You will see from the enclosed letter to her that I have read the riot act, and if we move the things out I am going to take every stick of furniture that belongs to you and put it in storage. Since the items still in the house are quite good, and will certainly not be improved by constant wear and tear from the tenants, I think this is advisable. As soon as you hear from the other people whose property you have, please let me know. I should like to clear this up as soon as possible for your own sake, and the WRA is all set to move the things as soon as I give the signal, so perhaps you had better wire me if the other people are willing to have their things moved to the government warehouse. If they are not, I should have a complete list of the things that are to be left in your storeroom, and I think they should understand the risk involved in leaving them there.

One further word about the Masons: They are actually rather clean and orderly people in spite of their moral derelictions. I think they will be as easy on the house as anybody we can get in now. The risk of taking tenants is that with the housing shortage, they are likely to rent out rooms, and the house will become overcrowded, with consequent wear and tear. If I could get a real good tenant, I would be inclined to put in perhaps some improvements in the way of painting and so on in order to keep the house in good shape for you. But I honestly think we are going to have a lot of trouble trying to get people of your class in that neighborhood right now. Any tenants we get are likely to be newcomers, and the degree of responsibility that they will feel is likely to be very slight.

If we get all of your household equipment out, and as far as I can estimate there is certainly several thousand dollars worth of furnishings, I think you can feel a good deal assured in your mind about the insurance problem. Under present conditions, there is bound to be a considerable fire risk in a house of that sort. If the empty house should burn down you would at least have your thousand dollars insurance. If the house should burn with all your furniture there, the thousand dollars would simply represent a very minor fraction of the loss.



- 3 -

I hope you are not too much disturbed about this whole situation. We have really got on to the situation in time to salvage everything, so don't worry any more than necessary. Let's try to get it cleared up as soon as we possibly can.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

Enclosure



August 27, 1943

Mr. Hideo Najima  
414 A  
Tule Lake Project  
Newell, Calif.

Dear Mr. Najima,

Harno tells me he has written to your family and told of the difficulties we are having with dishonest tenants. I have been in close contact with the WRA property division, and they will store all the items for you without cost. They suggest that I have the small, miscellaneous items put into cartons. This I can have a mover do at very little cost, I am sure. I hope you will use all possible speed in getting the consent of the other people who have stored things in your house to have the things moved to a government warehouse. I am most uneasy about the whole situation, and although I have put the fear of God( or of the Government) into the tenants, I realize that they could move out and take some of the things without giving me notice. This is unlikely, since I know where all the family members work. But it could happen. So, will you please telegraph me when you have obtained the consent of all parties concerned.

If I can only get all the things into a government warehouse, we can very quickly get your affairs in order. The WRA is applying to have the rate of fire insurance on the house reduced, since you were being charged an exorbitant rate. When that is done, we shall try to raise the amount of fire insurance from \$1000 to at least \$3000, which means that, if the house should burn down, you would really be protected. As it is now, you stand to take a terrific loss if anything should happen.

Two of my assistants and I went down last week and tried to make an inventory of the equipment. Since there were so many small items, which we could not get at, the inventory is obviously very incomplete. We are sure, however, that we have all the large items listed. Is there anything of importance that you remember being there which you do not find on this list?

Please, Mr. Najima, try to get the consent of those other people immediately. Every day that passes increases the danger of loss. I am so sorry about this whole mess, but I assure you we are going to do everything possible for you.

Sincerely yours,



August 30, 1943

Mrs. Frances Mason  
331 Sixth Street  
Oakland, California

Dear Mrs. Mason:

The government man could not come down with me today to see about the furniture. Please put the key in the enclosed envelope, and mail it to me immediately. In the meantime, the furniture will have to stay in the dining room, and although we will make every effort to get it out as soon as possible, I am afraid you will have to put up with the inconvenience until we can do so. It is your responsibility to see that nothing happens to the things that are now in your care. If, of course, you have a key to the inside storeroom and can send it to us, we can have those things moved from your room to the storeroom until such time as the government man can call for everything.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

DST:mw



414. a

Newell, Cal

Aug. 31, 1943

Dear Mr. Thomas,

I have just received your letter of August 27, today. I have heard from my brother Harno about the situation at home and immediately wrote to the party who has their belongings at my brother's house. I mailed the letter "airmail special delivery" so as to get quicker reply and action. I wrote to them explaining the situation exactly as my brother wrote to me, and I wrote told them to write directly to Harno, so you should hear from my brother soon.

My dad & habby is fishing and I don't believe you had listed his fishing poles. His fishing reels were in the fishing bag.

fishing pole - total value	\$135.00
2 - 8' pole . (\$30.00 each)	\$60.00
1 - 7' "	\$30.00
1 - 6½' "	12.50
1 - 6' "	7.50
1 - 5½' "	25.00

He had ~~nine~~ <sup>eight</sup> fishing reels valuing \$69.50



My dad's only pleasure back home  
was fishing and he just hopes everything  
is still back home.

About Kern's books, he told me to  
<sup>mail to</sup> you, but later sent me a telegram to  
transfer the books to wherever I move.

You should hear from Kern soon  
concerning the delonging at home.

We all sincerely appreciate all  
that you are doing for us. I realize it  
is really a lot of headache for you.

Most sincerely,  
Hideo Nagima



Sept. 2, 1943  
3408- 13th St. N.W.  
Washington, 10, D.C.

Dear Dr. Thomas,

four  
Heard from ~~three~~ of the people who left their stuff with us. They wish to have their things stored in Government warehouse along with ours. The persons who have given us their o.k. are: Sasakis, Shishidos, Yamamotos, and Mitsuyasus. Each of these people's belongings have either a tag or lettering on the parcel. Shishido and Yamamoto each own a trunk ~~apiece~~. The articles owned by Sasakis, Shishidos and Yamamotos are in the room next to the small bedroom. Sasakis had several small parcels, and also some sort of a crate (not sure) anyway it contains some expensive kimonos. Mitsuyasus give a pretty big order. First, their inventory:

- ~~2 trunks~~
- ✓ 1 card table
- ✓ 1 vacuum cleaner
- ✓ 2 five drawer bureaus
- ✓ 1 folding couch
- ✓ 1 spring mattress
- ✓ 1 linoleum and carpet tied together
- ✓ 5 dining room chairs
- ✓ 1 dining room table
- ✓ 6 kitchen chairs
- 1 cloth ~~covered~~ chest
- 1 box filled with carpet
- 1 lamp post
- ✓ 1 bed and spring
- 1 bundle of brush, broom and mop
- ✓ 1 large wall ~~clock~~ clock

The Mitsuyasus request that if it is possible to have the WRA send out the following articles they would like to have them: 2 trunks and 1 card table. They would like to have the trunks roped incase it breaks open. They will pay the expense of roping it. All these items are marked.

Before I forget will you take out a gold case watch and chain from my desk. It is rear end of the second store room. It should be in the center drawer. I hate to have some one run off with it. It belongs to Dad.

In your letter you mentioned two vacuum cleaners: Was there one for the Mitsuyasus. I don't remember seeing it. One was marked Higuchi and the other was the one loaned to the Lehmanns.

Do you think everything ought to go into storage? It might be well just to store things which you consider to be valuable. Rest of the stuff can be locked up and boarded. After you are able to dispose of the valuable things via WRA, can you hire someone to pack the less valuable things under the store room and ~~the~~ under the house into the store room?

All this is a big order, I know.  
Incidentally, Higuchi's stuff can be stored with ours.

Thanks for everything.

sincerely,

*Ray*

P.S. Thanks a million for taking in inventory. It was a very nasty work. My special thanks to George Sobanps and most, please.



September 2, 1943

Mr. Hideo Najima  
414-A  
Tule Lake Relocation Project  
Newell, California

Dear Mr. Najima:

Your letter of August 31 just arrived. As soon as I hear from Harno, Mr. Brown of the Evacuee Property Division and I are going down to Sixth Street and settle the whole situation with regard to the property. I think you can reassure your father about the fishing reels and poles. As far as I could see, there was a great deal of equipment there and I don't believe anybody has disturbed it. I am glad to have the detailed list. As I told you, we made no effort to list all the loose items. I must confess that I don't know one fishing pole from another, but I think that Mr. Brown will be able to help me in checking over what is there.

Meantime, tell your father not to worry for I really believe that I have everything under control. You will hear from me again as soon as I am able to fix up the storage situation.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

DST:mw



Sept. 7, 1943

414-a

Newell, Cal

Dear Mr. Thomas,

Received your letter today & already wrote to the parties who have their belongings stored at the house back in Oakland.

I wrote to them exactly as you had in your letter, so they should fill out the correct form and send it return mail, addressed to Mr. Brown in San Francisco.

Glad nothing seemed to have been disturbed except what they had used at home.

Dad is glad about <sup>the</sup> fishing out fit. Would appreciate very much if you can send the watch (gold), registered mail.

Thanks you for everything.

Most sincerely,

Hideo Rajima.



September 8, 1943

Dear Mr. Hajima,

Mr. Brown of WRA and I visited 6th Street this afternoon and found all the fishing rods in good shape. I did not find the reels, but the only reason was we had limited time, and things are so piled up that it is impossible to make a search of any thoroughness at this time. Both Mr. Brown and I were convinced that things in general have not been disturbed. There is no evidence of attempts to open any of the boxes or crates. It is my firm belief that the tenants merely took what they wanted to use in the house, i.e. the refrigerator, stove and washing machine. These we have recovered, and I am taking back all of the furniture that you had left in the house and that they were using. I recovered everything from the Lehmann's with the exception of the gas heater, and since there is actually a gas heater in the storeroom, it is possible that the Lehmanns were really telling the truth when they said the heater they took was their own.

