

ingly. Endo was not satisfied to take this cut in wages because he had been making around \$70 or more net. He heard about another welder's job at some company on the southwest side near Ashland Ave. He got this lead through one of his friends who was working there. After an interview, he was given a job there and he did not have any difficulty in getting his work release because of the contact cuts in his other company. Endo said that he is busy making freight cars at the present time. The company expects to get government contracts to build the narrow gauge freight cars which are used in Russia and China. The gangs work in a crew and they divide the profits for each job since it is done by piece work. Endo said that he was only making about \$10 a day now but he expects it to go up to \$15 or \$20 in a short time.

I asked him what he expected to do with all the money he was making and he said that he didn't have any. During the past months that he has been out in Chicago he has not saved very much money altho he mentioned that he had a "little" in the bank. Since his room-mates have moved out, Endo has tamed down considerably and he is concentrating upon his work. He said that he still plays poker occasionally but he doesn't play for such large stakes as he did previously. He has a little more time to chase the women now and he ~~a~~ felt that he was doing satisfactorily in this respect. Endo has cut his hair so that it looks a little more respectable now and he doesn't wear the extreme zoot clothes anymore, as far as I know. He said that Hiroshi (CH-32) has left for Minneapolis where his brother is located and he is working as a welder up there. Koji has been doing some ~~professional~~ amateur prize fighting and he recently won the semi-finals in the bantamweight class for the CYO tournament. There were several articles in the papers about him and also his picture. Koji is going to fight in the finals very soon. He has

been fighting under the name Tony Kim Urabe and his brother Rabbi, who used to fight professionally in San Francisco, is coaching him. Koji may turn professional later if he is successful in his amateur fighting. He is just 20 years old and his wife has come out of camp to live with him now. I don't know what has happened to the rest of the gang but they seemed to have split up. One or two of this group has been drafted into the Army.

Endo said that his draft status was 4-F because he had some disease of the shoulder bone which he thought was osteomyelitis. He said that ~~xxxx~~ it was a growth of the bone altho I was under the impression that this disease was a deterioration of the bone. At any rate Endo said that he had one operation on his hand before the war and a growth was taken off of it. He said that the Army rejected him because he could not lift a 90 pound pack on his back altho he could do the heavy welding work. The doctor has advised him to drink cod liver oil and eat other foods which would build up the calcium in his body. Endo is not getting any treatments at the present time as he said he felt quite fit physically and it didn't bother him at all. He said one of the reasons why he was saving a little money now was that he might have to have an operation if it got worse. He didn't think that drinking did him any good but he still indulges in it occasionally.

A greater problem on Endo's mind is the landlord who threatens to raise his rent to \$15 a month. He felt that the landlord was evading the OPA regulations and he wanted some information on how he could protect himself. He said he would have a difficult time finding another apartment due to the housing shortage. He mentioned that the landlord down the street had evicted a Negro family because they didn't want any kurombos on that street and he feared that the same treatment might be applied to the "Nihonjin". Endo is just an

average fellow, not too bright and he has no plans for the future. He has been the steadiest worker in his gang and now that some of these fellows have left, he seems to be straightening himself out quite a bit. His life is governed mostly by his immediate likes and dislikes and he is not interested at all in other Nisei who are not his immediate friends. He doesn't want other Nisei to move into his block now because he fears that a movement of eviction might begin for all of them. He is not interested in the principles of democracy since these are abstract things to him, but he does get into a cold anger when he realizes that fair treatment is not accorded to him. His only reaction is to "get the guy and sock him in the head". He reflects many attitudes of the other Nisei workers at his factory. Endo said that he was glad that he was not going to be taken into the Army because he didn't think that a Nisei had a chance to come back alive. He just wants to be let alone and live his own life. Apparently there are some things that he is striving for because he realizes that everything is not running as smoothly as possible, but he is not able to define these things which he is striving for. He does have some expectations in life but he is not able to express it in a well defined plan. He seems to be pre-occupied more with sex and he left to go visit some Nisei girl "who has a hot reputation". Endo is not able to approach even this type of girl himself so that he brings a friend along with him in order to bolster his courage.

I had planned to do a little typing and studying today but Jimmy Yamada phoned so I invited him over and he spent the day with us. Jimmy has just completed the language course at Fort Snelling where he graduated as the student who made the most advance. He was very modest about it and he didn't tell too much. Somebody had spread a rumor that he had flunked out of Snelling and that he was with the MP Battalion but this was not true at all. Jimmy is staying with some Caucasian friends. After his furlough is up, he will report for basic training in Florida. He figures that this will be for a period of 8 weeks and then he will go back to Snelling and wait there for an assignment. Jimmy said that he might be sent to the Philippines. The new language class is starting next week and Jimmy thought that this would be the last large group to enter there. He said that quite a few Nisei fellows had been coming in from Hawaii so that there will be over 500 in this class.

Jimmy thought that I still should contact Major Busch and try to get into the language school even though I didn't more than 25 words in Japanese. I told him I didn't feel like studying that hard and I didn't think I could possibly learn a language in a year since this is not my special aptitude. Jimmy said that he was able to get acquainted with Major Busch very well so that he always had plenty of Scotch and soda to drink. "In the Army, they want us to be politically dumb so that we can't express many of our opinions and this has been pounded in me so much that I have become cautious of saying anything, even to my friends. I personally feel that the spread of the communist doctrine throughout the western world and in the Orient is an indication of a new wave of the future. I think that perhaps it might be better for the common man to live under such a system altho it doesn't have to be labeled communism. Russia will be the dominant power in Europe and in the Orient after this

war. Of course, England is still playing her political game of imperialism but I would hate to see him drag this country in with her. I think that America is fundamentally closer to the Russian political ideology than England altho the isolationists in this country would disclaim it most furiously. I haven't kept up at all in any of the current event developments because I have had to concentrate upon the language school. My last three months there was not too difficult. I don't care where I am sent. I have the natural optimism of man in believing that I will be one of those who will come back alive. At the same time I will take out the \$10,000 insurance for my father who is the only living relative that I have left. I just saw him at Poston and he probably will be there for the duration of the war.

"Poston is a mighty sad place now. There are a number of late teen Nisei still there but the parents are clinging to them ~~harder~~ closer than ever because they still get a lot of rumors about how wild the resettled ones are. Many of those young Nisei don't belong in camps at all but I don't see how they are going to get out unless their parents go with them. It is insane to even assume that all these camps are going to close down as the government will have to maintain them for the old folks and the very young. The camp is psychologically deteriorating to the young Nisei left behind. A growing resistance has developed toward the draft as vicious rumors spread about the Jim-Crow system imposed upon the Nisei soldier. Much of this has no basis in fact but the fellows are more than willing to believe that it is true. There are approximately 80 Nisei draft dodgers in Poston now and I don't know what kind of action will be taken against them. The administration is attempting to persuade them that they should be inducted peacefully in order to protect their future, but these fellows are greatly disillusioned and

ideological appeals bounce off their ears like rain water. It's quite a big problem because these fellows were only about 15 when evacuation took place and they really have no basis of comparison since their lives on the coast have not come into contact with the American scene too much except in schools. They have not had time to temper their ideological beliefs with the realities of the situation so that the disillusionment has been all the greater. They have not developed their thinking to the point where they could speak for themselves so that they have been very susceptible to the bitter type of agitation which continues underground at the present time, but in a more quiet way.. I don't know what is to become of the young Nisei but I think that their minds are still flexible enough so that they can make a turn for the better if there were some way of getting them back into a more normal way of community life.

"Even in the Army there is this general atmosphere of uncertainty because none of us know what is going to happen to us and we are afraid to make any plans for the future. I don't think that I'll ever go back and finish my last year in college because campus life will be so unreal to me after pasting the impact of war. I don't exactly know what I'll be doing altho I may take a stab at writing some day. Of course the fear of death is always uppermost in our minds and it gets stronger as the time for going into action gets closer. It's an unspoken type of thing because none of us ever talk about it. If we did, it would really put us in the dumps. We are kept too busy to think about such things anyway."

Bette came home around 2:00 and she spent about 3 hours in shopping for the week-end. She cooked a delicious dinner for us and we spent the evening in light talk. Jimmy left around 11:30. He said that he was going to the ballet tomorrow night with his friends

so that he didn't want to stay up too late. Bette said that they had a very good turkey dinner at the Kobe College banquet last night. She and Emiko both had to get up and give a speech about how they were making progress at school. She thought that the group were very rich and they seemed to be very sympathetic toward Japan. They were worried about what was happening to their college property in Kobe. The group is a rich missionary type of organization which used to exchange students with Japan but this activity has been curtailed due to the outbreak of the war. That is the reason why the group is giving out some scholarships to Nisei girls. However, Bette mentioned that there were only 3 Nisei girls in all at the banquet. She mentioned that the speaker said something about saving the revolving fund to rebuild their property in Japan, if destroyed, so that no more scholarships might be given out to Nisei girls. It amused Bette because the members of the group still thought that she was a Japanese girl and she had to remind them she really was an American girl. It is possible that Bette might get some more assistance from them next year but we are not counting on it.

Jack slept late this afternoon since he worked all night but he got up to talk to Jimmy. He went to the dentist about 6:00 o'clock. he has been going to the Nisei dentist on the corner of 47th and Cottage Grove but he didn't give his real name because he said that these Nisei dentists were charging very high fees to any Nisei who were in defense work. I guess they are trying to get as much as the market will bear. Jack mentioned later in the evening that quite a few fellows in his plant had left and some new ones had come in. He said that the most dangerous thing to do was to call any of them Tojo because they couldn't take a joke. "One of the new fellows in the plant was born in Tokyo and he is a non-citizen, but he is more out-

outspoken against the military regime in Japan than any Nisei in the plant. The 17 year old Nisei fellow is the most pro-Japan one so that I have been trying to get the two of them together. The fellow who was born in Tokyo is waiting for the chance to get into the Army altho I don't think he has made up his mind to volunteer. He felt that this would be his opportunity to obtain his citizenship. He mentioned that Henry Ibihara, who wrote to the president about a year ago, was finally accepted into the Army so that he was trying to make up his mind to do the same thing because he saw his future in this country. It's funny how a lot of Nisei at the plant who have never been to Japan and who speak atrocious Japanese talk about Japan as if it were their homeland. They're really frustrated and it's impossible to reason with them so I never try to argue with them seriously. Otherwise they are nice, ordinary guys."

Around midnight Jack started to pack some of his A-mas presents and he used all of the old match boxes and other boxes laying around the apartment. I started to wrap some of my packages also in order to get them out of the way and Emiko bawled me out for using the good paper when she came home. Bette was going to do some reading for her classes but she started to fix her overcoat and she never got around to it. >

Another quiet day today. I didn't get as much sleep as I wanted to because we didn't go to bed until about 5:00 a.m. Around noon a Nisei soldier, Bill S. phonedx Bette. He has been trying to see her for quite a while but Bette has been rather busy at school so that she has never met him. Jack answered the phone and he imitated Bette's voice and gave him quite a line about how thrilled she was, etc. When Bette finally got on the phone the boy was quite embarrassed and he didn't want to come over. He finally got Otto to come over with him. <Bill has been in the Army since last June and he'll probably be going overseas after his present furlough is up. He is about 20 years old. He didn't have very much to say when he came over with Otto. They took Bette ice skating. Bette is very enthusiastic about ice skating now and she plans to go with some of her school friends when the Midway is flooded and frozen over. She was a little disappointed that Bill was not as handsome as she had hoped. Poor Otto takes quite a beating because he has a big crush on Bette and everyone teases him about it. When they came home from ice skating, they left immediately since Mrs. Ikeda had prepared dinner for them at home.>

Jack went out wolfing so I don't know what's happened to him. He has been getting a little restless lately but apparently he and Dolores have made some sort of pact not to go out on dates. Dolores writes him every day. Jack hopes that he will be able to go back to the Coast pretty soon. <He wrote another letter to the Western Defense Command and stated that the main reason why he wanted to go back to San Francisco was that "no matter you may roam, there's no place like home." His other two reasons were "to join wife" and "to attend school".> Jack is saving quite a bit of money now and he averages almost \$150 a month. However he spent quite a bit for Xmas this month so that his average will go down once more.

Emiko spent most of the afternoon making some sushi as she wanted to take some back to the girls at the hospital. It's a concoction of rice, tuna fish, carrots, etc. Emiko said that she and Bette had talked things over Friday night and they were not going to dominate Tom too much when he came out next spring but they would try to guide him as best as they could. They were worried about Mariko's adjustments and they thought it was about time that they went over and gave big sister a lecture so that George would have a happier married life. I didn't think this was such a good idea because Mariko would think that I had put them up to it and she would resent it anyway if younger sisters tried to tell her how to behave. Emiko is taking some psychology courses at Mt. Sinai now and she is going to analyze Mariko as one of her projects! She and Bette do not care to visit Mariko any more because they don't like the atmosphere over there. I told Emiko that Mariko would settle down in a little while and the disturbance right now is due to her early adjustments to married life.

After Bette came home, we had dinner. Davey ate with us and Emiko practice putting bandages on him after dinner since she is having a test on it tomorrow. Emiko said she has not received a grade below 90 in any test since she has been out there so that she has been doing much better than we expected. She likes the training very much and she said that she was going on floor duty next week. Emiko usually goes out on a date Saturday nights with Tets. ^{thru 6482} He has been attending night school but he isn't doing so well so that he is going to stop work at 3:00 o'clock so that he will be able to concentrate a little more on his studies. Emiko also mentioned that Merry Otomo was feeling a little sad these days because she hardly gets any dates because she is so tall. Merry is supporting a younger sister

and brother out here and she is talking some advanced shorthand courses so that she can get a better job. Emiko said that Merry had donated blood to the Red Cross a number of times.

Emiko certainly chatters a lot these days and that must be the influence of all those girls at Mt. Sinai. Bette said that these girls made Emiko's room their headquarters and they are always crowding in there at night. The other Nisei girl in the school, Yo, isn't doing so well and she flunked one of her courses. Emiko says that it wasn't any use to give her pep talks because the girl is always reading True Confession magazines when she should be studying. There is a possibility that this girl may flunk the course and be forced to drop out of school. She is only 18 years old but very immature, according to Emiko.

Bette listened to the radio about 10:00 and then she started to study. She has a number of novels to read for her Humanities course so that I have been getting after her lately. I tried to spur her on by telling her that Otto is getting all A's at the Junior College but Bette just admits that she isn't as smart. I think that Bette will come through with fairly good grades at the end of this quarter because she has been studying quite a bit. However, she has also been engaged in a lot of social activities with her friends at school but that is to be expected. As long as she gets a C average, that is good enough. I think that she might even get a B average if she hits the finals right. The University of Chicago plan of study is strange to her and this is the reason why she is finding it a little difficult to keep up with the concentrated courses. She still has all of the Xmas shopping to do but her finals are also coming in a couple of weeks and that is more important.

Devey mentioned during the afternoon that he was getting to be

a pretty good boy at his rooming house. He (CH-50) said that he was determined not to drink at all until New Years. Last night he ~~stayed~~
~~xxxxx xxxxxx~~ didn't have to work but he stayed
up talking to some friends. Davey said that he was planning to save
a little money but he had to buy some Xmas present for his parents
this month so he would not be too far ahead. He grossed about \$70
in pay during the past week but he thinks that the average will be
around \$55 or \$60 per week. He plans to send all of his excess
money to his father who will deposit for him in the Amache bank.
This will keep it out of his reach because he found that he could not
save any money if he put it in a bank out here since it was easy to
withdraw it. He has paid back all of his debts now. Davey brings
vegetables to the girls in the house so that they make lunch for him
and do his laundry. He said that he dressed up to go to work and it
was sort of embarrassing to carry a lunch pail. I ~~asked~~ asked him
why he didn't wear old clothes to work but he said he went through a
rich district on the street car and he didn't want to be the poorest
dressed person on the car.

Davey has been out here for about a four months now and he has \$13 to his name. He had \$300 when he came out but he spent it up during the first month he was playing around in Chicago. He did work for about 3 or 4 days at the Sheridan Electric Co. during those days. He said the real reason why he left the Cuneo Press Co. was that they didn't have any more over-time in the poster work which he was doing. Davey has not worked consistently so that he did not have a net salary of \$40 or \$50 a week since starting work at Cuneo Press on September 18. He showed me his pay receipts and they are as follows:

Week ending	Gross Earn.	Taxes, & Soc. Sec.	Net Salary
Sept. 3, 1944	\$8.00	.08	\$ 7.92
Sept. 20, 1944	54.50	5.55	48.95
Oct. 7, 1944	55.75	5.56	50.19
Oct. 14, 1944	14.50	.15	14.35

(Took time off this week for drinking spree)

Oct. 21, 1944	37.50	1.38	36.12
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(Took one day off from work)

Oct. 28, 1944	32.00	1.32	30.58
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(Took a couple of days off in above week to go drinking)

~~Nov. 4, 1944~~

Nov. 4-18, 1944 went on 2 weeks drunk and salary only amounted to:

23.75	.54	18.21
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Davey then quit his job at Cuneo Press and began working for the Central Grocers Cooperative Inc. His first check on November 25 was

61.72	8.82	52.90
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Davey will not have such a large tax hereafter since he has claimed his parents as dependencies. Last week he worked a total of 60 hours and he will receive approximately \$60 net in salary. He plans to keep this job for several more weeks yet altho he would like to take a bar-tending job. I told him he couldn't come over any more if he worked in a bar so he is going to think it over.

Dave said that quite a few fellows had moved out of his house but there is a bunch upstairs who roll the dice for \$1.00 every night. He said that one of the fellows sneaked into the girls room one night and tried to "make" one of the girls. That is why the girls keep the door locked now. They used to sleep right out in the open room until they got a separate room. The day I was over there, one of the girls was jitterbugging with an upstairs fellow while she was dressed in her pajamas. However, the boys in that house seem to have a code that they must not touch these girls altho it is okay to fool around any other Nisei girl who does not live there.

I'm rapidly catching up on my dictation. I only have one complete case to finish up now altho I have three in process. Last night I phoned up Sumi Harada and asked her about an interview. She seemed very willing to cooperate. She said that she had read Louis Adamic's book about my life and she didn't think that she would ever meet me face to face. I guess that's one case where Adamic's chapter comes in handy. I've never met Sumi Harada since Dave Okada was the one who did the initial work for me. He said that she lives with 2 other girls and it may be difficult to talk to her alone since there are a number of Nisei living in the building and they keep running in and out of the apartment. Dave's opinion was that Sumi was very cooperative, frank, intelligent and interesting, but somewhat caustic at times. She is supposed to be about 30 years old. Her brother is the Dr. Harada located in a hospital on the North Side while she has another brother who is a dentist. A third brother is overseas. Sumi Harada works in an office downtown and Dave said that she had some run-ins with the Caucasian girls there so that she seems rather dissatisfied with her job and prospects in Chicago.

George Akahoshi also phoned and asked if his interview could not be delayed for one more week since he was very busy doing some other activities. George is very anxious to give this interview but he has been engaged in so many types of things that it has been difficult to catch him on a free night. I phoned Fukiko and she said that she would be over tomorrow evening as far as she knew. She may have to work over-time but I am saving the evening for her. My progress recently has not been quite satisfactory but I can't expect too much just because I had some feelings of anxiety about my work.

This evening I addressed all of my 4mas cards and got them out of the way. I think I shall have to buy some more cards in order to

each of my cases. Bette was a little worried because she will not have much time to do her Xmas shopping due to the pressure of her studies. Her finals are coming pretty soon and she wants to do as well as possible in them. She wasn't feeling very well this evening so that she took a nap for a couple of hours in order to get rid of her headache. This was caused by a combination of her intensive reading and the physical exhaustion from ice skating yesterday. She was a little short-tempered for a while, but her spirits picked up after I cooked dinner and did the dishes all by myself. I think I am spoiling her and she knows it. I think I shall venture to ask her about ironing a few of my shirts because they have been stuffed in the bag for weeks now and I would like a clean shirt by Xmas. I almost went downtown to look around for a suit but I didn't have enough money on hand so I didn't take advantage of the fact that the stores were open this evening. I read "Christ in Concrete" most of the evening after finishing my card addressing. >

I got to the University about 7:30 this morning so I could stand in line for cigarettes! <It is almost impossible to get them now but the bookstore puts them on sale early in the morning and about 50 people gather immediately to form the line.> I managed to get my precious cigarettes so I went to class contented. The lecture was boring to me so that I day-dreamed half of the time the rest of the time I was practically asleep. My heart doesn't seem to be in this course and I don't seem to find the source of this dissatisfaction. I suppose it is because I am only interested in getting my M.A. degree. The finals are coming in about another week and as usual I am most pessimistic about how I will make out. I have lost the last shreds of self-confidence in my ability to bluff through the finals but I hope to squeeze through. I think that the S.S.A. here is greatly over-rated but the degree has a high prestige value. Perhaps I am a little skeptical about whether I will be able to find a suitable position after the present research job is finished. I'm not too sure that social work is what I want either altho I do have a continued interest in it.

