

January 6, 1944

Dear Naj:

I have taken a great liberty with the typewriter that you so kindly loaned us, and I hope that you won't disapprove. We had a little crisis on the Study when the Indian Office in Poston suddenly withdrew all of their typewriters. One of our most productive workers there, a very responsible Issei who is a block manager, was left without a typewriter and, of course, could neither rent nor buy one because of various freezing orders. We, therefore, lent him this typewriter of yours. We are insuring it in transit, and also getting the University to insure it, in your name, for the time that it will be in Poston. This really means that our Study will go ahead much more efficiently since the person in question is so pressed for time that he cannot possibly write out all of his notes in longhand. Once more, may I say that I hope you will not think I have taken too great a liberty with your property.

We have had some heavy rains lately, and your tenant informs me that your roof is leaking badly, so I have put pressure on the roofer to get it repaired once and for all.

Happy New Year to you.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

Najima

January 12, 1944

Dear Mort,

There are figures available here in Washington on the indefinite and seasonal leaves almost as far back as the being of each center. However most of these stuff have not been worked up into any published form.

It was 'sorta funny' to see that you had written 'this data may be incomplete and inaccurate'. It is. Ain't saying anymore, tho. You know, pride of the agency and all that.

With regard to sending you the figures, I could but because I have no authority to send any information out will you write to Mr. Stauber. Or to Fern French. It's one them things called 'office procedure'.

DST asked me about the broadcast stuff I sent her. Frank asked me the same thing so I wrote to him since DST was still in Chicago at that time. I hope she was able to get the info from him. I believe that end of each broadcast there was some note made with regard to where it was beamed. I copied everything which the original report had on it. There is another long report on the repatriates, but not specifically on the Tule Lake stuff. It was something which the returning Japs gave out to their 'lowly Hind Ass' - the emperor's belch men. If and when I get off the dime, I will send you a copy. Incidentally, if you want to be my friend (as if that could be an asset) you better not mention this to anyone - 'cause, if you do - one little jappie americano boy will be in a very embarrassing situation.

Will you convey the following to DST. She can use the damned typewriter anyplace and anywhere. It could have been lost long time ago anyway. And then, will you ask her if she received a copy of the list of junk which the WRA has stored for me via DST and you. I have such a copy and if she does not have one I will send her this one pronto.

Could you also find out (quietly) if she ever received some Mexican wine glasses and decanter which I sent to her a week or so before Christmas. 'cause if she hasn't I'll have to cash myself down to the little Mejicano place and see what happened to it.

Am being to feel like a g---d---d--- capitalist, I got a raise. I'm going to very happy to be able to pay the Government more taxes -- to help the boys out on the Hill. Those Southern Congressmen will need the dough for their 'clients'.

Went to the Congress... the House and Senate with the Billigs.... god, its awful..... especially the House. There was more noise, back slapping, etc... than a overcrowded dive along lower 'J' and 'K' streets in Sacramento. Jesus Christs! To think that the law making is in the hands of those boys.... I get the creeps. Still got a bad taste in my mouth. Billigs who later went over to the Supreme Court said that there it was wonderful. Gotta' watch Bob now, he might become the staunch advocate of Plato.

Sorry can't send you the things you want immediately, but as soon as you write to Stauber or Fern French, I start out to get you the stuff.

My best to DST and WE, to Ruth and Mike.....

yours,

Naj

January 19, 1944

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Am enclosing the Tally Sheet for the stuff stored in the WRA warehouse.

When I mailed the Mexican glassware before Christmas, the shop keeper promised me that it would get to you before Christmas. In the next letter will you tell me whether it came Express or freight. I'm sure curious.

Bob is having some difficulty with the State Department. The population section in the State Department is anxious to hire him, but it appears that the investigation unit had 'something' against him. Maybe Bob was considered to be too liberal. This was told him in confidence, by Dr. Goode (?). Bob wrote a letter to the State Department investigative section via Dr. Goode (?) leaving it up to the latter to hold up Bob's letter if expedient. Dr. Goode presented Bob's letter to the investigative section and also talked to 'higher ups'. According ~~the~~ to the information Tuesday, there is a favorable sign. Bob's application etc has gone to the 'higher ups' and he feels that it is possible that he might be able to get on the State Department.. So Bob has his ups and downs.

Evelyn is going to Topaz on the 4th of February. Her next job is to set up a hand-punching card sort system for all those who go out of the centers. This card system will have all the pertinent 'basic' data which was coded on the IBM cards. From this card system it is hoped that some analysis can be made of those relocating, and from the 'residual' population analysis of those who are remaining in camps. There are steps being taken to get more complete information from the relocation office. The exact nature of it is not yet clear to me. Evelyn and Fern French have been working on it.

Mort requested data on the indefinite leaves prior to the issuance of leave data. I understood that he would be sending Stauber or French an 'official' letter requesting for the information. I could give it out but a subordinate gets into one hellava position. Am sorry I can't oblige.

Did I tell you that I got a raise when the reorganization of the Statistical section took place. The reorganization plans covered everything from the project level to the relocation office plus, and it also included cooperation between Divisions, in particular with the Community Analysis section. Latter is important, but ... no start yet. I got raised to a P-2 (Evelyn to a P-3) but am still doing the same ~~type~~ type of work I have been doing as a CAF 4, statistical clerk. Boy, these people sure go in for 'wasting the moneda'. But I should kick, I suppose.

I am planning on taking a trip to see my folks. ~~He~~ try to relocate them.. sometime in February. What I will be doing after that, is anybody's guess. I don't know. The work here can be interesting and profitable. But the way it has been going on... it aint. In spite of the swell rating they've given me, I doubt if I can stand it for long.

There is hellava lot of stuff going on, but I'm not Frank, Tom or Mort so it goes over me like water off of a duck's back. Sorry.

Too bad... good liquor is hard to get. No wonder flu bug has hit you and WI. Regards to WI.

sincerely,

Nag

PS. Yukio Kawamoto is down in South Pacific with my brother-in-law. They belong to the same team.

January 15, 1943

Dear Naj,

I do love beautiful things, and nothing has pleased me for a long time as much as the really beautiful decanter and glasses which arrived the day before yesterday (Morton tells me they were sent before Christmas; this shows what has happened to the great American efficiency) We will think of you every time we quaff our wine, and we shall hope that you will soon be out here with us again. We deeply appreciate your thought of us, and we certainly do like the gift.

Morton said you wanted to know whether or not I had received the list of things stored. I have not, and since I hold power of attorney, maybe you should send me the list. Also, thanks for the message about the typewriter. It certainly means a lot to us to be able to use it. I have had it insured, and will have it put in good order before returning it to you. ➤

Not much news here. I have had the flu off and on for no less than six weeks; I must be losing my grip. WI also had it but made a much better recovery than I did.

Let us hear how things are progressing in Washington.

Best wishes,

PS Did Bob Billigmeier get a job yet? Tell him to keep me informed.

February 2, 1944

Dear Naj:

I was certainly glad to get your letter of January 19. In regard to the Mexican glassware, it was sent by express. This means that they just took their own time about getting it out.

I am sorry to hear about Bob's difficulties with the State Department. Tell him that their investigator telephoned me and he can be sure that I gave him a good send-off. Tell him, however, that if he wants to get a job with the government, he'd better stop playing those wild communist records on the phonograph.

We'll write to Stauber for the data that Morton wants. At present we are in a state of mild depression since Morton got his 1-A classification in the draft. We are, of course, appealing, but don't know what sort of decision we will get.

I am certainly delighted to hear about your raise. What are you going to do about relocating your parents? I certainly wish we could see you when you come out in this area. Maybe you can get a special permit to come and look after your property interests?

By-the-way, I now have around \$450 in the bank for you. I had the roof fixed, but it only cost \$20. I should really like to get rid of this cash for I don't need anything like a big balance to meet emergencies. If you are willing, I would like to send you a check for \$300, thus leaving me approximately \$150 plus future checks for the rent to meet your taxes and any minor repairs that have to be made. Please let me know whether this suits your convenience.

I saw Yukio Kawamoto when he was in San Francisco, and he told me about your sister's marriage.

Let us hear something about the reactions to the new WRA set-up and the Nisei draft, and so on. You'll have to be our Washington informant, but we don't expect you to be an inu.

Everybody here sends regards.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

February 1, 1944

Mrs. Frances Mason
331 Sixth Street
Oakland, California

Dear Mrs. Mason:

The money order for the February rent was received this morning and, as arranged over the telephone yesterday, I am forwarding the stub, which is your receipt.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Dorothy Swaine Thomas

Enclosure
Stub #475835 of Money Order.

February 11, 1944

Mr. Karl J. Twomey
Tax Collector of Alameda County
Court House
Oakland, California

Dear Sir:

It will be appreciated if you will forward the
1943-1944 tax bill to me for the following property:

Owner's Name: Haruo Najima

Description: Map of Oakland as per J.
Kellersbergers Survey
Lot 10 Block 57

I hold Power of Attorney for Mr. Najima, and
will forward you a check as soon as the tax bill is
received. It is regretted that owing to an oversight,
the bill was not sent for before December 5, 1943.
Enclosed is a stamped addressed envelope.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

February 11, 1944

Dear Dr. Thomas,

I am enclosing a statement form the County Tax Collector. Will you mail in the amount which is requested. Thanks.

I had planned on leaving for Topaz this month but the way the things look now it won't be before next month. As for going into the Western Defense Command's restricted area, a snow ball in hell has more chance. However just for the "ducks" of the thing, I have Enquired around. Might be a very remote chance.

I hope Mort can be reclassified, but these days one never knows.... I'll keep my fingers crossed.

In a later letter I will try to answer some of the questions which you raised.

Regards to Mort, and W.I. And if Orpha is still with the Foundation my regards to her.

sincerely,

ing

P.S.

I have moved. My new address: 3970 Tunlaw Road, N.W.,

Washington 7, DC

With regard to the money from the rent, I'm not certain just what should be done with it. I could put it into War Bonds, but if I can persuade the banks to relocate the Bonds would be more troublesome to handle than cash. What would you suggest? Put it into Bonds, into Savings account or into a check account or other something else?

ing

November 4, 1943

PAID OUT BY D.S. THOMAS FOR REPAIRS,
INSURANCE, etc. ON NAJ'S PROPERTY
at 331 SIXTH STREET, OAKLAND, CALIF.

In hand, October check	\$ 30.00
" " November check	<u>30.00</u>
	\$60.00

PAID OUT:

Oct. 5, '43	J. B. Clark (insurance)	\$22.50	
"	J. Smith (plumbing)	28.13	
	Taxi to 331 Sixth St.	2.00	
Oct. 26, '43	War Risk Insurance	3.00	
Nov. 3, '43	Taxis (3) to 331 Sixth St.	4.80	
Nov. 4, '43	Paid for labor to remove things from under house to storeroom	<u>10.00</u>	70.43
	Due D.S.T.		<u>\$10.43</u>
Dec. 1st.	Dec. rent received & cashed		<u>30.00</u>
	Due Naj.		<u>\$19.57</u>
Jan. 18	Paid Roofer		<u>20.00</u>
	Owed D.S.T.		.43

Office of
EARL J. TWOMEY
COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR
Alameda County Court House, Oakland 7, California

From an audit of our records it appears that taxes on property assessed to you in the County of Alameda are **delinquent**.

As required by law, a **6% penalty** on the first installment has been added, and, if still unpaid by April 20th, a **further penalty** must be added.

For further information BRING THIS LETTER to my office at the Court House.

Earl J Twomey

Earl J. Twomey
Tax Collector

Date:

JAN 19 1944

BILL NO.

434

City or

Township Oakland

Description) Lot 10 Block 57

of)

Property:)

Map of Oakland, (as per J. Kellersberger's Survey)

Memo.: _____

(Name of former owner, etc.)

TO

Haruo Najima

331 Sixth St.,

Oakland, Calif.