At Haruo's request, I looked for and found a gold watch belonging to your father (with chain). Would he like me to send it to him, registered mail? If so, I shall be glad to.

You can save me some time and trouble, if you will be so kind. Haruo says he has got permission from the Sasaki, Shishido, Yamamoto and Miyasakus to have their things stored. Now, I find that government red tape is just about as bad as I feared, and I have to get them to fill out official forms. Since Haruo did not tell me their addresses, I do not know whether they are still in WRA centers or not. If so, will you write to them to-day, and ask them to see the evacuee property agent there and fill out WRA 155. Ask them to have these forms sent by return mail if possible to WRA office in San Francisco, marked "Attention Mr. Earle P. Browne, and to indicate clearly that this is property stored in the house of Haruo Hajima, 331 Sixth Street, Oakland, for which Dorothy S. Thomas has power of attorney." Please be sure they get all these details down in black and white.

In addition, Mitsuyasu should fill in form 155 for the trunks and card tables that they want WRA to send to them.

If any of these people are not in WRA centers, please send me their addresses immediately and I will send them the forms.

As soon as we get the completed forms, I will have everything moved, and then we can all breathe more freely. Meantime, I am going ahead about increasing the insurance on the house. You will be pleased to know that the tenants are very clean and orderly. Aside from their moral turpitude in taking out the refrigerator, etc. I think they are ok, but I don't trust them, or any other tenant, with the storeroom full.



WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

May

In reply, please refer to:

Evac. Prop.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, OFFICE  
WHITCOMB HOTEL BUILDING

September 8, 1943

Dr. Dorothy Thomas  
Giannini Hall  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

Dear Dr. Thomas:

Per our telephone conversation of this afternoon,  
enclosed please find four sets of WRA Form 155 and two  
sets of WRA 156.

Sincerely yours,

*Lillian Long*  
*Secretary to*

Earle P. Browne  
Evacuee Property Supervisor

Enclosures





September 10, 1943

Office of Price Administration  
Rent Control Area Office

Gentlemen,

This is to inform you that power of attorney for Haruo Najima, landlord of house at 331 Sixth Street, Oakland has been transferred from George L. Mehren, who is now an officer in the U.S. Navy, to the undersigned.

OPA registration number of the dwelling in 602099, dated Oct. 26, 1943.

I wish also to inform you of a change of tenancy, which occurred on July 1, 1943. The present tenant is Mrs. Frances Mason. Since I have only recently had all the documents in the case transferred to my possession, I was unaware of the necessity of having Form DD125 executed within five days after the change in tenancy. Will you kindly send me three sets of Form DD125? I will fill in one and send it to you by return mail.

Very truly yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology



September 10, 1943

Messrs Schroeter & White  
Insurance  
516-18th Street  
Oakland, California

Gentlemen:

I am enclosing Fire Insurance Policy on the house belonging to Haruo Najima at 331 Sixth Street, Oakland. Kindly cancel this as of the date received, and remit to the undersigned who holds Power of Attorney for Mr. Najima. I am informed that the rate of insurance as charged on this policy is to be changed because of the fact that the rate as listed applied to a business establishment, whereas the house has been, and is being, used for purely residential purposes. If the change can be made retroactive, I shall greatly appreciate having a refund for the difference between the rate as listed and the correct rate.

Very truly yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology

Enclosure



September 11, 1943

Dear Naj:

We are making progress in regard to your property, although there is still some WRA red tape to be cut. It seems I have to get a written statement from all of the people whose furniture is stored in your place, and that they have to fill out WRA Form 155. I have asked your brother to arrange that for me as soon as possible. Although I have Power of Attorney and can sign yours for you, it occurs to me that you might just as well give your own signature. So I am enclosing three copies of Form 155, which you will kindly sign and return to me. I am also enclosing the Power of Attorney that you made out for me. I wish you would go to the legal adviser of WRA and have this changed in certain respects that I will indicate. In the first place, I think you had better modify item (c) so that you don't set any limit to the repairs and improvements that I may have to have made. As I remember, George Mehren wanted that limitation made for his own protection, but I prefer to have you leave the whole thing to my discretion. As I told you, the roof will have to be repaired, and we have now run into another difficulty; that is that the plumbing has developed some rather serious troubles and will have to be fixed up. I don't believe I will spend more than \$75.00 in any calendar year, but it seems simpler to leave the whole thing in my hands.

A much more important point is that the Power of Attorney be extended in such a way that I can act as your agent or trustee in matters other than rent or repairs. The specific thing that I have in mind now is the matter of insurance. I have felt that the protection by the policy which you had, namely, \$1,000, was very inadequate coverage and, therefore, I have cancelled that policy and taken out another one for \$3,000. Coverage on that has been completed, so that if there should be a fire you can at least be assured of getting an amount that would go far to replacing the house. The difficulty is, however, that no insurance company will at present insure "Japanese" property in California. This, of course, is an outrageous situation, and I have protested vigorously, and think that some measure should be taken to bring those companies in line. The only way out now, however, is for a Caucasian to act as trustee of the property. Since I had Power of Attorney, the insurance company was willing to make out the policy in my name and I will then write an assignment



of the insurance to you. In order to protect both you and me, however, in case we have to come to the point of collecting the insurance, you'd better have the Power of Attorney extended in such a way that it is perfectly clear that I am trustee of the property and can, therefore, act to take out insurance policies and collect insurance, in case of disaster. Please get that fixed up legally just as soon as you can, and return the new Power of Attorney to me so that I can use it, if necessary.

I have your father's gold watch, and also checked up on his fishing rods which he was somewhat worried about. As far as I can see, nothing in the storeroom has been taken out, with the exception of the items I mentioned. The Masons are not really common thieves, but just decided to take the things that would be useful to them. They obviously cannot be trusted in these matters, and I am afraid the same is true, as I told you before, of any tenants that we could get. The Masons are really keeping the house in very good order, and I am gratified to note that they are much cleaner people than the Lehmanns were, so I guess we'll just have to make the best of this situation for it certainly could be worse. I will feel relieved when your furniture is in a WRA storehouse, for the insurance I am taking out covers only the house and not its contents. As soon as we get all the documents, I'll go right ahead and have the things moved. As I told your brother, there will be no trouble about having the things sent to the Mitsuyasus, so I think things will move along very well now.

You asked about the vacuum cleaner: There is one belonging to the Mitsuyasus, and there is another one with a tag on it. Unfortunately, I forgot to record the name. It was not Higuchi, but as I remember it, it was Okusa, or something of that sort. Does that mean anything to you?

By this time you will have seen Morton and Frank. Fern French was in the office yesterday and gave me news of your latest activities. We were interested to see that you had made the front page of the Pacific Citizen. Tell us what happens in regard to the Department of Agriculture. It certainly would be swell if you could get a job that was really in your own field.

Regards from everybody here.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

Enclosures



September 14, 1943

Mr. H. Najima  
414-A  
Tule Lake Relocation Project  
Newell, California

Dear Mr. Najima:

I was about to send your father's gold watch when I noticed from the train list that you are due to leave for Central Utah on the 17th. I am afraid the package would not reach you in time. Would you please inform me of your address in Central Utah, and I'll send the watch immediately after hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas



September 15, 1943

Mrs. Frances Mason  
331 Sixth Street  
Oakland, California

Dear Mrs. Mason:

This will acknowledge receipt of your rent for September, which arrived promptly on the 1st. I am enclosing two documents from the OPA which you must sign in the places that we have marked with a red "X". Please return these immediately.

You will notice that we are not responsible for repairs. However, I feel that we should put the house in reasonable order for you, and I am therefore having the plumbing repairs done and will also try to have the roof done. If, in the future, anything happens to the plumbing, it is your responsibility to have it repaired.

I am putting pressure on the government man to try to get those things moved out as soon as possible, but all this takes some time, as you know.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

Enclosures:  
Form DD 2-D  
OPA Form D-25



# J. B. CLARK & SONS

615 LATHAM SQUARE BUILDING  
TELEPHONE GLENCOURT 0292  
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

September 15, 1943

Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas  
Giannini Hall, University of Calif.  
Berkeley, California

RE: Policy #216987-AGRICULTURAL INS. CO.

Dear Doctor Thomas:

As per our phone conversation of this morning, you will find enclosed herewith the above policy, covering \$3,000.00 at #331-6th Street, written in your name as Trustee.

As explained, we are applying for re-rating and hope the Board will see its way clear to lower the rate as a result of change of occupancy in this building, in which event we will be more than pleased to forward you a credit memo, and, if the premium has been paid in the meantime, send you a return premium.

Included in this premium is an endorsement known as the Extended Coverage. This extends protection to your property for other hazards than fire, such as windstorm, explosion, aircraft, motor vehicle and smoke, as well as the waiver of the fallen building clause. As stated, I think this is well worth while as your additional premium for this endorsement is but \$13.65 for three years.