After my class I dictated for the remainder of the day. I rushed home and ate a hasty dinner by myself and then waited for Fukiko (CH-59) to come for another interview. Bette stayed over with Betty Jean to do some studying. Fukiko arrived promptly and we had a fairly good interview. It takes her a long time to get started but I feel that we are making some progress. <The case isn't being completed as rapidly as some of the others but that is because of the individual difference.> Fukiko told me mostly about her life in Los Angeles. It was a sort of dreary experience and she was constantly seeking some means of escape. She did not hesitate to say that there was some desire to escape from realities. Prior to the war, she had a hazy plan to go to Boston because that was the

seat of American culture. Fukiko had the idea that she could really find herself if she went on alone instead of maintaining further ties with her family. She wanted to be like other Americans. The outbreak of the war drew the family much closer together out of necessity so that Fukiko had to discard her vague plans and prepare herself for the realities of evacuation with her family. During the period after the outbreak of the war until evacuation, Fukiko lived in a state of constant fear. She expected much worse treatment than what actually happened to her. In discussing her attitudes toward Democracy, Fukiko indicated that she was most skeptical that the ideals of such a system could ever be achieved because "men are men". She felt that the selfish individual interests of the average American was more powerful than any motives of ideals. She recognizes at the same time that Japan does not offer any place for her so that she has determined that America is the only country in which she will be able to achieve some measure of security, altho she thinks that this will be a most difficult process. At the present time she is still rather vague about her own position and she is not too optimistic about the future. She feels that she is stuck in a dead-end job and it does not give her the least amount of satisfaction. The fact is that her present job in a dice factory is a sort of shame. Fukiko reads a great deal so that I loaned her a few of my books. I also insisted upon reimbursing her for car-fare since she has sacrificed her personal time in order to come over for these interviews. I'll see her again next week, probably one or two interviews before I finish. She left about 10:00 in order to meet Yoshi on 55th St. so that she could go to a bar and have some drinks. Yoshi is one of her closest friends and Fukiko envies her because of the extrovert and aggressive mannerisms which she herself does not possess. Fuiko doesn't like the company

of people as a rule because it reminds her too much of her own inadequacies and she feels ill at ease among them. She attempts to live in a sort of dream world but she is not successful in doing this completely. No matter what her thoughts are, she still can't escape the realities of life about her. However, Fukiko does have a fairly healthy mental attitude because she is aware of the type of thinking which goes on in her mind. She has not expressed any sentiments of deep bitterness yet, altho there is some confusion as to her status in this country. She mentioned that she has accepted the role of being a minority Japanese individual because the Caucasians will not accept her on an equal basis. She feels that she will be able to find some sort of adjustment under such a system but she does not have any illusions that Democracy will ever be perfected in her lifetime. I think that if she developed a bitter attitude, she will certainly become a twisted and frustrated neurotic case. Under the circumstances, she has made fairly good adjustments. I attempted to talk over some of these points with her and I think that she was able to grasp some new insight into her own situation. It is largely a matter of having a good attitude toward living which seems to be the important thing. If she did not have some expectations for the future, she would certainly become a very pitiful spectacle. In her way, Fukiko is showing a lot of courage in facing the problems of her life despite her tendency to seek some solutions on realistic level. >

Miyako wrote a letter saying that Mom was ill. I phoned Emiko and told her about it immediately so that she will write a letter and Bette will also write a letter. < Alice also wrote to tell about her present situation. Letters attached. >

Charles Kikuchi
Insert

Diary

Tuesday Dec. 5, 1944

6486

Nov. 25, 1944

Dear C.E.J.

I'm just writing you a short line to tell you that Mom is sick and in the hospital. This morning she went to the hospital and got 2 shots to make her sleep but it didn't help any. It was 1:15 this.

Mom says not to worry because she'll be coming home in a few days. Mom said that if she lies in bed she can't breathe so good, that's why she decided to stay at the hospital.

Well I just wrote to tell you about mom.

Love and kisses,

/s/ Miyako Kikuchi

P.S. She might have Valley fever and a cold mixed up together. She is staying at the hospital because she thought she might give us too much trouble because we go to school yet. It is really nothing to worry about.

Charles Kikuchi
Insert.

Diary

Tue. Dec. 5, 1944 6487

Dec. 2, 1944

← thru 6509
Dear C, B, and J: (also E when she comes home.)

It's been some time since any of you wrote, so I take my pen in hand and write to find out why. I think Bette was the last to write to me. Did I answer you, Bette. The days have been so full of suspense, anxiety, and excitement, I don't know what's what half of the time.

Well--as you all heard, Mark is at last on his way--but he is still in this country waiting to be shipped. I don't know whether he's in Seattle or SF, but his APO address is SF, so no doubt it's the South Pacific. After almost two weeks of not hearing from him, he finally phoned me long distance, but couldn't give me nary a clue as to his whereabouts. It certainly gives ~~me~~ one a lonely feeling to know that someone ~~my~~ very dear to you is in the same country as you are--but not knowing where--and whether or not he'll be bound for some place far away before your letter reaches its destination. To think that only five weeks from now our heir or heiress apparent will arrive--and have no nervous father to pace the corridors of the hospital. May has promised to be a proxy father and pass out cigars if necessary, but taint the same, especially since we both planned and looked forward to this occasion for so long.

Am in the best of health physically and full of vim and vigor--have gained 22 pounds so far--but as in the case of Mimi--I don't have to walk around with crutches. Am about as large as Toshie was while I was there--haven't gained anything my arms, legs or face, just in front. I wouldn't be at all surprised if someone came up and offered me a job in a department store--as Santa Claus--due to the manpower shortage. Haven't much of a lap to offer the kiddies though. Jurnior or Joyce might kick them anyway, and I'd be fired.

Johnny comes over quite often and is now in the full swing of being business manager for the Senior Class lay and having his pictures taken for the year book.

Received a box of chocolates and a Christmas card from Mr. Altre today - so now I have 3 Xmas presents stacked up on the bureau. One from Mark, one from Beverly and one from Mr. Altre. Mark sent me a white quilted robe with blue and yellow flowers on it, and a pale blue taffeta lining. Had to peek at it, when I wrapped it up with Xmas paper. Could use a pair of slippers if anyone wants a hint as to what to give me for Xmas. Will probably get a lose of use of it after the baby comes - getting up in the middle of the night - every two hours or so.

Chidori came in town last Saturday and stayed with us until Thursday. It was good to see her again and she kept me company in the afternoon while May was at work. As she had a reservation in a hotel, she moved out Thursday and left for Chicago this morning so you'll probably hear from her before you receive this letter.

Last Sunday May gave a baby shower for me and so this place was a little crowded and noisy with all the gals chattering away. Most of the people here are familiar to you folks and all brought such nice gifts for the baby. Here's who were here and what they brought:

Joanne Kobuchi Oikawa and Kay Ikeda - 2 bottle bottles, 2 nipples, soap, talcum, cotton swab sat, baby oil.

Helen Nagase - 1 white flannel kimono, pair of pink nitted booties.

Harumi Nagase (Bud's sister) - Baby's cup, saucer and bowl set.

Annie Fujimoto - Baby blanket - knitted wool (blue with white fringe).

Yuri Oshima Tanabe - Pink knitted panties.

Sachi Takahashi Doi (used to live in same barracks as us at Tanfo) - Blue crochet booties and bib.

Amy Kishii Sugimura - Pink sweater and bib.

Eaye Osako - Pink tafetta quilted coverlet with blue lining.

Annie brought her camera and took some pictures but I don't know how they turned out as ~~xxx~~ yet as I haven't seen her.

All the girls stayed for spaghetti, salad and French bread afterwards - and so we had a houseful all day - as another couple, Chidori, her former roommate May - and Baer Kawakami and his wife came over after the shower.

So - as far as the baby's things go - I'm pretty well set for clothing - but have to buy a baby bed, mattress, crib sheets, etc. as yet. Have decided to buy a bed if I can managed instead of borrowing Eileen's - but I'll write to her when I decide definitely. So she'll know what to write to her folks about sending their bed or not.

Have been seeing quite a few shows lately - saw "Mrs. Parkington", "None But the Lonely Heart", "Something for the Boys", "Step Lively", "Doughgirls", "Laura", "Meet Miss Bobby Sox" and the stage production of "Foggy and Bess". We started out to see Artie Shaw in person Sunday - but the line went clear down the block and around the corner so we saw "Doughgirls" instead - that Eve Arden is a riot in it.

Did I mention that Toshio Suzuki got married - also received Obo's announcement - but no return address on his - or Tak's - or did you hear about Tak Shiozaki getting married in Des Moines, Iowa.

Well, as far as Mark goes - I think he's still at the point of embarakation, but for how long, I don't know. I heard from him occasionally but he can't say very much as to what goes on.

How goes the Xmas shopping in Chicago - May goes down town - buys one gift and gets so tired - she comes home and says "I get so mad when I see all your gifts wrapped and ready to be mailed - but then, I've been serving for a long time now and want to get everything out of the way - just in case I have a premature baby or something. At the rate it kicks - could be any day now.

Have to write Mark now - so whoever has a few spare moments - please write!

Regards to all - and May says hello to you folks - Johnny sends regards to Bette.

Love,

Alice

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community. It had a fairly high social status so that Bob T. was greatly influenced by it. He was spoiled by his mother so that he likes to have his own way. In high school Bob was rather active and he even became the student body president. He had an older brother who was quite an athlete and Bob sort of ~~skids~~ coasted through high school on his reputation. The girls all used to make a great deal of him because he was quite a catch. He had one unfortunate love affair for which he blames the girl, but I happen to know that the fault was mostly his. I roomed with him for some months before I got married so that I had an opportunity to study him a little. He is a queer guy to figure out because he is a mixture of contradictions. At one time he will appear to be extremely generous and at other times he is very selfish and narrow. He doesn't concern himself at all about social issues and most of his present attitudes are a reflection of what Helen says. The trouble is that he has these things all mixed up so that it doesn't make much sense. His approach is to overpower a girl and then drop them like a pancake after they become submissive to him. He recognizes the greater intelligence of Helen and that's why he tries so hard to assert himself over her, using his charm and personality and manliness as the chief weapons. They're going together pretty steady now. Bob is about 26 years old. He has pulled a lot of dirty tricks on me and he never once has apologized but he attempts to make up in other ways. He has many conservative ideas and I suppose that is due to the fact that he did have a lot of the Japanese culture in his home, which was on a higher level than that experienced by many of the ordinary Japanese families on the coast prior to the war.

"Bob Takami is definitely out for himself just like I am and he doesn't make any bones about it. He is used to having money and he spends it. He doesn't care at all about the rest of the Nisei

just as long as it doesn't interfere with his own well-being. He has been yelling along for a long time that the best solution would be to have a Japanese town out here. The other evening he and Helen went to a Caucasian bar on Clark and Division for a drink and they were refused. I think that was due to the fact that the neighborhood down there is getting much more conscious of the Nihonjin because so many of them have centered around that area. Bob T. can't seem to recognize that there is a correlation between the degree of segregation and the increase of discrimination. He would be the first one to squawk loudly if he were discriminated against in jobs. He is not too confident of the political system of this country so that he does have an air of cynicism and it really isn't a conservative and pro-Japan attitude altho it may sound like it at times. But the fact does remain that Bob is definitely conscious of being a Japanese and he doesn't try to go around and hide this fact in shame and sorrow but he attempts to make a direct frontal attack upon it and try to overcome any obstacles by himself. He feels that the WRA has not been doing enough to do a little of the paving of the way for the Nisei. But he doesn't concern himself too much about these problems because he just is not interested as long as his very appetites are satisfied.

"During the weeks of my unemployment, I have been doing a lot of thinking about my own status. I have an opportunity now to get a job as an accountant so that I would like to find out where I can get this training. I might inquire at one of the night schools here. I would go full time if I can get some finances. Maybe my brother will be willing to finance me for a short period. I've got a college degree but it doesn't train me for anything specific. I would like to do organizational work because that is my main line, but there aren't any possibilities right now. I've been thinking that the

employment problem for the Nisei is going to be quite severe after the war and I want to get away from the rank and file level of the unskilled worker so that I'll have more chance. Civil service sounds like a good bet right now and I'm still waiting for that opening in the OPA. I've been getting my \$20 a week unemployment compensation and I haven't become too bored loafing around. I was in a nervous state a while ago but now I am busy occupying myself by building different things around the house. I would have done it a long time ago but I didn't want to be driven to it. If I am left alone I would go ahead and do all these things because I get a lot of pleasure out of it. We are pretty well prepared for the winter and our apartment is getting the air of stability around it as we accumulate more worldly possessions. There are still a lot of things that we have to buy yet but I don't want to get loaded up too much.

"Mariko and I still expect to go to New York one of these days. That's one of the joys of life; looking ahead. I don't know what the prospects there are but I want to go and see. It's a sort of sense of adventure and we are still young enough to do it. We'll settle down in time but we have to find ourselves first. I probably will think in terms of going to South America or some other place after I get to New York, but that is life. The prospects here in Chicago does not look so good. I personally don't object to a Japanese community here but the present setting on Clark and Division isn't so good because there are some dangerous implications to it. I know that it's going to come and I don't want to be around when the worst aspects of this discrimination and prejudice hits the Nisei because it is difficult enough now to find oneself. I suppose that it is security that I am looking for and I don't feel that I will find it here in Chicago. There is a definite feeling of hosti-

lity against the Nisei around Clark and Division now. After what happened to Bob T. and Helen, I'll only go to a Nihonjin bar if I am down that way.

"My folks seem to be fairly well settled out here and I think that they will stay more or less permanently. I feel sorry for my dad because he has had a difficult time getting adjusted in a job. He is really a great guy and too good for the business world because he has a conscience and he would never attempt to exploit anyone. He is 63 years old so that he can't do heavy work any more. He ran his own cleaning establishment out in Seattle so that it has been a little difficult for him to get placed out here. He has been to about 15 cleaning places for a try-out but he can't stand the heavy pace which they set because he is used to working more leisurely. He got a job in some kind of a wood-work shop down on 14th and Clark right now and I am glad that he is finally working again because it will do a lot to restore his mental confidence. He is a little lonesome out here because very few of his friends are out here with him. Most of the Issei my parents know are my mother's friends. However, my folks never did have too much contact with the Nihonjin before the war anyway. If you compare it with the camp, then my folks don't have the social contacts which they became accustomed to. But they really are only going back to their situation before the war and they'll get along well enough. My mother cooks for my father and brother and she putters around the apartment most of the day and keeps herself busy. She is only 49 and she definitely wears the pants in the family. Anything she says goes with my father, brother and myself. My brother stops by to eat there every day.

"My brother seems to be doing fairly well right now. He worked at the Brasserie as a bar tender for quite a while and was making about 60 bucks a week. Now he is working as a bar tender at the

Stevens Hotel. He has a very good set-up there because he gets \$48 a week base pay and \$5 extra for every party which he serves in the private dining rooms. On top of that he gets tips so that his income is well over \$70 a week and he works steadily. His tips alone takes care of his living expenses and he doesn't have to pay any income taxes on that. Some of the other Nisei who work at the Stevens Hotel look at him funny when he goes into the restaurant to eat his meals because he takes off his bar-tender coat and puts on his suit coat and eats like anyone else. The other Nisei aren't allowed to do that except at certain intervals. My brother gets his meals as part of his wages. He has been making some very good contacts down there. He mixed the drinks for the C.I.O. national officers meeting here recently and he also mixed drinks for La Guardia and some of those big shot labor leaders. He just sits around in the lounge and mixes the drinks when they want it and he often drinks with them. He doesn't mention too much that he is a Nihonjin because he doesn't look like one.

"My brother has always made fairly good money and he saves quite a bit of it. He worked as a bell boy on a boat before the war and he was able to make a lot of side money by taking whiskey up to Alaska and selling it for \$5 or \$10 a bottle. He was able to make about \$200 extra in one trip up there during a period of two weeks. He doesn't have too many Nisei contacts out here because he is pretty busy. I think that he'll be willing to lend me some money if I take an accounting for it because he has been helping me out in recent weeks by loaning me a few dollars here and there."

Mariko called George to bed at this point and he obediently went. He remarked that he goes to bed at the same time with her and gets up with her in the morning in order to avoid any hurt feelings on Mariko's part and to prevent her from developing a martyr

complex about being the working member of the family. It was about 1:00 and Eileen was writing some letters in her room. She wanted me to go shopping downtown with her the following day so I decided to stay over. I read a book for a while and then Eileen and I started to talk about 2:30. We talked and talked until 6:00 in the morning. We covered every subject from job futures, love, sex, future prospects in Chicago to subjects like foods, and other casual things. Eileen said that she planned to go home on New Years instead of Xmas. She will get about 4 days off. She asked me if I wanted to go up with her so that I could visit her sister. I thought this was a little naive because she doesn't realize that some gossip may start about her. Eileen was in a very talkative mood and she told me a lot of her hopes and aspirations. She is not satisfied at all in a Nisei society but she doesn't see how she can ever get out of it. She said that she always expected to marry one of the home town Caucasian boys until she came to Chicago. She still thinks that she might marry a Caucasian if she meets one to her liking because she said that she feels very uncomfortable in the presence of Nisei fellows because there just isn't anything to talk about. Eileen takes me very impersonally so that she doesn't hesitate to reveal her real feelings. I've more or less told her that I have a great admiration and liking for her but I realize that she is still seeking her ideal man. I thought that it was foolish for her to say that she was going to be a nun or that she wouldn't marry for at least 4 years yet because that didn't fool anyone.

Meriko has been a little worried because she is afraid that one of these days some fellow is going to try and take advantage of Eileen. Because of her late hours of work, Eileen can't entertain any of her friends unless it is late at night. She does have quite a string of fellows that she is keeping on the line but she hasn't

found anyone yet that she can get passionately attached to. I don't see how this can be possible in the present circle in which she moves. She said that there was one Nisei girl up in her home town who was running around with Indian fellows and getting a very bad reputation so that she was going to have a talk with her when she went home. A lot of Eileen's so-called sophistication and worldliness is just a put-on sort of thing. Eileen has a deep religious sense and she believes in God and all that stuff. She even went to church last Sunday morning. This doesn't seem to be consistent with her present life activities, but then, women aren't such enigmas.

Eileen wanted to know about the single standard of love versus the double standard. She felt that the women should be entitled to have the same type of relationship as a man did without the society condemning it. I suppose I could have built up this rationalization but I pointed out that it was always the women who took the beating. I told her about the same thing that I have been telling Emiko and Bette. I said that there was no moral issue involved as far as I was concerned, but it was more practical for a woman to protect herself against the criticisms of society. Eileen encourages fellows to make love to her because she thinks that she can control the situation, but one of these days her emotions are going to run away with her. I wish that she didn't tell me that she trusted me so much! I don't think that I would ever attempt to make any passes at her because I admire and respect her too much to do anything sordid. Eileen doesn't realize that she creates the wrong impression with fellows when she leads them on so much. I'm pretty sure that she'll get married in another year or so because nature intended her to function as a woman and she does have certain biological urges. Her mind is a little in doubt about many things, including

marriage because she has an unfulfilled ambition to ~~xxxx~~ get the music teaching out of her system. At the same time she doesn't want to isolate herself in some small rural town because she does like the city life and all of its social advantages. She has developed a closer attachment to her family since coming back to Chicago last August. She would like to do something for her sister and younger brother. May is beginning to walk around now but Eileen doubts whether she will be able to realize the ambition of becoming a ballet dancer. Eileen said that there were several older Nisei girls in her home town of Minot but none of them had gotten married yet because there just weren't any eligible fellows around. She thought that it would be too difficult for them to inter-marry and live in such a conservative community. Eileen then went on to tell a little bit of her attitudes toward other people. She said that she has a great sympathy for orphans and at 4mas she used to give away all of her old toys to the poor children across the tracks in order to make them a little happier. Her father is not well-off but he is making out fairly well right now in his restaurant business. One of the cooks quit recently so that her father has to work from 5:00 in the morning until late at night. Eileen felt that this would be too much for him physically so that she is going to insist that he closes up his restaurant for a few days when she goes up there. Eileen is very sympathetic towards other people and she doesn't have the least streak of selfishness in her. She hasn't been able to save a cent out here and yet she has loaned out \$45 to her friends within the past month. I think they are just mooching off of her. She is very sensitive about the large amount of money she loaned to Mr. Thomas so I never mention it at all.

About 6:00 o'clock we decided that it was getting late so I went on to bed in the front room. I was just ~~getting~~ falling asleep

when Mariko's alarm went off in the next room. She got up with a great deal of fuss and clatter and she went into the bathroom after turning the radio on full blast. It's always an ordeal for her to get up and she doesn't want anyone else to be sleeping while she goes and struggle for a livelihood. I did not have any plans for going to the office early since Louise went down to the WRA office to find out what happened to our files and I expected to go down in the afternoon and then continue on for an interview in the evening. Mariko's clatter interrupted my sleep so that I eventually got up around 11:00 after sleeping only a few hours. By that time George was banging around the house, so that it was impossible to sleep anyway. We ate breakfast and then went downtown.