	\$	c
Original Amount	30	13
6% Penalty	1	81
TOTAL	31	94

Paid 2/15/44

Statement re Haruo Najima's finances
by D.S. Thomas, Trustee

Feb 15, 1944.

Debit

Credit

Nov 4 Cash in bank

\$ 390.12 ✓

Owed to DST as per statement, Nov 4 \$ 10.43

Dec 1. December check held out and cashed

30.00.

Jan 18 Paid N. Heathorn for roofing repairs

20.00.

Feb 15 Paid County Tax Collected

1st Installment

30.13

Penalty

1.81

2nd Installment

30.13.

January & February checks deposited

60.00.

Interest on savings

1.72.

92.50

481.84

Cash in bank

389.34

481.84

92.50

Cash in bank 389.34

30.13

30.13

1.81

43

62.50

389.34

451.84 ✓

D.S.T.

~~Draw out for~~

Draw out for
me \$ 62.50.

3970 Tunlaw Road, N.W.
Washington 7, D.C.
February 14, 1944

Dear Dorothy,

Oophs, I mean Dr. Thomas.

When you have a little time I wonder if you can squeeze in some information regarding the Princeton Institute. A Mrs. Irene Taeuber and Dr. Lorimer called me today for a luncheon date at 1:00. They said that you had been contacted to explore my infamous past. Just what they wanted to find out I'm only slightly clear for it seems that they wanted somebody who was experienced in the field of population. Only interest which I can say that I have had... to study... would be the University of Chicago kind.. they type of stuff which Farrell dished out in Studs Lonigan. This^{is} what they wanted me to do. They feel that I know enough Japanese to be able to survey the official Japanese statistics in Japan which is available here in Washington for the period[✓] about 1930 to 1940[✓] from which I can make studies on the man power situation in Japan. Lorimer is interested in the possible shifts of man power .. or realignment of man power as the war goes on.. from the small manufacturerers to large industrial concerns or to small "farming out" type of industries. From subsequent discussion it seems also that Lorimer would be interested in the death and birth rates in Japan and a study of the factors which might be responsible for it. Mrs. Taeuber said something about a more long range plan doing something with the League of Nations interest in the possible development of the Orient, in particular, China and India to an industrial nation from a rural one. She feels that the study of the rise of rural Japan to an industrial nation would give some insight on to what can happen to China and India in the post war era. Roughly, this is the immediate problem they have at hand.

Arrangement suggested by Lorimer is this. Foreign Economic Administration due to Navy ruling cannot hire niseis, but he feels that some arrangement can be made with the Princeton Institute to hire me and then FEA would reimburse the Institute the amount for my salary. I would be working with Mrs. Taeuber at the Library of Congress. Lorimer said he cannot say, ~~that~~ in the event the arrangement should go thru, whether it would be job for the duration, but it is likely that it would be for about one year. The salary would be between 2600 and 3200 a year.. equivalent to a P-2 or P-3. The catch is, for most niseis, to get off the Civil Service rating, means one hell of a time getting back on. Commission has held up number of niseis for months.

The work sounds interesting as hell (excuse). More of a research type work which ought to be relaxing after having worked in an "action" agency for the

past 8 months. I suppose I would also get to know some of the "big shots" in the field of population (aside from their books) and see what makes them tick. (Some times when I read ~~of~~ some of their published works, I wonder what makes them tick. Their tick is somewhat differ from other "authority's tick".) With an eye to the future it might not be a bad field to be acquainted with all this is-frænd to friend, of course.....

The work seems to be interesting and also it gives me a chame to learn something about which I do not know very much. But then, there is a feeling of loyalty to the WRA which I feel. In spite of the fact that the WRA hasn't done great deal of things which can be done, at least even a meakly P-2 can talk to people who can do something. It gives us a chance to get the steam off of our chests, and it might even have some chance of being acted upon. And then being a nisei* like other niseis... I wo have some interest in the agency and what it does.

I have not yet given too definite an answer altho I have told them that I would be interestèd pending what the draft will do and what arrangements can be made with the WRA. Before I make up my mind I would like to know what the Princeton Institue stands for, what it does, what is Mrs. Taeuber's specialty in the field of population, and lastly what is Dr. Lorimer's approach to the problems in population. I could read his stuff but even if I did I prbably won't get too much out of it.

Nisei fellows here are more or less waiting for the draft to catch up with them. In one word, they are resigned to the fact that they will be drafted. Some questions have been raised about "suicide battalions" of niseis, but most of them just don't care. Most of them just take a fatalistic attitude. Those who are married wonder what's going to happen to their wives.. but they don't seem to be too much worrèd. Stragely, these fellows don't talk about what difficulties their families inceters will run up against if they are ^{not} able to help them relocate. They seem to assume that some thing will be done for them.

Rex Lee and his cohorts are contemplating on revising the seasonal leaves so that only seasonal leaves will be those in agriculture ~~apere-~~ via contract with some Federal agency (War Food Administration etc.). All other seasonal leaves will be out out. There is to be no direct contact between the ~~workers~~ and prospective employers. Those who go out on seasonal agricultural work will be charged \$1 per day, while they are working, for maintaining residence at a Center. There will be an intermediate leave which is designed to allow individuals to go out who have ideas for relocating. They can look around, and if they decide to relocate to the place where they have gone on intermediate leave, WRA will refund the train fare. There are time limits on the two kinds of leave but I've forgotten

just what they were. Indefinite leave remains just about the same as before. This new change in policy has not yet been instituted. ~~Such move~~ ~~Before~~ it goes into effect ~~will~~ be approved by the men out in the field. ~~The~~ proposed plan is now circulating at the Centers.

It is hoped that this will help relocation. Some men in the WRA have expressed their doubts about the success of such plans for relocating people. They feel, as I do, that it will only confirm the rumors that the WRA is trying to force people out of the centers, that the Government is trying to get out of the blame for the evacuation etc....

Jerry Klutzz in his column in the Wash Post stated (ditto a columnist in Wash News) sometime ago that the plans for WRA transfer to Interior had been signed. Myers said at a meeting that as far as he knew it was only at talking stage, even today. However he said that if WRA goes under Ickes, they have been assured that the staff will be kept, and he implied probably the policies of WRA. In spite of the Western States delegation, he said he is not resigning. Their statements are only wishful thinking. But, he said, if the President should ask him to resign he would, or if the policies (when under Interior) changes so that he could no longer go along with it with a clear conscience, he would resign. *However* *He would not quit under fire. He never has and never will. (quote)*

Men in the staff feel that if a transfer to Interior is made it would be to prevent Congress from shooting at WRA since a cabinet officer such as Ickes would be a harder target than a Director of a small agency like WRA, and *the transfer if executed is* not a reprimand for the way WRA has handled the problem of the evacuees.

Regards to all.

sincerely,

Hg.

February 16, 1944

Dear Naj:

First, in regard to your money: I have decided to send you a check and you can either put it in a savings account somewhere near you, or decide what else to do with it. I haven't yet been to the bank but will try to do so tomorrow, and I imagine the check will be for something around \$350.00. I am sorry I slipped up in regard to the tax business, but they didn't send me any bill and I didn't realize that I was supposed to take the initiative. Everything is cleared up now and your taxes are all paid.

In regard to the population job: it will certainly be interesting work, and the only reason I can see for hesitating is the matter of Civil Service status. Both Mrs. Taeuber and Larimer are first-rate. Larimer was responsible for that report called "Problems of a Changing Population" put out by the National Resources Committee. Mrs. Taeuber edits the "Journal Population Index" which, I think, is the best thing of its kind in existence. They are both swell people. I have known them for a long time.

In regard to the Princeton Institute: the connection there would be all to the good. Frank Notestein is the head of it and he certainly ranks among the half-dozen best people in population field in America. They have a very small group working there but their performance has really been excellent; so I would say that if you are willing to take the risk on the Civil Service matter, you should by all means consider this job very seriously.

In reply to Mrs. Taeuber's telegram, I recommended you very highly but told her that you were not a population expert. However, I also told her that I didn't know anyone who knew Japanese who had been trained in population, and that is really the truth.

Now that the WRA has gone under the Department of the Interior, we hope you will keep us informed of what the change actually means.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

March 1, 1944

Dear Naj:

At last I have made the cash transfer from the Savings account. I enclose a check for \$350.00 and a statement of your account, as of today (before the March rent has been deposited). As you see, there is still a balance of \$39.34.

Yours in haste,

February 16, 1944

STATEMENT RE HARUO NAJIMA's FINANCES

by D.S. Thomas, Trustee

	<u>Dr.</u>	<u>Cr.</u>
1943		
Nov. 4 Cash in bank		\$ 390.12
" 4 Owed to D.S.T., as per state- ment of Nov. 4	\$ 10.43	
Dec. 1 December rent held out and check cashed		30.00
1944		
Jan. 18 Paid N. Heathorn for roofing repairs	20.00	
Feb. 15 Paid County Tax Collector		
1st Installment	30.13	
Penalty	1.81	
2nd Installment	30.13	
January and February checks deposited		60.00
Interest on Savings		1.72
	\$92.50	\$481.84
		Less 92.50
Cash in bank ...		\$389.34

*Continued for bank Sent to H.N.
Grand total, 1944*

*Balance in bank
D.S.T. 62.50
350.00
\$412.50*

350.00

39.34

March 2, 1944

Mrs. Frances Mason
331 Sixth Street
Oakland, California

Dear Mrs. Mason:

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

I haven't received the door key you
mentioned over the telephone some weeks ago, and
will appreciate it if you will send the key by
return mail.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

3970 Tunlaw Rd N.W.
Washington D.C.
March 19, 1944

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Thanks for sending me the check for 350 dollars. I put it in the bank pending the decision from the folks. I don't know whether they want me to buy bonds with it or whether they would like to have it for "cash on hand".

Thanks also for your information on the "almost" job with Dr. Taueber and Dr. Lorimer. Mrs. Taueber called and told me that it was going thru but because of the Army situation I don't think I would be eligible. On March 8, I received my orders for pre-induction physical examination. Strange part of it all was that I was ordered to report to Oakland, California for the exam. I would have if they had given me more time. I was supposed to have gone on the 10th. I wired the board asking them for traveling time but they wired back telling me to ask for a transfer to the Washington Board. So now I am waiting to see when I will have to report for my physical here in Washington. I understand that it will probably take three weeks.

Thru Dr. Taueber I was introduced to see a Dr. Fase (?), formerly of Pomona U who is the chief of the Far Eastern section in the Office of Strategic Services. But I never did get to see him, I was referred to his assistant in the Japan section. My understanding with Dr. Taueber was that the type of work I would be doing was something like what I would be doing if I had taken the job with her, but instead the O.S.S. had some vague idea that I was interested in economic analysis of the Far East etc. Altho not in so many words but indirectly they gave me the idea that they were doing me a favor by giving me an interview etc. Maybe they were, but it sorta got under my skin. The organization is so hush-hush that they couldn't or wouldn't even tell me what type of job might be open. To get a person for \$50 a month they sure were particular. I often wonder if their hush-hush policy isn't so much as to keep military secrets ~~as it is~~ ^{but a mess} to cover up for duplication of work which is going on in O.S.S., F.E.A., State Department, Army, Navy and other agencies. Off hand there seems to be quite a bit of same type of analyses and studies conducted by these various agencies. O.S.S. is to call me back next week for an interview with some kind of a chief, but I think I will tell them to go to h--- and go to Savage instead. Of course, all this based on the assumption that I won't be a 4-F.

Within the next few weeks, unless the Army decides otherwise, I will be going back to Topaz on the long awaited trip. I hope to go to Topaz via Rohwer, Herome, Denver and Salt Lake. Maybe a few more Centers on the way.

Just a short note to thank you for everything.