Thanking you for this business

Sincerely,

*J. B. Clark*  
J. B. CLARK & SON

JBC:B  
Enclosure



# J. B. CLARK & SONS

615 LATHAM SQUARE BUILDING  
TELEPHONE GLENCOURT 0292  
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

September 15, 1943

Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas  
Giannini Hall, University of Calif.  
Berkeley, California

RE: WAR DAMAGE APPLICATIONS

Dear Doctor Thomas:

We are forwarding you applications for War Damage insurance which must be signed by you in triplicate and returned to us. In War Damage insurance, a check for the premium, made payable direct to the AGRICULTURAL INSURANCE COMPANY, in this instance, must accompany the application.

This policy can be written only on a one year basis, and, as you will note, takes a 20¢ rate, making the premium \$6.00 rather than \$3.00.

Again thanking you for your consideration of us

Sincerely,

*J. B. Clark*  
J. B. CLARK & SON

JBC:B  
Enclosures



Sept. 16, 1943

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Mr. Zed Gant of the Legal Division of the WRA in Washington has gone over the original Power of Attorney and has made certain corrections in line with your letter. I hope the corrections are o.k.

I haven't heard from my folks for about a week and a half, I suppose the packing business has taken up most of their time. All I know right now about them is that they are hoping to go to Utah, but they are not certain as to the date. I think it is this week. At the Office there are train ~~schedules~~, but even they aren't too accurate. One never knows when changes occur. I'm afraid that there might be a little delay in getting the WRA 155 forms from the Sasakis and Yamamotos because they are on their way to the Tule Lake Center. They have asked, I understand, for repatriation. (On the "books", they have been noted down as being "no" answer people.)

Concerning the vacuum cleaner, I had forgotten that Mike Okusa had left his with me. Mike is a kibe from Nebraska who forgot to go home to his kinsfolk on his return from Japan. He has volunteered for Camp Savage. Am writing to Mr. Higuchi to find out about his vacuum cleaner.

Mort and Frank pulled into Washington Monday. They went right to work. So, haven't had much time to talk to them except at couple of lun~~ch~~ meetings. From what Mort tells me, you have been spending considerable time on my problem. Thanks. I understand that the taking of the inventory was a messy business. At least when I put the stuff in the store room there wasn't very much dust. I forgot that dust do accumulate.

Have taken time off to get this Power of Attorney off to you, and am also contemplating to go see several of the Federal agencies for possible employment. The people I have met in the several agencies-War Labor Board, Agriculture, Bureau of Labor Statistics, War Manpower Commission- have been fine persons~~ly~~ but when it comes to employment they are pretty frank and state that they are afraid of the congressional committees, or they are afraid of adverse publicity and thus refrain from hiring niseis. This is true especially in the professional classification but in the clerical positions many nisei girls have been placed. Those who have been in positions (prof) before the series of congressional investigation (including Dies, Smith etc.) have been staying on. But as far as jobs go, I'm not too optimistic. P-1 job has been offered me in the Dept of Agr, War Food Administration Section ~~of~~ Labor, but even that may fall thru. Some times I get aw~~ful~~ fed up. Regarding the spread in the PC, it was unfortunate, I think, to have had all that publicity. Elinor Vaughn (union representative) who used to work in the reports division of the WRA sent it in to Larry. She and other of the union people felt that it might get more niseis to support the United Federal Workers Union. Union action came as the result of passing of the "buck" by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics (incidentally, that is Tolley's section). BAE stated that there was a policy prohibiting the hiring of niseis in the Dept of Agr and that it couldn't hire me until the policy was changed. The BAE personnel office sent me to see Herr~~ell~~, his office sent me to see someone else, and the latter to some one else until I finally landed in Reynolds' office. He is, I think, the big~~g~~ cheese in the Dept of Agr Employment Division. He stated definitely that it was the policy of the Dept not to hire niseis and that was that. As far as the Executive Order regarding discrimination etc goes it had no influence on his Dept, so he said. Well, it boiled down to the point that the Orders "did not come from the people" and thus did not influence his employment policy at all. It was a screwy meeting. I suppose this meeting burned me up. Anyway I wrote a letter to Wickard ~~then~~ at the same time UFWA (union) thru the Agr branch got in to see the Personnel Officer for the Dept. The results you saw in the PC. About a week and half later, I finally received a reply to my letter to Wickard. It came from the Personnel Officer, very curtly stating that the BAE ~~was\*\*\*~~ informed him that the jobs now have been filled and that there are no openings. That's where the whole thing is right now.

It appears that the FBI, Military Intelligence, Joint Board (Dedrick), and the Provost Marshall's office have been investigating me. I owe some people in the Foundation a vote of thanks for swell recommendations, but I understand Provost Marshall's office ~~won~~ won't clear me for defense work. Others did. It is a screwy system.

Mort told me that WI broke two ribs. I hope he is ok. My best to him please.

sincerely,

*My*



## INSURANCE

Fire	Life
Marine	Accident
Burglary	Automobile
Plate Glass	Compensation
Surety Bonds	Public Liability

## FINANCING

## SERVICE

on this Policy or additional  
Insurance may be secured  
by calling

**J. B. CLARK & SONS**

**Telephones**

Office: GLencourt 0292  
Residence: GLencourt 5855

Policy Expires

SEPT. 10, 1946  
DOROTHY S. THOMAS, TRUSTEE  
Giannini Hall  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

Oakland, Calif. 9/16/43

In Account with

**J. B. Clark & Sons**

615 LATHAM SQUARE BUILDING

No. of Policy	Company	Covers on	Amount	Premium
216987	AGRICULTURAL	BUILDING (MERCANTILE)	\$3000.00	\$172.05

Commencement

SEPT. 10, 1943

Received by \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_



September 17, 1943

Mr. Earle P. Browne  
Evacuee Property Division  
War Relocation Authority  
Whitcomb Hotel  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Browne:

During our telephone conversation of this morning, you requested the names of evacuees who have furniture stored in Mr. Najima's house at 331 Sixth Street, Oakland. I am quoting below from a letter I wrote to Mr. Hideo Najima at Tule Lake in which the names are given, also the instructions I sent him regarding form 155:

"Your brother says he has got permission from the Sasaki, Shishidos, Yamamotos and Miysuyasus to have their things stored. Since Haruo did not tell me their addresses, I do not know whether they are still in WRA centers or not. If so, will you write to them today, and ask them to see the evacuee property agent there and fill out WRA 155. Ask them to have these forms sent by return mail, if possible, to WRA office in San Francisco, marked "Attention Mr. Earle P. Browne, and to indicate clearly that this is property stored in the house of Haruo Najima, 331 Sixth Street, Oakland, for which Dorothy S. Thomas has power of attorney. Please be sure they get all those details down in black and white."

Mr. Najima replied:

"I wrote the parties who have their belongings stored at the house in Oakland and told them exactly as you had in your letter, so they should fill out the correct form and send it return mail, addressed to Mr. Browne in San Francisco."

Thanking you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas



331 Sixth Street, Oakland, California

Dr. Dorothy Swaine Thomas (agent for H. Najima)

Ash.6000, Ext.349

2710 Garber Street

Berkeley, California

Mr. Lloyd Lehmann

Mrs. Frances Mason

July 1, 1943

\$30.00

month

30.00

month

None

9/15/43



POWER OF ATTORNEY

*Superseded.  
by one  
Sept. 17, 1943  
Hij*

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That I, Haruo Najima, of ~~Berkeley~~ <sup>Oakland</sup>, Alameda County, California, have made, constituted and appointed, and by these presents do make, constitute and appoint Dr. Dorothy Thomas, of ~~said City~~ <sup>Berkeley</sup>, ~~County~~ <sup>Alameda</sup>, and ~~State~~ <sup>said</sup>, my attorney for me and in my name, place and stead, with respect to those certain premises situated in the City of Oakland, County of Alameda, State of California, particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the southern line of Sixth Street, distant easterly one hundred (100) feet from the point of intersection thereof with the eastern line of Webster Street, as said streets are shown on the map hereinafter referred to; running thence easterly along said line of Sixth Street twenty-five (25) feet; thence at right angles southerly one hundred (100) feet; thence at right angles westerly twenty-five (25) feet; thence at right angles northerly one hundred (100) feet and to the point of beginning.

6 Being Lot numbered Ten (10), in Block numbered Fifty-seven (57), as said lot and block are delineated and so designated upon that certain map entitled "Kellersberger's Map of Oakland," on file in the office of the County Recorder of said Alameda County.

- (a) to receive and collect all rents due and owing to me as rental therefor, using any and all lawful means and measures therefor which he in his discretion may deem necessary, including legal process, with full authority to give written receipts to the payee or payee's agent for rent paid;
- (b) to hold, deposit or transmit rent paid in accordance with my instructions to him less such expenditures for maintenance, repairs or improvements made by him as hereinafter provided;
- (c) to make any and all repairs and improvements upon said premises which he in his discretion may deem necessary for maintenance thereof or the rental value thereof, including repairs and improvements required by health, safety and emergency laws and regulations, ~~but which said repairs and improvements do not exceed a total cost of \$75.00 in any one calendar year, nor a total cost of \$25.00 for any one repair or improvement;~~
- (d) to hire such labor and services as may be necessary to put said premises in a tidy condition when vacated and to maintain



the same in a tidy condition when vacant;

(e) to terminate any lease or agreement for use or occupancy of said premises in the manner provided therein or thereby, or by statute, upon default in payment of rent or other breach of condition when in his discretion he may deem such action advisable, and to accept surrender of said premises by the tenant or lessee thereof when in his discretion he may deem such action advisable;

(f) to rent or lease said premises or any part thereof, should they become vacant, for lawful purpose and occupancy for a term not to exceed the duration of my absence under evacuation order, at a monthly rental payable in advance of not less than \$30.00 per month, and to execute any and all instruments necessary therefore with such provisions and conditions as he in his discretion may deem advisable;

(g) to inspect said premises at all reasonable times;

<sup>Insert change</sup> (h) and generally to say, do, act, transact and determine all matters and things whatsoever relating to the <sup>insurance</sup> upkeep, and renting of said premises and the collection of rents therefor, and the enforcement of leases, <sup>and insurance claims</sup> and rental agreements, therefor, to all intents and purposes as I might or could do if personally present or acting with respect thereto; and I hereby ratify, confirm and hold valid all that my said attorney shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of these presents.