The downtown area is just jammed with people doing their Xmas shopping so that it is very difficult to make any headway through the crowds. Eileen walks very rapidly and she wore me out trying to keep up with her. I had hoped to buy some of the Xmas presents for the family as Bette is pretty tied up with her coming finals, but I couldn't compete with all those fat, struggling women who rudely pushed everyone out of the way. I only bought some stationery and then followed Eileen around in her shopping. She is able to get pretty good service because she doesn't stand around timidly to wait for service. She wasn't able to buy too many things because her mind was not made up.

Bette was not home when I arrived because she went some place with one of her school friends so that I had to prepare my dinner and depart hastily for my interview with Sumi Harada (CH-60). What a time I had over there! She lives over on 5509 Blackstone. It's a big apartment building full of Nisei. The place has a peculiar odor to it, like musty Japanese ~~me~~ food. I guess it must be the pickles or something because I always notice this smell when I go

into a Japanese home. I thought that the Nisei fellows I met in the hallway were very discourteous because they rudely answered my inquiries and rushed off. It didn't make such a favorable impression. Near the doorway, there's a large sign advertising a Nisei dance on Xmas eve. When I got up to Sumi Harada's ~~her~~ room, I was taken aback when she acted so rudely. Immediately she began to wonder why I had come 10 minutes earlier than the appointed time. She had not eaten dinner yet so I was introduced to the 3 young girls living with her. One was rather attractive but the other 2 were average--all were quiet. I read the papers until Sumi was finished with dinner. The first thing she said was, "Why aren't you in the Army? My brother is giving his blood over in France and you Nisei are sitting here on your fat fannies and making money. All the Nisei boys should be in the Army. President Roosevelt and all those government officials should be right up in the front line. They should put those slimy Jews there up until they get sick of war and stop it."

I don't know why she made such a direct frontal attack on me but I took time to explain my own draft status. Sumi then went on to add that it was absolutely silly for anyone to fight a war because it didn't gain anything. "Do you think that those Nisei fellows are going to have it any easier after they come back from the war? None of them expect to come back. They are all fatalists and I don't blame them. What have they to come back to? They can walk around the street waving their little American flags and pointing out to themselves that they are loyal Americans, but that isn't going to make any bread and butter for them." This was in direct contradiction to what she had said a few minutes earlier.

Sumi is 35 years old, rather stout and there is a constant frown on her face. Before the evening was over I found out how bitter and frustrated she really is. She is so disillusioned and

cynical about everything. I think she hates anything and everybody who enjoys life. A typical old maid characteristic. I felt very sorry for her because her thinking was so distorted and twisted. There are a lot of older girls who have been able to make adjustments because they don't feel sorry for themselves. Sumi was full of a "sour grapes" all evening. She has a very sharp tongue and she was throwing insults left and right. I took it as long as I could and then my temperature began to rise as I forgot about my scientific quest. I threw back insults at her as she dished them out, but I soon found out that she could not take it. When I saw that she was ready to talk more sensibly, I began to use a different technique of flattering her ego and this had very good results.

I began to think to myself that it was such a pity that such a person could be so bitter. I tried to get her to talk things out and she gushed forth all of her likes and dislikes, mostly dislikes, for the next 3 or 4 hours. I didn't start the formal interview at all because I wanted to get a little better acquainted with her. When I left there about 11 o'clock, she asked me to come back tomorrow night so I could start the formal interview. I got the impression that Sumi just acts hard-boiled in order to cover up her real feelings. The other girls in the room have boys visiting them every night and the only way that Sumi can get attention is to ridicule these fellows and get them scared of her. Apparently she has been using this tactic for quite a while but I gave it right back to her so that she was much more pleasant by the end of the evening. In many ways it will be difficult to interview her because she is perpetually on the defensive but I think that it might prove interesting to carry it through because her sentiments are typical of so many of the younger Nisei who cannot give expression to it as well as she can. All I have to do is to remain tough-skinned and not

not let any of her insulting remarks bother me. She was even going to chase some boys out of the room on the second floor so that I can interview her in privacy. Fellows were coming in and out all evening so that I did not wish to keep any notes at all on our conversation. One fellow, Johnnie, remarked that he was going back to camp just as soon as the Xmas Eve nisei dance was over and he arranged for a date with one of the girls there. He said that it was too cold to spend the winter in Chicago. The fellows who came in were ordinary workers and they were not very noticeable so they made no impression on me.

Sumi speaks in a rather nasty and devastating tone of voice but she can speak in a mild manner as I later found out. I didn't try to argue with her on anything at all. She condemns any person who ~~expect~~ has the attitude that the world owes them a living, but she has exactly the same attitude herself. "I suppose you are invited out to nice Caucasian homes and you eat off clean tablecloths, well don't expect anything like that here. We live in a dump and we eat Jap food. We are Japs and I don't care who knows it. I understand that you don't like Japanese things. Well, you haven't grown up yet. Wait till you work a couple of more years and then you're going to yearn for the protection of a Japanese community, because the hakujin certainly won't help you out any." I immediately began to approach her in a different way by agreeing with her most bitterest and acidic comments but still they came out. She doesn't realize that she is a suffering hero and she is full of self-pity. "Look at my clothes. You think this is a new suit? Well, I've had this suit for 10 years now and I can't squeeze any money out of my \$80 a month salary to buy any new clothes. It's a daily battle for existence. Look at my glasses. They were given to me by a Caucasian friend because I couldn't afford them myself.

Don't you think I have pride? I don't care if I die tomorrow. The only reason I don't commit suicide is that I'm too much of a coward to take my life. I don't care for anybody and I wouldn't lift my finger to help anybody. I'm all alone in the world because I don't care about my brother at all. My father died in camp. You know what the dirty WRA did to him? He had to have a special diet and they wouldn't even give him oranges. I had to send out for oranges and pay for them out of my measly \$16 a month salary. What do they expect people in camp to do with that limited salary? They should provide everything and I certainly let them know that I wasn't going to be pushed around when I was in camp. I hated the superior attitude they tried to put on, as if they were any better than we were.

"That WRA is the biggest mistake this government ever made. It hasn't done one single good thing for the people in camp. Look at how they pushed us out of camp? I came out because there wasn't anything else for me to do. I had no one left in camp and I had to make my own way. Sure, I wanted to walk on city streets and all that stuff, but I didn't know how it was going to be out here. The WRA didn't tell me that I would have to tramp the street and look for a job. I've never done that before in my life. If you go down to the WRA office now, they just sneer at you and tell you that you are on your own. How can I save up any money for illnesses when I barely exist?

"Why should I be happy about being resettled? Do you think that I am a free American citizen breathing the air of freedom, equality and justice? That's a lot of nonsense. I'll tell you how it is. It's dragging yourself out of bed at 7:00 o'clock in the morning and rushing down to a monotonous job and slaving away for that \$80 that we have to keep our bodies and souls together. We come back to our crowded apartment because the hakujin won't rent

us better places to live in. We stay cooped up here and live from day to day. I have no expectations out of life at all. I'll probably be one of those old women who has a dog following her and I'll end up by living in a two by four room. On the way home I'll pick up some muffins and eat them all by myself. That's all I have to look forward to. Why should I be happy and full of ideals. You can be very smug and contented because you have a full stomach and a white collar job. I don't even have any prospects of security so why should I care if I die. Nobody will miss me anyway. They'll probably be get rid of me because I have such a nasty temper. But don't think that the other Japanese in our house don't feel the same way I do. You can't be filled with any ideals when you have to earn your daily bread and butter. Then you get greedy and you go out for yourself. I can't blame these younger Nisei for going wild. I don't care if they get into trouble and I wouldn't help them even if they did. It's their business, not mine. I admit that I am not a very social minded person. I was behind the door when God handed out the good looks and brains.

"That job of mine is practically driving me crazy. I've gone around and tried different jobs but one is as good as another. They won't take you on your merits. If they see that you have a Japanese face you will get offered a certain kind of job. Pretty soon you get used to that and you don't care anymore. You have to work in order to live but you don't like it. That's why I stay in my job as a shipping clerk. I don't get along with the people down there because I speak my mind. Here I am, 35 years old, almost 40, and I haven't any training in anything special. I ran my own restaurant about 60 miles from Los Angeles, Riverside, California and it's hard getting used to taking orders. I used to give all of the orders. We had mostly Mexicans and Negroes coming to our restaurant

and you had to act tough so they wouldn't get any ideas. The Negroes were allowed in only one other restaurant in town. Do you think that they believe in democracy? Don't be funny. I think that the Negroes are higher class than those dirty slimy Jews though. Now don't tell me that I am of a minority too. I'm prejudiced against the Jews and I don't care who knows it. I haven't any ideals at all. The only thing I do believe in is God but I haven't been to church for five weeks so maybe I ain't so religious anymore. Religion is the only thing that anyone with a Jap face can depend on. But I bet that even God might try to keep you out of heaven if you have a yellow face. I don't mean that in blasphemy at all because religion is the only thing in my life that I hold sacred. I don't care for anything else. The Nisei do not have much of a chance and they might as well realize it instead of dreaming. They say that living in poverty is a joyous adventure, but that makes me laugh. It's a grim experience and you have to fight tooth and nail to hang on. Once in a while a little ray of sunshine comes though to brighten up your life, but most of the time this business of living is a nasty affair and I don't see why we go on.

"The Nisei certainly are not going to find the going any easier after the shooting is all over. There'll be plenty of job discrimination against them. A person can get batted in the face just so many times and then they will get wise. Why shouldn't the Nisei be pessimistic now? I think they are being realistic. They know what the score is. It's guys like you with your scientific idealism who go around and try to give us common people the uplift treatment. Well, don't try that stuff on me. I know what I'm like and I'm not ashamed of it. The only good virtue I have left is being honest. Once I went to a post office out here and the clerk gave me 10 cents too much in change. I thought that if any Caucasian person were

that dumb it served him right. But when I got half way down the street my conscience bothered me so I went back and gave him his filthy dime. It's usually not any use to help anyone. I used to give a lot of handouts at our restaurant to down-and-outers but they acted as if I owed it to them.

"I've never had any education and I'm dumb. That's why I don't have any foolish dreams for the future sunshine which will come into our lives and make it perfect. I work for 20 years in a restaurant. My father used to own it but I took it over after he got sick. We never had too much family life as we had to eat our meals in shifts in the restaurant. Everybody helped out but we didn't get along too well together. There are 6 of us in the family. My brothers went off to college and my father helped put them through so that one is a doctor and another one a dentist. I'm not proud of that at all because they mean nothing to me. My older brother practiced medicine in San Francisco ~~for~~ and Sacramento for about 17 years. My youngest brother was a lab technician at Mt. Sinai hospital before he got drafted. (Louise said that a sister of hers is married to Saburo Kido, the national president of the JACL.) Everything I've got in life I've had to struggle for it. That's why I'm Japanese and I don't care. If they say that we are that way, then let them think so and why not act that way? It's a part of our blood anyway. I was in Boston during that time they had that big strike up there and boy, did we put on a show. We played Japanese records and nationalistic marches that I had never heard of before. But I couldn't stay in a camp life all the time and that's why I left. I can't make a living out here either. You come back tomorrow night and I'll let you interview me and ask all kinds of questions. I'll tell you the truth because I have nothing to hide."

Phew! What an interview that was. I think that Sumi blasted

out most of the bitter juice from her system so that she may be much calmer tomorrow when I got to see her. What I have to go through for science! She said that I was stupid, complacent, smug, ugly, fat, selfish, a dreamer, and a snooper. But she doesn't mind me because I talk back to her. She was very friendly when I left and she anxiously asked if I had gotten so disgusted that I wouldn't come back. I told her that I would be back and that I would listen to some more of her blowing-off but I felt that she should not be so cynical about everything. It's too bad that any person has to have such a temperament. She is just making her own life more miserable and I don't know quite how to get her to view things in a more positive way with a healthier frame of mind. I don't mind her belittling me if it gives her any satisfaction because I know that she tries to act tough and gruff because she is not secure herself and she is afraid of the possibility for the future. She is wrapped up too much in her personal frustrations and so bitter that it comes out all over her and her every actions indicates this. I think that underneath she has a heart and probably she could be very human and nice if she were able to detach herself from her mixed emotions. It won't be a pleasant interview at all but I want to go through with it because she typifies the bitter Nisei and she doesn't try to hide this fact. I'll probably get a much better impression of her and understand her present mental complexes when she tells me her life story. All of this tonight was just a preliminary introduction of getting acquainted as friends. That's the way she put it anyway!

When I got home Bette was still studying. She is getting very nervous about the approaching finals. She doesn't think that she will have much time for Xmas shopping. She would like to buy a new coat for herself even though she hasn't got much money left. I'm exhausted from lack of sleep but I have to get up early for class.

Today is the third anniversary of Pearl Harbor. It is a gloomy day outside. When I think of all the thousands of young Americans who have been killed in this war and the millions whose lives have been disrupted during the past 36 months, I wonder if it is worth it all. Sometimes it looks futile and the only hope that one has to go on is that the present war will open up the door to a brighter tomorrow. It's a shame that so many young lives have to be sacrificed to the God of War. I hope that this will be the last war. But there is always a mention of a third World War so that it seems that man will never learn. The war in Europe is supposed to be reaching the final stages, but some military commentators predict that it will go on for at least 6 months longer. Congress has just appropriated 70 billion dollars a year more to carry on the war against Japan after Germany is defeated. All of these millions of dollars ^{are} ~~is~~ lost forever. The reality of the war is a little difficult to picture unless one is in it directly. One thing that has happened is that the moral and ethical codes of the people have broken down drastically, and this symptom is not peculiar to the Nisei. I am preoccupied with the Nisei status in the war but I can't help but be aware of the rest of the world because of the significant events which are going on right now. I only hope that the fourth anniversary of Pearl Harbor will find this country in peace once more and working toward the reconstruction of everything.

^{Thru 6537}
Doi stopped in for a few minutes while I was dictating to tell us about his business venture. He is acting as an entrepreneur in a toy service project. A Caucasian business man who owns two stationary stores started this business of wrapping and packaging paper toys for the large companies. Doi and a friend got into this because the man had too much other business on his hand. Doi said that they started out with \$300 and a lot of hope. He has rounded

up about 15 workers, not all Japanese, and he feels that there will be enough contracts to give enough full time employment the year around. The workers will get 45% of the gross profits. Doi said that he and his Nisei partner netted a profit of \$25 each last Saturday. He figures that they will be able to ~~xxx~~ clear around \$2500 by Xmas and this will be put back into the business. Doi does not expect to remain in this work permanently. He said that he plans to go to the Orient with his partner because he had many contacts with the Civil Affairs officers at the university and he thought that the prospects were good for the future. He will remain in his present teaching job as long as possible as he hopes to sell out his business interest for \$5000. Of course, Doi talks big and quite glibly, but I think that he does have a possibility in this toy wrapping service because it is a new field of work. He mentioned that it was not too easy to get the contracts from the larger companies because of the general scarcity of labor. He hopes to land a big contract with one of the large mail order department stores like Sears. He is rather enthusiastic about the project and he is already thinking in terms of thousands of dollars in profit. He said that he wasn't the type of person to turn into the academic field so that he wanted to develop his business potentialities. His Nisei partner is a commercial artist.

After my class this morning I started dictating and I continued this for the remainder of the day. I had hoped to complete the dictation of the last long case that I have as a backlog by the end of this week but I think that it will go into early next week. I have 4 other cases in process right now but 2 of them are delayed, possibly until after New Year's. I'll probably be very busy after the Xmas holidays so that I am not so pessimistic about my work at present.

This evening I went over to interview Sumi Harada (CH-60) and I finished the entire case document up after 6 hours of discussion. I suppose I could have gotten another interview and extended the case but I doubt if I could ever probe into her real feelings in her past life. When I got over there Sumi came out very belligerently and said, "Well, let's go down and get the interview over with. I've got a terrible headache." I told her that I could come back some other time but she said that she wanted to have the interview this evening. I had planned on doing at least 2 interviews with her but her attitude indicated that this would not be advisable. I think that if I asked her too many questions she might get to resent it and then this might be a handicap if I ever attempted to interview another person in her circle. Sumi took me down to a second floor room where some boys live and she chased them out so that we were in there most of the evening. She has a habit of taking her glasses off and pressing her eyes. She mentioned that she has had a great deal of difficulty with her health so that she was quite worried about what might happen to her in the event that she became ill. She has been taking some sort of medicine.

After we started talking a bit, Sumi calmed down quite a lot and she wasn't nearly as belligerent as last night. However, she still had an extreme attitude of bitterness. When she told me about the orphan girl that she took care of, in camp, I began to understand some of her cynical attitude. It appears that Sumi's family took in a young boy and he became the foster brother. He was no blood relative. This boy is now in the Army. A few months before the outbreak of the war, the boy's two sisters came back from Japan and they were evacuated with Sumi and her brother. She immediately began to have great difficulty with them. The girls were 16 and 18 at the time. They ran around with fellows quite a bit and Sumi

could not control them at all. She felt that the girls were too demanding. She wanted to bring them out to resettle with her but the girls finally ran off and married some fellows. Sumi didn't know if it was entirely her own failing but she was criticized entirely and she said that her family name was hurt because of the actions of these girls. Her life in camp was further complicated because of separation from her parents. Due to the ill-health of her father and mother, it was decided to let them go with the oldest brother who was practicing medicine in Sacramento. From there they went to Tule, and later transferred to the Topaz center. In the meantime Sumi and her younger brother and sister went on to Boston with the foster brother. Sumi felt that this was a great mistake and frantic efforts were made to rejoin the family. In March, 1943, this was accomplished but Sumi's mother died one day after she arrived at Topaz to join her. Her father became completely paralyzed and he died the following January. The two foster sisters got married so that Sumi and her brother were left alone. Sumi was also having trouble with the Issei in her block, the welfare department and some of the administrative personnel due to her unpleasant disposition. She finally came out to Chicago with her brother in May, 1944 and a short time later this brother was inducted and this left her alone in the world so it explains partly her extreme bitterness about everything. She has not been able to make satisfactory adjustments to life out here.

Sumi feels that she doesn't belong to anything so that she has no attitudes at all about the war except that her brothers are involved. She doesn't care who wins the war and she doesn't think it will make any difference in her life. At the same time she has no particular fondness for Japan altho the Japanese government hasn't "persecuted" her as much as the American government. She doesn't

think that she will ever be accepted as an American. She looks at her position like this: "If I remain in America I'll be an American with a Japanese face. If I go to Japan I'll have a Japanese face like all the rest of the people but I'll have certain American ideas. Either way I'd be in for a hard time and I guess I would have more chance in America because the position of women in Japan is nothing. I guess that is my only stake in the war but I don't think believe in all that crust about democracy which they talk about. Sometimes I feel like walking down the street with a little Japanese flag and waving it around because they think of me as a Jap regardless of what I do. It doesn't make any difference if I supported the war effort or not."

Sumi had a great deal of off the record things to say about the JACL. She stated that her sister was married to Saburo Kido, the present of the organization. The JACL seems to be about the only thing that she has on constructive things to say about even though she is not a member. It's a matter of upholding the family prestige. She said that many people have said nasty things about Saburo Kido and it was commonly believed that he accepted a bribe of \$50,000 to sell the Japanese down the river. Sumi was furious when she thought of this. "That's about the dirtiest thing I ever heard of. The Japanese are narrow-minded when it comes to things like that and they believe anything. They had better not say that to my face. I never tell anyone that my sister is married to Saburo Kido because I would have to be defending the JACL all the time and I'm not that fond of it." She went on to blast away at the WRA and all of its present weaknesses. She felt that it should give each resettler at least \$500 in order to get started instead of the measely \$25. She pointed out expensive it was to get resettled and she felt that it took at least a month for a person to

get decent housing and a job. She felt the WPA was to blame for her present condition out here and she feels most insecure. There is a deliberate attempt to project all of her maladjustments to others, even though some of this may be justified. Her present life is very aimless and she is just existing from day to day. She gave a rather detailed account of her experiences out here. I didn't attempt to emphasize much of her background because it was getting late and I didn't think that it was worthwhile to come for another interview. I think that the best way to get her real feelings is to have free association interviews because it expresses her sentiments more as she can get worked up easier. She made the interview quite difficult because she wants to argue on every point and I refused to enter into any debates. Whenever I asked her some questions about attitudes toward the future, she would say, "You tell me because I don't know." Then she went into a long tirade about why I should get out and do laboring work because that would be the best way for me to get my material. I agreed that this was a good procedure but I pointed out that there would be too much difficulty in getting actual experience in all the types of work the Nisei are doing out here. I guess that Sumi is naturally disagreeable and I feel sorry for her because she can be nice. She invited me to come and pay a social visit on her at some later time but "be sure you phone me because I don't know what I'll be doing and I might be out. I hope you have enough manners to do that." She had a great deal to say about the residents of the house (included in the case document).