Regards to W.I. Will you ask him what he thinks about Mydal's American Dilemma? I got me a copy.

sincerely,

Ray

P.S. The gal who did the "weird" painting of your (or for your) investigators etc, Ynez Johnston, lives on your street somewhere. 2904 Garber. Thought you might be interested in seeing the person who created the "picture".

May 8, 1944

11-8-D.

Topog. Wash.

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Left D.C. over a week ago and I am now at Topog waiting for my induction call. It seems one has to sign all sorts of forms and send wires to get into the Army. This idea of just waiting gets on one's nerves.

I would ask my local board to rush things and if I don't hear in a few days I'm planning to leave Topog for points East. Not certain where I'll go. This place is dead as a door nail. Only thing going on is relocation and seasonal leaves plus induction - they just go along quite smoothly. At Rehner I found parties going on by stewards, by blocks etc for people scheduled for Tule Lake according to the latest segregation policy.

Here at Topog I met a Helen Shire Ascher who, I understand, was your class mate. Anyway, she says regards to you. She is working in the Relocation counseling section here.

Toni Shilbunt is here her mother is seriously ill. Toni said it ~~was~~ ^{is} cancer.

What is Morton's draft status?

Just a line to let you know that I'm still kicking around.

Sincerely
Naj

May 22, 1944

Mr. Haruo Najima
11-8-D
Central Utah Relocation Project
Topaz, Utah

Dear Naj:

It was good to hear from you. This is just a brief note to tell you that we are having a conference in Salt Lake City from June 8 to 12. I have a free day on the 13th, and if I can figure any means to get to and from Topaz in one day I shall certainly run down. Have you any suggestions as to how a trip can be made in that short interval?

My best regards to Helen Shire Ascher. She was a good friend of mine in undergraduate days, but have seen very little of her since.

You asked about Morton's draft status. He got a 1-A Limited Service, so we don't expect him to be called very soon.

All here send regards.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas



29 May 1944

Co. F. T-95

Camp Savage, Minn.

Dear D.S.T. & W.I.

Finally Uncle Sam has put me into the ranks of the disembodied souls. Here the machinery for "de-individualizing" human beings goes on at a rapid pace - and also WPA complex become rather well developed. I've already learned that the way to get along in this man's army is to recognize that there is only one answer "Yes, sir", that there is the right way and the Army way, and above all keep your mouth shut and do whatever a buck private or whoever is in charge tell you. After doing KP at Ft. Douglas - I learned

Saw Tom at Topog and it seem that Mrs. Horan, her mother, is in bad shape.

Having been here only for a few days, I don't know whether I'm going to like it or not - it is my first impression that it is worse than at Topog - now so than at Leuk.

In a few days, I understand, we are to leave for training (basic) either in Florida or Alabama - but it's a rumor so I don't know exactly where.

Regards to all.

sil again. Naj

ENLISTED MEN'S SERVICE CLUB

FORT MCCLELLAN, ALABAMA

14 June 1944

Co. A. 34 Bn

Ft. McClellan, Ala.

Dear Dr. Thomas,

In the Army one never seems to know exactly where the would land. And all the hush hush thing - christ! It sure hard on ones central, never knowing when I might say the wrong thing, write the wrong thing. I think I'm still being investigated by the FBI and what not - what the h - !

We are here, I'm told, for an 8 week basic infantry training then back to Savage. We learn here what all infantry men learn, use of all type of arms, military discipline, drills, and physical fitness courses, all in the hot sultry weather of Alabama. Strongly enough, I enjoy it all including the heat, sweat and hard work (physical). It's ~~not~~ something different from the desk job deals. I was pretty well run down physically - altho I didn't realize it and this training is building me up. And the escapist in me, has the excuse now for not thinking about "lots" of things I should be thoroughly worried about -

but I'm not - "best nervous" complex
is worn out down. Just don't even
worry about it. Time & today seem
to be the trend and I'm very easily -
disgustingly easily - fallen into the
habit.

Do you recall the trouble here at
McClellan early in the year? Where
"kibers" were insubordinate and refused
to train, and who were given prison
sentences. They are in the 33rd, and I'm
in the 34th Battalion. I've spoken to some
of them and there seem to be a divided
opinion as to the guilt of the offenders.

Without doubt they agree on one point,
that these men broke the military law
by refusing to obey their superior officers
- regardless of the justice or injustice of the
command. Among the soldiers this in itself
is sufficient and conclusive. Buterness
of those refusing to obey orders because
of their parents' inaction, being pushed
from one Army post to another, doing
all the menial (? spelling) tasks, called
"low down jobs", placed under guard

ENLISTED MEN'S SERVICE CLUB

in ~~stockade~~ ~~and barracks~~
FORT MCCLELLAN, ALABAMA

when President Roosevelt visited some of the Army Posts couple of years ago, and "breaking" rated men (sergeants, corporals, etc) to heck privates were all accumulated and he did just blow off. In spite of seeming justice for their action most men at Savage and here feel that their action was unwise and tremendously detrimental to the well being of the men in other camps and outside the Army. The 33rd however is a good fighting unit - which has broken many training records. These men are all old timers in the Army, 2-3 years, and tough hell-beat fighters. They march from 7 A.M. til 6 P.M. coming in for lunch in between and run out again. Something which our "green horns" are incapable of doing even without the hell pack and rifle.

We are to return to Savage in

August.

If Mark isn't using the camera,
would you send it to me? ^{insured} collect? ~~and~~
I would like to have the camera,
but not the light holders nor the
tripod. Am having some difficulty
in getting film but once in a while
I'm lucky — I want to get pictures
of visit in the Army —

How's Shub's draft status and
his thesis?

Regards ^{to} all, the Foundation

til again.

Wg.

P.S. What is W's reaction to American Dilemma
by Mupel?

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

17 June 1944

Dr. Dorothy Thomas
Evacuation Studies
College of Agriculture
University of California
Berkeley, California

Dear Dr. Thomas:

Could you give us any information on Mr. Harao Najima.
Is he employed at the present time? Do you know his
competence in reading the Japanese written language?
If he is not employed, and interested in employment
involving use of Japanese written material, will you
please ask him to write me giving information regard-
ing his Japanese language studies.

Sincerely yours,

Charles B. Fahs

Charles B. Fahs
Chief
Far East Division

*Please answer
this "in DFT's
bureau" - send copy
to Naj - also tell
Naj we paid for
his postage &
send it off*

June 19, 1944

Dear Naj:

This is D.S.T. reporting on a trip to Utah. Your letter telling of your induction into the Army and your sad experience with KP arrived just as I was about to leave. We had more than a week in Salt Lake City in which I worked the boys and myself to a point where no one could sleep or even eat properly and where we all had dark shadows under our eyes. It really was worth it though in terms of the progress made in working out some of the difficult problems on the study.

Mr. Peterson of WRA kindly drove me to Topaz for a day, and I not only renewed acquaintance with my old friend Helen Ascher, but also dropped in to see your parents. I am afraid I took them very much by surprise but they certainly were extremely cordial. In fact, they loaded me down with some beautiful gifts which I am now displaying proudly in the office. Your mother is certainly quite an artist in shellwork. They also gave me a photograph of the whole family taken just before evacuation. Tell your father that the picture doesn't really do justice to him. He is certainly a handsome man and has a delightful personality, and I thought your mother was really charming. The family seemed to be well and in pretty good spirits.

You will be amused to know that the other day W.I. said that he didn't like any glasses that we had in the house except the ones that Naj had given us.

Let me hear from you soon again, and I certainly hope when you get a furlough you will come out to the Coast, not only to look over your property, but to give your old friends a chance to see you and satisfy Mrs. Wilson's curiosity as to what Naj is really like. Everyone sends regards.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

June 26, 1944

Mr. Charles B. Fahs, Chief
Far East Division
Office of Strategic Services
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Fahs:

Your letter of June 17 to Dr. Thomas arrived during her absence from the Campus.

Mr. Haruo Najima is now in the United States Army, and is stationed at Fort McClellan, Alabama. His present address is:

Pte. Haruo Najima, #39930028
Co. A., 34 Bn.,
Fort McClellan, Alabama.

I am forwarding your letter to Mr. Najima for his information.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Dorothy Swaine Thomas

June 26, 1944

Dear Naj:

During Dr. Thomas' absence from the office, the enclosed letter was received from Mr. Fahs of the Office of Strategic Services. I have replied to Mr. Fahs, and am attaching a copy for your information.

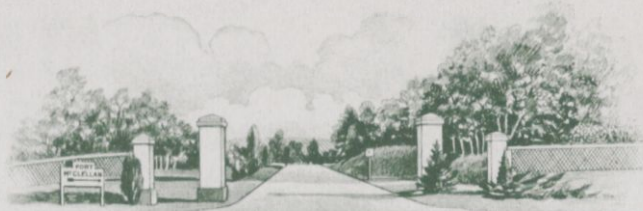
We sent off your camera on June 23 by Railway Express, and it should reach you some time this week. Dr. Thomas paid the express charges at this end, as that seemed the simplest procedure. Hope it arrives in good shape.

Regards from all in the office.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Dorothy Swaine Thomas

Enclosures



FORT McCLELLAN
ALABAMA

29 June 1944

Co. A. 34 Bw.

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Thanks for your letter. It is doubly appreciated knowing that you are pressed for time.

Johns haven't written for several weeks thus I haven't received of their reaction to your surprise visit. I expect to hear from them soon.

To date, the camera hasn't arrived but one of these days it will probably drag in. The fibre problem is bad here as elsewhere but one can usually manage to pick one up now and then. I hope.

Haven't heard from Fred nor Sam for quite some time - so I assume they are busy as ever on their respective problems.

Nothing much to write about here. We are now in the 3rd week of our 8 week cycle. For the past week we've been taught the correct method in handling the Garand rifle. There is great deal more to the technique of handling a rifle on the range and its care than people expect. It takes hours of concentration and painful work to learn how to shoot without wasting a bullet. Even before we go onto the range most of us have brains here and there

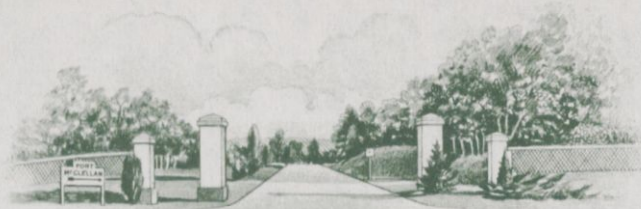


FORT McCLELLAN
ALABAMA

secured while changing positions of firing. Next week we will be on the range. Tomorrow we will learn the 'correct' technique in digging fox holes - not just holes in the ground which might become graves. And as the day goes on aside from physical training there is nothing - a very little, but the pure physical exertion leaves very little time for us to worry or think about anything.

On marches we, at first, smell the southern pine, the sweltering grassland, but soon all this, and the scenic beauty (if any) are lost in the agony of biting shoulder straps, bouncing canteen on one's hips, the increasing weight of the rifle and helmet, the salty grime which pours from never ending fountain gushing into the eyes and down the back and sides - ^{also in} evaporating in the breeze ~~and we~~ are cooled. So like number of mechanical men we wheel and turn, march and fall to the commands of our officers and non-coms.

There can be no individual thought if one wishes to be free of the guard house - a extra duty. It is 'yo, ser' alone.

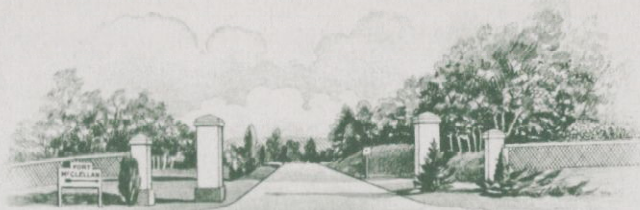


FORT MCCLELLAN
ALABAMA

2 July.

In spite of all the griping, I have been doing — especially with 'regimentation' and such, I can appreciate the temporary necessity for 'dictatorial' methods used. On the average soldiers have to be told in no uncertain terms what to do or not to do. If anything is to sink in, it, generally, has to be dogmatic. I suppose behind all these orders and regimented order the intent of our leaders is the most important. It can be like Germany or Japan, sorta, depending what they do.