WITNESS MY HAND THIS 5 day of Jan., 1947<sup>3</sup>

Haruo Najima  
Haruo Najima

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)  
                                  ) ss.  
COUNTY OF MODOC            )

On the 5 day of Jan., 1947<sup>3</sup> before me, Helen Haley Thomas, a Notary Public, personally appeared Haruo Najima known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged that he executed the same.

Helen Haley Thomas  
Notary Public in and for the  
County of Modoc, State of California.



Court of Probate, State of California

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears in the records of the Court of Probate, State of California.

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Notary Public

WITNESSED MY HAND THIS 27 DAY OF JANUARY, 1916

by virtue of whose authority:

I, JAMES M. SMITH, Notary Public, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears in the records of the Court of Probate, State of California.

Emv

Emv

and do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears in the records of the Court of Probate, State of California.



(h) to arrange for insurance on said premises, and to file settle, and collect on any insurance claim that may be approved under such insurance.

(change made)



Sept. 28, 1943

Lopez, Utah

Dear Dr. Thomas,

We have been housed at temporary quarters until now, but tomorrow we are to move into a permanent apartment. The address of the place will be 11-8-D - Lopez, Utah.

To my great surprise & disappointment, the parties to whom I have written concerning the property in Oakland had not filled out the required form!!!

I hope you have received all the forms from them, if not, you should get them soon.

Most sincerely,  
Helen Regina



HARRY R. SCHROETER  
ELMER WHITE  
GEORGE O. JOHNSON



**SCHROETER & WHITE**  
**INSURANCE** ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ AGENCY ESTABLISHED 1870

516 EIGHTEENTH STREET \* OAKLAND THEATRE BLDG. \* Hlgate 1214  
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

September 20th, 1943

Dorothy S. Thomas  
University of California  
207 Giannini Hall  
Berkeley 4, California

Dear Madam:

We are enclosing check in payment of the return due under Mr. Najima's fire insurance policy.

The rate on the building has not been reduced on account of the change in occupancy, but if the building is altered for residence purposes, there may eventually be a rate reduction.

To date, however, there has been no change in the rate by the Board of Fire Underwriters.

Very truly yours,

SCHROETER & WHITE

By E. J. Reese

EW:ER  
Enc.



125 E. 18th Avenue  
Denver 5, Colorado  
October 2, 1943

Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas  
Giannini Foundation  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

Dear Dr. Thomas:

My brother, Haruo, has written me about the personal interest you have taken in looking after our house on Sixth Street. He has also written me about the difficulties encountered by the moving of the Lehmann's to Alameda; also about how the Mason's were found using our washing machine, stove, and refrigerator. I have also been informed about how you went through the dusty and tedious task of taking inventories of the stored furniture in the back-room, and the huge task of having that vast amount of furniture and goods stored in the WRA warehouse.

I realize too well how difficult a task it is to carry the burden of looking after the interests of another. I know, too, that you are a very busy person, and that you are doing it through the kindness of your heart, with great personal hardship and sacrifice upon you and your valuable time.

I wish I knew how to tell you how much your help, at this time when we need help, friendship, and understanding most, means to us. It is people like you who help us to remember that not all in this country know only how to hate, but that there are many who love and who put into practice the true meaning of brotherhood. With people like you lending us your hand and giving us support, it gives us confidence and courage to carry on.

Haruo has spoken of you often and always with great respect. We feel fortunate that we have, through him, gained such a fine friend. I look forward to the day when I can have the pleasure of meeting you personally, but until that day, I want you to know that the family, as well as Haruo, will forever be grateful to you for all that you have done for us.

Sincerely yours,

*Nancy Najima*



October 4, 1943  
Washington 10, D.C.

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Mort told me today the good news. I can't believe what you wrote to Mort that the insurance on the house for \$3000 for 3 years is only \$22 and with all the fancy trimmings only \$30. I hope that it is true. Thanks for going to bat for me.

Regarding the transfer of property stored at the house, I understand that you have not yet received the necessary papers from the people who have stored the stuff. The people concerned, the Sasakis, Yamamotos, and Higuchi have been sent to Tule Lake during the past few weeks according to the segregation plans. Per chance the delay in ~~your~~ transmittal might be due to that. Mort mentioned that I had certain forms which I might ~~have~~ fill in for them. Are they the forms which you sent me? I filled those in for the stuff stored under my name, if you want me to fill them out for the Sasakis, Yamamotos, and Higuchi will you let me know. I assume that you received the new power of attorney and the "forms" which I sent several weeks ago.

After all this piddling around with the War Food Administration, I finally got a clearance from the Civil Service Commission to report for work at the Office of Labor of the War Food Administration. They will not however give me anything more than a P-1. I suppose I shouldn't kick, tho. It is better than nothing. But now that I can leave for another agency, the WRA (thru Miss Rose) say that they might give me a raise to a P-1. The work in the WRA could be hellava lot more interesting and profitable, especially if and when they coordinate the statistical section with the Community Analysis, Community Services, and the Relocation program. In spite of the fact that my section is know as the Relocation Planning Division we haven't done very much along that line. We don't even have the clear picture of the people going out of the centers, nor of their jobs, much less about the affect of relocation on the center population. I understand that it is contemplated to add another man to the staff who would coordinate the various divisions of WRA with the Statistical Section, but that is still in the "talk" stage. I wonder when they will clearly define the work of the operating statistical section and the analysis section of the Relocation Planning Division, and when they will foresee what type of statistical information will be needed in relocation programs, //ix// at the Project level, and at the Relocation Field Office level. What they need is now a Community analysis at the Field Offices as much as at the Relocation Centers. Just when that will be gods only know, and maybe there ~~aren't any gods~~ aren't any gods.

Mort and Frank are working to beat the dogs, with their <sup>misses</sup> here now, they might finally break down and not work every single night at the office. Mort went to see Stauber and Evelyn Rose this afternoon to see what could be done along the lines you want, I think. Mort will be writing to you on it, I suppose.

Haven't made up my mind just what in the blazes ~~what~~ I would be doing in the future. But because of the financial situation, I think I am stuck in Washington until the first of the year. Have been living in sort of a daze for some time now. When I left the barbed wire enclosure of Tule Lake, I thought I had also left my complexes there too, but it seems that it has stayed with me. Sociologists and psychologists have a word for it don't they? Happily I am ignorant of it.

Had a funny experience the other nite. Evelyn Rose and Anne Finn took me along to see some friends of theirs who live in god knows where in North East Washington. After several transfers, I became quite perplex and asked Anne if she knew where she was going and in particular if she knew where we were supposed to get off. She claimed that she was vaguely familiar with the directions. The bus rode into the nite. It kept ~~winding~~ winding on and on into the dark. I had no idea where we were or in what direction we were going. Anne asked a lady in the ~~front~~ seat just front of her were "such and such" street was. Suddenly the lady said this (or rather the next) stop is it. So we all stood and got ready to get out. As soon as the bus stopped I hopped off. Just as I stepped off and the automatic door closed this lady said "This isn't it!" I was already outside with the doors closed behind me. Perplexed I look back into the bus, Anne was motioning me to come back on, but the door was closed. The only thing to do was to go the the front of the bus and climb on. Which I did. In the meantime it seems that Anne had yelled to the bus driver "Stop! You just left a man off at the wrong stop!"



Anne had gotten quite excited about me. And her accusation of the bus driver for having left me off at the wrong stop must have been funny as the dickens. The people in the bus were just roaring with laughter. And when I walked in they practically ~~howled~~ howled. Not that I blame them. The whole thing was so darn funny that I couldn't stop laughing which made the thing still more humorous. There after I was careful not to get off first. come

Anne Finn said that a request had ~~gone~~ to OEW in Washington from London asking whether Howard ~~could~~ could come back to this country. It isn't clear whether Howard had his transfer go thru or whether he just up and quit. Seymour Janow isn't certain either.

Thru Anne Finn I got in touch with Janow (I am told that you know him) who is in the Enemy section of the OEW for a possible position with that organization. It seemed that OEW isn't or can't ~~hire~~ hire niseis because it deals with "Vital defense" stuff. Am planning to go over there to the personnel office and find out just where the policy ~~was~~ made. Some have claimed that it is the Army, others feel that it is strictly a personnel office ruling.

Have been rambling on about nothing so ...til again,

sincerely, *noy*

p.s. Regards to WI, please.

Thanks for taking care of the Gestapo agents from the various agencies.

P.B. Heard that S.F. storage warehouse of the WPA might be taken over by the Army. How would that affect the storing question?