Around midnight the boys came back to the room. They had been upstairs celebrating. It seems that two of the girls living with Sumi have lost their jobs and they had not been job-hunting for several days. They were very disturbed so that they went to a for-

tune teller who told them that they would find good jobs soon and that one of them would get married. This lifted their morale up so much that they decided to have a party this evening and some boys were invited up. One of the girls had been deliberating about getting married so she finally made up her mind so they thought the fortune teller was a wonderful prognosticator of future events.

Two of the boys in the room are heading back to camp in a short time. They will report for induction in the middle of this month but they will be put on the reserves. The boys plan to go back to camp in order to spend their remaining months with their families. One is 17 and the other 20. They are quitting their jobs at International Harvesters this coming week-end so that they can relax for a week or so around Chicago before reporting to the Army in order to be placed on the reserves. Machi, the older boy, said that he was making about \$1.25 an hour, doing piece work at International Harvester so that he has quite a bit of money saved up and he didn't think he could spend much of it in camp so he wanted to buy a few things here before returning to camp. He has a girl friend back in camp and said he might propose to her before he is taken into the Army. Johnny, the 18 year old boy, said he didn't know much Japanese but he wanted to go back to camp in order to be with his folks. He said he might buy a Japanese flag so the Issei in camp might receive him better. He thought he would have a lot of fun with the girls out there because a lot of the young ones are still in camp. "In my block none of the mothers let their 16 year old daughters out of camp because they don't trust them out alone."

It seems that many of the resettlers in Sumi's building are from her former block in Boston. They all have called each other out. Sumi feels that this is the worst trick that anyone could pull. She said that she would never call anyone out of the center

because it was too difficult for anyone to make a living. She then began to condemn those Nisei who falsely encouraged others to re-settle. She thought that they should wait until things were a little more secure for them. I asked her why she didn't do this herself and she then began to describe how unhappy she was in camp. She felt that there was no sense in her remaining behind when all of her friends left and her family was broken up. She was a little bitter because she thought the government was the cause of the split up of her family and the death of her parents. She indicated that this would not have happened if they were not evacuated. Sumi doesn't plan to go back to California to the home which she owns because she said that it would be too lonely for her to live there by herself and it would only bring back memories of the past which would hurt her. She said that two of her brothers and a foster brother were in the service and she doubted whether they would ever come back alive. She felt that they were being sacrificed by the Jews who were making a big profit out of carrying on the war.

I mentioned that it was 3 years ago since Pearl Harbor and I said that many families in this country had also been hit quite strongly by the impact of the war. I pointed out that there were almost 125,000 deaths in the half million total casualties for the U.S. since the outbreak of the war. I also told her that this country was over \$100,000,000,000 in debt since in 1941. Sumi said that this did not concern her at all because it served them right for going into war in the first place. She said that it served Japan right too. She felt that the war would go on for at least 3 more years because the Japs were so fanatical. She subscribed this intensity of the nationalistic spirit to the Japanese blood.

Dr. J.F. Kikuchi's remedy for neurotic women of this sort:

"You gotta lay them and they'll be happy." That's a blunt way of describing one of the main sources of the above maladjustments.

Dictated all day at the office. It takes a little longer to get my cases out when I don't dictate them up in a reasonable short time. I'm almost caught up with all of my backlog and I'll probably find time on my hands within a short time. I have several cases under way but the progress is not so rapid due to the rush of the Xmas season as I anticipated. I don't want to start on any more new cases as I will get all jammed up for next month in trying to get schedule adjustment. Haven't heard about how the conference went in Salt Lake but I suppose that they are getting quite a bit accomplished.

I rushed home this evening expecting to have Fukiko come over for an interview. I waited and waited but she didn't turn up. I phoned over her house and found out that she had gone to a concert. Apparently she forgot all about our appointment. Kiyoshi phoned around 10:00 to tell me that he was going into the Army on Monday. He wanted to know if I knew of any girl who would be interested in moving in with Violet and Sunny. He said he had waited around so long that he wasn't nervous at all; in fact, he was looking forward to the Army life. He has heard rumors that he would be sent to Camp Blanding. Kiyoshi said that he understood that around 200 Nisei from this area would be drafted. "I guess that all my dreams of getting settled down here will definitely have to be shelved until after the war. I knew that I was going in so that it wasn't so tough. I guess it will be a little hard for Violet but she'll get used to it. She'll have to get another girl to move in with her because expenses will be a little high for the 2 of them. I'm not particularly anxious about Army life but I think that it might do me a little good and I'll be even a little more mature in my thinking, if I have time to do that. I have to report at Fort Sheridan on Monday, but I won't go there until the very last moment.

Violet and I were planning to go to a lot of places during these last few days but the weather is bad so I guess we'll stay home mostly. We'll be up quite late so why don't you drop over?" I excused myself because of the threatening weather. Most of the evening I just read a novel and Time magazine. I had been planning to start my studies for the finals but somehow it got put off again this evening. Bette went over to stay with Betty Jean again and they are studying together for their finals. Those two are pretty thick and I don't see what they find to gossip about over the telephone for a half hour at a time when they see each other every day at school. I thought of working tomorrow night but I couldn't contact George Akahoshi as he is rarely home in the evenings. He has a number of meetings to attend and he also goes to night school as he is quite ambitious to advance himself. I haven't been able to interview him for several weeks now because of his activities.

I slept all morning because I was up late last night and I studied all afternoon. I'm really getting worried about the finals now but I don't seem to care too much about what happens. The only trouble with that course is that the Dean of the S.S.A. school is also the teacher of this course and I would like to get another tuition scholarship for next quarter. I'll be taking the spring quarter off because Dorothy wants me to go to Berkeley for a conference if an Army permit can be obtained. It certainly is taking me a long time to get my M.A. degree in social work. At this rate I'll probably be enrolled in one course at a time for at least another year. I have five more units to do after this quarter. Two of them are field/^{work}courses but I'll worry about that when the time comes. I'm just interested in getting my degree since I've gone this far and it will give me some excuse for saying that I am a trained person in some field. I don't know whether it will do me any good as far as jobs are concerned, altho there should be plenty of post-war opportunities ~~in~~ after the war. I would like to have my degree in the event that I am drafted after next April. I haven't heard yet whether the Study will continue after next July but Frank will probably will have something to tell me on that when he returns from the Salt Lake conference.

Bette has been rushing all around and getting pretty excited because she is taking her first finals next week and she finds it rather hectic going. She is sure she isn't going to pass some of her courses, but I don't think it will be that bad. She hasn't been able to do any Xmas shopping at all. She spent most of the afternoon shopping for food for the week-end. Davey phoned and he asked me to come over to pick up some vegetables. He worked 14 hours last night. Davey has a heavy cold but he went out for the evening. He still says that he hasn't been drinking and I don't thinkx he has.

He went over to visit Kiyoshi, Violet and Sunny this evening. He wanted to show off his brightly printed Hawaiian shirt which he aunt sent him from Honolulu. Davey heard some rumors from the Nisei fellows in his house that he would have to pay an income tax at the end of this month so that he was quite worried because he hasn't any money saved up. I told him that the income tax year ran from April to April and that taxes had been deducted from his salary right along so that most likely he would get a refund since he hasn't been working for a year out here. I talked to Mrs. Watanabe briefly while she was cooking dinner in the kitchen. She said that Davey was a very quiet boy compared to his loud actions before and she had a much better opinion of him. Mrs. Watanabe said that she was having trouble with her temperamental employer so that she did not go to work for 2 days this week. She still has not arrived at any decision about taking the teaching job at Grinnel College. She would like to find an apartment of her own as the \$60 a month rent for a sleeping room and kitchen privileges is rather exorbitant at her present place. However, she hasn't done too much about it altho she thought that she might appeal to the WRA. She said that it was pleasant living in that house because she had an opportunity to meet new people. An Issei couple was moving in just as I left. The Japanese boarding house there doesn't have too many people in it now. There are only 9 people on the second floor now. It had about 20 at its peak. Davey mentioned that some of the upstairs fellows had quit their jobs to go back to camp because it was getting too cold. He said that one or two of them were expecting to be drafted at any moment. Davey brings vegetables for the whole house. In return, the girls make a lunch for him while the fellows upstairs bring him gum and candy from the Curtiss Candy Co. where they work.

Bette and I went to the show this evening. Miko will probably be home a little late.

Another restful day today. It started snowing quite hard during the night so that the city is all white and clean now. Emiko has been stamping around all day so that Bette and I have not been able to study. She has a final herself next week at Mt. Sinai. She seems to be making very good progress out there from what she says and there is no reason to doubt her. She went on the hospital floor for the first time last week. She said that it wasn't difficult at all but one of the girls quit the school because an old man patient wouldn't let her bathe him. Next week Emiko has to give a patient an enema so that Jack described what precaution she should take. Those girls at the hospital certainly must tell a lot of dirty jokes because Emiko is always popping off with one of them. She had us in stitches when she told the joke about a Jewish man who put his nose in his wife's armpit on their wedding night. I shouldn't encourage her by laughing but Emiko is so funny when she tells a joke, because she has to practically act it out.

She was a little sore at me when she went home around 8 o'clock but I guess she'll get over it. She wanted to borrow some books to take over to the girls and I asked her to be sure to bring them back. For no reason at all, this got her angry and I don't see why she got sore and went home a suffering hero. She was very worried about Xmas shopping because she hasn't the time or the money to do it so that she finally decided to buy presents only for the family and a few of her friends. I didn't give her the usual weekly allowance because she was so snotty but I'll send it by mail. Emiko is getting pretty independent and she has developed a lot at the hospital. She seems to be much more mature and self-reliant. I think that the nursing training is a very valuable experience for her and from the various comments she makes, it seems that she is one of the top students out there and that is why she was the first one allowed to go

on for floor duty.

Bette and I studied most of the afternoon and evening. I could hardly stay awake because the material is so dry. Bette has an immense amount of reading to catch up on. I'll have to treat her like royalty this coming week because she will be so nervous about her examination. I hope that I'll get my shirts ironed after her finals are over because she certainly has been neglecting us around the house during the past week or so. I suddenly became aware of the fact that Bette is getting to be a very good cook and she manages everything around the house now even when Emiko is around. Prior to this, Emiko had sort of done all of the managing. The only weakness of Bette's household management is that we eat very plentiful the first of the week and we have to resort to a much meagre diet at the end of the week. However, this has only been a minor fault and it doesn't happen every week. The one good thing about Bette is that we can talk these things with her and she doesn't get all huffy. She is so obliging in everything. However, she does get huffy whenever I mention the fact that she went to sleep and let the light on all night. I don't know why she keeps denying it but it has happened several times and she has practically called me a liar. It's not any sin to fall asleep and leave the lights on and I don't know why she gets on the defensive on it so much. I haven't had a real big argument with Bette for months and months. Our household has functioned very smoothly and some of it is due to the fact that Emiko and her explosive personality is not around to set off any sparks or be ignited by them through me or some other person.

We have been out here going on 2 years now and time certainly has flown by. Emiko is in her second year of school work beyond high school while Bette has almost completed one quarter at the university. It is a little difficult to realize how much those two

much those two have grown up. Both of them have so much poise and they certainly reflect the enlarged knowledge ~~when~~ which they have learned at school. Emiko talks about conditions reflexes and other subjects like that. Pretty soon she'll be telling me everything which I didn't learn during my school days. Bette was asking me this evening about her future plans. She said that if there were no prospects of her getting some sort of financial aid next year at the university, she would then apply for a cadet nursing course. "I would like to get my A.B. degree first and then go into nursing but I'll do my nursing first and get my degree later if that is necessary. Five years is certainly going to be a short time to go to college. It's so much fun and I'm really lucky that I am able to go to the university. I don't have much money but I feel a lot richer than many of these students at school. In a way I am luckier because I don't have to work except keep up this house."

I asked her what her plans for Xmas work were and she said that she had applied for a postoffice job. She doesn't care to work in the factory where she worked last summer because she said that it was too hard. She doesn't want to do sales work either. Jack and I said that she was spoiled. Jack felt that she should have to work her own way through school and then she would appreciate the advantages that she has now more. Bette will be busy with Xmas shopping so I doubt if she will get a job during the vacation. Maybe she needs the rest. I would like to see her engage in a few more activities with her college friends in her leisure time and not only during the school days. It is a little difficult because she only goes around with a group of girls at Blake Hall. All of them feel the scarcity of fellows since most of them are in the Army. There are a large number of fellows at the university but they are all pretty young. Bette hasn't mentioned what progress she is making with Rod lately. She

said that she has been asked to go out on dates by some sailors but she would rather stick with the college boys on the campus. She practically lives at Blake Hall now and I really have no complaints about the satisfactory adjustments that she has made since she does have many friends at school. She seems to be well liked by all of her classmates. They are planning to go ice skating on week-ends this winter. Most of the students do not have much money so that they can't go running around town to expensive places of entertainment. Betty Jean is going home to Georgia for Xmas and she would like to Bette to come along with her but it is too expensive. If I had the extra money, I would send her to camp to visit Mom.

I have been threatening to buy a suit for a long time and I think that I'll get it this month or next month at the latest. Xmas presents will make me go over my budget a little but I have been able to prepare for it during the past few months since my other expenses have not been quite so heavy. I would like to build up a very good fund for Bette's continued schooling as Emiko is already taken care of and I'll also have to think in terms of supporting Tom out here. I don't think that he will be very expensive though. We haven't heard about Mom's present condition so that we are hoping that her recent illness was only minor.

Jack said that he might have to work six nights a week for the next month or so because his plant is busy turning out the machines which makes bullets. The American troops have been using up much more ammunition than what was expected so that there has been quite a call for able-bodied men to go back into war work. The selective service board is cracking down by announcing that all men between the ages of 26 and 37 who are not in essential work will be subject to immediate draft. This sort of complicates Jack's situation because he has been expecting to quit his job for a few weeks in January.

At that time Dolores will be coming out here for a vacation between quarters and Jack wants to spend his full time with her. She will be graduating from the Stanford hospital in September as she has to put in 3 months of internship after her formal nursing training is completed. They haven't made any definite plans about what they will do after that. Jack said that if he got reclassified to 1-A, he would immediately go out to California as he thinks that he will be able to get a war job out there easily due to the manpower shortage. He hasn't heard about medical school possibilities recently but he still has hopes. It may be likely that he will be going to California sometime next year altho there is still a chance that Dolores will come out here even though she may not be able to get a job as a nurse too easily. Dolores can only practice for 7 years after she gets her degree because she is a non-citizen. She was born in the Philippines and she came over here with her parents when she was about 1 or 2 years old. A recent bill enabling Filipinos to get American citizenship may solve that problem. I don't think that it will be so good for Dolores to come out here since she is much better established in California. I definitely know that she could never fit into a Nisei group and I think that Jack realized that also.

Jack has been getting a little restless lately and hemutters around that all he does is work. He has started a romance with the Nisei dental assistant where he is getting his teeth fixed, but he doesn't want to hurt the girl so that he hasn't made a social call upon her yet. He is deliberating whether he should take her to a dance or not. He did not know what the proper etiquette was for taking a single girl out because he didn't know whether he should tell them that he is married or not. The only girl he has taken out on a date since his marriage has been Setsuko, who is also married. Jack and Dolores have a pact not to run around while separated.

It was snowing quite steadily when I arrived at the office this morning. Wang's letter set me to thinking about what different courses our lives have taken. When we were living together on the campus 3 years ago, we had no idea that we would be out of the state in such strange ways. Here I am in Chicago living a fairly normal life and I sort of feel left out of the war directly. It's something that I cannot control myself even though I would like to be in the Army eventually. However, I suppose that I am doing relative war work in my small way and I am hoping that it will be a definite contribution in the post-war scene. I have no doubt that the Study as a whole will be a valuable contribution to minority problems and its solutions altho I can't convince myself that I am contributing too much myself.

At the same time Wang is on the other side of the world. I haven't heard from him for some months and I was rather surprised to hear that he was in the Philippines. He is doing translation work there and questioning Jap prisoners. He doesn't seem to be depressed by the fact that he may be killed at any moment. He feels that it will be a long war and he is a little griped at the people on the home front who are complacent that it will be over in a few months. He gives quite a vivid description of his reactions to the Japs' bombing his base. Wang was stationed at Hawaii for a while. He mentioned that Kenny was in New York. Kenny used to live with us too. He is married and he has a child now. I believe that he is attending the New York School of Social Work at the present time. The whole Berkeley group that I used to know casually are scattered all over the world now. Almost all of them are in the Army now, mostly in the language division.

Attached Wang's letter.

Nov. 25, 1944

Dear Chas,

Bill Himel's wedding announcement (Sakiko Shiga of Seattle) came to me the other day and that of course started me on a train of thought that led back to Berkeley and the 10 o'clock tea and bull sessions we used to have in our garret. I posted a letter to Kenny (my first since he got married), and then finding time this afternoon, the work having slacked off somewhat, I decided to write you.

We were lucky enough to be stationed in Hawaii for a few months prior to coming here. In a recent News Week magazine, I read a review of Carey McWilliams latest book, the book in which he discusses evacuation. It seems one of McWilliams' strongest arguments against evacuation is the inconsistency removing "Nichiheis" from the West Coast for reasons of "military necessity" while nothing of the sort happened in Hawaii which was in imminent danger of being invaded by the Jap. When I was in Hawaii, and I saw the Nichiheis walking about everywhere as free as the air about them, I was constantly reminded of this inconsistency. The idealists called it the ~~xxx~~ triumph of racial tolerance, and while this undoubtedly had a great deal to do with it, still basic reasons were economic and military. To have uprooted the Japanese and their American offspring, since they were so completely integrated into the economic life of the Islands, would have been both economically and militaristically disastrous. Still, there is no getting away from the fact that even during wartime Nisei in Hawaii live freer lives and in an atmosphere more wholesome than their cousins in pre-war California. Of course all this is so much water under the bridge.

The Philippines is no Hawaii -- not by a long shot. They have the same romantic palm groves edging up to the sea, like the one in which we are now encamped, but there the similarity ends abruptly. While Hawaii had bright lights for the homesick soldier, here we have no bright lights save for those installed by Army engineers. While leads to another subject, namely that after one month in the Philippines we are now rapidly going garrison, the signs being unmistakable. During the first few days, we had a little excitement, but now everything is pretty dull and routine. Mostly we translate all day, go for a dip in the warm surf in the evening, and go to sleep when the sun goes down (the mosquitoes are intolerable after that). It's a hell of a waste of time, but then it seems to me that fifty per cent of the time I'm wasting time anyway. The Army is considerate with its employees.

Some prisoners of war have come in for interrogation. What a bunch of sad Japs they are. They are the kind you used to mumble and grumble about back in Berkeley, only more so. Passive, not showing any emotions, and scraping as all hell. Most have no fight left in them, accepting their fate with utter resignation. They don't even seem particularly surprised to see us; in fact I think they feel sort of relieved.

Documents are brought in by the ton for us to scan or translate. It all seems damned futile to me, but then I suppose every bit of information we turn out does have its importance. I specialize in

translation, not because I am "hot" in Japanese, but because my English doesn't have too much of the awkwardness of Japanized English about it.

War has not been hell for us. Being rear echelon, desk-tied troops, we get very little excitement. I bitch about this, and keep on asking our Language Section Officer to send me up a little closer to the front lines for a little action. For this he's dubbed me "Combat Mouth" Tsuneishi, the inference being that I know damned well I won't be sent out but I continue making the requests anyway.

We'd be asking for it, of course, if we went up front. Even in our area, we've got to be pretty careful, especially at night; for the Jap, whatever his other shortcomings, is an expert in infiltration, and our guards would rather be sorry than dead. One of our guys had to go to the medics late one night, and he was picked up by an alert guard as a "Jap who claimed to be an interpreter". But all in all, and considering the situation, nothing unpleasant has happened to any of us.

We've been subjected to a number of air raids and by now we've become accustomed to them. The only time we dived into our fox holes was one evening when a Jap bomber came out of nowhere and unloaded a single large bomb a few hundred yards away. Only the damned thing sounded as if it were coming straight down on us. Whenever we hear our ack-ack going up, a sure sign that the Jap is overhead, we grab our helmets and dash outside to watch the excitement. They are usually chased away by our interceptors or shot down by our ack-ack before they can inflict any damage. One evening ~~xx~~ some Jap bombers came over to attack our shipping. We spotted them as they began their glide attack, about a mile away from their targets and high in the air. Almost immediately the sky was filled with ack-ack bursts as thick as a cloud. The Japs seemed to make no effort to escape; they simply aimed their planes at our ships and kept going. A few hundred yards away from their targets, they would open up with their machine guns in an attempt to strafe the ships before they suicidally crashed into them. Perhaps a couple of hundred yards away from their targets, they would begin trailing smoke and then suddenly vanish in a puff of black smoke and red fire. Then a great cheer, like one hears at a football game, would go up from the watching ground troops. Others would go out of control and plummet into the sea -- just like in the newsreels. I've got to confess, Chas, that this is one aspect of the Jap that I can't understand. Maybe it's because I love life a lot, but I can't fathom people who throw away their lives for nothing but the honor of being enshrined as clay gods in some damned little shrine.