Yesterday I received my camera ~~in~~ (swell condition) via Express. Letter from Miss Wilson also came informing me that you had paid express charges. Could you send me the bill, so I can reimburse you? Or if you wish, it might be just as easy to deduct the amount I owe you from the rent money. Miss Wilson also enclosed a copy letter from Mr. Fols. Funny thing is — that when I was still in D.C. I was introduced to him by Mrs. Irene Funder. He had his associates interview me and they told me that they had nothing which would interest me. So as far as I was concerned the whole business was closed. These Washington squires are screwy



FORT McCLELLAN
ALABAMA

My room mate in D.C. (a vicar) had a job offers so he went to the Office of Geographic Names and to the U.S. Map Service. That was months before he was ever notified of his induction.

They stalled and he bowed — they liked his qualifications ~~jobs~~ the jobs were there but they said in a few weeks they will notify him — shucks novels went by — still no notice. He went into the Army and because of some error he was given an honorable discharge — still no job. But then he was reinducted and sent to Savage last week.

And as you might expect, the jobs were to be his — so they said. Gets me pretty sore some times. My room mate being over ⁽¹²⁾ aged would have deferred because of his job.

It takes all sorts of dopes to make ^{the world} go around. I know I'm one of them dopes making it tick.

Tomorrow we're starting our 4th week. And in a way it is our 1st pay off. We're going onto the range to fire the Garand rifle. The rifle which we carried in the blinding, sweet laden days, the rifle we cleaned and disassembled, disassembled



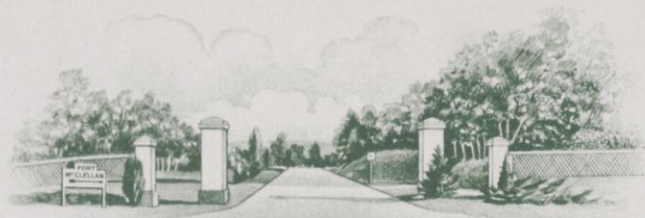
FORT McCLELLAN
ALABAMA

and cleared, the parts of which we know
blindfolded. For a whole week, hours on end
we'll be firing — and in the evening disassemble
and clean ^{our} ~~for~~ into the night. Just to fire this
rifle loop of drilling has been expended.

The question we all ask ourselves is, will
we make the grade? Will we be qualified
~~refugees~~
as 'marksmen', sharpshooters, or experts. No one
thinks of not qualifying. Strange that ~~nothing~~ such
as firing a rifle should be placed in so high
a place. But maybe our lives might depend
upon it.

The final test will come when we
go for a week on a ~~short~~ maneuver where
everything we learned will be put into practice.

I hope we don't have to go through another
experience of having tanks rolling over our
fox holes as we 'crouch' and beg the tailors of
our holes. But there would probably be only
one other such experience — crawling for
several hundred yards with machine gun
bullets whining low overhead and with
definite exploding close by —.



FORT McCLELLAN
ALABAMA

But all this is just a jig saw game
invented by adults copying the kids at play.
The stakes are high, that's all.

So merrily we march along.

til again
Noj.

P.S.

How is W.I.'s energy food (bottled variety)
holding up in this war economy?

AND CONDITIONS

to the benefit of and be
and all carriers handling this
shipment, or return thereof.
of the rate charged for carrying said property.
upon the value thereof and is based upon an agreed
valuation of not exceeding fifty dollars for any shipment of 100 pounds or
less and not exceeding fifty cents per pound, actual weight, for any ship-
ment in excess of 100 pounds, unless a greater value is declared at the
time of shipment; the shipper agrees that the company shall not be liable
in any event for more than fifty dollars for any shipment of 100 pounds
or less, or for more than fifty cents per pound, actual weight, for any
shipment weighing more than 100 pounds, unless a greater value is
stated herein. Unless a greater value is declared and stated herein the
shipper agrees that the value of the shipment is as last above set out
and that the liability of the company shall in no event exceed such value.

3. Unless caused by its own negligence or that of its agents, the
company shall not be liable for—

- Difference in weight or quantity caused by shrinkage, leakage,
or evaporation.
- The death, injury, or escape of live freight.
- Loss of money, bullion, bonds, coupons, jewelry, precious
stones, valuable papers, or other matter of extraordinary value,
unless such articles are enumerated in the receipt.

4. Unless caused in whole or in part by its own negligence or that
of its agents, the company shall not be liable for loss, damage or delay
caused by—

- The act or default of the shipper or owner.
- The nature of the property, or defect or inherent vice therein.
- Improper or insufficient packing, securing, or addressing.
- The Act of God, public enemies, authority of law, quarantine,
plots, strikes, perils of navigation, the hazards or dangers in-
cident to a state of war, or occurrence in customs warehouse.
- The examination by, or partial delivery to the consignee of
C.O.D. shipments.
- Delivery under instructions of consignor or consignee at sta-
tions where there is no agent of the company after such ship-
ments have been left at such stations.

5. Packages containing fragile articles or articles consisting wholly
or in part of glass must be so marked and be packed so as to insure
safe transportation by express with ordinary care.

6. When consigned to a place at which the express company has no
office, shipments must be marked with the name of the express station
at which delivery will be accepted or be marked with forwarding direc-
tions if to go beyond the express company's line by a carrier other than
an express company. If not so marked shipments will be refused.

7. As conditions precedent to recovery claims must be made in
writing to the originating or delivering carrier within nine months after
delivery of the property or, in case of failure to make delivery, then
within nine months and fifteen days after date of shipment; and suits
shall be instituted only within two years and one day after the date
when notice in writing is given by the carrier to the claimant that the
carrier has disallowed the claim or any part or parts thereof.

8. If any C. O. D. is not paid within thirty days after notice of non-
delivery has been mailed to the shipper the company may at its option
return the property to the consignor.

9. Free delivery will not be made at points where the company main-
tains no delivery service; at points where delivery service is maintained
free delivery will not be made at addresses beyond the established and
published delivery limits.

Special Additional Provisions as to Shipments Forwarded by Vessel from
the United States to Places in Foreign Countries.

10. If the destination specified in this receipt is in a foreign country,
the property covered hereby shall, as to transit over ocean routes and by
their foreign connections to such destination, be subject to all the terms
and conditions of the receipts or bills of lading of ocean carriers as ac-
cepted by the company for the shipment, and of foreign carriers partici-
pating in the transportation, and as to such transit is accepted for trans-
portation and delivery subject to the acts, ladings, laws, regulations, and
customs of overseas and foreign carriers, custodians, and governments.

11. The company shall not be liable for any loss, damage, or delay
to said shipments over ocean routes and their foreign connections, the
destination of which is in a foreign country, occurring outside the bound-
aries of the United States, which may be occasioned by any such acts,
ladings, laws, regulations, or customs. Claims for loss, damage or delay
must be made in writing to the carrier at the port of export or to the
carrier issuing this receipt, within nine months after delivery of the
property at said port or in case of failure to make such delivery then
within nine months and fifteen days after date of shipment; and claims
so made against said delivering or issuing carrier shall be deemed to
have been made against any carrier which may be liable hereunder.
Suits shall be instituted only within two years and one day after the
date when notice in writing is given by the carrier to the claimant that
the carrier has disallowed the claim or any part or parts thereof. Where
claims are not so made, and/or suits are not instituted thereon in ac-
cordance with the foregoing provisions, the carrier shall not be liable.

12. It is hereby agreed that the property destined to such foreign
countries, and assessable with foreign governmental or customs duties,
taxes or charges, may be stopped in transit at foreign ports, frontiers or
depositories, and there held pending examination, assessments and pay-
ments, and such duties and charges, when advanced by the company shall
become a lien on the property.

To Destination Office

Consignor

Enter Date Shipped

Street Address or Non Agency Destination

Receipt Number

Name of Forwarding Office

(1203-C) Berkeley, Calif. (M)

Piece-s

Article

Description

Weight

Express Charges

Shipper

Class

Paid Beyond

C. O. D.

Shipper's Street Address

PREPAID
(Original)

Scale or Rate

Verified by

C. O. D. Service Charge
Write in YES or NO

SHIPPER'S PREPAID RECEIPT

(Form 5084)

NOTE—The Company will not pay over \$50, in case of loss, or 50 cents per pound, actual weight, for any shipment in
excess of 100 pounds, unless a greater value is declared and charges for such greater value paid.

RAILWAY EXPRESS AGENCY

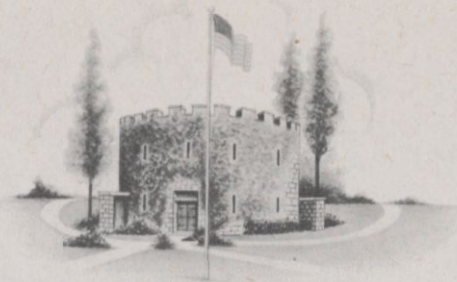
INCORPORATED

Received shipment described hereon, subject to the Classifications and Tariffs in effect on the date hereof, value
herein declared by Shipper to be that entered in space hereon reading "Declared Value," which the Company
agrees to carry upon the terms and conditions printed hereon, to which the Shipper agrees and as evidence
thereof accepts this receipt.

Number Pieces

Hour

For the Company

8 MILES TO DOWNTOWN MINNEAPOLIS
7 MILES TO DOWNTOWN ST. PAULAN ACTIVE U. S. ARMY POST
SINCE 1819FORT SNELLING
MINNESOTA

Co. G. School Bn

H. Snelling II. Minn

20 Sept 1944

Dear D.S.T.

Just a hurried note to you just before our compulsory study period. The periodic examinations keep us extremely busy - still at times we still try to 'gold brick'.

Saw the Shiks, Miquito and Kitchchi about a month ago - Tom was just about ready to go for his physical exam. Haven't heard of his acceptance or rejection from the Army. Suppose he will be taken.

I'm in the short class here which means I will, if I can keep up with the class, graduate in early February. Then overseas. However with the increasing demands in the Pacific we have been told that those in our class may be shipped out in another 2 or 3 months. That

won't give me hardly enough practice
in aer work. — and all my Japanese
won't be worth 'two hoots'. But the Army
has its own ideas — we merely
follow their dictates.

My regards to Nost, W. I. and
Miss Arphe Cummings.

Will write again soon — a
promise almost.

Sincerely
Ray

11-8-D
Sagay, Utah
Oct. 13, 1944

Dear Dr. Thomas,

I thank you ever so much for the lovely box of candy you sent us. The package arrived in perfect condition. I cannot express in words how much we all appreciate your kindness.

I hope that this letter will find you in the best of health. As for us, we are all fine with Harold in the Army, and Hideo in Cleveland, Ohio where he has relocated.

We miss the west coast and friends such as you Dr. Thomas. Please do take care of yourself. And thank you again for everything.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. & Mrs. G. Kajima

2545 Champa Street
Denver 5, Colorado
October 19, 1944

Nancy

Dear Dr. Thomas:

Daddy forwarded me the copy of your very nice letter to them and asked me to write to you as they were rather inconvenienced without any of us children around there anymore to help them. They were delighted to hear from you and mother was especially glad that you enjoyed the shell articles that she made for you. When I was vacationing in Topaz last April and May, I noticed that she was working on them and told me that she was getting them ready to send to you.

Daddy wrote me his letter in Japanese and I do not read the language very well but from what he wrote, I gathered that you had sent them some boxes of candies and he asked me to be sure to thank you for them. That was a thoughtful and kind gesture and I join in with them in thanking you. Of course, you shouldn't have done it; you've done so much for us already. It means a lot to the older issei to know that there are those left in California who choose to be so good and kind to them, and I am sure my folks are no exceptions.