October 2, 1943

Mrs. Frances Mason  
331 Sixth Street  
Oakland, California

Dear Mrs. Mason:

This will acknowledge receipt of Money  
Order in the amount of \$30.00 in payment of the  
rent of 331 Sixth Street for the month of October.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas



# J. B. CLARK & SONS

615 LATHAM SQUARE BUILDING  
TELEPHONE GLENCOURT 0292  
12 OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

October 4, 1943

Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas  
Giannini Hall  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

Dear Dr. Thomas:

We are happy indeed to enclose an endorsement which should be attached to Agricultural Policy #216987, showing the reduction in rate. We are also enclosing a corrected statement showing the total cost on this contract for three years to be \$22.50.

Thanking you again for your patience and consideration of us

Sincerely,

*J. B. Clark*  
J. B. CLARK & SON

JBC:B  
Enclosure



October 8, 1943

Dear Naj:

I was certainly glad to get your letter. I wired your brother for the exact addresses of the Sasaki, Yamamotos and Higuchis, and WRA has telegraphed Tule Lake to have them execute the proper forms, so I really believe we will be able to get the stuff moved in a few days, then everything will be settled.

Regarding the insurance: I was certainly surprised at the reduction in the rate that we were able to get. The straight insurance was reduced from \$5.28 per hundred to 55¢, and the extended coverage from 45<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢ to 20¢, so all I had to pay was \$22.50 for the whole works. For your information, the insurance company is The Agricultural Insurance Company of Watertown, New York. It is perfectly amazing to think of the amount that you were being overcharged, and I feel quite happy that we have been able to get you the proper rate. I am enclosing a check received from your old insurance company when I cancelled the \$1,000 policy that was then in existence. You always lose a little money on these cancellations, but I think we have come out pretty well on the whole. I have, as of today, paid out the following amounts on your account:

J.B. Clark for insurance	..	\$22.50
J. Smith for plumbing	..	28.13
Taxi fare to and from the 6th		
St. house when I was pressed		
for time	..	2.00

The total is \$52.63, which I shall take out of your bank account, leaving you a balance of \$367.49. The only thing still to pay is the war damage insurance, which I think will amount to only \$3.00. I may have some additional taxi fares if we get the moving arranged next week, but I will keep you informed as to what I am spending.

I had a wonderful letter from your sister, and certainly appreciate her kind words.

I surely hope that you get your status with the government agencies fixed up pretty soon. It does



- 2 -

seem that you should get more than a P.1 rating, but I know how hard it is to get those things arranged. Your adventure with Ann Finn and the bus gave us a big laugh.

Regards from all here.

Sincerely yours,

P.S. I have your power of attorney and also forms that you sent me, so I think that everything is in order.



October 8, 1943

Messrs J. B. Clark & Son  
Latham Square Building  
Oakland, California

Dear Mr. Clark:

In fixing up the insurance for Najima, we neglected to do anything about the new rate on the war damage insurance. I am enclosing the documents you sent me, and will appreciate it if you can adjust the rate and return the policy to me.

Thank you very much for all the efforts you have made on our behalf.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology

Enclosure



October 8, 1943

Miss Nancy Najima  
125 E. 18th Avenue  
Denver 5, Colorado

Dear Miss Najima:

I cannot tell you how much I appreciate your swell letter of October 2. I am certainly most happy to be able to do what I can for Haruo and the family, and I assure you that you are giving me a great deal too much credit. There hasn't been any personal hardship or sacrifice, although I must admit I have put in a little time on the thing, and that my blood pressure has risen at various points, due to my anger at the way things have been handled. I think we are getting along beautifully now and shall soon have things in something like working order, and then it won't cause trouble to anybody.

I was indeed sorry not to be able to see you when I was in Denver, but if I get by that way again I will certainly look you up.

With cordial regards.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

DST:mw



October 9, 1943

Dear Dr. Thomas:

I received the watch in very good condition, and wish to thank you for all the trouble. We hope you are in good health.

We are all doing fine, and Hideo left for Idaho Falls on the day your telegram arrived. He has gone out to work in a farm with a group of fellows from this camp, and will probably be back as soon as the season is over.

We wish to express our deepest appreciation for taking care of our property in Oakland. Thanking you again for everything, I remain,

yours sincerely,  
Y. Kajima



## 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

1201

## SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENTNEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARDJ. C. WILLEVER  
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

FY79 22=TOPAZ UTAH 7 1000A

1943 OCT 7 AM 10 43

DR DOROTHY S THOMAS=

DUPLICATE OF TELEPHONED TELEGRAM

GIANNINI FOUNDATION UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
BERKELEY CALIF=

ENANOSUKE SASAKI FAMILY NO 20162 ADDRESS 1603 C SENSO  
YANAMOTO NO 20182 ADDRESS 5114 B MINORU HIGUCHI NO 31522  
ADDRESS 414 C=

YOTARO NAJINA.

NO 20162 1603 C NO 20182 5114 B NO 311522 414.

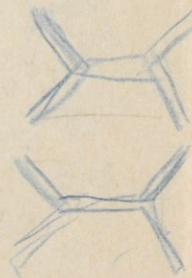
*as 6000 MW.*  
*1053*  
*OK*



Najima

APPROXIMATE INVENTORY OF ITEMS IN STOREROOM

- 1 Piano
- 1 Mandolin
- 3 Cases Victrola records
- 1 Cabinet phonograph records
- 1 Car Radio (Silver-tone)
- (2M-)  
25-10-14 Dressers 2 Higuchi 2 Mitsun
- 3 Benches, and 1 bench cushion
- (1M)  
28-4 Beds 1 Higuchi 1 Mitsunyasus
- (1M)  
2-3 Mattresses 1 Mitsun
- (1M)  
2-3 Springs for bed 1 Mitsunyasus
- (1M)  
2 Chests 1 Higuchi
- (1M)  
5-6 Tables 1 Mitsun
- 1 Case, leaves for table, also 1 leaf for table
- (1M)  
13-24 Chairs 5 Mitsun  
6 Mitsun
- 1 Davenport 1 Mitsun
- 4 Rugs
- 2 Rag Rugs
- 4 Pictures
- 4 Bookcases
- 4 Desks
- 2 Lamps and 1 Shade 1 Mitsunyasus
- 5 Mirrors
- 20 Cushions
- 1 Straw mat
- 1 "Regular" wall clock 1 Mitsunyasus





Inventory, Storeroom - 2.

2 Leather Cases

2 Large and 1 small linoleum

~~1 Linoleum~~ *1 mitsun*

~~10 Trunks~~ *1 yamamoto 1 Higuchi 2 mitsunagawa*

~~2 Electric Vacuum Cleaners~~ *1 mitsun*

1 Carpet Sweeper

1 Sewing Machine (with cover)

1 Cash Register

1 Bell bar

1 Chinese Checkers

~~1 Card table cover (red)~~ *1 mitsun*

3 American flags

2 Orange boxes (file material)

4 File cabinets

~~10~~ *3 Sasaki* Cartons, containing books, clothes, light fixtures, wooden parts, kitchen ware, drawing board and T-square, paints and electrical equipment.

~~1 Barrel dishes~~ *1 Higuchi*

9 Boxes, containing electrical massage equipment, books, medicine

1 Wicker case

~~2~~ *1 Sasaki* Wooden Crates

2 Hampers

5 Bags

1 Sack barbers' tools

2 Barbers' chairs

1 Child's seat for barber's chair



Inventory, Storeroom - 3.

- 1 Metal builders T-square
- 1 Box tools
- 1 Saw blade frame
- 2 Boxes nails
- 1 Airflow ~~ratchet~~ <sup>ratchet</sup> in frame
- 1 Hook
- 4 Sacks with fishing lines
- 1 Painter's ladder
- 1 Cotton blanket
- 1 Group metal light fixtures
- 1 Package glassware
- 1 Fence
- 2 Marble tops
- 2 Floor waxers
- 1 Electric Mangle (Kenmore)
- 1 Set collars in box
- 1 Blanket
- 1 Floor brush
- 1 Box windtunnel model
- 1 Linoleum wrapped roll of window shades
- 1 Green table top
- 1 Bird cage
- 1 Coat
- 1 Cane
- 1 Drawer



Inventory, storeroom -- 4

- 3 Wooden frames (large)
- 1 Knapsack (with fishing equipment)
- 1 Box Incense
- 1 Ash tray (with standard)
- 2 Hot water <sup>bottles</sup> ~~bottles~~ (aluminum)
- 1 Hat box (cardboard)
- 1 Bundle silks
- 4 Valises
- 1 Wicker basket of leather ware
- 1 Waste basket (full of clothing items)
- 1 Clothes bag
- 1 Wooden spindle
- 1 Bundle window shades and fishing equipment
- 2 Sickles
- 1 Box Fishing tackle
- 1 large tin pail
- 1 galvanized pail
- 3 Heaters (bathroom, gas and electric)
- 2 Mops

many small cartons, boxes and  
miscellaneous packages.



LIST OF FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT  
IN HOUSE AT 331, SIXTH STREET, OAKLAND

---

- 1 Brown twin bed with Simmons springs
- 1 Small brown table
- 2 Bookcases
- Kitchen chairs (probably about 4, ~~excluding the chairs with the dining table~~)
- 1 Large movable plywood clothes closet (upstairs room)
- 1 Floor lamp
- 1 End table
- 1 Piano bench
- 1 Sofa and 1 overstuffed chair
- 1 Dining table with leaves for expanding and 6 chairs
- 2 Pipe wrenches
- ~~Curtains and blinds in most rooms~~
- 1 Electric Refrigerator
- 1 Gas Stove
- 1 Washing machine



T E L E G R A M

October 7, 1943

DR.D.S.THOMAS

ENANOSAKE SASAKI, family #20162, address 1603-C. SENSO  
YAMAMOTO, #20182, address 5114-B. MINORU HIGUCHI, #31522  
Address 414-C.