Christmas is drawing near, and naturally our thoughts turn homeward. From our vantage point, it still looks like a long, tough war, and we look with anger, and perhaps with envious longing, at the people back home getting ready to celebrate V-E day and V-Asia day "a few months later". It makes our lot that much harder to bear; and while I'll admit that we are living like kings compared to the guys in the front lines, still we've got a right to bitch.

I don't know where this letter will find you Chas. For all I know you may be in the Army now; in which case this letter will find you very unhappy. All my pretty little comforts, if they will be of any aid. If you're still at the U. my Xmas greetings to Louise, Tom and Frank.

Wang

I dictated at the office all day today. It was snowing quite heavily outside. The papers say that this is a record snowfall for this time of the year. I guess I'll have to wear my hat pretty soon. Emiko had the audacity to suggest that I give this hat to Jack for a Xmas present and she would buy me a present because I was only keeping the hat as a museum piece! The idea! I'm going to use this hat yet. I guess I'll have to get a suit to match it. I've been thinking of going downtown quietly to purchase it so there won't be too many advisers ^{around} / on what kind of a suit I should get.

I studied the dull stuff all evening but I'm not enthusiastic. I haven't the least idea of what the final will cover on Thursday. I received a card from Frank saying that the conference was over and that Dorothy wants me to go to Berkeley next quarter. I don't know whether that means the winter or spring quarter. I have an appointment with Miss Wright for next Tuesday. Frank will probably let me know when he gets back. I'll go ahead and register anyway. In the event that Dorothy means the spring quarter, it won't make too much difference.

Bette is still plugging away for her finals and she is very nervous. She is positive that she isn't going to get very good grades and she wants to make a good showing for the first quarter. As soon as her finals are over at the end of the week, she says that she is going to sleep for a whole day. She has been staying up pretty late at night in order to review her notes.

Emiko phoned this evening to say that she went shopping downtown and purchased a \$7 jacket for Tom's Xmas present.

Mom sent her picture and she says she is well. Letters from Tom and Miyako appended.

It seems that the big secret about Mariko throwing a cake at George, George's slapping her, and the subsequent cutting up of George's drawers is no longer a secret. George and Eileen told me, I told Jack, Jack told Bette, Bette told Emiko, Jack told Dolores, and he also told the kids in camp. Mom will probably be writing a letter because she will think that something's serious. If Mariko finds out that it is no longer a secret, she'll surely blame me and my neck will be in a noose. Everyone is drawing cartoons of this great event.

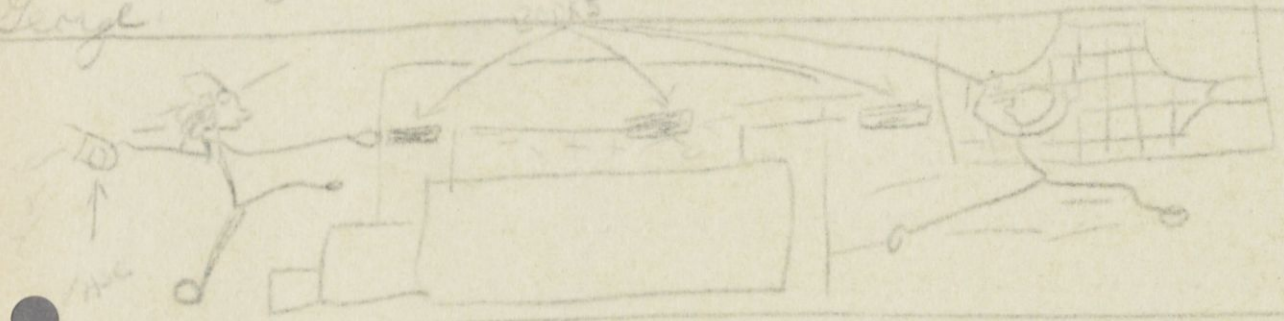
Tom's and Miyako's great contributions to the field of art in regard to this incident is traced below.



① As our story opens we find Mabel and George
 their nice sweet home sitting in front of the
 coffee and sitting on the soft sofa.



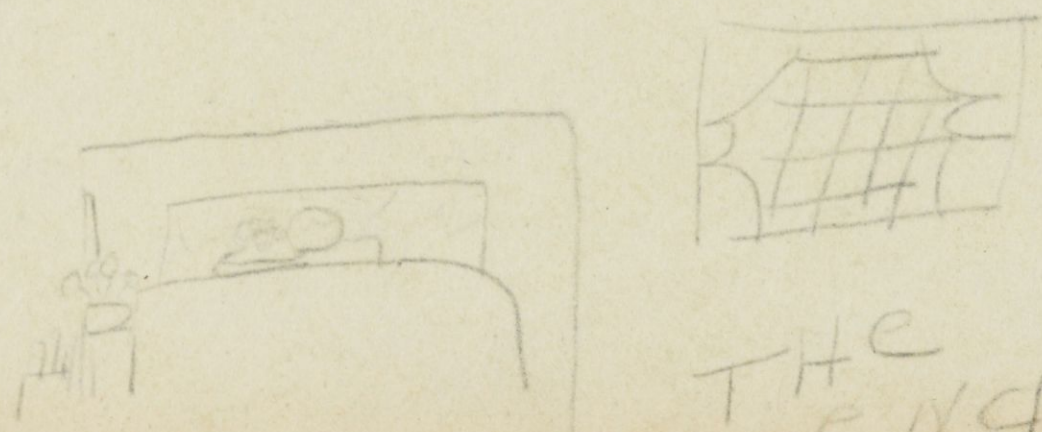
② Suddenly something happened and boy poor
 George



③ And then it was nice and quiet again
 because —



④ and now all is forgiven and once more
 they have a nice sweet home —



THE
 END!

Tom

Charles Kikuchi
Insert.

Diary

Mon. Dec. 11, 1944

6532

Rivers, Ariz.
Dec. 5, 1944

Dear Charlie,

How's everything over there? Gee Writing all the letters one time is pretty hard because everything I know is all in one letter. Ask Jack for the letter after he gets through with it if you want to know everything. I don't know what to write except that I'm not doing so well in school and that mom did not have her operation yet. Miyako doesn't study either and I already took the fan down and oiled it. Tell Jack I covered the outside of the cooler with orange boxes. Well that's all I know.

Brother
Tom.

P.S. What is smart man. You may not beat me for not writing sooner. Thank Jack for the money he sent me. We have a wrench but I am not sending it as I am using it.

* * * * *

Dec. 6, 1944

Dear Charles,

How are you? Just dropping you a line to tell you that Mom has come home again and is going to get up tomorrow for a little while. Now that our six weeks tests are over, I can write to you more often.

It is pretty cold nowadays and we have to leave the stove on all day long this morning the temperature was 32 degrees and boy it was cold like staying in an ice box.

We eat supper at 6:15 and its real dark, because we changed our clock an hour back and so its really 7:15.

Well the shows are on Fridays and the name of it is " ", did you see it. Will it be alright if you Christmas presents are a little late cause I ordered sometime and it won't come for about 2 weeks. How are you getting along with the cigarette shortage? The other day cigarettes came to the canteen and there was a long line for about 2 hours ~~xxx~~ just to get one package of cigarettes. It was just like a line to vote.

You said I voted for Dewey but I didn't I voted for Roosevelt because Dewey thinks he's good. Most of the teachers at school voted for Roosevelt too.

Well tomorrow is December 7 and it will be 3 years since the war started.

The other night I went to my girl scout leaders home and there was 2 other ladies there. The teacher introduced us and the two ladies both said at the same time "are you Charles Kikuchi's

little sister." Alot of people know you in the camp yet. Alot of people always ask me every time "how is Charley" but I'm sick of answering then. At school the teachers ask me how Bette is and that if I'm Bette's sister I could be smart and could get a scholar when I got out of school.

I finally past my tender foot test about 2 months ago. We get to go to Phoenix in about 2 weeks because Masaye and I we the second hardest working girls in the whole troop.

Every since November we go to bed by 8:00 and get up at 7:00. Every house is dark by 8:00 and every body is sleeping.

This Christmas I'm going to make a Christmas tree at school and I hope we can make use of it.

Does Emiko get to go home for Christmas. Well theres nothing more to say so I close now.

Love,

Miyako

* * * * *

Rivers, Ariz.
Dec. 5, 1944

Dear Emiko,

Don't faint now, but I finely am writing you a letter. I just got home from school and Mom nagged me so much that, well you can see who won.

Nothing ever happens here so there is nothing to say. So when I don't write letters to you for months & years at a time well you could read the same letter over & over again because it will probably be the same kind of junk in it. (Heh, heh) the smelly laugh)

I guess you know I bought a bicycle huh? Mom got sick, but it isn't serious just a cold. That's why she hasn't got her operation. Well another six weeks is over & I'm glad of it but boy were the test hard. Don't know what to say so I'll stop.

Tom

* * * * *

Rivers, Ariz.
Dec. 5, 1944

Dear Bette,

Since I began writing letters I am also writing you. I don't know what to say because I wrote it all in Jack's letter.

Six weeks examination just finished yesterday and am I happy. Do you want to know something? Well all my friends when they come here to visit me always go to my bed where your picture is & look & look. They always do this so now when they come I always hide your picture. The two that stare the most are George Watanabe & Yoshi Hirano. This is no lie, honest.

The mess hall bell just rang so I'll stop now.

Your brother,

Tom

* * * * *

Rivers, Ariz.
Dec. 5, 1944

Dear Jack,

Supprise, supprise! Look who's writing bet you cant guess. Got your letter about two days ago & sent the postcard already. I do have a twelve inch crescent wrench but I use it on my bicycle so I'm not sending it. You know, your letter came just in time. You must have known I wanted to take it down. I thought you had it welded on.

Who said I wanted to go to college. I'm not waiting to graduate from high school to go to college. I waiting for the day I won't have to go to school anymore. Boy will I be happy then. Mom was in the hospital with a cold but there is nothing to worry about, because she went there because she wanted to. The Dr. said she could come home but she said she wanted to stay in the hospital because no one would be home to take care of her.

One morning about 2:30 A.M. Miyako came rushing to my bed and with all her power she tried to wake me up. Finely I woke up and Miyako said Mom was very sick and to call the doctor. I put on my clothes and started out into the dark. Boy was it cold but finely I reached the clinic but no one was there so I went down the dark hall imagining all sorts of things. All of a sudden from out of the dark a hourse voice bombed out, "What you doing here?" I spun around expecting to see a tall, horrible, monsters, but to my relief it was the small meek janitor. I asked him to send an ambulance to our house, which he did. After Mom & I got to the hospital we waited for a half an hour before a black face popped into the

curten. She took mom's pulse & temp. and then gave her some sleep-tablets and we came home. The next morning I learned that Mom didn't sleep & the pain in her chest hurted more, so I went for the doctor. He gave her a shot of something and was about to send her home when she asked the doctor if she could stay in the hospital because we go to school & there wouldn't be anyone to take care of her. He agreed and Mom was there for two or three days. She's home now & she is almost well.

Thats all there is to tell so I'll stop.

Tom

P.S. heres a few drawings I am sending you but don't show it to you'll know who after you see it.

* * * * *

Dec. 6, 1944

Dear Jack,

How are you? I'm sorry I didn't write sooner but we just finished our six weeks test. Did Mariko and George have and fights. I would really enjoy seeing one of thought slack stick comics of Mariko. I know just the kind of people Mariko and George are. I'll draw you my method of M. and G. at the end. I am in study hall now and I finished all my studys so I am writing to you. Mom came home lassed Saturday. Tomorrow night we will have a movie. The show starts at 6:30 and ends at 9:15 because it gets real dark soon.

Everything is fine here and its very cold. The other night I put water in a cut and left it out side, and in the morning the water had turned into ice. When we wash our stockings, shirts, dresses, geens, and etc. it takes 2 days to dry.

All the school buildings are being built over again, and now the buildings really looks like a school. Today we get our report cards and instead of giving it to us at school they send them to the Block managers because some of the children don't show it to there parents and forge their mother or fathers name on it.

Well, theres nothing more to tell you so I'll just close for now.

Love,

Miyako

P.S. Don't work to hard.

* * * * *

Dec. 6, 1944

Hello Betty, Emi Jo,

How are you? Miyako and Tom are going to school every day. I was a little ill a short time ago and took a few days rest but now that I am well I plan to return to work next week so please don't worry about me.

How is everybody over there? It must be getting pretty cold now. Please take care and don't catch cold.

(The above is a translation of a letter written in romaji.)

Mom

Completed dictation on CH-55, which cleans up all of the back work I had. I will now be able to prepare for whatever new developments that Frank will report to me about upon his return. After I got ~~xxx~~ the batch of documents sent off, I went on home so that I could eat an early dinner and get the place ready for Fukiko for the interview. On the way I dropped in to pick up some vegetables which Davey had promised me. He didn't go to work last night so that he didn't have anything on hand. Davey said that he was going to receive a raise up to \$1.05 an hour. However, he has to join the Union. He said that he didn't care to join the Union and I asked him why. He didn't have any exact reasons except that he disliked labor unions in general. I pointed out to him that he wouldn't have received this raise unless the Union had done something about it. Davey conceded this point and decided that he would pay the fees as he figured that he could make it up again after 2 weeks.

Davey said that he went to the WRA to extend his ~~indefinite~~ trail indefinite leave for two more months. He said that he was planning to go back to camp after that because he was tired of working so hard. "I'll go back and rest in camp for six months and have a good time. I won't have to worry about housing, work, or Jew employers when I go back. I'll probably get drafted anyway and I'm not getting any place by working out here. What good is it to make a little money if I can't even find time to spend it?"

Fukiko failed to make the appointment for the third time! She phoned and said that her sister had returned from Florida so that she was tied up for the evening. There was nothing else for me to do but start studying for the finals. >

I've only had $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours of sleep since Monday night so I feel very dopey today. It's all on account of that blasted final in Social Investigation. I really crammed for it and caught up on all the reading for the past quarter. I don't think that I did so well in the examination altho I was able to bluff through some of the answers. There were several questions on statistics which I couldn't solve but I think everyone in the class had a hard time. I'm glad that the course is over with. It makes 4 units that I have completed. I still have 5 units to go before I get the M.A. degree in ~~SxSx~~ Social Work.

to 6543
When I got into the office this morning, who should I see but dear Frank. He looks very refreshed after that vacation he had in Salt Lake. Frank immediately proceeded to give me some news about the conference. He felt that it was very successful and he found it rather stimulating. All of the staff members were there, except me. Frank said that the general plan was to wind up all aspects of the study as soon as possible in anticipation of the possible closing up of the project at the end of next June. He felt that there might be a continuance of the Study after that date if the funds came through but he said that Dorothy wanted to prepare for the eventuality that it did not. (I guess I must be pretty dopey because I can't make the sentences make sense.)

Anyway, Frank had some news which made my morale go down a little. He said that there was a possibility of the Army re-opening California within a month and in that event Dorothy plans to close up the camp aspect of the Study. Frank is to supervise the overall report for Chicago. Dorothy wants me to take a more important role in helping to bring together this Chicago material. She feels that this will be partly for my own benefit so that I will be able to get a greater share of credit in the eventual publication. I'm not in-

terested in the flory of it, but I guess I can't avoid starting some sort of an analysis pretty soon, even though I am perfectly sure that I am incapable of doing it in a satisfactory manner due to my inability to write. There are some aspects of the Chicago development which I am fairly well acquainted with but I would have a difficult time drawing it together. Anyway, Frank and I will start making the headings of topics so that we can go through my case documents and classify all the items. Dorothy feels that I don't have to worry about getting 100 cases because I never could get a representative sampling no matter how hard I tried. She feels that I have sufficient material so I don't have to worry about it. Frank and I will start working out the outline for my continued work next week. I am not to drop all case work but I will have to start emphasizing the other aspect. Dorothy wants me to arrange it so that I will get out to Berkeley not later than February 1. She feels that this will be a better time than March because Jimmy and Dick will be there and her time will be limited. My record is being checked by the WRA through the Western Defense Command so that it probably won't be too difficult to get permission from the Army.

I had been wondering what I was going to do regarding school but there is no doubt any longer. I will not sign up for another course this coming quarter even though I had made tentative arrangements for it. I couldn't hold off going to Berkeley until April since my deferment will be up by then and it is important that I get started on some sort of final report, much as I hate to think of the idea. My self-confidence has been entirely sapped and I'm worried now that I'll probably get fired before June because I'll be in the same fix as Tamie was, maybe not quite that bad.

Frank feels that there might be a chance that the Study will continue beyond next June. I think that it will continue but I

don't know whether I will receive another appointment unless I am able to do some of this structural work. In a way it will be helpful for me as I can start thinking of getting my thesis completed even though my degree is still a long ways off. The whole thing is a sort of minor crisis for me even though I had been expecting it for some months. Perhaps I am getting a little too alarmed and I will feel more secure after I have an opportunity to think it over some more. My first reaction was that I would definitely have to postpone any plans to resettle ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ Tom since my own future would be so uncertain. I wouldn't be prepared for any definite sort of work until I get my degree. However, these things usually work themselves out in time and I shouldn't be too much of an alarmist about it. I think I am dreading the idea of doing a final report more than anything else because I have always viewed myself as a fact collector and not an analyst. Maybe I'll be able to work something up if I get plenty of guidance from Dorothy and Frank. That is the purpose of the Berkeley trip. It took me by surprise since I had been tentatively been figuring on going in the spring quarter. I guess it will be better to go in the winter months though because the interview schedule would be slowed down anyway. It will feel good getting a break from class work for a few months even though I have been taking only one course at a time. Maybe I will appreciate the S.S.A. a little more after that. I'll have to go see Miss Wright and find out if another tuition scholarship would be available for the Spring quarter. I have an idea that she will allow me to have one more. After that I'll have to start paying for the courses myself, I think.

I don't feel alert enough to do any dictating today so I guess I shall relax and get over the strain of cramming during the past few days. Bette has been studying just about as much as I have. She

has been staying over with Betty Jean for the past few nights. Tomorrow night the girls at Blake Hall are going to have a big party and Bette is the only outsider invited. She practically lives there anyway. I hope that she comes through with flying colors in her final examinations. I certainly set a bad example for her so I can't say much about her study habits. I never saw anyone who enjoys college as much as Bette does. The only thing she misses is a football team. This University is noted for not having any outstanding sports teams since the emphasis has been placed upon academic rating. Bette said that she probably would have a few of her friends over for dinner during the holidays. She hopes to get a job in the postoffice, but she is not sure. She still has a lot of Xmas shopping to do and I think that maybe she ~~was~~ ought to let Eileen finish up her suit so that she can get it before next year. It's no use waiting for Mariko to do it because it will never get done.

Jack got his insurance papers today. He took a policy out with New York Life.

Louise went out to the Vaughn Hospital yesterday with Chiyo. Dr. Yatabe and Bill Minami of the JACL also went along. Louise said that the YWCA Girls Service Club is planning to do something for the Nisei soldiers over the holidays and the local JACL is going to join in the efforts. They will probably give a Japanese dinner to these fellows on New Year's Eve. Yatabe has just come back from an eastern tour and a JACL meeting is called for tonight so he can give them a report. Also received several announcements for Nisei dances over the holidays. The Japanese businesses are advertising on these announcements now. It looks like the process of the Japanese getting together is progressing at a much more rapid pace now that there has been little public pushing of the integration program. I still don't know how rapid it is because I have not kept up contacts.

Bette Kik

It's two a.m. I went over to interview Geo. Akahoshi, ch-58, this evening for five or six hours and we had quite a bull session. Last night I interviewed Fukiko, ch-59. She stayed for a couple of hours, but it certainly takes her a long time to get wound up. She doesn't talk easily like Geo A. Fukiko did break down and tell me about some of her life frustrations. She is still disorganized, but she seems to have made some kind of a satisfactory adjustment to her life situation. She is such a sensitive and timid person. She speaks a lot more freely with me now. She said that her life has been one series of disappointments and I got the impression that she feels that she is missing out on something. But in the next instant she begins to build herself up by saying that she has found adequate compensations. I think that in a way she has. "It's no use of trying to hide and get lost in a crowd. That is what I have tried to do ever since I came out here. That is the reason why I left camp. I still will continue to do it. But there is no denying the fact that I am Nihonjin. I might as well accept the fact because I will never be accepted in caucasian society on an equal basis no matter how hard I try. Very few Nisei will ever be able to do that. We just have to go along and make the best of things. I don't think that life has cheated me and I long ago gave up wishing I had been born with a white face. I just try to make my life as full as possible and I think that I am making some progress in this. There is no use dreaming that all of the prejudices and discriminations are going to suddenly vanish."