I have not heard from Haruo for a long time. Evidently he still writes to his friends, tho, for they inform me from time to time how he is getting along! He has not even sent me a picture of himself in uniform and I am dying to see what he looks like in uniform. I am sending him a box of chocolates to him today to see if that will bring a note of news from him.

My younger brother, Hideo, in Detroit is still working for the City of Detroit (?) and does some kind of work in the city parks. He wrote me the other day that he had been rejected from the army because of an ulcer scar which showed up during the examination. He was broken up about it. I guess we girls have to be fellows to really understand what it means to a fellow when he is turned down by the army. It seems to do something drastic to their morale.

I am still working for the War Manpower Commission and enjoying my work very much. I work with a wonderful group of people and I couldn't ask for a better boss. However, I am getting slightly worried about what will happen to my job after Europe falls...war agencies are so uncertain when it comes to security. Things have a way of working themselves out for the best, and I am hoping my situation will be no exception. My husband is now serving in the New Britain Islands. He has been overseas for one whole year now so after another six months, I am hoping he will be able to come home on rotation furlough.

It was good of you to write my folks and to send them those candies. Mother, daddy, and I thank you so much.

*Sincerely,
Nancy*

Najima

November 8, 1944

Mrs. Nancy Tanaka
2545 Champa Street
Denver 5, Colorado

Dear Nancy:

I can't tell you how much I appreciate your letter of October 19. It is really one of the nicest letters anyone has ever written me. I enjoyed meeting your parents and hope to have another opportunity of going to Topaz one of these days.

I haven't heard from Haruo for some time and keep hoping that he will get a furlough and come out to see us here. I have a good friend who is with your husband in the Pacific area, that is, Yukio Kawamoto, and I hear from him quite often. It would certainly be nice if the boys would get one of those rotation furloughs that you speak of.

Do keep in touch with me and let me know how things are going.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

December 26, 1944

Dear Naj:

I have certainly owed you a letter for a long time, and I apologize. But, as you know, we had a conference in Salt Lake City and that is always disrupting. It was an excellent conference, however, and we really did make some progress.

I am waiting anxiously to hear what happened after you had your new medical examination. I had sort of suspected that you would get a medical discharge, but so much time has passed without any news that I am getting a little worried. Do let us hear from you.

You asked about the money for your express package. I held out the last two checks received for the rent to pay your taxes. They amounted to \$58.54 and there was \$1.46 left, so we are practically square. Just today I got a package from your mother containing the most beautiful shell work that I have ever seen. I certainly admire her skill and patience. It makes me nervous to think of even handling these tiny shells. Seriously, this work that she is doing is of very high artistic value. She has obviously a sense of humor too, shown in the little chickens and lapel pins.

I shall be interested to hear the reactions you are getting on the return to the Coast. There is a good deal of apprehension among the older people in the camps for fear the centers will be closed soon. I feel rather sad about the whole business, for I don't see how a great many people can come back under existing circumstances. Let me know if you want me to evict your tenants. I may say I would take great pleasure in doing so considering the way they behaved about your belongings.

I'll write more soon if there are any developments. W.I. sends his best regards, and everyone in the office sends greetings for the new year.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

December 28, 1944

Dear Naj:

The same day I sent my last letter out, a beautiful box of candy arrived from you. All of us have been enjoying it and we thank you very much.

If the WRA is really serious in its intention to close the camps and to clear out the warehouses within a year, it looks to me as though your parents will soon have to do something about relocation and about protection of their property. You realize that it will take 90 days to get the tenants out of the house, so if you want me to get rid of them you must send me an official authorization in plenty of time. I believe that my power of attorney will take care of the situation, but in order to simplify matters I should have a statement from you indicating that the owner himself is going to occupy the house for otherwise it is not possible under OPA regulations to evict the tenants. Anyway keep in close touch with me and please be assured that I shall be most happy to do anything that will facilitate matters.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

Jan. 2, 1945
Co G School Bn.
Ft. Snelling 11 Minn

Dear Dorothy,

Thanks for the letters and the cookies were received in very good condition. Incidentally, it didn't last more than 15 minutes ... all my buddies enjoyed it too. Thanks a million.

With regard to possible relocation to the West Coast, as yet, I haven't heard from my folks at all. However, I feel that they will not be going back until their friends also decide to take the step, and from all indications now that the West Coast has been opened up, isseis as well as niseis are not too keen on it. It has been as Kenny Murase wrote from New York just a tension releasing thing. Personally I would prefer to have my folks relocate back East somewhere. But I don't know just where. Like most of the fellows here I've been putting off the necessary decision until I heard from the folks, altho we know that our decision would be what the folks will take. Strangely, the fellows took the opening of the West Coast without fanfare... they just indifferent to it. Their main worry is about their folks but are not talking about it at all. On occasions discussions have been raised, but there are two ways of thinking - with indecision being the predominant thing. There are many who feel that the folks have no future anywhere and that the future as one must look at it is the nisei and thus altho the isseis might be inconvenienced by lack of issei contact if they relocate East it would be better and of course there is the other point of view. that of going back to West Coast - thinking that the West Coast would be the same as before the war and that their friends would be around. Isseis who have relocated in this vicinity have apparently followed their children out.

For those who plan to go back to California, particularly the nisei, I feel that they should be relocated outside of the West Coast first before they go back. The attitude

of those ~~w~~^{ould} have never been out of the Centers ~~will~~^{could} work to their detriment.

When the folks decide one way or another I will let you know. With regard to the property stored in Government I'm in quite a fix~~at~~ because many of the people who stored their stuff with us, as you remember, have been scattered. Some are even in Tule Lake. I will have to contact them and the WRA and see what could be done in their cases.

By the time I graduate I will know more definitely. I am to get a furlough in February, my last if I am to go overseas. My plans are to visit Berkeley then. Will try to settle things then.

Do remember, Warren Tsuneish~~h~~, "Wang Tsu" of Tanforan Days. He is in Philippines with the Army. He graduated from this school and has been out for over a year now. Murase wrote and said that Warren is quite disappointed in that he is about the only one who has ~~not~~ shot a Jap yet. Such blood thirsty guy in such a harmless looking fellow.

Have you heard from the Billigs? I received a card from him saying that they are proud parents of a bouncing boy. Some how Bob doesn't fit into my conception of a father. And I often wonder about the competition between the new addition and their dog, Woof.

Had a long letter from Tom and it seems that he is getting along in the Army. Before long we will hear that he is in the European theatre of war. Still don't see how he was taken with such bad eyes. But the Army does do funny things. From all indications the situation in Europe will only become tougher in the next half year and Tom will be getting into the thick of things. Did Tom tell you that Tomi's younger brother, the one who was wounded in Italy, was killed in France?

Heard from Margaret Bright. It certainly was a long time since I had heard from her. How is Virginia? Haven't heard from her for ages... but I haven't written

maybe that's the reason.

My best wishes to you for the coming year.

Regards to WI please.

sincerely,

Naj

January 5, 1945

Dear Naj:

I was awfully glad to get your letter. I have heard from your parents and am enclosing the letter. As you see, they do seem definitely planning to return. My advice would certainly be for them to sit tight for the next few months. Frankly, the thing that worries me is a question of neighbors. The house next door is full of Filipinos who, for all I know, may be the nicest people in the world, but I would like to get some line up on them. It is possible, of course, that the house is owned by Japanese and that the Filipinos will be evicted. Next week, Morton and I are going to take a car and go down to look over your house. I haven't been down there for almost a year and I should like to see what the situation is. Also I think it would be a good idea to give the tenants some preliminary sort of warning, although I don't anticipate any trouble in getting them out when the time comes.

One thing in regard to your parents' return that impresses me strongly, is the desirability of having at least one of the children accompany them. From the public relations standpoint, it seems to me important to have an American in the family.

We certainly look forward to seeing you in February. We can settle all sorts of problems better if you have a few days to spend with us. W.I. sends best wishes for the New Year.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

Enclosure

P.S. Your letter shows "G" as your Company and your envelope "B." Which is correct?

Najima

January 22, 1945

Mrs. Frances Mason
331 Sixth Street
Oakland, California

Dear Mrs. Mason:

I think I have good news for you. The Najima's are not planning to return to California at present and may decide not to come back until the end of the war. Therefore, they hope you will stay on in the house for the present. They promise in any case to give you three months' notice of their intention to return.

I told them in what good order you were keeping the house and how nice the grounds look. They ask me to express their gratitude, and Mrs. Najima is sending you a small package which I think contains something she has made for you.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

Holiday



Greetings

Military Intelligence Service Language School

Company "G" School Battalion

Fort Snelling, Minnesota



Christmas

1 9 4 4

Christmas Menu

1944

Military Intelligence Service Language School

COMPANY "G" SCHOOL BATTALION



Roast Turkey

Sage Dressing

Giblet Gravy

Cranberry Sauce

Snowflake Potatoes

Candied Sweet Potatoes

Green Peas

Asparagus

Fresh Fruit Salad with Mayonnaise

Celery

Pickles

Olives

Hot Rolls

Butter

Hot Mince Pie

Ice Cream

Candy

Coffee

Nuts

Assorted Fruit

Military Intelligence Service Language School

COMPANY "G" SCHOOL BATTALION



FORT SNELLING, MINNESOTA

ROSTER

KIYOSHI KURAMOTO

Captain, Infantry, Commanding Officer

H. W. McCARNES

First Lieutenant, Infantry
Assigned Student Officer

T. L. ROWE

Second Lieutenant, Infantry
Assigned Student Officer

SHIRO NISHI

Acting First Sergeant

ROSS K. HIRAOKA

Company Clerk

JOE N. ITO

Supply Clerk

RICHARD I. FURUKAWA

Acting Student First Sergeant

PLATOON SERGEANTS

S/Sgt. Kiyoshi Shintaku
S/Sgt. Shota Sakai
S/Sgt. Kiyoshi Hirano
S/Sgt. Toshiharu Yoshimoto

PLATOON GUIDES

T/5 Hiroshi Yoshimoto
Pfc. Roy Satow
Sgt. Sukeo Oji
Pfc. Lawrence Sutow

1ST PLATOON SQUAD LEADERS

Cpl. Isao Inouye
Cpl. Roland Kadonaga
Cpl. Kazuo Mayeda
S/Sgt. Kazuo Iwahashi

2ND PLATOON SQUAD LEADERS

Sgt. Iwao Shigemoto
T/4 Roy Y. Abe
T/4 Yoshimi Shimizu
S/Sgt. William Ikeda

3RD PLATOON SQUAD LEADERS

T/5 Eiichi Maruyama
T/5 Shigeo Matsuura
T/5 Hideyo B. Saiki
S/Sgt. William Kawai

4TH PLATOON SQUAD LEADERS

Sgt. Joe Nakata
Sgt. Kaoru Abe
T/5 Paul Sakaguchi
Cpl. Toraki Fujikawa

STUDENT COUNCIL

Richard I. Furukawa
Shiro Nishi

Isao Inouye
William Okamoto

Roy Satow
Masaru Horiuchi

MESS PERSONNEL

MESS SERGEANT

William S. Yasukawa

T/4 George K. Watanabe
T/4 George Hashimura
T/5 Takeshi Tsuchiyama

T/5 George Shiota
T/5 Shizuo Nada
T/5 Tamotsu Ishihara

Pfc. Robert Kishita
Pfc. Willie Ogino
Pfc. Shigeo Komoto

2 January 45

You see had quite a fancy g. l. dinner
— some on New Year. The Army
does take care of its boys whenever
possible.

We have many nice officers —
several from Italy and more just
out from Ft. Benning O.S.C. school.