YOTARO NAJIMA

Received 10.55 a.m.



DAY LETTER

October 6, 1943

HIDEO NAJIMA  
11-8-D  
CENTRAL UTAH RELOCATION PROJECT  
TOPAZ, UTAH

HAVE NOT RECEIVED AUTHORIZATION FROM SASAKIS, YAMAMOTOS AND  
HIGUCHIS. PLEASE WIRE, COLLECT, GIVING THEIR COMPLETE NAMES  
AND, IF POSSIBLE, ADDRESS IN TULE LAKE. OTHERWISE, FAMILY  
NUMBERS.

DOROTHY S THOMAS

*Sent 10.15 a.m.*



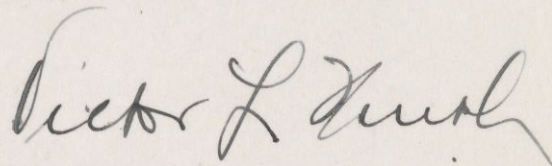
TELETYPE

October 7, 1943

Ray Best, Project Director  
Tule Lake Relocation Center  
Newell, California

Attention: J. S. Lowery, Evacuee Property Officer

Dr. Dorothy Thomas who has Power of Attorney for Haruo Najima wishes to move household goods to government storage. She has executed Form WRA 155 for his belongings but requires similar forms for three other evacuees who stored property in Najima's residence at 331 Sixth Street, Oakland, California. Can you obtain Form 155 from the following: Enonosake Sasaki, Family No. 20162, Senso Yamamoto, No. 20182, Minoru Higuchi, No. 31522. Airmail forms to Dr. Thomas Room 207 Giannini Hall, Berkeley.



Victor L. Furth  
Assistant Chief  
Evacuee Property Office

cc: Dr. Dorothy Thomas  
Room 207 Giannini Hall  
Berkeley, California



# J. B. CLARK & SONS

615 LATHAM SQUARE BUILDING  
TELEPHONE GLENCOURT 0292  
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

October 9, 1943

Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas  
Giannini Hall  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

Dear Dr. Thomas:

We are just in receipt of your letter of October 8, returning War Damage Corporation application and we enclose herewith new application, in triplicate, for your signature. You will note that the amount of the check to be enclosed to us with the application is \$3.00, made payable to the AGRICULTURAL INSURANCE COMPANY direct.

Thanking you

Sincerely,

*J. B. Clark*  
J. B. CLARK & SON

JBC:B



THE  
MINNESOTA MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

ORGANIZED IN 1880

J. B. CLARK, GENERAL AGENT

615 LATHAM SQUARE BUILDING

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

October 26, 1943

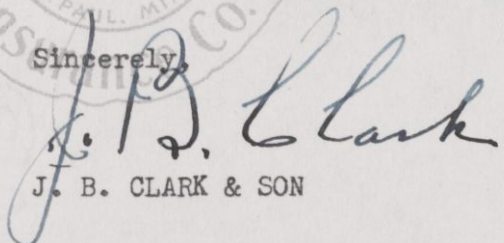
Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas  
Giannini Hall, University of California  
Berkeley, California

Dear Doctor Thomas:

We are pleased to enclose herewith Agricultural War Damage Corporation Policy #831-07-1068, covering on the property at #331-6th Street, Oakland, in the amount of \$3000.

We trust you find this all in order and thank you for this and other business which you have been kind enough to place with us.

Sincerely,

  
J. B. CLARK & SON

JBC:B

Enclosure



LIST OF FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT  
IN HOUSE AT 331 SIXTH STREET, OAKLAND  
WHEN MR. L. LEHMANN TOOK POSSESSION  
(excluding that stored in basement)

- ✓ 1 Brown twin bed with Simmons springs and (blue striped mattress)
- ✓ 1 Small brown table
- ✓ 2 Bookcases
- ✓ Kitchen chairs (probably about 4, excluding the chairs with the dining table)
- ✓ 1 Large movable plywood clothes closet (upstairs room)
- ✓ 1 Floor lamp
- ✓ 1 End table
- ✓ 1 Piano bench
- ✓ 1 Sofa and 1 overstuffed chair
- 1 Rug
- ✓ 1 Dining table with leaves for expanding and 6 chairs
- ✓ 2 Pipe wrenches
- Curtains and blinds in most rooms (except one room upstairs, bathroom and kitchen)
- ~~1 Small gas heater in front downstairs room~~



April 18 ,1942

Articles left in the house at 331- 6th St.  
Oakland, California for use by Lloyd Lehmann

- ✓ 1 blue stripped 3/4 mattress Serial no. 10
- ✓ 1 Simmons 3/4 bed spring with stabilizer
- ✓ 1 Brown 3/4 bed ~~spring~~ frame 3/4
- ✓ 1 oak dining room set- 1 table(round) and 6 six chairs
- ✓ piano bench
- ✓ 1 set of couch and sofa
- 1 magazine table
- 1 end table
- ✓ 1 7 way lamp
- ? — 1 bureau in Hide's room
- ? — 1 vacuum cleaner
- ? — 1 chair the one in Harnolds study
- 1 white book case
- 1 green book case
- 1 glass book case (brown)
- 1 green wastepaper basket
- ✓ 1 small brown table with drawer
- curtains in each room
- clothes closet in shizu's room



APPROXIMATE INVENTORY OF ITEMS IN STOREROOM

---

1 Piano  
1 Mandolin  
3 Cases Victrola records  
1 Cabinet phonograph records  
1 Car radio (Silver-tone)  
10 Dressers  
3 Benches, and 1 bench cushion  
2 Beds  
2 Mattresses  
2 Springs for bed  
1 Chest  
5 Tables  
1 Case, leaves for table, also 1 leaf for table  
13 Chairs  
4 Rugs  
2 Rag Rugs  
4 Pictures  
4 Bookcases  
4 Desks  
1 Lamp and 1 Shade  
5 Mirrors  
20 Cushions  
1 Straw mat



Najima Inventory, contd.

- 2 Leather Cases
- 2 Large and 1 small linoleum
- 6 Trunks
- 1 Electric Vacuum cleaner
- 1 Carpet Sweeper
- 1 Sewing machine (with cover)
- 1 Cash Register
- 1 Bell bar
- 1 Chinese checkers
- 3 American flags
- 2 Orange boxes (file material)
- 4 File cabinets
- 16 Cartons, containing books, clothes, light fixtures, wooden parts, kitchen ware, drawing board and T-square, paints and electrical equipment
- 9 Boxes, containing electrical massage equipment, books, medicine
- 1 Wicker case
- 1 Wooden crate
- 2 Hampers
- 5 Bags
- 1 Sack barbers' tools
- 2 Barbers' chairs
- 1 Child's seat for barber's chair
- 1 Metal builders T-square
- 1 Box tools



Najima Inventory, contd.

1 Saw blade frame  
2 Boxes nails  
1 Airflow racket in frame  
1 Hook  
4 Sacks with fishing lines  
1 Painter's ladder  
1 Cotton blanket  
1 Group metal light fixtures  
1 Package glassware  
1 Fence  
2 Marble tops  
2 Floor waxers  
1 Electric mangle (Kenmore)  
1 Set collars in box  
1 Blanket  
1 Floor brush  
1 Box Windtunnel model  
1 Linoleum wrapped roll of window shades  
1 Green table top  
1 Bird cage  
1 Coat  
1 Cane  
1 Drawer  
3 Wooden frames (large)  
1 Knapsack (with fishing equipment)  
1 Box Incense



Najima Inventory, contd.

- 1 Ash tray (with standard)
- 2 Hot water kettles (aluminum)
- 1 Hat box (cardboard)
- 1 Bundle silks
- 4 Valises
- 1 Wicker basket of leather ware
- 1 Waste basket (full of clothing items)
- 1 Clothes bag
- 1 Wooden spindle
- 1 Bundle window shades and fishing equipment
- 2 Sickles
- 1 Box Fishing tackle
- 1 Large tin pail
- 1 Galvanized pail
- 3 Heaters (bathroom, gas and electric)
- 2 Mops
- Many small cartons, boxes and miscellaneous packages
- 1 Brown twin bed with Simmons springs
- 1 Small brown table
- 2 Bookcases
- Kitchen chairs (probably about 4)
- 1 Large movable plywood clothes closet (upstairs room)
- 1 Floor lamp
- 1 End table
- 1 Piano bench



Najima Inventory, contd.