After Fukiko left, I got sort of restless staying home all by myself. I guess it was a release from the tension of the finals. Bette went to stay over with Betty Jean at Blake Hall and I haven't seen her since. She will probably be around to-

morrow bright and early as she is staying over again this evening. The group planned to go downtown for dinner and take in a show. This evening, they are having a party at the hall. I don't worry at all about Bette. I would prefer to have her go around with her college group because that is as it should be. Bette seems to enjoy every bit of it and I am glad of that because I have always wanted her to get a real campus life without having worries about working. She studies regularly and I am sure that she has broadened considerably in the few months she has been out there. I would like her to take a little more part in some of the intellectual clubs, but that will come in time. I know better than to try and drive her into anything as she will follow her own interests and I am satisfied as long as it goes along in a satisfactory direction. >

Emiko certainly is the popular one at the hospital. I was home for a few minutes earlier this evening and Emiko came barging in with bags of food. She said that the girls had a sudden desire to come to our apartment so that the eight of them decided to come for dinner. "You had better get out of here before those girls descend on you," Emiko says. I was just leaving anyway so I did not have to encounter them. The girls think highly of Emiko and she seems to be a leader in the group. She is one of the best students in addition so that she has made wonderful progress. < But she still bullies me once in a while when she comes home. I think that she will be very nice this weekend because I owe her two weeks allowance! I guess they had a good time here because the house was in a mess when I arrived home. >

Last night I slept over at Mariko's. I decided to go over there on a spur of the moment since I haven't seen Ellen for

about a week and a half. It was freezing cold outside and the winds were howling. On top of that the streetcar service was slow so that it took me an hour and a half to get over there. But Mariko had on the heater so that I thawed out immediately. George was reading something about S.F. night life to her and Mariko was breaking in every fourth or fifth sentence to tell him "Oh, I've been there. Gosh I miss SF." They looked so domestic. Mariko was sewing some pajamas she is making for Bette. Eileen came home from work about 11:30.

Mariko was getting into another nervous uproar because she has been staying up nights making these pajamas. She decided to do it on the spur of the moment and she has been frantically working on sewing for the past few evenings. George makes himself as inconspicuous as possible as the dynamite will explode any minute. She almost flared off last night. She said that she was going to make Bette a blouse. I suggested that Bette would appreciate it more if she finished the suit. Mariko said that she did not have time. Then Eileen said that she was going to do it for Bette next week. Mariko immediately got nasty and she said that it could not be finished in time. She doubted whether Eileen could do the difficult sewing, and in an aside, she whispered that Eileen did not sew straight. Mariko has a guilty conscience about that suit. She knows she is in the wrong, and yet she won't let anyone else finish it. "Eileen, I don't think you can do all of that sewing. Do you know how to put in pockets? The whole lining has to go in yet. It has to be taken apart again because Bette has gotten fat since the time I first fitted yet. Besides, it will take two weeks alone to get the buttonholes ordered so that you could not finish it anyway." Mariko said these things in such an ill

tempered way that Eileen just shut up. She was furious for the insult on her sewing, but she did not want to start an argument. I started to stick up for her by saying that it wasn't very nice to say such things when a person was kind enough to offer to do something that she did not finish herself. Eileen gave me the highsign to keep quiet so I didn't tell Mariko how wrong she was in saying such things and that I did not put Eileen up to it as she suspected. That was the truth as I had nothing to do with the arrangement made between Eileen and *Bette* ~~Mariko~~. Afterwards Eileen said, "I was certainly burnt up at what Mari said. She practically said I didn't know how to sew. I won't do it now because if I did sew it wrong, she would think that I had spoiled her work. She could be pretty nasty about it and I don't care to spoil our good relationships. It seems that I am the one who is always making the concessions around here. I don't like to be imposed upon and taken for granted. That's why I let George do the dishes once in a while and I don't cook all the time because it would become expected of me if I did it all the time. Mari and George had a big ~~full~~ the other night about the bedstand which George built. She didn't like the way it was made and she practically insults George about it. George says that it is there to stay. I won't tell you all the details of the fight because you will tell Jack and he will tell somebody else and pretty soon everyone might find out about it. I don't want to be the cause of any trouble."

Eileen is so nice and obliging that she still is imposed upon a lot. Mariko was complaining about how tired she was so that she asked Eileen to put up the hem on the pajamas, which Eileen proceeded to do. She has a lot of patience to put up with all of this. It certainly is different from last year when she

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was the big boss. She never talks against Mariko to others although she tells me things in confidence because I worm it out of her! Eileen has a great respect for Mariko, but she wishes that she would be more tactful. Mariko told me all about the bedstand just before she went to bed. She said that it should have a sliding panel across it because it hurt her back when she leaned against it. She was working herself up into a lather so I consoled her while suggesting that George would probably change the style of the bedstand if she handled him diplomatically rather than insult his craftsmanship. I think George appreciate that because he promised to make Bette a couple of bookends. Mariko is just impulsive and she doesn't mean to insult George's work, but she gets excited like a spoiled child and she doesn't watch what she is saying. She will probably apologize to Eileen for making a nasty remark about the sewing ability but the damage has already been done, and Eileen certainly won't feel like working on the suit now. I don't know when it will be done, if ever. Bette has been so disappointed about the whole matter. If Mariko can stay up nights to make pajamas and jumpers, it certainly would be no added strain to work along on the suit a little at a time. It's been along time in the making, but Bette certainly hasn't grown that much!

Eileen has been doing a lot of shopping for Mariko too. She is just like a maid around that place sometimes even though it is said in joking. Eileen has to clean up the house and make Mariko's bed, empty ash trays, etc. She doesn't have to do it but it would never get done if she waited for Mariko. She does all of the food shopping and even a lot of cooking. Mariko gets disappointed if she comes home and the cooking is not done! What a girl! I think that Eileen is remarkable to be able to take all

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of this. Even Alice could not stand it! Eileen is still looking around for a place, but it has been too cold to go out house-hunting recently. She does a lot of worrying about getting Mariko household goods. She makes all of the food menus out now and she budgets so that they will not have to eat in a hit and miss manner. She should blow off once in a while to assert her independence. I get a little of the overflow of these built up resentments because Eileen doesn't tell anyone else. Most of the evening, she was muttering, "The idea of saying I can't sew. I made all of my own clothes and my sisters ever since the time I was in high school. What if the sewing is a little crooked? Nobody is going to look at it that closely. Mari is a much better sewer, but she is too busy to finish the suit and I was only trying to help out. I don't see why she thinks it's such a conspiracy."

I sat up and talked to Eileen for several hours while she did some sewing on Christmas presents. She finally told me the secret about another reason why she was a little sore at Mariko: "If Mari ever finds out I am telling you these things, she is going to hate me for life. You have to promise not to tell anyone this time because your little brother and sister will be drawing more cartoons about it. The other day Mari was very upset because the gas bill for November was \$7.90. She said that the reason for this was that I had stayed up nights and put the oven on to keep warm. As if I had done it all by myself. I was pretty mad but I controlled myself and I just told her that she had burned the oven day and night right up to Thanksgiving when the oil stove was finally put in. I really try to cut down on her bills for her by not burning many lights, while Mari and George have lights all over the place. It was

quite a nerve for her to insinuate that I was responsible. Mari doesn't like me to putter around at night and wash my clothes and other things. I'll be darned if I am going to bed when I come home from work because I am wide awake and I am used to doing things at night. I just can't say much because I am here at her kindness but I certainly do more than my share of things. I not only cut down their expenses by sharing the bills with them, but I make it very convenient for Mari by doing so many things about the house. I can't get real mad at her because I like her, but I wish that she wouldn't be so cheap sometimes. It just lowers her in the eyes of others. Mari is so goodhearted even though she makes a fuss about things sometimes. It's just the way she is."

Sheileen was in a sort of mood so that she told me a little of her life ambitions. <She said that she did not know exactly what it was but she had a feeling ~~ix~~ of dissatisfaction because she was not realizing the things she felt vaguely. She felt that maybe she ought to get married to some lucky guy who she hasn't picked out yet, although she thought that she would wait for four more years as least. > She felt that she was reaching for something, but she couldn't figure out exactly what it was. She thought that she would like some sort of status or security. She said she loved to do social work, but it would take too long to get training and education for it. She said that she liked to help other people out and that was the reason why she always loaned money out. <The only person she ~~gr~~ regrets loaning it to is Ken Morioka because he played such a dirty trick and refuses to repay the debt. "He is a weakling and I feel sorry for his wife. I bet he walks out on her sometime. He is running around and having all kinds of affairs with other women and he lets his wife worry about the kids."

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Eileen best expressed her current mood in the letter she wrote the other day and which she repeated during our conversation in the wee small hours of the night: "For quite some time I've been real blue, not truly blue but moody (you might say) Now I'm really glad I'm living--I walk home from the street car feeling like a million yet sadly pondering my fate. I don't know exactly how I should express it but I'm so happy for everything about me, friends, family, nature, everyday living; yet I feel as though I'm not doing my share of living. I should be doing something for others --something constructive. It isn't helping my mind just thinking of plans and dreams if I can't get a grip on some tangible object or objects. I don't mean wielding a cookie cutter or a dust mop but doing something for some one else. Helpless as I feel, I hope that the near future will bring me an opportunity to do what is uppermost in my mind. The fuel is ready for the fire but there is not enough ~~enough~~ sulphur on the match to start the blaze. Maybe the wood is too damp and green or maybe it is a bum match, whatever the cause the fuel will be there in time of need and will crackle a little--leaving a few embers. Speaking of embers--without any words these little sparks mean so much as one gazes upon them--happy moments, tragic occurrences, fond recollections, castles in the air, dreams--all because they are here and gone again, as we ~~all~~ must all be. In fact life spans are so short that we never get a chance to do all the things we would like to, but I guess if we can do a few things to the finish and do them well, we have served our purpose. I hope you don't think I'm in a blue mood--no, I've just been thinking a great deal and to put down my thoughts is just a mental release."

Eileen also mentioned a bit about her family. "My father came to this country about 25 years or more ago. He traveled back and forth to Japan three times. The third time he brought my mother back and then we children came along. He has been in the restaurant business for years and years. I don't know who will take over the place when he is ready to retire. I know that I don't intend to ever live in Minot again. My parents are really wonderful people and I get along so well with them. They are pretty modern. When I used to bring my friends home from school, my father would get right in with them and dance around. He has an American first name--George. I'm looking forward to the visit home, short as it must be. It gives me a feeling of anxiety, delight and sadness. Each time home the ties seem a little further apart although having been absent seems to knit together the family in some ways. Anyway it will be fun. I haven't been with the family for Christmas since 1941.

"My father came from South Japan. He was just from common farming folks. I get so furious when I hear those Nisei who brag about coming from a Samurai family. We are common people and the scum of the world. That is what all the nice people of the world are. I'm proud of it. If those people think they are so high class, why don't they go back to Japan where they will be appreciated? Here we are all equal and a person gets by on what he is and not on his ancestral record.

There was one Japanese family in Minot who came from Tokyo and they thought they were something special and they tried to look down on the few other Japanese families up there.

"Minot is a nice town, but it's a little hard on the Nisei girls. They are all worried about the problem of marriage

as there are not any eligible fellows around. None of the Nisei girls have intermarried. There are only a few as there aren't too many Japanese families in that town, or state. Judy is working for the local cow college in the chemistry department as an assistant. There is another Nisei girl up there who runs around with the worst group in town and they are really wild. She is just ruining her reputation. Another girl is going around with Indian fellows and she wants to marry one of them. The fellow is no good so I am going to talk to the girl when I go up. She is too young anyway. "

I went to bed about 5 am and I was up at 11:00 because it got too cold. George got up to make Mariko's breakfast but he went back to bed afterwards and slept until noon. Eileen and I cooked a big breakfast. Mr. Thomas dropped in and had a bite to eat with us. He teaches voice out here. He has been thrice divorced. Betty Jean detests him. I don't care much for him because he seems to be such a drip, but he is Eileen's friend so I can't insult the guy. He is too much of the sleeky wolf type, getting old with ulcers of the stomach but still trying. He borrows money from Eileen, but I am not supposed to know that--over \$300 in the past two years. She feels sorry for him because she thought he was starving. He used the money to play the horses, sez BJ.

I guess I have quite a crush on Eileen, but I don't give voice to it because I am not the right romantic type for her. I can't help it though because she isn't like other Nisei girls. She is looking for her ideal so why should I make a sap out of myself. She just likes to talk to me. I don't go over too often now as it interferes with my work and I found that I was getting too involved. She has plenty of other fellows

on the string so I haven't any false dreams. Just a nice innocent friendship. I wish she wouldn't read that damn Tribune though. I haven't fallen for a girl in the long time--got stung too often. Besides I am too busy with my work to be chasing around acting silly and moonstruck. Guess I must be a bit cynical about women, although I am more than willing to make an exception for Eileen. I still think that she wants to be some kind of a debutante although I find that she is a much deeper person than I had thought. I like her company, that is prett, obvious but that is about the furthestest it goes, Jack's suspicions to the contrary. Light necking doesn't count.

George is just about fed up with loafing around so that he is going to look for a job at the first of the year. His civil service prospects are at a stalemate. He doesn't have a definite idea of what type of work he will look for. He said that he did not want to get any more dead end jobs though. ^{thru 6556} He would like to be an organizer. "My brother has a good job offer. A friend of his got the concession for the Pullman Co. and he offered my brother the job of head bartender on the train which makes the L.A. run. My brother thinks that the man doesn't know he is nihonjin because he doesn't look like one. I helped him write some applications for a permit to take that job and go into California. I hear that the Army may lift the restrictions soon anyway. My brother gave me a Longine watch for Christmas so I am wearing it now. I opened up some of the other presents and Mari got sore at me. She said that I spoiled the surprise of getting things for her. Women are so childish sometimes."

In midafternoon, I went shopping with Eileen and to the ticket office to get her railroad ticket home. I bought a few

presents, but I couldn't do much in all those mobs of wild women.
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I dashed over to Geo. Akahoshi's place about six thirty this evening and I was over there until about one am. Geo A. has a vacation from night college so that I may get one or two interviews with him next week. He is specializing in industrial and labor courses. Right now he is actively engaged in getting the workers in his office into the Fed employees labor union. Goerge is a very personable fellow and very sincere in his beliefs. He is one of the very few who is actually attempting to live his beliefs that it is possible to become integrated. He said that he had plenty of the social life among Nisei before the war but it was the most frustrating experience in his life because it was essentially an escape measure. He said that he was so naive about things that his only interest in life was taking piano and music lessons. He feels that he has matured quite a bit since the outbreak of the war. George is a very good looking fellow. For a while he was going around with a Chinese dancer. He takes caucasian girls out now and then. "I get attracted to Nisei girls, but when they open their mouths to speak, it is all off. I am putting a moritorium on women for a while until I find more direction to my own life.

"I find myself so busy that I rarely see any of my former Nisei friends. I don't want to ignore them, but they seem to be so superficial to me now. We all used to chase around madly trying to follow the American patterns of living in order to escape our economic frustrations but I don't feel the necessity of repeating that sort of meaningless life out here. I think that now is the time to take advantage of the opportunity and make the most of it. As more and more Nisei segregate, it is going to be harder for me to mix in with caucasians because they will expect me to be with Nisei groups."

"I've heard some rumors that California will be opened up soon, but I don't think that I would go. The economic opportunities out there were too frustrating before the war and I wouldn't want to go back to that kind of an existence. A lot of the Nisei out here are using the excuse of going back to California in order to escape ~~km~~ from the problems here, but that is not going to get them very far. It will be better if a public announcement is made by the Army, and then they will not have any excuse.

"The pattern of living is closely following what when on in the Japanese communities on the Coast. I am rather discouraged that the process of integration has not been faster, but I realize that it is a difficult thing. What can be do to encourage the Nisei not to segregate themselves? We just can't tell them not to do it as this is no solution. I feel the pull myself at times, but I realize that it is going to take a lot of determination to see my beliefs through. That is why I don't mix myself up with a Nisei group now because it is too easy to fall into that routine. It can only be a superficial routine at best and I had enough of that before the war.

"There has been a noticeable change in the attitudes of the Nisei during the past few months. At the beginning of this year, the program of integration was in great favor among the Nisei, even tho they only saw it as a theory. But when they began to have difficulties in adjustments, they blamed it upon the program of the WRA to 'force' them to disperse. It seemed to be a more natural tendency for them to come together because they felt that they had more in common with other Nisei. I feel that this affects me since other people will expect me to be with Nisei groups as the numbers of them increase and it will

become harder then ever to get into caucasian groups. I feel that a special effort has to be made in this direction for our own good and it is beyond the time just to talk about as we have to act now for our own salvation. As the Nisei segregate themselves more and more, they will begin to look with scorn upon those Nisei who are still anxious to become truly integrated. Due to their conservative background, they will even label the more progressive Nisei as 'reds' and 'radicals.' I guess we are according to their way of thinking.

"I have seen some of the recent JACL bulletins around so that I suppose this outfit is making a renewed effort to get a insolid backing out here. I don't know what its game it although I suspect that a lot of the old time members are anxious to regain the former prestige they had on the coast. I fear the growth of the JACL out here because it will provide one of the biggest impetus to segregation, even though it advocates the integration program. I think that the weakness of the JACL is really in the membership and not in the leadership. The members of the group make the JACL reflect the type of conservative and reactionary thinking which goes on among them. I am quite worried about their growth in racial attitudes, particularly towards the Jews. They still are resistant against labor unions and that is a fatal mistake if they don't wake up and realize that unions are their salvation. I certainly hate to see the Nisei drifting backwards to their old tendencies as it offers too many implications of dead end frustrations.

What is the solution?"

Gad, 5am! To bed, Chas!

I was awakened at a loud banging at the door at 2:00 this afternoon. It was Lieutenant DeLeon to visit Bette. He had been her Spanish teacher in camp. DeLeon volunteered into the Army for the educational program and he got a commission out of it. He was born in Mexico and he spent his first 17 years of life there. Since then he has been traveling all over the U.S. Divorced last summer, he is now on a hunt for another wife and he is particularly interest in Nisei girls so that he has been running all around visiting them all in the past two days. He wanted to meet the four~~x~~ South American girls upstairs, but they did not come in on time. We had him stay for dinner. He said that he had attended Drew University so that he and Jack had a talk about the campus.

Bette was exhausted all day long because she has been so busy with her finals all week. Last night a group of the students went down~~down~~ after the last final and they had dinner and went to a show. Afterwards they went back to Blake Hall and they had a party until five this morning. Bette got up early so that she could rush home and make up ~~for~~ a lunch for Betty Jean, who was leaving on the afternoon train for Georgia. Bette will be lonesome without her around for a few weeks as those two are as thick as glue. They even have to phone up at night to tell of all their latest adventures. Bette plans to have some of her school friends over for dinner during the Christmas holidays. She hopes to get a job in the postoffice, but she is not sure that it will come through. She has all of her shopping to do yet so that she will be extremely busy. She also plans to do some advance reading, but I bet she lets it slide. She thinks she did fairly well in the finals. We went to a show this evening. Cold as an icebary outside. >

We spent a very leisurely day at home. We did not get to bed until quite late as we puttered around most of the night. Jack came in from work at 7:30. Around 3:00 we finally started to arise. Bette was the laziest as she was still sleepy. Emiko got up because she found a bedbug in her hand. The nerve! <She immediately began to tell us how she gave an 80 year old man an enema.> She said that her party here Friday night was a huge success and the girls want her to give another one. They had steak. All of them had been given diphtheria shots so that a couple of the girls were not feeling so well. They all came to life when they saw my "handsome" picture and they think I look like Turhan Bey! Bette's comment from the next room: "Boy, those girls must have been sick!"

Bette started to cook after five while Emiko was busy wrapping Christmas presents to send to the kids. Tom and Miyako will not get their things until after Christmas now because the mails are very heavy right now. Bette still has to do her shopping. <I decided to look for my suit tomorrow, but I should go to the office. However, I won't be able to get Jack's expert sartorial advice since he is making plans to leave here shortly due to a very exciting announcement over the radio in regards to the opening of California for the Nisei.>

Davy came over for dinner. He bought us a pineapple and some vegetables from his place of work. We decided to give him a Christmas present since he looks so lonesome. My Christmas expenditures are getting higher and higher as I want to get each member of the family from Emiko down good presents. Emiko has spent quite a bit of money on the kids so that I told her

not to get me anything. Bette is wondering how she can purchase all of her gifts on the \$35.00 she has allotted herself. The apartment got quite messy with all the wrapping paper thrown about.

While we were having dinner, an announcement was made over the radio to the effect that the war department had revoked its order excluding all persons of Japanese ancestry from the west coast. Yes, Democracy grinds slowly but surely and it should restore some of the lost faith of the Nisei. Major General Pratte, chief of the western defense command issued the order saying that "favorable progress of the war in the Pacific as well as other developments" was the reason. The order provides any person of Japanese ancestry about whom information is available indicating a pro-Japanese attitude will continue to be barred from the coast states.

◀ This order will affect the 115,000 evacuees, but I don't think that very many of them will take advantage of it due to fear, uncertain opportunities, and many other reasons. There might be a number of students returning and also some of the farmers who owned land. I wonder if Aki will go back with his family now. From the comments I have ~~heard~~ heard Nisei make out here, I don't think too many of them will return.