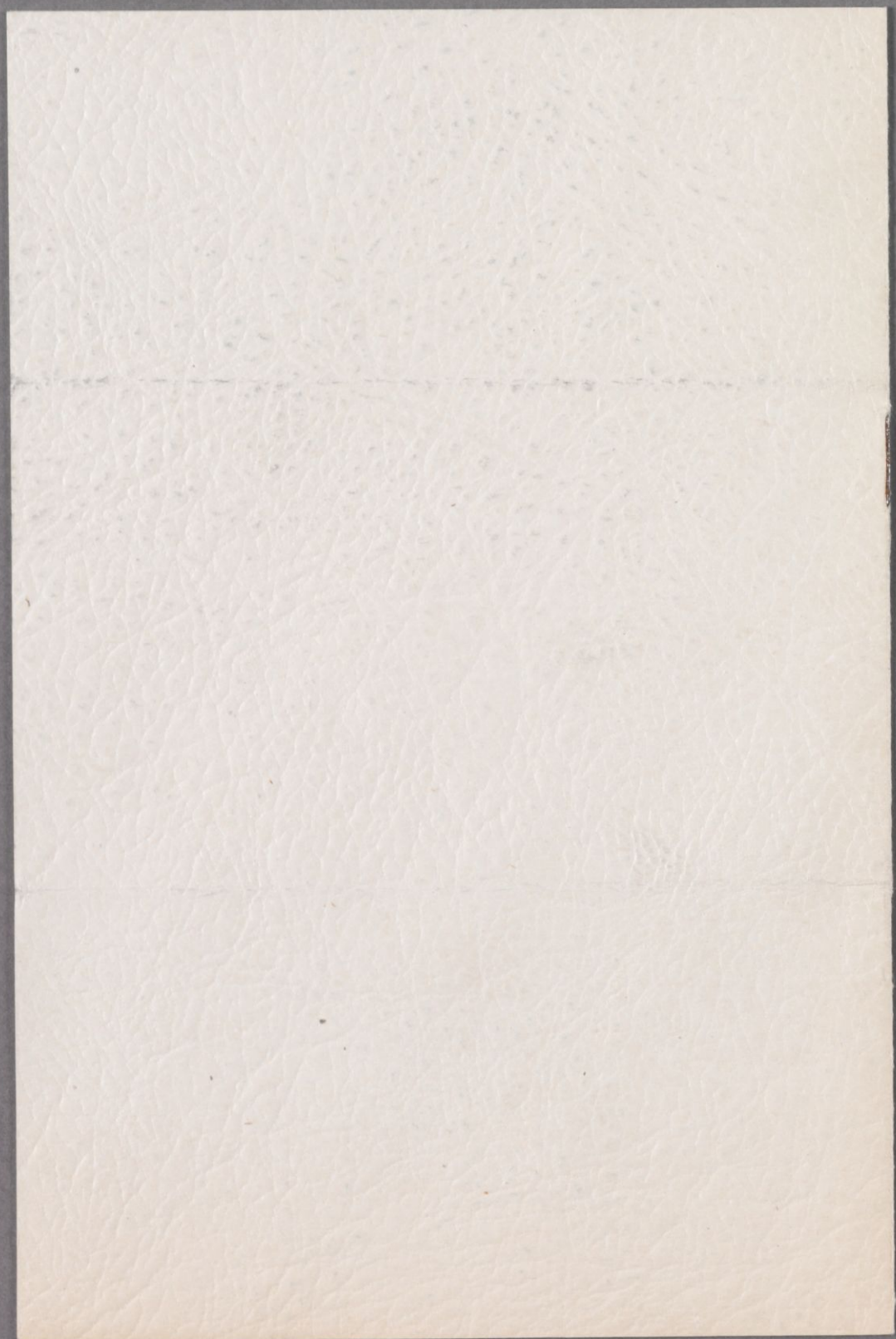
Ray

Merry Christmas

and

A Happy New Year

To All



Co. G School Bn
Ft. Snelling, 11 Minn
30, Jan. 1945

Dear DST,

Sorry not to have answered you long ago, but the exams coming up and also time required for contacting my folks delayed me.

As far as my parents are concerned they will not be back in Oakland for quite some time. They want to stay in the camp until they are thrown out or until the war ends. They are afraid of returning to the Coast as well as wary of the possibility of making a living. They apparently do not have any inclination of relocating to other parts of the United States.

I read in the Y's Bear that you and Charley were to speak at the YWCA race relations group. Did you have an interesting time? I remember Morton's prediction once in DC that the Coast will be opened up and when it did the sentiment on the Coast will be very good for the Niseis. It looks as if he was correct.

I expect to be in Berkeley the week of the 19th of February. However because I plan to go to Topaz first, I can't be too sure when I will get there. Nor am I certain as to the length of time I will be able to spend there either, but nevertheless I am looking forward to seeing Berkeley, smell the fog creeping out of the Bay, and the "taxalizing" odor of the low tide East Bay at low tide. Only bad thing is the long train ride out. That scares me. Fortunately, I've developed a callous on my portable cushion so it wouldn't be too bad, but it will be bad enough.

Graduation ^{quicks} comes in just one and a half. And at this stage I feel that I don't ^{have} enough to have much confidence in myself, but I am told that the need for language men are so critical that we just have to go out. Most of the fellows will be going out almost immediately out to the front, they will be team leaders consequently they will be getting good ratings. A few of us will be here in the United States doing odd jobs. However, one never knows until he gets to the destination just what the job will be ... it just isn't the policy of the Army to let anyone know what's going to be our ultimate ... rather first destination ... til we get there.

I am one of the unfortunates in that I will be on the continent for at least six months. But at the end of that time I won't be able to leave the job (most likely) because I would probably have become one of the cogs in the wheel. Damn it all anyway.

Just a short note to say thanks for your letter and everything.

Ray

Col. School Bn
N. Brelling
7 Feb.

Dear Dorothy—

Bad news sorta with regards to purchasing cigarettes. At this I can purchase one package a day that's all's available — and not in all brands. We have been able to get 2 a day until few weeks ago but recently the quota has been cut down. However, I might be able to arrange to get more thru the Commissary. The 7th Service Command has put up a directive curtailing cigarette sales because of some Corps "black market" had been going on.

Send me the brand name and I will do what I can. Please rush the 'brand' but don't send any money.

Graduation is on the 15th and soon thereafter Jimmie is "leaving" out to the Coast. Probably will be there toward the end of the week of the 19th.

That man Charlie! I can imagine that he would no longer be around. It would crop his stuff. Will you tell him Jimmie Sobada ought to analyze him —. It ought to show interesting "behavioristic" reactions thereafter turn him over to a bunch of Chicago Freudians. Results ought to be damned interesting.

We are now in midst of the first week
where instructors try to cram everything
down our throats + plus semester finals and
the graduation finals. What a night mare.

Col finals are a ~~at~~ cinch relatively.
But we don't particularly worry. They
can't flunk ~~us~~ out of the Army - the
only effect would be on our rating.

Will you give my best regards and hellos
to the Goddins? Thanks, I've been a letter
and so forth but haven't even got
around to it.

Be seeing you soon. Don't forget the
big brand name.

Regards to all.

Sincerely, Ray

2 March 1945

Topog, Utah

Dear Dorothy & W.I.

Asks I had a good night's sleep - still feel the aches and pains of the coach ride. And, of course, have that old hangover feeling - perhaps from sleeping too much last night. Am staying a day here in Topog then on to Denver and back to the Int.

Thanks for the dinner and for every other thing you and W.I. did for me. It was certainly funny of you.

Topog is dead and, gosh, not many young people around - of those here, I know, only a very few.

Many people with whom I've talked are interested in the possible venture back to their former homes in California but they are more interested in hearing about crowd conditions, money, negroes, and 'dust busters' and possible discrimination. These they 'seize' and find excuses for not returning - rather not leaving

the camp. They were something to
justify and rationalize themselves into staying
here. You just can't tell them otherwise.

There is a story going around here about
Mr Sadamune of Oakland who is back there.
En issei, I think I told you about him, who
returned from Jila^{and} lives with his hakejin
wife in Oakland who was supposed to have
been threatened by phone 2 AM one morning to
leave Oakland or have his throat cut. (Many
versions of this - some say phone, others, letters;
some say his throat slit - others, shot) It was
supposed to have been in the Oakland of Japanese
Jew mess back (others last week), some
say it was also in P.C. But the funny part
of it all is that I saw Sadamune last
Saturday and he said nothing about it.
In fact he said he had four or five letters
welcoming him home from people he didn't
even know.

Topazians, ditto with letters, I suppose,
are looking for excuses and are willing to
believe almost anything which they want to
believe and will believe nothing fact or otherwise

if WPA is going to throw them out -
then they say 'shikatazanai' - it can't
be helped.

Issies don't believe a word about
Federal, State or County help they remember
too well the fate of people who were on
W.P.A. and they don't want to be like them.
Deep underneath they feel since U.S. put
them here, it's up to the U.S. to take care
of them.

My regards to Charlie and his blond
girl friend Johnny. (is that the way she
spells it?), Mrs Wilson, and to Morton.

As my Hawaiian friends say,
aloha
Vaj.

90506

90.0
10.0
4.5
20

450
455
50.00
55
91
13
78
3
26

20 x 10 = 14

2 x 4 = 8
4 x 3 = 12

CF Brown Union St
2282
Keesley - Dugard
Park Co

March 16, 1945

Dear Naj,

Your letter of March 2nd has been read and reread. It contains some of the best insights into the attitudes of the Issei that I have yet come across. The next months will certainly be interesting. We shall see whether WRA is really able to carry out "evacuation in reverse."

News of the closing of the centers is just reaching the boys in the Philippines. For a long time they did not get any mail at all. Then, as I figure it, they probably got 15 or 20 letters at one time from their parents, enclosing newspaper clippings, etc. You can imagine the effect on their morale. My friend Yukio has applied for an emergency furlough on the basis of reports from his parents. I don't really believe he will get it. It is very hard to figure the proper kind of letter to write. I don't dare say I am convinced the government policy in regard to Issei will change. What sort of advice would you give?

As you will see from the enclosed the amount of underexposure of the pictures was really something. Morton says it is due to the nature of the wartime films. We'll have to try again when you get settled in Monterey!

We certainly enjoyed your visit. All sorts of people ask for news about you all the time. Charlie has left, and Jimmy and Hattie have arrived. They are having terrible troubles finding anywhere to live: not a question of discrimination, just simply no listings at all. The local WRA office has no listings except for rooms in exchange for domestic service.

Let us hear from you soon. All send regards.

Sincerely,

Dear Dorothy,

Believe it or not, but I am stationed in New York City. Living just like a civilian. Have a room at the Y, because I couldn't find anything which would meet the pocket book nor the army allowance. Work hours are from 8:15 to 5:15 and the nights are free to do what we wish to. Since in NYC free tickets are given out to the service men to all (?) theatres and plays we have a field day as far as ... so called high brow things are concerned.

As I walk down the canyon which is lower Broadway or follow the stream in uptown, I often wonder if I will have that pinched harried look which the new Yorkers seem to have. The harried look seems to be the characteristic expression of the people who scurry into and out of burrows... shoot from one noisy end of the town to the other on equally noisy subway cars... crowd, elbow and act damned too human... like the proverbial rats they, too, seemed conditioned and are able to find the right entrance and exists at each terminal or way station without having too much difficulty. The noise, the people, the staccatic (?) language of the harried people, the cussing of the drivers for nonobservance of the traffic signal... all in all is quite a rude surprise to a provincial like myself. I don't particularly find the "great" New York just what it is cracked up to be. At this stage of the game, I am still one of those individuals who would come to New York for a short visit just to be glad that they don't live in this damned hole forever. It is quaint... so I'm told... but Hollywood glamorization has given me the wrong impression of the City. It is surprising to find an old 18th Century graveyard right down on lower Broadway amidst the towering cubby holes piled one on top of another to make the sky scrapers - scraping dust off the streets. As yet

I'm still to find the "New York" which everyone raves about - ain't it that kind of thing?
Was like Shells in D.C. last week and

at the Bellis. Tom is looking wonderful
and husky as the devil. He's ready to go
any time now. If he should come via N.Y.
we'll have a "break" yet.