- 1 Sofa and 1 overstuffed chair
  - 1 Dining table with leaves for expanding and 6 chairs
  - 2 Pipe wrenches
  - 1 Electric Refrigerator
  - 1 Gas Stove
  - 1 Washing Machine
-



November 4, 1943

Dear Naj:

Believe it or not, your furniture has at last been moved from 331 Sixth Street to the government warehouse in San Francisco. I spent the day on Tuesday down there with a WRA man and two movers from Bekins. We had a swell time isolating the property of the Miysuyasus, Higuchis, Sasakis, and so on. My knowledge of Japanese improved rapidly, since Mr. Sasaki had informed us that he had written his name in Japanese but not in English. I went around matching characters and hope I came out all right in the long run. As far as I know, we did a pretty good job in getting together the things of the various people. There were a couple of items of Miko's that we could not identify, namely an oil heater and a cloth covered chest. They may have been moved along with your things. Higuchi apparently did not have the remotest idea of what he had but had listed six items, including two dressers. We identified one of the two dressers and the other four items, but found in addition dozens of packages marked Higuchi, which he did not list. Mr. Sasaki's valuable Japanese garments were safe and in good condition. As far as we could detect, no one has broken into the storeroom and nothing has been taken out, except the items which we recovered. A few things which were not listed were: one mirror, Niko Miko; one mirror and one bell bar, Alex. Yarachi; one vacuum cleaner belonging to Okusa. We sent these along with the Najima property. All in all it required three large Bekins vans to get the stuff removed, and you may be interested to know that you are the owner of some 12,000 lbs. of material that is now in the warehouse. Bekins did a swell job, and packed most of the little things in large cardboard cartons. I feel that your things will now be safe, and am happy to have had a hand in it.

As for the stuff under the house, the only things that I had the government take were two barrels and one trunk belonging to Higuchi. I paid two college boys \$5.00 a piece to move most of the other stuff into the storeroom, and Morton got some long nails and wood and boarded the inside door, so that it cannot be broken into again. (Morton dictating: the boarding is done in a very artistic fashion. You'll have a hell of a time taking it off). Unless the house burns down and I have to collect the insurance, I don't anticipate any more trouble from 331 Sixth Street, so you can dismiss me, as well as the house, from your list of worries.



I sent a roofer down yesterday to look at the place and hope to have an estimate soon. In the meantime, I have held out the money paid me by Mrs. Mason on November 4, and as you will see from the enclosed statement, I have a ~~balance in cash of \$9.57~~ *due me 10<sup>43</sup>*. I'll probably have to draw some more money out of your savings account to pay the roofer.

I am enclosing a list of missing numbers of WRA statistical releases. If you can get these for us we shall be grateful.

We are very much distressed about Tule Lake, and haven't gotten the whole thing straightened out in our minds yet.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

Enclosure



INDEFINITE LEAVES BY CENTERS  
STATE OF DESTINATION

Missing numbers: 9, 12, 16, 18

INDEFINITE LEAVES  
STATE OF DESTINATION

Missing numbers: 9b, 12b, 16b, 18b

SEASONAL LEAVES BY CENTERS - WEEKLY REPORTS  
COUNTY OF DESTINATION

Missing numbers: 9a, 12a, 15a, 16a, 18a

SEASONAL LEAVES BY CENTERS  
STATE OF DESTINATION

Missing numbers: 9b, 12b, 15b, 16b, 18b

INDEFINITE LEAVE BY AREAS

Missing numbers: 1, 2, 3, 9, 11

WEEKLY LEAVES BY CENTERS

Missing numbers: 1, 4, 8, 9, 16

---



3408- 13th St. NW  
Washington 10, D.C.  
Nov. 9, 1943

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Thanks for getting my junk out of the house and into the Government storage. Will you thank Mort for me for putting up a good strong barrier against inroad of rodents.

My Dad wrote and said that you had sent him his gold watch. Thanks. Incidentally, you are not taking out the expenses you have incurred on my account. I wish you would take out the amounts you have spent on telegrams, mail etc.

I have sent the missing numbers of the WRA releases. Fern believes you were "missed" by the mailing department here.

Did Evelyn or Mort explain where and how we get the figures on the releases? Just in case they didn't I am enclosing the forms which we receive from the project every day from which the releases are compiled. Before I go further, I might say that there are great deal of error to be found in them. Projects are not very careful in submitting the forms. WRA 177 and 178, Admission and Departure Advices, respectively, are submitted to Washington for each person entering or leaving a Project. The items are more or less self explanatory. Group leave is identical with seasonal leave (beet workers are in this category). Short term leaves are people who have gone out to settle some business, making surveys etc. Indefinite leave are those who are relocating permanently. The strict definition of the leaves you will find in the Manual which you probably have.

The information from the 177s and 178s are summarized daily on 176, Daily Evacuee Population Summary, part I and II. Part IV of 176 indicates the number of people supposed to be out on leave from the center by different types of leave. To date there has been no reconciliation of I and II with IV of 176s. In many instances errors have been found in IV. A check has been made between I and II with 177s and 178s only.

in IV  
The sources of error apparently is due to the backlog of leaves which were "not worked" back from February 1 (in most instances) to cover all the leaves from the centers and the failure to check the parts I and II with IV. And the projects are forever making errors in reporting, often even their corrected figures are in error. Queries are sent out but usually only for straighten out I and II. Another source of error is the failure to make corrections at the project level of persons who have changed from seasonal leave to indefinite leave without coming into the project at all. Just what the amount of error might be we don't know. We know however that seasonal leave to indefinite leave have not been recorded or have in some instances have only been partially corrected. And then 2000 persons who left the assembly centers for beet work have come into projects, or have changed status from seasonal to indefinite leave, but we don't know just how each project to whom the beet workers were assigned handled the incoming workers or changes of status. Probably incoming beet workers (from the assembly centers) were classified as seasonal workers ~~just~~ thus cutting down the seasonal leave departures (total) leaving a figure less than the actual number of people out on seasonal from the center. Presumably IV of 176 should have been adjusted for these beet workers, but we are not sure.

from  
Leaves ~~from~~ the weekly telegraphic reports, one of the releases you have, should be more or less similar to the part IV of 176. Other releases



do~~s~~ not necessary "add up" to <sup>this</sup> ~~these figures~~\* figures.

So when you start "adding" things up don't be too surprised if there are discrepancies. We will try to correct these discrepancies soon.

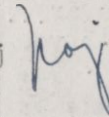
Evelyn will be leaving for Utah this Friday. She will be Utah Monday afternoon.

Thanks for every thing.

Regards to all.

sincerely,

naj





Nov. 18, 1943

Dear Dr. Thomas,

My intentions were good but I haven't sent you the letter which I wrote sometime ago. I think I ought to get off the dime and get this off before something happens.

My folks wrote me and asked me to give you their heartfelt thanks for going thru the trouble of getting our things put into Government storage. And they are relieved to know that you are looking after the house.

By now you should have received the missing "releases". If you haven't please let me know.

Howard Finn suddenly pulled into Washington from London. No one knew until he phoned from NYC that he was coming into town. Since Howard didn't want Anne to be excited, he suggested that Fern call Anne and tell her some friend of hers was coming into town and would like to have Anne meet them *at the station* since Fern wouldn't be able. Ann went to the station and waited. When the supposed friends did not arrive at 5:30 from NYC she phoned the office and wanted to know if they were really coming from NY. It seemed that the only way to keep Anne at the station was to tell her that Howard was coming. When she was told, she wouldn't believe it. She even accused us of playing a dirty trick on her. When finally convinced that Howard was really on his way to Washington, she was plenty excited. Good thing that she didn't have long to wait.

The tabulations from the Census is slowly coming along. The first tabulation on Sex, Year of Birth, and Marital Status is just about completed. We are making summary tables at the Office. Because of errors in coding and also in tabulation, corrections will have to be made on these summary tables.

The "kibei" tables has been causing 'quite a lot' of trouble because of errors. Inconsistencies in age at time in Japan, length of schooling in Japan etc.. have been found and they had to be corrected. We feel that after these 'kibei' tables are made most of the inconsistencies will be caught. It ought to run smoothly after this.... I hope.

With regard to Tule Lake, Frank probably has most of the dope via Evelyn for I understand that when Evelyn had lunch with him on her way out to Utah he asked her 'lots' of questions. Evelyn was at the Staff meeting when Myer returned. As much as I remember of what Evelyn told me, this is what supposed to have happened.

On the Monday when the first 'riot' was supposed to have taken place, Mr. Myer arrived at Tule as per schedule of his rounds of the Centers. While he was eating lunch some member of the personnel came and told him that some one in the colony was going around announcing that Mr. Myer wanted to speak to the colonists at 1:15 PM. In so far as Myer had no intention of doing that at that particular time, he thought maybe it was just a rumor, but to make sure he drove thru the project and sure enough people decked out in their Sunday best were going in droves toward the Ad Hall. It was estimated that there must have been something like 3 to 4 thousand men, women and children there.

While the crowd was gathering a group of delegates 'representing the project people' came in to talk with Mr. Myer. This group was lead by a Buddhist priest. (I understand that he was a Hawaiian Nisei). Myer was glad to meet with any group to get problems settled, so he invited them to a parley. It seems that this groups demanded certain things. Among which were further segregation of the pro-Japan Japanese from the rest, dismissal of certain project people among which was Best, better food, and better roads and porches. Apparently, Myer was able to give satisfactory answers to all the demands. However Myer stressed the fact that he could not give heed to



demands, altho he would be willing to talk over any problem. Myer~~s~~, it issaid, sensed that these delegates were fishing around for something... as if their hearts were not in the demands they were asking. Myer~~s~~ believed that these people were not the real leaders, but front men for others. It was also apparent that they had to get some concession from the WRA to 'save face'. When asked point blank by Myer if this was true, the priest admitted that was so. The delegates asked that Best's orders to take the men on strike from the farm *off the payroll* be put back on the payroll. Myer~~s~~ at first refused this, saying that if men wouldn't work they couldn't be paid, but when it was stated that this request was a 'face saving' measure, Myer~~s~~, with the approval of Best, rescinded the order.