The Army announcement today said: "Since the evacuation, our armed forces steadily have pushed the enemy in the Pacific farther from our shores and closer to the Japanese home islands. Although hard fighting is ahead in the Pacific, it no longer can be said as it could be said in 1942 that an enemy invasion on the west coast on a large scale is a substantial possibility." It also added that the department was aware that the decision to eliminate mass exclusion will create certain adjustment problems beyond military consideration but that the Department

of Interior (WRA) could put into effect a program based on a gradual and orderly return to the west coast, and a vigorous continuation of its efforts to relocate persons of Japanese descent throughout the U.S. The Army concluded its announcement by stating "The war department believes that the people of the Pacific Coast area will accord returning persons of Japanese ancestry all the consideration to which they are entitled as loyal citizens and law abiding ~~xxxxxxx~~ residents." This order, therefore, definitely includes the Issei.

It seems that the Army has gone straight down the line in maintaining that the evacuation was caused purely by military necessity. I wonder how the rabid Hearst papers on the Coast will take the news. It might headline it with a lot of scare talk so that many evacuees will be afraid to go back. I think that this news definitely justifies faith in democracy and it shows that it can work. It is not going to solve all problems immediately, probably will create many more, but at least a start has been made. It was one of the last great inconsistencies that had to be removed. ⁹ The announcement affected our dinner group in different ways. Davy immediately said that he was going back there and get a job. He said that ~~he had~~ he would be back there in two months. I asked him why he was going. "I don't exactly know; just homesick I guess. I don't like the weather out here. I got some jive friends back there is Frisco." He went out to phone some of his friends the news right away.

Emiko took the news more casually. "What's the use of going back there? There is nothing there. The weather is better but that isn't everything. Besides I couldn't go even if I wanted to because I will be in Cadet School for almost three years yet.

Emiko is the least inclined to go back for this reason. She has a further reason that her boy friend is out here and I don't think that she would want to leave the Chicago area now.

Bette feels these ties much less loosely so that she is quite enthusiastic about going to Berkeley. "You can get a job there and I can go to school. Just think, all my best friends are back there. I'd sure like to go. I don't want to live in Chicago all of my life. I'd go to California anytime. But I couldn't go alone."

Jack received the news most enthusiastically and he has already made positive plans about returning right ~~way~~ away.

"Oh, boy, that sure makes me feel good. I guess I'll go there right away. No I have to give a notice on my job first. I think I'll go right after Christmas. I might drop in on the folks on the way if I take the Santa Fe train. That 's a good idea. I know you might think I am running out on you, 'has, as I think you have been counting on me to help you with Tom. I appreciate the fact that you have not said anything about it even though I know that you have thought it. I know that Tom is just as much responsibility for me as for you. I'll send you some money each month for his care. You know why I have to go." I answered that I did not think he should remain behind for that consideration because his place was with Dolores.

Jack said that he did not know if he would let her know if her were coming or not, but just walk in on her like the last time. "I'm better prepared to go this time. I wish I could have saved my \$1000 though. I did get about \$750 saved. I will leave it here in your name because if I take it with me, we will spend it all up. You know how impractical women are."

"I'm not going to wait for any kind of a permit," Jack continued,

"I want to get back there before a wholesale movement starts.

I don't think too many will go altho some of the Nisei at the plant have been saying that they will go at the first excuse.

They will probably make up some excuses for not going now that there is a chance. Some of the farmers who own their own land will probably go. I have a good reason for going and my mind is made up. There is no decision to make like the last time.

I wish that I had the medical school business cleared up tho.

If I get back to California, I will probably have more of a chance to get into school first. Maybe my father in law will help finance me. I think that he would because he can then say how he helped me out and get credit for it. He is going to start going into the apartment house business but I don't want to get directly tied up with any of his enterprises. He really has made a lot of progress since 1941. He was just getting started in his grocery business when the war broke out. Now he has branched into a lot of things and he is making good money. He even wants to make me a partner, but I don't want to do that. If I can't get into a medical school, I might try to get into dentistry. I have to get started pretty soon.

"I certainly do feel good right now. I was getting fed up with the kind of life I have left. I know that my expenses will be much higher but it's worth it to be with Dolores. Come here Bette, while I practice holding a girl again. I haven't necked with a single girl for months. That Nisei Dental assistant is going to be disappointed, I am afraid, as I promised to go to her party next week; but now, I don't think that I will be around. Oh boy! Do you think I should give a two weeks notice? I just got a raise two weeks ago so they are really going to be sore at me for quitting. I have to get two more teeth fixed up before I leave for SF but I guess I can get the appointments

pushed up. I wonder how much the train fare will be outthere. It sure will be good to get back there again. Nostalgia, you know! I'm going to stay away from the WRA and every other agency when I go as I'm not going to go through any red tape. I'll just back up and leave. I know I can get my own job out there. I'll try to get into the shipyards first and I think I can get in as a machine operator with my experience now. There is plenty of need for men out there as I see the ads in the papers for shipyard workers all the time. I was even offered .95cents an hour when I was there early this year. I was just getting to the point where I could not stand it any longer out here without Dolores. I want to be with her for a little while before I am drafted as I think that I am going to get called soon. If not of my plans about medical school works out, I think I shall devote my life to physical culture and raise a new stock of children for the Golden State as my contribution to the world. The hell with waiting for a permit for going out there. It will take too long. I might even go for New Years."

I encouraged Jack to go immediately as I knew that he has been straining for a long time and I didn't want him to have any guilty feelings about running out on us when Tom is ready to resettle. I thought that I could take care of Bette and Tom since I took care of Emiko and Bette for a whole year by myself. Jack got suspicious and he wanted to know ^{why} what I wanted to get rid of him so quickly. I ~~at~~ just didn't want him to have any doubts in his mind about going. I will mean that my expenses will go up, but I am sure that I can swing it. But I am definitely going to buy myself a suit before some other emergency comes up and I have to divert the money into that. I haven't bought any clothes since before the war.

The opening up of California will not cause any drastic changes in the lives of the majority of the evacuees, but it is important for the principle involved since it removes one of the biggest barriers which existed against them. The FBI never did recommend the evacuation so that the charges of sabotage and sedition has been untrue and the lifting of the ban will convince many caucasian Americans. The powerful propangand forces in California are not going to give in gracefully, but I suspect that they will resort to threats to scare the Japanese from coming back, not that too many will go anyway. The liberal elements in California have become strong enough so that they have a strong voice. There are still bills in Congress demanding punitive treatment for the Japanese and it has been seriously proposed that the Nisei be deprived of citizenship on the grounds that dual citizenship is held. The fascists in the state will have to appeal to straight race prejudice now that the last military cause for exclusion is gone. There will be plenty of this too. It will be interesting to follow, but I don't think that the Hearts, et al, will ever be able to sway mass opinion as much as they did in 1942 on the Japanese problem of the coast.

This good news has set me to thinking about my own situation. I don't think that I will be going back to California to stay as I don't see how I could make a living there. It reminds me that Frank said Dorothy was contemplating on closing the study in the projects as soon as this announcement were made. It has come so that events will be moving rapidly from now on and Dorothy may want me to come out to Berkeley for the conference even before Eg. 1. It makes me feel more aware that my job may close up in another six months and that is not such a good feeling. I still have to think of some way to bring Tom out here. There

is the possibility that Dorothy may decide to continue the study of the return of the evacuees to California if she gets the funds. I don't know what I would do if ^{Dorothy} she asked me to go back to California to stay for the study. I would like to get my degree out here, but there is also the possibility that I could send Bette to U.C and Tom on to school also. But it would mean splitting the family up and the chances for family resettlement would become much slimer if we went to different sections of the country. I haven't anything to gain by going to California, except indirectly. I don't think I would be asked to go out there anyway since I have more than I can handle to get my Chicago data into some sort of decent shape before next July. I guess I would be pretty much torn both ways if I had to choose. I don't care too much for the idea right now though. I'd rather stay on out here and finish up my MA work. I still have the draft to consider. I think I would be happy if a real large scale movement back to California started from Chicago and emptied the city of three fourths of them. Then there would be no danger for a segregated pattern and the opportunity for the integration program to succeed would be increased 80%.

I really should go to the office in the morning and work with Frank on plans of classifying my data, but if I don't get my suit now, I'll never get it...and I think I deserve to buy myself some new clothes for a change. Expenditures this month will run close to \$250, including presents, suit and living cost. Whew! I've given up hopes of saving any money anyway. I have a little reserve for Bette's school and that has been my main concern. As for myself, I always have managed to get by. I guess this is a rather significant day in the lives of the evacuees and I wonder how the news will be greeted. Rather cynically, I suspect.

Since Jack was so set on going back to California as soon as possible, I decided to go downtown and look around for a suit today instead of going to the office as Jack insists upon supervising a suit purchase. We didn't have any success at it altho we went to all of the large department stores. I drew out \$50 from the bank but I did not get an opportunity to put a deposit on a suit. I should have done so because I spent so much money for Xmas presents afterwards when I met Bette. >

Jack and I dropped over to the WRA office to get some information on the Army's revocation of the exclusion order. Ben < said that the office staff had been holding some emergency meeting in order to work out the procedures but nothing definite was established. He > said that Dillon Myer was sending out a personal letter to every evacuee to give them full information. Ben read portions of the letter to us and I interpreted that the status of the evacuee would be that of December 6, 1941. There will not be any travel permits or clearance required of any person who wishes to go back. According to our interpretation, any Nisei or Issei can get on the train and go to California after January 2, 1945. However, it will be necessary to get an approved plan for resettlement back to California in order to obtain the benefits of the financial assistance clause. The announcement hasn't made much of an impression out here. Ben said that he had not received a single phone call from the evacuees. The WRA office is planning to remain open evenings in order to take care of an anticipated deluge for information, but this has not materialized so far.

Ben only had scanty information on this new announcement so that Jack did not make any formal application. He is very much interested in getting the train fare back to California since it will mean a savings of approximately \$60. Ben felt that the absence of

any rush for information indicated that the Nisei out here were fairly well settled and they were no longer interested in going back to California. He thought this was a very healthy sign. He said that he would not go back himself even if the WRA asked him to work in one of the California offices because he felt that his future was more out here. My interpretation of the lack of phone calls for information is that the majority of the resettlers have not had time to digest this newest development yet. It also indicates that there is some condition of uncertainty and most of them will lay low and wait to see what the other person does. I don't think that there will be many making requests to go back to California since the majority of the resettlers out here are young people who do not own property in California and they do not have any job guarantees.

Ben was a little fearful that there might be some "dynamite" in this newest program because he was sure that the California agitators would not take this news lying down. "They no longer have the excuse that it is a military necessity to keep the Japanese out of the state, but I think that they will resort to throwing the fear of God into anyone who wants to come back so that there will not be a movement developing in that direction. I would certainly like to see the headlines of the Hearst newspapers today. They probably will put this news over any war development. The Army has been quite liberal in going as far as it has and it will turn the whole matter to the Department of Interior because it feels that this is no longer a military problem. That's one way of getting out of the mess which it created through the pressure groups but I think that it is a definite sign for the better. Of course, the WRA will have to be very careful in allowing people to go to certain areas of the state. There's nothing that will prevent any person from getting on a train and going out to California, approved plan or not, but they

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no longer can call upon the WRA for any kind of assistance since they will be going at their own risk.

"I think that certain rural areas like Brawley will not be such a good place to go. Some of those small communities in California are loaded with dynamite but I don't think there will be any trouble in the larger city. Right now it looks as if the students and some farm owners will be the first to go back, altho a number of domestic workers may go back also. The American Friends Service has been working on this for the past few months and I think that it will try to get a lot of the domestic workers back in the Pasadena area. I heard over the radio this morning that Fletcher Bowron of Los Angeles made a public statement that the city would not be responsible for any returning evacuees and he thought that Federal troops would have to be called in if a large number returned. Sheriff Biscailuz of Los Angeles County also made a statement saying that he would not be able to guarantee the protection of any returning Japanese. I think that this is deliberately inviting lawlessness and mob violence and I am sure that those pressure groups will do everything possible to fan up the agitation in order to scare any person out of coming back. I know that the Brawley area is laden with potential dynamite because that's where that Japanese couple was shot to death before evacuation. I knew this couple personally; their name was Kikuchi too. I also have a letter here from a good friend of mine in Los Angeles and he claims that the public there will welcome the Japanese back for the sake of getting better produce at cheaper prices and they also want the domestic workers. He claims that this is more of the public opinion than any anti-feelings. Of course, the Negroes might be whipped up into an agitating mood because they don't want to lose their housing. They will resist any sort of eviction notice because they have to fight like anything to

fight any kind of housing. It's a matter of dog eat dog.

"The movement back to California will be very slow altho we are getting prepared to handle any rush which may start from this locality. I think that the lifting of the exclusion order will have much more of an effect in the centers. There is a statement in the Myer letter which says that the camps will be closed gradually, and I know that a lot of people in camp are going to get very excited about that. I don't anticipate the WRA folding up altogether because there will be too many old people who cannot possibly resettle and a lot of those farming families don't have any place to go to since they were only ~~x~~ leasing the land."

There were a few people in the waiting room at the WRA office but they did not seem to be very much interested about the lifting of the ban. We ran into Hippo and he said he was going back to camp next week but he definitely was not interested in going to California. Jack said that he would wait to see if he could get his fere paid but he doesn't want to wait too long. He would like to start out around New Years so that he could spend 3 weeks in camp. He received a letter from the Selective Service board today telling him that he still was not classified. Jack expects this to come very soon now so that he wants to get started. He said that he may even go after Xmas if it looked like the WRA would take a long time to give him a grant on the plan he has in mind. He is quite excited about this new development and he doesn't know if he should give notice at his company right away or not. >

From 3 o'clock in the afternoon on until 8 p.m., Bette and I were tramping around in the department stores. <The crowd was so immense that we had to inch are way along.> There was quite a Xmas atmosphere in the air along State St. since the loud speakers were playing Xmas music. It put us into quite a buying mood so that the

two of us spent over \$50. My total Xmas expenditures is over \$75 now and that is the most I've ever spent. I dipped into my suit money at that. Most of the presents were for family members. We met Emiko doing some last minute shopping too. She was having an argument with a snotty store clerk who refused to change Tom's jacket for her. <I don't care to go shopping with Emiko too much because she is very impatient. She is shifting some of the responsibility to Bette by claiming that she is too busy to wrap presents and send them. I suppose that this is true. Emiko and Bette both spent about \$25 each for the family in camp. They are spending much more than Mariko and Alice, and they are less able to do it. They said that nothing was too good for the kids. I don't want them to spend too much of their money up since they don't have much of a reserve. The packages will arrive a little late in camp but that couldn't be helped. Bette started to wrap her packages after we got home and she will probably be doing it most of the night.>

Bette was quite elated because a couple of her college girl friends have invited her to go to sort of a winter resort over New Years. It is some place up in Wisconsin. They will go ice skating and there will also be parties. Bette said that she would rather do this than go to Mariko's party because she likes her school group better. <I think it is better for Bette to get into her own group too since Mariko's crowd does not have much interest for her. Bette is a little sore at Mariko because her suit has not been finished after 6 months. I don't blame her because Mariko promised so faithfully to have it done by September 27.>

Bette was up until 3:30 wrapping packages to send home so that I couldn't go to sleep. Jack came in around 7:00 and he immediately began to tell about the reaction of the opening of California among the Nisei at his plant. "No one of those guys are going back. I asked all of them and they said such things as 'No use, man', ~~like~~ 'Hell, they kicked us out, didn't they?', 'What's the use?', 'Oh, yeah!' 'The Nisei ain't got a chance back there.' 'They'd probably want to mob us outthere.' 'I'm making good enough money out here so why should I go back there and be a servant?' <There was one Kibei guy out there 17 years old who has been talking about going back to Japan and he was the only one who thought he might be interested in going back to California as he would like to go on a fishing boat. He's never looked for a job in California so he thinks it's just as easy to get a job out there as it is here. Not very many of them are going to take a chance because they are waiting to see what the rest of them do.> They figure it will cost them too much money to get started again and they have no special reason for going. One fellow out there owns a pretty productive walnut ranch but he said that he wanted to find a wife before he goes back. I guess that's the way most of the Nisei workers feel, they were mildly interested in the news."

Jack went on to say that he would like to go about January 2. He asked me to phone Ben Yoshioka since he wanted to know if he could get his fare paid back. Jack said he would not wait if it took too long. <"What do you think about buying a car and driving it out? You could sell it for a couple of hundred dollars profit that way. If you went to your Berkeley conference about then, I could wait until Dolores came out here and all 3 of us could drive back.> I can't afford to wait around too long because I might get drafted. I want to get out there and get a defense job. Maybe I'll

go out to camp and visit the family until January 15. Then I'll go on to San Francisco since Dolores' vacation starts on January 20. I have to find out pretty soon if the WRA will give me my fare as I want to give my company plenty of notice for quitting. It will save me quite a bit if I can get my transportation paid. Maybe I better write to Mr. Ingojo right away to see if he could put me up for a while. I don't want to move in on him. I may be able to get a job in the shipyards through Archie Green's friends as they are all in the Union."

Jack talked until about 8:30 pondering over what he could do. I decided to get up at that ungodly hour because I would have slept all morning if I didn't. I only had about 4 hours of sleep in all. I'm getting used to it now though. I tried to get Bette out of bed so that she could take the packages down to the University post office. Bette was very sleepy and she wouldn't respond to my persuasion. I got a little stern and I insisted that she get up so that she got stubborn. Then I got sore so I made her get up and make my lunch. She was pretty burnt up at this so I told her that I wasn't going to give her a Xmas present and I was going to take her allowance back. I really was pretty mean. Finally I decided that I was being too mean so I made up. Bette said that she was going to mope around for a while first. But she was very cheerful about it by the time we started out to the postoffice. She's going shopping this afternoon and to a show this evening if she can get Otto to take her. I have an interview with Fukiko and I hope to finish up. >

As soon as I got to the office I phoned up the WRA office and talked to Mr. Booth. < I asked him if I would have to get a Western Defense Command clearance in order to go to the coast in February. Mr. Booth said that as far as he knew, I would just have to get on

the train and go unless I received an individual order exclusion from the Army. There will be no restrictions after January 2. I guess that I might as well go ahead and arrange for my train reservations as soon as possible as I plan to get to Berkeley by the beginning of February, if possible. I don't know whether I'll be able to work up any of my material for preliminary analysis by that time.

I also mentioned Jack's situation to Mr. Booth. ^{no H} He said that this was the first formal application which his office has received for a California return. [<]Mr. Booth is leaving for Los Angeles today as he will be working in one of the WRA offices out there. He said that it was advisable for Jack to make a request as soon as possible in order to get his plan approved. I mentioned that Jack's present plans consisted of the following points:

1. He is going to join his wife.
2. He plans to apply for admittance at U. of California medical school next semester.
3. Mr. Ingojo will give him a job faxx
4. He has some connections with Union members so that he may be able to get into a shipyard.
5. Mr. Ingojo will guarantee housing and sponsor him.
6. He wants to be with his wife in the event that he is drafted soon.

Mr. Booth felt that this was definitely an approved plan and ^{no H} he suggested that Jack come down immediately and get it under way. He said that the procedure would be to have the plan okayed in his office and then it would be teletyped to the San Francisco office for approval. In that event, he would receive transportation plus \$3 a day subsistence. A further financial allotment would be given if he were in extreme need, but the WRA didn't plan to give this sum to any persons who were already out of camp. He felt that the

approved plan would receive an okay within 2 weeks because the WRA was mainly concerned that no one was left stranded out in the coast. However, I think that it might take a little longer than that as he seemed indefinite as the program is so new. I wrote a letter setting forth Jack's plan so that he could take it with him and get the thing under way as soon as possible. If there is too much red tape, Jack will just go anyway without waiting for the fare.

Jack is getting quite excited over the whole thing as the possibility is now a definite reality. He doesn't want to walk out on his company but he is not going to let anything stand in the way of returning to California. He figures that it would be worthwhile to wait for an extra week if he were sure of the WRA transportation grant. He said that it would probably cost him quite a bit of money to get started and he wanted to save his present bank account for medical school. The WRA apparently is not requiring any sort of a means test to get this grant since the interpretation is fairly liberal.

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Jack also mentioned this morning that he was getting sick and tired of being a laboring man so that he was going to try to get a white collar job out there. He wondered whether he would be eligible to apply for a job with the WRA. However he didn't think that a civil service job would pay as much as defense work and he is mostly interested in getting his medical training. There is a chance that the University of California medical school might admit him. Ben mentioned yesterday that all of the coast schools were willing to take Nisei students again except U.S.C. He did not know the exact reason why U.S.C. declined to take Nisei students now, but he felt that it was because the president of the university had received an order of the Rising Sun from Japan at one time so that he was still quite a bit on the spot.