Saw Murre here; and Charlie^{and} the
Majimols in Chicago.

Getting awful sleepy so I better
say so long and mail it to 'show' you
my new address.

T/x H. Napier 3493078
Info and Educ. Div. A.S.F.
New York Br. 205 E 42d St.
New York City.

Co. B. Sch. Bn
Ft. Snelling, Minn.
3 April (1945)

Dear W.I. and D.S.T.

Thanks for sending me the 'sad' pictures. Weren't they really sad. What did it cost you. Please let me know.

I've been assigned, after some disappoint(ment) because I was slated for overseas but was yanked off the team. I'm heading for points East soon, domestic duty, on some 'special' problem. So they say. But when, I don't know.

Now that evacuation is history and much of the original emotionalism is dissipated (sp) the tactics and reactions of the Nisei as well as the Issei seem quite funny. In retrospect now it seems clear, sorta, that the Y.D's along with the rest of the Nisei and hakujin organizations, took the wrong tactics, at least in emphasis. We were defeatist in attitude. Our position or rather our tactical defense against the tirades of Hearst and others were previously that of answering or attempting to answer the ridiculous charges hurled against us. Somewhat like answering allegations of the Civil Service Commission. In both instances we were on the defensive when a positive tactic would have been fruitful. One can't forever be on the defensive and win, for if such tactics are employed by the defense, shucks, defeat seems inevitable. Y.D's too were too much on the defensive. The best defense is a strong offensive. Offensive, naturally, doesn't mean a dogmatic, antagonistic rebuttal but a careful planned tactic to force the offensive to take a defensive stand - to have them explain and clarify their accusations and demands. Even today in the heat of emotionalism, we've forgotten and have "rebuttalled," only to get a licking.

And then, perhaps a revaluation of our attitude toward society is necessary. Just don't know how to express it but we can't have the attitude like some of the Nisei that the country owes them a living because they were sent to relocation camps, neither can they be meek and defeated as others have been. They can't all be forever crawling into their shells and do nothing except gripe when some incident occurs on the Pacific Coast. They get me sick. What am I getting at. I don't know for certain either. But just now I feel disgusted with back tracking attitude. Some time one has to slug it out. I suppose I mean that one must forget the past and think about the future not so much in terms of your own little sphere but a larger one. All this is perhaps a means of deluding myself - quite academic. But it is interesting to think about. Some day when all the small insignificant pieces get together some mean(ing)ful fabric might be its outcome. At least one has to try. No use admitting defeat before the time comes.

Haven't heard from Tom for a long time. Jimmy Yamada who was in Chicago said he missed Tom but he said Tom was pessimistic (sp) as hell. It seems that altho Koso Takemoto saw Major Rusch in person - there were too many waiting to get into Snelling and these fellows haven't finished their basic, in fact many are not yet even in the Army. This plus the extraordinary demand for infantrymen has almost killed Tom's chances for getting in here till after he returns from Europe.

With rumors saying that we may get a 3 days break in a week or so, I hope to see Tom and Miyamotos before I move out. But all this just a hope - in the Army one soon finds out that there is

nothing definite.

Since the opening of the West Coast and the announced closing of the centers, the men here, after a flurry of apprehension, have settled down. The feeling is that altho they worry about their family there is nothing concrete they can do about it. And deep down in their hearts they feel that the Government can't really close all the centers down. Perhaps the relative calmness of the letters from their parents - perhaps merely superficial - has lulled them into feeling of security. Anyway, there are very little discussions on relocation. Also not being directly in the center atmosphere might have something to do about it. People in civilian life perhaps worry more than the soldiers.

Tonite I'm on what is known under the general classification of "special duty." - a policeman at one of the PX's and to help with bed check at 12:30 a.m. It ought to keep me up til quite late - and go the reveille at 6 - and it's snowing and blowing again.

In spite of all the griping I've adjusted to the Army life - since basic training and school is over - we live a life of Riley. Everything else seems to be quite routine so I no longer mind it. It will be quite difficult to become a civilian again. Altho, of course, the fact that one never has to be "in" at certain hour or "having" to be at a certain place, would be welcome.

There is a rumor that I might be stationed temporarily in New York City. Gosh - I will never have enough money to keep me going. Maybe I ought to take some night courses so that I can save some money.

Regards to Mort, Johnnie and Orpha and others.

Til again - so long,

Naj

Co B. Sch. Bn
H. Snelling Merin
3 April

Dear W I and D. S. T.

Thanks for sending me the 'sad' pictures.
Weren't they really sad. What did it cost
you. Please let me know.

I've been assigned, after some disappointment
because I was slated for overseas but was
yanked off the team. I'm heading for points
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relocation camps, neither can they be mock
and defeated as others have been. They can't all
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After, of course, the fact that one never
has to be "in" or certain hour or "having to
be at a certain place, would be welcome.

There is a rumor that I might be stationed
temporarily in New York City. God - I will never
have enough money to keep me going.
Maybe I ought to take some night courses
so that I can save some money.

Regards to Mom, Johnnie and Orpha
and others.

Till again - so long. Ray.

April 27, 1945

Dear Naj:

It was certainly good to hear from you. I am sorry that you are disappointed in New York. I like the place, but I must admit I would not care to live there any more.

I am enclosing your automobile license, which came some-time ago. We have been waiting to get your new address before sending it.

Do let us hear how things are, and keep us informed about any change of plans.

W.I. sends best regards, and so does everybody in the office.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

Enclosure

June 29, 1945

Dear Naj:

It was certainly kind of you to send me a carton of cigarettes. I am deeply appreciative and I think you know how much I enjoy them.

You haven't yet told me whether you want any of the vast sums that are accumulating in your name. Your balance, as of today, is \$460.63, and another \$30 will be added the first of the month. Do let us hear from you soon.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

Co. B. 1st Bn

St. Anselm 11. Minn

29 July

Dear D.S.T. & W.I.

After much moving around during the last month finally settled again in Co. B. waiting for another assignment. As much as I hate the thought it will be a continued one again. I flunked my overseas physical again. Oaths I don't feel badly nor show any exterior signs of being a 4F in the Army - the X-ray, so the doc's claim does not justify ~~things~~ the risk of the Army sending me over. It grips me but there isn't much more to say,

'Go, sir. Thank you, sir' and take it. When all of your classmates have gone over and the later classes ship, as they are now continually, it gets to wear on one's nerves. Things such as these are the hardest to take.

On my way back from N.Y. I stopped in Detroit to see my brother. He has been accepted in Michigan State for the semester beginning September '44. He has his heart set on going to school there but the folks are asking him whether he would consider going back to California and going to U.C. instead. So far as sis is planning to stay in Denver until her transfer within the War Manpower Commission to a 'permanent'

section is made, anyway; it seems that Dale would probably return to the Coast. There doesn't seem to be much alternative. Particularly in light of Dad being unable to work. His back has been bothering him for many months, so he has stopped working. He has tried to go to Salt Lake for an analysis because the Center hospital can't do anything for him but, first, misspelling of his name prevented his going (the Army listed him somewhere else in their 'cleaned' list), and now the hospital has been delaying sending anyone into Salt Lake. He's been waiting now for about 3 months or so.

Dads plan to return to Oakland, either as to when, I don't know. Because the Center will be closing on Nov. 1, so I've read, it will probably be some time around there. Jack hasn't committed themselves definitely but since housing situation in Denver is extremely bad there seems to be no way out. They may "gamble" in Vegas with others just to see what will actually happen. In any event will you sort of warn the present occupants the possibility of their returning. I'd hated to have them scared stiff about housing. Even 3 months wouldn't be too much time now-a-days. Being negroes will make it even more

difficult.

What is the government storage situation? Rumors apparently are flying around in Sogay to the effect that the government storage will be discontinued soon or has been discontinued and is worrying the folks considerably. Could you shed some light on it?

Som is looking close by - pulling details - but will start his 3 months training from tomorrow I think. You would know, Som. He is looking many times better and also his outlook is much different but he is a sociologist to the core. He is finished typing up his papers and for more observation. We would be surprised if he is doing something on this camp too. He has had the occasion, tho, to chew the fat with him too much.

Just gossiping - but not so much now - as usual
Regards to all.

Sincerely
Ray

July 31, 1945

Dear Naj:

Thanks for the snapshot you enclosed in your letter of July 29. It is certainly very good to see all of you looking so fine.

I am sorry I can't sympathize with you about your not going abroad, for I think you are just plain lucky.

If there is any chance of your parents coming back to Oakland, I shall simply have to give the tenants a legal eviction notice. As you know, I can evict on 30 days' notice for owner occupancy, but we have a gentleman's agreement with them to give 90 days notice. I have asked the Legal Department of WRA to draw up an official form for me to send to the tenants. Unless you wire me to the contrary, I will send this form to them on Friday morning, August 3. I assure you that unless we take a definite step of this sort we will run into real trouble later.

There is no truth in the rumor that government storage has been discontinued. It will not be discontinued, as I understand it, for at least ninety days after the centers have closed. Your guess is as good as mine as to whether, or when, all the centers will close.

All here send regards. Hastily yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

461 Market Street
San Francisco 5, California

August 1, 1945

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

Dear Dr. Thomas:

Enclosed are three copies of Notice to Quit, the original should be served upon the tenant, Mrs. Francis Mason, and a copy must be given to the Area Rent Office of the OPA in Oakland within twenty-four hours after notice is given to the tenant. The third copy is for your records.

The Notice to Quit should be served upon the tenant in person.

Yours very truly,

Kent Silverthorne

Kent Silverthorne
Principal Attorney

Enclosures

OPA. Rent Control
2090 Broadway
Oakland

~~Handwritten scribbles and lines~~
 6 - 2 H N's M
 331 - 6 St.

ENCLOSURES

DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF
 REVENUE, WASHINGTON

TO THE DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF REVENUE

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

THE NOTICE TO ENTER SHOULD BE ISSUED UPON THE

COPIES TO THE LOCAL OFFICE.

NOTICE SHOULD BE ISSUED TO THE LOCAL OFFICE. THE LOCAL
 OFFICE OF THE BUREAU OF REVENUE SHOULD BE ADVISED OF THE
 RESULTS OF THE INSPECTION OF THE COPIES OF THE NOTICE
 TO ENTER. THE RESULTS OF THE INSPECTION OF THE COPIES OF THE
 NOTICE TO ENTER SHOULD BE REPORTED TO THE BUREAU OF REVENUE.

ENCLOSURES ARE THREE COPIES OF NOTICE TO ENTER.

DEAR MR. TOWN:

DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF
 REVENUE, WASHINGTON
 333 STANLEY ST.
 DE. BOSTON, MASS.

WATSON T. TOWN

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.
 101 MARKET STREET

MAY 1904
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LANDS

NOTICE TO QUIT

Mrs. Frances Mason
331 - 6th Street
Oakland, California

Please take notice that you are hereby required to quit and deliver up to me the possession of the premises now held and occupied by you, being the premises known as 331 - 6th Street, Oakland, California, ~~at the expiration of the month, of your monthly tenancy of said premises, commencing on the 1st day of November, 1945, and ending on the 30th day of November, 1945.~~

not later than 1st of November, 1945
This is intended as a ninety day notice to quit, for the purpose of terminating your tenancy.

The undersigned landlord owned, or acquired an enforceable right to buy or the right to possession of, the housing accommodations described above prior to October 20, 1942, and seeks in good faith to recover possession of such accommodations for immediate use and occupancy as a dwelling for himself.

Dated this *1st* day of August, 1945.

H. Najima

By _____
Agent and Attorney in Fact.