While the meeting was going on the crowd was on the outside waiting. Loudspeakers blaring .. saying the Mr. Myer~~s~~ wanted to talk to them and that they shouldn't leave. In the meantime the nurses at the hospital were hysterical. They phoned the Directors' office saying that Japs were tearing down partitions and raising Cain. Myer~~s~~ sent a member of the delegation to investigate. The delegate reported that there was nothing happening at the hospital. Then another phone call came from the hospital reporting the same thing. This time Myer~~s~~ sent Schmidt of the interanl securities. Schmidt reported that there was nothing happening at the hospital. It seemed that the nurses just when 'plumb loco'.

Myer~~s~~ spoke to the crowd. He said that he got applauses ~~when~~ he went up to the microphone. He ~~said~~ *then* that he would be willing to meet and discuss anything the people in the colony wanted to be discussed, but he could not give way to demands. What he said was translated. (He had with him, some caucasian minister who had been in Japan for quite some time and knew Japanese very well. Apparently, the Japanese translator did not change what Myer~~s~~ had said into something else.) After the speech, the crowd dispersed ~~quietly~~ quietly, and quickly.

Myer~~s~~ had asked that the appointed personnel be assembled at 4:30 pm so that he could talk to them, but while he was eating his late lunch after the meeting at Best's, a message was delivered to him that the appointed personnel and the school teachers wanted him to come right over to the dining room and talk to them. They refused to wait until 4:30 to hear him speak and run the risk of being beaten up or mobbed by the Japs. Myer~~s~~ said that he had never seen a sadder lot of scared, hysterical people than he did at that meeting. It seemed that there was nothing he could say to them which would cool them off so he suggested that all those who wished to could leave the Project. Many did. At this point Myer~~s~~ was supposed to have said that here after, it would be necessary to examine the 'mental stability' and attitude of the personnel as well as qualifications for the job before appointment. He believes that most of the bad publicity will come out of this scared, hysterical personnel.

Before Myer~~s~~ left Tule arrangements were made with the military that any one of seven (?) persons on the appointed personnel could ask them to come in and take over. Best was also authorized to set up a fence between the ad area and the colony. Myer~~s~~ was to have stated that he knew that there was going to be trouble which would necessitate the military coming in as soon as the fence started going up.

Going back a little. It was reported at the staff meeting (via Evelyn) that Myer~~s~~ and Best were getting calls from the outside while the meeting with the delegates were still going on ~~that there~~ asking if the riots had been quelled, if the Japs were prevented from setting the soaked (oil) straws on fire, etc.

Between Monday nite and Wednesday nite when the army came in (?), 20 internl security officers were called in from other centers. On Wednesday nite around 9 pm a group of around 500 young fellows were seen coming into the Ad area. They were challenged by the internal security officer who was beaten up. As they approached Best's place, he put in a call to the military to take over. The army moved in. No one was hurt by gun fire, but many were bayoneted. Several doctors had to be called in from Tule to sew them up. Nothing serious.

Pedicard beating ~~up~~ had nothing to do with the 'riot'. It seemed that on Monday, a gang of young fellows went to the hospital while the meeting was going on and told him to go to the Ad building for the meeting. As they were talking



one of the fellows reached over to get Pedicord's glasses for him. Pedicord didn't wait but swung. So there was a scuffle. Myers ~~saw~~ <sup>said</sup> Pedicord that nite and Pedicord was beaming, and he told Myers that his black eye was nothing compared to the black eyes he gave to couple of fellows. When Myers asked him if he hadn't swung if he would <sup>it</sup> had been attacked. Pedicord said he didn't think so. Pedicord told Myer that he and his wife would stay in the Project altho many of the appointed personnel were leaving. He said he had nothing to be afraid of.

Men released from the WRA before the Army came in <sup>more</sup> Peck (steward), Pedicord, Kallam (farm)-can't think of the others.

These are just the high lights as I remember them. Sort of disjointed but it might be of some interest to you.

Civil Service Commission is acting up again. Bob Ota was married and the Wash Post carried a big picture of them. Next day some world war veteran phoned WRA and, apparently, also the Commission and wanted to know why in the hell they were using dirty Japs. Bob was just cleared by the Commission several days before ~~that~~ after investigation, however when the complaint was made he was taken off the cleared list. The funny thing is Bob wasn't notified by the Commission but the Commission refused the Dept of Interior the right to hire him. Bob believing that he was being processed by the Dept of Interior for a job was flabbergasted when the Dept told him that the Commission refused to clear him. <sup>After</sup> ~~After~~ Dolan of WRA phoned the Commission it came out that the Commission was scared stiff of the Congressional investigations. They felt that they couldn't pass anyone nisei who they could be 'dead' sure of. Today (Nov. 19) Commission told Dolan that the reason the clearance was suspended was because Bob had rejected the job. Bob said he hadn't. After phoning Interior, they found out that Interior was still holding the job open for Bob. When the Commission was confronted with this the Commission lamely claimed that someone had told them this.

Fern French said that George Shigekawa, a nisei working with the Social Security Board, was asked by the Commission to come over on a loan for a month or so and help out with the clearance of the niseis for a civil service job. Apparently, they do want to do something, but at the same time not take the risk of being raked over the coals by Dies and rest of the smelly mobs.

Thanks for everything and everything.

Best regards to WI and others.

sincerely, *Naj*

*X 'ans typing.*



November 26, 1943

Dear Naj:

Thanks for your two long letters with enclosures. I am just about to leave for Chicago, so I won't try to comment on most of the detailed points you raise. But I certainly was interested in the items about Tule Lake. Do you think, by-the-way, that you could continue to get me the reports of the Tokyo radio, for they are quite important in checking up on rumors that are floating around in the various projects?

I have written to Evelyn today, but won't be able to stop off to see her in Utah. I hope she'll be able to come to San Francisco.

Bob Billigmeier, by this time, must be in Washington. Unfortunately, I have lost his address, but I know he will get in touch with you. I am enclosing some letters which are quite important to him, since they may lead to a job. Will you please try to get them to him as soon as possible, and also transmit the follow message: That he should follow up on all these leads and not just take the first job that comes along. It would be quite advisable for him to go up to Princeton and see Notestein in person, and on the same trip stop off in Philadelphia and see Ed Hutchinson. I have written to both of them and told them he might come to see them. He will, of course, drop in to see Captain Dorn and Mrs. Taeuber, and he might also go to see Donald Young at 726 Jackson Place, N.W., and Sam Stauffer in the Pentagon Building. Tell him to drop me a line in Chicago about how things are progressing.

Hastily yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

Enclosures



December 31, 1943

Dear Naj:

This letter has two purposes.

1. It is a very sincere thank you for your fine Christmas gift. I, at first, felt somewhat reluctant in accepting your munificence, especially in view of the fact that I, myself, did not even send out so much as a card this year. After due deliberation, however, I feel that I cannot refuse your generosity. Therefore, I shall proceed to the Berkeley Music House and choose some records that I know you, yourself, would enjoy and I will do this with the proviso that you come and listen to them at the very earliest opportunity!

Actually as I review the year, I feel that I am far more indebted to you than you to me, and I feel, therefore, that the munificent gifts should go in the opposite direction. Among other things that I feel I owe you for are:

a. The pleasure of watching Dorothy Thomas climb up your back stairs and over your clotheslines. This was entertainment that could not be bought for any amount of money.

b. The pleasure of legal housebreaking.

c. The pleasure of watching Georges Sabagh emerge from the corner of your storeroom covered with dust and sneezing as no Frenchman ever sneezed before.

d. The pleasure of one good Chinese feed and one better Najima-cooked Suki-Yaki feast.

e. The pleasure of the occasional use of your fine camera.

f. The pleasure of your companionship in Washington.

As you see, the balance is altogether in my favor. With that I again thank you.

2. I am now in the midst of writing a report on the history of relocation and I think you may be able to help me. I am interested in tracing the course of relocation week by week or month by month from the very first recruitments of seasonal labor, if possible, or at least from the issuance of the first



administrative instruction on indefinite leave of July 20, 1942. Your office has issued statistical data of several types of leaves, but none of them begins before May 15, 1943. Thus, to take one example: the first report on weekly leave by centers was issued on May 22, 1943 and continues weekly thereafter. The reports on seasonal leaves, on leaves by state of destination, on dependents and workers, and on leaves by areas, all have similar late starting dates.

I am now specifically interested in the progress of the indefinite leave program. The first report on weekly leaves by centers (of May 22, 1943) shows that 5581 persons were out on indefinite leave on May 15, 1943. I am interested in having a breakdown of these 5581 people by weeks or months, starting from the very first indefinite leaves.

To put the matter another way: the data you have been releasing from May, 1943, records the weekly course of the leave program. But it throws no light on the progress of relocation for the year preceding May 22, 1943. I want the data, if possible, for the earlier period.

I do not know whether or not this earlier data is available. Certainly, however, the WRA must have some idea of the number of leaves issued in the earlier period and, even though this data may be incomplete and inaccurate, I would very much like to see it. If you think it would be advisable for me to write Mr. Stauber directly on the matter, I will be glad to do so.

Ruth and Mike join me in sending you our thanks and our best wishes for the finest new year possible.

Cordially yours,