August 7, 1945

Mrs. Frances Mason
331 Sixth Street
Oakland, California

Dear Mrs. Mason:

I am very sorry indeed to have to send you an eviction notice, which is hereby enclosed.

As you know, the government has decided to close the camps where the Japanese Americans are staying. Therefore, the Najiomas will have to come back to their house. You will notice that you must leave the house by November 7 at the latest. If you can possibly find a house earlier, that will be quite all right. In fact, it would be easier for us if you get out some time in October.

Will you please be sure to let me know what plans you make and when. I shall have to come down to look over the house and get the keys when you are ready to leave.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

Enclosure

NOTICE TO QUIT

Mrs. Frances Mason
331 - 6th Street
Oakland, California

Please take notice that you are hereby required to quit and deliver up to me the possession of the premises now held and occupied by you, being the premises known as 331 - 6th Street, Oakland, California, not later than the 7th of November, 1945.

This is intended as a ninety day notice to quit, for the purpose of terminating your tenancy.

The undersigned landlord owned, or acquired an enforceable right to buy or the right to possession of, the housing accommodations described above prior to October 20, 1942, and seeks in good faith to recover possession of such accommodations for immediate use and occupancy as a dwelling for himself.

Dated this 7th day of August, 1945.

H. Najima

By Dorothy S. Thomas
Agent and Attorney in Fact

cc. Area Rent Office
OPA
Oakland, California

August 7, 1945

Area Rent Office
Office of Price Administration
2090 Broadway
Oakland, California

Gentlemen:

For your information, I am enclosing a copy of a "Notice to Quit" served today upon the tenant of 331 Sixth Street, Oakland. The owner of the property is Haruo Najima, and I hold Power of Attorney for Mr. Najima.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

Enclosure



C. B. Sch. Bn
H. Snelling 11 Minn.
10 Aug. 1945

Dear D.S.T.

My folks plan to return, but as to when I'm not at all certain. Dad has a back back which had been bothering him for quite some time. He finally was able to find out the cause for it after an examination in Salt Lake. Since the only way for him to get rid of the back ache is an operation he has decided to take it next week in Salt Lake. As to how long it will take before he can travel is a most question.

Tom all appearances my sis, Nancy, probably will be the one to return with them. She is not at all happy at the prospect of returning - particularly leaving a new job to which ^{she} was transferred recently. This last job has some semblance of permanency - it is her old outfit, originally under

THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS • THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICE
THE SALVATION ARMY • THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
THE JEWISH WELFARE BOARD • THE NATIONAL TRAVELLERS AID ASSOCIATION

U S O IS FINANCED THROUGH THE NATIONAL WAR FUND



the Dept of Labor. She is worried about the prospect of finding another job in California. If her husband had not returned from the Philippines (he was with Yukio Kawamoto), she would probably stay, but since he has returned plus other considerations she will return - at least the husband feels that she should.

offhand what are the prospects for jobs for the music, particularly in Federal Civil Service?

The other nite I was to meet Soni & Sam at "7 corners". I went there but failed to find them. After much looking around and phoning I found that I had gone to the wrong Seven Corners. I was in Minneapolis whereas the clubs were at the one in St. Paul. Never got around to see them. But tonite I in to see Soni. Sam has to stay camp and attend nite classes - it certainly grates him but he can't do much about it, except make

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U S O IS FINANCED THROUGH THE NATIONAL WAR FUND



life rather miserable for
some of the instructors
now that there is a prospect
that the war in the Pacific may come
to a sudden close, I wonder what is
going to happen to the fellows here
at school. Many ready to go over
didn't - maybe the War Department
had a hunch something might
happen over there - or something.

I can not get over the misce attitude
toward Russia - they mouth the same
type of arguments found in the
Republican press -

My regards to W.I. and Orpha.

sincerely
Naj

P.S. Am getting homesick for California
in spite of the Associated Farmers.

August 20, 1945

Dear Naj:

I have your letter of August 10. I sent out a formal eviction notice to Mrs. Mason on August 8, giving her until November 8 to get out of the house, but suggesting that an earlier change would be acceptable to all of us. I also sent a copy of this to OPA to make the thing official. As I remember, there were several items in the house that belonged to you. I wish you would take the question up with Mrs. Mason directly to be sure that she does not remove these things.

I have heard nothing about any discrimination in regard to Civil Service for Nisei. As you understand, the employment situation is tightening up and I frankly don't know what the future holds for any of us. If you are likely to be released from the service, I suggest that you take steps immediately to get yourself reinstated in Civil Service. Please tell Nancy to write to me if there is anything I could do in regard to her own situation.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

OFFICE OF PRICE ADMINISTRATION

San Francisco Bay Defense-Rental Area
2090 Broadway
Oakland 12, California

Note: This is Not
a Notice to Vacate.

Date: Aug. 27, 45

In reply refer to:

Najami vs Mason

Notice dated Aug. 7, 45

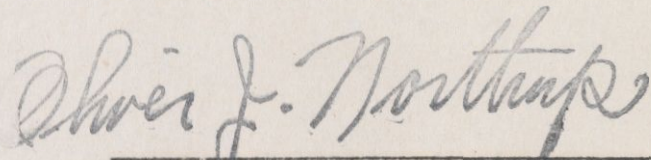
We have received a copy of the notice to vacate which was given you by your landlord.

Under the Rent Regulation, a tenant may not be evicted except upon one of the permitted grounds specified therein. Your landlord has stated such a ground in his notice, and the form of said notice therefore complies with the technical requirements of the Regulation. We do not determine whether this notice is in conformance with State law.

The fact that you have received a notice to vacate from your landlord, and have received this letter from the Office of Price Administration is no indication that the Rent Control authorities are approving or ordering your removal from the premises. If you dispute the ground stated in the notice, and refuse to vacate the premises at the expiration of the period fixed in the notice, the local California Court will determine the facts in any action your landlord may file. This office is not permitted to represent you at the trial of such action, although we may appear in behalf of the government.

If the grounds set forth by the landlord are true, and you have been properly served with this notice, your landlord may legally require you to vacate in accordance with the notice so far as the Rent Regulations govern the case. In such a case, we are unable to help you, regardless of your need for housing or your inability to find other housing. We must also advise you that neither your employment as a defense worker, nor a military status, affects the decision in any manner so far as the Rent Regulations are concerned.

Very truly yours,



Area Rent Attorney .

cc Najami

cc

Co. B. Sch. Bn.
F. Snelling "Main"
10 Sept. 1945

Dear DST,

During last week - maybe sort of a punishment for a 3 day pass I had in Chicago - the ~~the~~ pressure was put on us. We worked from 7:45 AM til 9:00 PM each day with time off for lunch and dinner. And the stuff we translated was as dull as hell - we translated the Japanese civil service regulation with all of its "honorifics" and "indirectness". It's a rush job for the civil service in Japan by the Military Government, presumably. Because it was needed so quickly and unexpected, it threw the War Department for a loss. So they rushed the document to us for translation. This week few of us who got left behind again from overseas shipment are going to check the translations, coordinate the translations of all the men - an editing job. Sad case for us - because we actually don't know hellava lot to do anything high power. After we do the initial translating up civilian "kibei's" here will do the final checking and put it out.

This will end by the end of the month but most of ^{us} expect to be out before then - already looking for something new - something exciting.

While in Chicago both Michi and
most said you were very busy. Don't
work Frank to death - you know Michi
doesn't want a "wreck".

I wrote Mrs. Mason that folks want
to return to Oakland as soon as they
can. It seems that all of a sudden
folks - and others in Tokyo - ^{have} gotten
rather excited and want to get out as
quickly as they can. I know that you're
tied up so I'll have my kid brother
do all the moving across forth of my
folks and baggage etc in storage. I forgot
to tell you that kid brother decided to
go back to help the folks move out
and get them settled in Oakland. He
planned to go to Cal instead of ^{to} Michigan
State. Folks must of persuaded him to
go back. I sort of hate to see him go back
to the Coast but it seems that the die
is cast this time. I don't know what
my sister has finally planned to do.

I'm not even sure that my brother in law
is still in the States. Last time he
wrote he said he had orders from
Monila Hgdtrs to return via plane to
his old Division, 40th, immediately.
He must of have gone.

Mrs. Mason hasn't written yet, but
I suppose they are having one helluva
time getting a place to live.

Don't much more to write about.

So will sign off about here.

Will you say "hello" to Frank,
and to Alpha. Thanks.

Regards to W. I.

Sincerely
Ray.

September 11, 1945

Dear Naj:

You are certainly a kind and considerate friend. Thank you for the cigarettes. I am very grateful indeed.

We are having your typewriter thoroughly overhauled and it will be in good condition for you when you want it.

Mrs. Mason telephoned me the other day and said that she was making every effort to get the house cleaned so that you will find it in good order upon your return. She has not found a place to live in yet and has paid this month's rent. She will move out, however, in ample time for your parents to take occupancy when they let us know specifically what their plans are. You will remember, however, that I have given Mrs. Mason the option of remaining until November 8 if she cares to do so. So keep in close touch with me.

Mrs. Mason informed me that the Japanese family living next to you as taken up residence again. She said that after the Filipinos moved out, a number of rough young men broke into the house next door and started removing things belonging both to the Filipinos and the Japanese. She and her sister finally had to call the police, and I think the boys were caught. Under the circumstances, it seems undesirable to have your house vacant for any length of time unless the Japanese next door would be willing to keep an eye on it. You might write them and see what they know about the situation.

Sincerely yours,

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

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

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.

TA23

T.LB741 NL PD=FT SNELLING MINN 17

DR DOROTHY S THOMAS=

GIANNINI FOUNDATION UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BERKELEY
CALIF (RTE KY)=1

LEAVING FOR WEST COAST WEDNESDAY ON FURLOUGH PLEASE SEND
SIXTY DOLLARS BY WIRE CARE OF TOM SHIBUTANI 351 WALNUT
STREET ST PAUL MINNESOTA SO LONG=

MAJIMA.

351..

BY
CALLS

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

4178-A

RECEIPT

BERKELEY, CALIF.

Sept. 18, 1945

OFFICE

DATE

Received from

D. D. Thomas

\$60

Dollars in payment of:

☐ Account for the month of _____ 19____

☒ Telegraphic Money Order

☐ Telegram or Cable

☐ Deposit on Collect Telegram
Returnable after 24 hours

☐ Account No. _____
For Remittance

To

1/4 Harris Nazim

At

St. Paul Michn

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

MONEY ORDER
CHARGES PAID

\$

210

By

H. No. Lewis

\$65.00 .

62.10

Paid out

\$ 2.90

Change .

9/18/45

D.S.T. Sent

\$60.00 .

Fee

2. 10 .

\$62. 10 owed by Maj.

40.00

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

EVACUATION AND RESETTLEMENT STUDY
207 GIANNINI HALL
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

September 27, 1945.

RECEIVED on September 27, 1945, a check for Four Hundred and fifty-two dollars and fifty cents (\$452.50), and previously a cash sum of One Hundred and two dollars and ten cents (\$102.10), making a total of \$554.60, from Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas. The above amount includes the rental paid for the month of September, 1945, by the tenants of the house at 331-6th Street, Oakland, California, to Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas.

FROM THIS DATE, September 27, 1945, onward, the Power of Attorney granted to Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas by Haruo Najima to handle the property of said Haruo Najima shall be considered cancelled.

Haruo Najima
Haruo Najima

Nov. 20, 1945

331- Sixth St.

Oakland, Cal.

Dear Dr. Thomas,

The tenants have moved out on Nov. 7th. We have been cleaning and putting the house in shape, and we will be able to move in the house in a day or two.

I was finally able to get the U.R. A. to bring the things stored at the warehouse at their (U.R.A.) expense.

Many thanks for all the trouble you have gone thru for us; we certainly appreciate it.

I received a telegram from Herno, stating that he received his discharge and will be home soon.

Very sincerely,
Dale Hideo Nagima