6574

4743 Drexel Blvd.,
Chicago, Illinois.

December 19, 1944

Return to California Adviser,
War Relocation Authority,
226 Jackson Blvd.,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir:

I would like to initiate the procedure to have my plan for returning to California approved so that I will be eligible for transportation and subsistence grant en route. I do not have sufficient money saved up to pay for all costs for returning. I believe that your office files has a full record of me and I would like to know if arrangements can be made with the San Francisco W.R.A. office to approve my plan by teletype, as suggested by Mr. Booth in our telephone conversation this morning. My pre-evacuation address was 1833 Buchanan St., San Francisco; my family number is 13725; my Tanforan Assembly Center number is 361; and my present address is 4743 Drexel Blvd. I have not been reclassified by the Selective Service Board yet. At the present time I am working at Versen Steel Company as a machinist on the night shift.

I would appreciate it very much if my plan for returning to California can be approved by January 2, 1945, the official date for the lifting of the Army exclusion ban. Mr. Booth, in his telephone conversation, felt that this might be possible if your office initiated the procedure immediately. I would like to arrange for my train reservation for January 2 if the approved plan is okayed by then.

The following points are the reasons why I would like to return to California immediately:

1. I am very anxious to rejoin my wife, Mrs. John F. Kikuchi, a non-Japanese. She is at present enrolled at Stanford University.

2. I would like to apply for enrollment at the University of California medical school next semester, if possible, and I have to be there for a personal interview.

3. I have made plans for employment in the event that my medical plans have to be postponed for a semester. Mr. R. Yngojo, my father-in-law, has guaranteed me a position in his business enterprises. His present address is 1552 Webster St., San Francisco, and I am sure the San Francisco W.R.A. office will be able to confirm this without any difficulty.

4. Mr. Yngojo will guarantee my housing and sponsor me.

5. I also have some tentative plans to get into one of the

the shipyards as I have some connections with C.I.O. Union members. I am sure that this will be possible because I have had some months of experience in a defense plant out here during the past year.

6. I anticipate that I will be reclassified and possibly drafted in the near future so that I would like to spend as much time as possible with my wife. She is unable to come out here so that I will have to join her.

7. I have a nostalgia to return to my native city and my native state. "No matter where you may roam, there's no place like home!"

I trust that the above will be sufficient reason for okaying my approved plan for resettlement back to California. I sincerely hope that the procedure will be greatly simplified so that I may be able to leave Chicago by January 2, 1945. I would like to know if the W.R.A. will also assume charges for personal belongings sent out to the coast. My personal effects will probably weigh in the neighborhood of 500 pounds.

Thank you very much for your kind interest in my case and I hope that I will be able to hear a favorable response from you in the very near future.

Sincerely yours,

John F. Kikuchi

Later:

"m I burnt up. It's 8:30 right now and I have been waiting for two hours for that Fukiko to show up for her interview! What an unpredictable dame! I really shouldn't feel put out at her, but she could at least have phoned me. I don't deserve to ^{be} put in such suspense even if it is for the sake of science. The idea of Fukiko standing me up like this. It hurts my manly egotism. She will probably have a good excuse. It ruined my whole evening. I could have gotten some work done interviewing Akahoshi. He phoned earlier in the evening saying that he would be free, but I had to put him off until next wednesday as this is the only time that he has free. I should have gone over there and I would have gotten a little done. Now I just have to sit around biting my fingers and wait for a phone call. That Fukiko had better have a good explanation! The whole week is practically ruined as far as work is concerned. I might even get fired if I don't produce something pretty soon. It isn't that bad, but I like to sit here and torture myself and think that it is in order to salve my wounded manhood. Jack and Bette will give me the grand horselaugh, they don't believe that it is entirely business.

This afternoon Frank and I discussed the classification outline and got a few ideas of what should be included. It seems that this will be a gigantic task, but necessary before I can even think of a preliminary analysis. I have to appear most helpless in front of Frank so that I can get the benefit of his sage advice. That's psychology! I'm sure that Frank doesn't mind helping me out because I am so dumb at writing reports and I wouldn't be able to do anything without his help. He's a good egg. He even brought me three packs of precious cigarettes from

Salt Lake.

Bette went out to a show or something, so I feel pretty neglected around here. I don't even feel like reading or anything because of Fukiko. This afternoon on the way home I dropped in to see ~~xxxxxx~~ Davy and tell him that I decided to get him a Christmas present because he has been a niceboy lately. He claims that he has not been drinking for quite some time although he "backslid" last week on "account of a cold cure." He does not have to work this evening so he went out galavanting around someplace. He still hangs around that bar down on Clark street and if he really is not drinking, he must have a lot of will power.

Mrs. Watanabe was home so I started to talk to her for a few minutes. She, ch-55, said that she had just learned that the evacuees could go back to California. "and you know, we just sold our home last week! What a mistake. My husband and I had figured that we would not be permitted to go back there for a long time so we finally decided to give our home up. There is nothing we can do about it now. Of course, if we ever went back, we might be able to buy a new home, but there's nothing that can replace a honeymoon home.

"I quit my job today because my employer had another of her fits and I just couldn't stand it any longer. She had one of those streaks last week and I had to take a few days off. I decided that it was not worth putting up with her tempermental streaks any longer so that I quit. She doesn't know it yet. I haven't any definite jobs lined up for myself yet, but I am not too worried about that. I don't think that I will take the Grinnel offer yet as we plan to stick it out here for the winter.

"We won't be going to California for a while yet. The climate out there is wonderful, but what's California without your dear friends? I know that I could get my old job back if I returned, and I would have my guardian to sponsor me but there wouldn't be much for my husband. It's no use to go for the time being because I have more opportunity out here. But the Chicago winter is so cold. I don't think that many of the Issei could stand it. They may have to go back to the California weather because they are not made for weather like this. I think it is terrible. This is the first time I have ever been in such a cold place like this and I don't like it. I'm worrying all the time about my health because I am not too strong yet. I don't want to get pneumonia." Mrs. W. seemed to be quite cheerful, as always, in spite of her present troubles. She still has not been able to find any housing.

I talked to one of two of the people at the boarding house there, but the lifting of the blanket exclusion orders by the Army has not made an impression on them at all. There was a mild flurry of excitement for a while because Davy was so enthusiastic about it. The Nisei out here are more concerned with the possible closing of the centers. Most of them received Dillon Myers message today and the rumor is already going around that the camps will definitely be closed in six months. Other than that, the Nisei do not seem to realize that this new development is a very significant event. The WRA announces that it is entering the final phases of its program. It does not contemplate provide schooling within the centers after August of next year. It looks as if the WRA is going to try and push the people out by not giving them any comforts other than the bare necessities of life in camp. It sets me to thinking be-

cause I might have to do something definite about family resettlement in the next few months, regardless of whether I feel in the position to do it or not. I guess the WRA threat is having its influence on me even tho I don't believe for one moment that it will actually push the people out into the desert and leave them shift for themselves.

However, the WRA is entering the final stages of its program. The attached copy of Myer's message is the Declaration of Independence for the Nisei. I don't think the majority of them have had time to let the importance of this seep sink into their minds. It affects them even if they do not have any idea of going back to California. It is the prime example of how Democracy can be bungling and make mistakes, but the time comes when positive steps are taken and remedies made in a democratic way. The evacuees will continue to grip and feel that they are being pushed around yet, but I think the WRA is very fair in the way it is approaching the resettlement back to California and the possible closing of the camps in the near future. The evacuees have to face facts sometime before they become completely dependent upon the government. The WRA is making eligibility for travel assistance quite liberal.

I don't think there will be any great mass move back to California, but I bet plenty of emotions are stirred when the old folks find out that the camps will be closing soon. They will take it literally and they will probably oppose being pushed out of camp as hard as possible because of the fear of the outside. They went into camp ~~and~~ rather mildly although many were quite bitter about it. I think that now is the time for them to regain some of their lost feelings of independence before it is too late. (attached WRA message.)

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

The lifting of the blanket exclusion orders by the Western Defense Command is undoubtedly the most significant event since evacuation both in the lives of the evacuated people and in the program of the War Relocation Authority. To the great majority of the evacuees, it means full restoration of the freedom of movement which is enjoyed by all other loyal citizens and law-abiding aliens in the United States. To the War Relocation Authority, it signifies the beginning of the final phase of the relocation program.

Our prime objective in WRA, as always, is to restore the people residing in relocation centers to private life in normal communities. The lifting of the exclusion orders makes it possible to broaden the scope of this program and put it for the first time on a completely nationwide basis. Within the next few weeks WRA will establish field relocation offices at key points in the evacuated area and will extend assistance to those who have good reason to return. At the same time, we shall also continue our relocation offices and assistance for those who wish to locate in other parts of the country.

Although the WRA is now entering the final phase of its program, the relocation centers will not be closed immediately. All of them will remain in operation for several months so that all the residents will have reasonable and adequate time and opportunity for the development of sound relocation plans.

During the period ahead, many of the facilities at the centers will have to be sharply curtailed as the population declines. Schools, however, will be continued through the current school year. This will enable families with school-age children sufficient time to plan their relocation so that the pupils may reenter school in their new communities at the beginning of the fall term. All the really essential services at the centers, including mess operations, housing, and medical care, will of course be provided until the time each center actually closes.

The re-opening of the evacuated area and the broadening of the relocation program come at a fortunate time for the evacuated people. Largely as a result of the splendid record which your sons, brothers, and husbands have achieved in the armed services, the American public has come increasingly to a recognition of the essential good faith and loyalty that characterize the great majority of people of Japanese descent. Today the evacuees as a group have more friends and supporters throughout the Nation than at any previous time. They are being accepted in hundreds of communities as fellow-workers, friends, and neighbors. The removal of the restrictions that formerly applied in the West Coast area underscores this growing public acceptance and should help to bring about even more widespread recognition of the fact that the great majority of the evacuees are loyal and law-abiding people.

It is fortunate, too, that the WRA program enters its final phase at a time when there is a good demand for workers in war plants, in civilian goods production, in service occupations, and on the farms. Both from the standpoint of the national welfare and the evacuees' long-range economic security, it is highly important that the people now residing at the relocation centers make the transition back to private life at a time when employment opportunities are still plentiful.

Recognizing that there are a number of people in the relocation centers who have not been able to relocate previously because they are incapable of self-support, the War Relocation Authority is now making intensive efforts to meet this problem by mobilizing facilities and resources that are available for public assistance in normal communities throughout the Nation. Special funds have been provided by Congress through the Federal Security Agency for the assistance of needy people who have been displaced from their homes by restrictive governmental action. All evacuees -- both citizens and aliens -- who are in need of such assistance are eligible to apply for it under the terms of this Federal law. In addition, old age assistance and grants to certain other types of handicapped people are available to both citizen and alien evacuees as they are to all persons who can qualify under the regular programs of the Federal Security Agency. In the development of individual or family relocation plans at the centers, the Welfare Section will give special attention to those who may need some form of public assistance after relocation. In all cases of this kind, the specific needs of the family or individual will be presented in advance of relocation through the WRA field office to the appropriate agency in the community of proposed resettlement. Wherever individuals or families find themselves in need of public assistance after relocation, the WRA field offices will help to facilitate arrangements with the appropriate state or local agency. In view of the funds that are available and the arrangements that are being made, the War Relocation Authority feels wholly confident that no evacuee will be deprived of adequate means of subsistence by reason of the closing of the centers.

It is possible that some evacuees who have relocated outside the evacuated area will now wish to avail themselves of the opportunity of returning to their former homes. The final decision as to whether this is the best thing to do rests with the individual relocatee. Many have homes, business connections, or close personal friends in the evacuated area and will be anxious to get back to them. On the other hand, many relocatees have found new friends and much greater opportunities, both social and economic, than they enjoyed prior to evacuation. There is every indication that these greater opportunities will continue for most persons. The WRA believes that all relocatees should carefully consider all factors before breaking their present connections and moving back to their old home communities. It should be remembered that the entire West Coast area has undergone a tremendous change since evacuation. Hundreds of thousands of war workers have moved into the area. Housing is difficult to obtain and living conditions are extremely complex and expensive. Many relocatees will find that it will be much easier and more advantageous to have Center family members join them in their present location than to dislocate themselves again to return to something new and untried.

If after careful consideration and investigation the relocatee decides to return to his former home he should see his local relocation officer. The Authority will furnish the usual types of relocation assistance to such people provided they have a sound plan for resettlement in the evacuated area and provided that certain other requirements, such as those of the War Manpower Commission, are met. This assistance will be available for the duration of the relocation program and there will be no need to make hasty decisions in order to qualify for it. It will be available only in the field and cannot be obtained if the evacuee returns to a relocation center or the evacuated area without the approval of the relocation officer. Those relocated evacuees who have close family relatives still residing at the centers and who need to consult with these family members in the development

of relocation plans may apply at the nearest WRA field office for permission to visit the center. However, in view of the War Manpower Commission regulations governing job transfers and the congested transportation facilities in the vicinity of the centers, it is exceedingly important that all relocated evacuees desiring to return to the centers at this time actually obtain such advance approval. Those who attempt to come back without it may be denied admission to the center and may become ineligible for all future relocation assistance.

More detailed information on the policies and procedures which the War Relocation Authority will follow in the final phase of its program, insofar as these have now been determined, is contained in the attached bulletin. As additional policy decisions are made and procedures further clarified, every effort will be made to provide the essential information both to the people at the relocation centers and to those who have relocated.

In conveying this message to you, I want to express my sincere appreciation of the fine, cooperative attitude which has been displayed by the overwhelming majority of the evacuated people over the past two and one-half years under the most trying of circumstances. All of you who have already left the relocation centers or who will be leaving in the next several months have my very best wishes for a successful and satisfying life in the communities where you choose to make your homes.

D. J. Myer
Director

SUMMARY OF WRA POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE FINAL PHASE OF THE RELOCATION PROGRAM.

Now that the blanket exclusion orders have been lifted, the War Relocation Authority has made a number of basic policy decisions covering the immediate future of its program. These decisions are:

- (1) WRA assistance will now be made available for relocation in the evacuated area on the same basis as elsewhere.
- (2) All relocation centers will be closed within a period of six months to one year after the revocation of the exclusion orders. No center, however, will be closed without three month's advance notice to the residents.
- (3) Essential services at the relocation centers -- food, housing, and medical care -- will be provided until the centers close. Schools will be maintained at the centers through the end of the present school year.
- (4) Relocation in areas outside the evacuated zone will continue.
- (5) WRA assistance will be extended, within certain prescribed limits, to evacuees who have previously relocated and who now wish to return to the evacuated area.
- (6) There will be no further processing of evacuees for leave clearance and leave permits will no longer be necessary for relocation. Relocation assistance, however, will be made available only to those whose relocation plans are approved by WRA.
- (7) Arrangements will be made with appropriate state and local agencies to provide public assistance throughout the country for those evacuees who are incapable of self-support.

RELOCATION ASSISTANCE

Relocation offices will be established in the immediate future at key points throughout the evacuated area. These offices, like those already functioning in other sections of the country, will assist relocating evacuees in a wide variety of ways to become satisfactorily established in the communities where they decide to make their homes. In this effort the field offices of WRA will call on the resources and facilities of a great many public and private agencies which have indicated their willingness to cooperate in the relocation program. Relocation offices, both in the evacuated area and elsewhere, will be maintained for a period of not more than two months after all relocation centers have been closed.

Travel grants will hereafter be made available to all evacuees whose relocation plans are approved by the War Relocation Authority. This will apply both to those who are leaving the centers for the first time for relocation to any part of the country and those previously relocated who have an approved plan for resettling in the evacuated area.

Relocation grants and subsistence while en route will be provided to center residents, as previously, only upon application and on the basis of actual need.

Leave permits will no longer be required of evacuees wishing to leave the relocation centers for purposes of relocation. However, those who leave without having their relocation plans approved by the WRA, will not be eligible either for relocation assistance or for re-entry to the center. Seasonal leave and trial indefinite leave will no longer be available. Short-term leave will be retained in its present form. Travel for the purpose of investigating relocation opportunities in the evacuated area, however, will be at the evacuees's own expense.

Visits to relocation centers, either by relocated evacuees or by residents of other centers, for the development of family relocation plans must be approved in advance by the Project Director of the center where the visiting evacuee resides or (in the case of relocated evacuees) by the nearest WRA field office. Those who undertake trips of this kind without obtaining such approval may be denied admission to the center and may become ineligible for all future relocation assistance.

Re-induction for residence at the centers will no longer be possible once an evacuee has left for the purpose of relocation.

PROPERTY ASSISTANCE

Transportation of household goods and personal effects, like travel assistance, will hereafter be available to all relocating evacuees whose relocation plans are approved by WRA. This will include transportation (1) from a WRA warehouse in the evacuated area to a point of relocation anywhere in the United States (except that those relocating within a reasonable trucking distance of the warehouse will be expected to provide their own delivery service), (2) from a relocation center to a point of relocation anywhere in the United States, (3) from a railhead in any community outside the evacuated area to a point of approved relocation within the evacuated area, and (4) from a railhead in the evacuated area (in cases where properties are now in private storage) to a point of approved relocation anywhere in the United States. As previously, the WRA will provide assistance and materials for the crating of such property both at the WRA warehouses in the evacuated area and at the relocation centers. However, those evacuees whose goods are being moved from a point of private storage within the evacuated area or from a point of previous relocation outside the evacuated area will provide their own crating facilities and deliver the property at the nearest railhead. At the receiving end, properties of relocating evacuees will be delivered at the railhead nearest the point of relocation.

WRA warehouses in the evacuated area will be maintained for a period of not more than three months after the closing of all relocation centers. Evacuees who have property in storage at these warehouses and who return to the evacuated area will be required to remove their goods from the warehouses within a period of 60 days after their return.

Other types of property assistance will continue to be available through the Evacuee Property Offices and the Assistant Solicitor's office in the evacuated area as well as through the Evacuee Property Officers and the Project Attorneys at the relocation centers. Such service will be maintained within the evacuated area for a period of not more than three months after all relocation centers are closed. However, when an evacuee returns to an area in

which his property is located, assistance will not be given beyond a 60-day period.

Contraband property, such as cameras and radios, previously surrendered by citizen evacuees to the United States Government may now be returned to the owners. Citizen evacuees should make application to the War Relocation Authority on prescribed forms (WRA-156 and WRA-260) supplying whatever identifying information or receipts they may have. Contraband property surrendered by alien evacuees cannot be recovered at the present time.

WELFARE ASSISTANCE TO RELOCATEES

The War Relocation Authority will make every effort to see that adequate assistance is provided outside the relocation centers through the appropriate public welfare agencies for evacuees who are incapable of self-support or who are in need of financial aid in an emergency situation. Special funds, appropriated by Congress to provide such assistance for people who have been affected by government restrictions, are available to needy evacuees from state and local welfare agencies. Such assistance is available to both citizen and alien evacuees alike.

Public assistance is available under this program to evacuees who need medical care, money for rent or groceries, or money for emergency living expenses. Those needing such assistance should consult the nearest public welfare office or the nearest field office of the War Relocation Authority. They should be prepared to describe their financial resources in some detail. Depending on the individual situation, the welfare office may provide personal help in solving the problem or may furnish cash resources for the purchase of the needed goods or services. Cash grants of this kind are available on the basis of actual need even though the applicant may not be a resident of the community where he is making application, even though he may be employed, and even though he may have property which is not in expendable form.

Special aid for the aged, the blind, and needy children is available to relocating evacuees, as it is to all other persons in these categories, under Federal programs which are administered by state agencies. For more detailed information on these types of assistance, evacuees should consult the nearest public welfare office or the nearest field office of the WRA.

Assistance for dependents of servicemen is now being extended under the Dependency Allowance and Allotment Act. Relocated evacuees desiring detailed information about such assistance should consult the nearest office of the American Red Cross.

Social insurance may now be obtained by evacuees over 65 years of age whose employers withheld part of their salary for this purpose prior to evacuation. Those who believe themselves eligible for such insurance should consult the nearest field relocation office or the welfare section at the center for the name and address of the nearest field office of the Bureau of Old Age and Survivors Insurance of the Social Security Board. Full particulars may be obtained by writing or visiting the latter office. The applicant should furnish the Social Security Board office with his Social Security number and with essential information about his pre-evacuation employment.

CENTER OPERATIONS

Essential services -- food, housing, and medical care -- will be provided for the residents of each center until the date when that center actually closes. In some cases, it may be necessary, because of shortage of trained personnel, to close the hospital at the center before the center is completely de-populated. If this should happen at any center, WRA will make arrangements for providing necessary medical service at some outside hospital.

Schools will be maintained at the centers at least through the end of the present school year in June, 1945. If summer sessions are found to be necessary at any of the centers, the schools may be kept open beyond that date but in any case not later than August 31, 1945.

Business Enterprises, including all types of cooperative stores and services, will be encouraged to continue operations as long as possible, taking into consideration the time required for orderly liquidation.

Farm operations at the centers will be sharply curtailed. Both vegetable and feed crops planted during the fall of 1944 will be harvested at all centers. No crops will be planted during 1945 except at Gila River and Poston. At those two centers, the vegetable crop program previously planned, with some modifications for declining population, will be carried out. Hog feeding will be continued based on anticipated declining population so that all hogs can be slaughtered and consumed before the closing of the center. No more feeder cattle will be purchased and any cattle remaining on hand at the time of center closing will be sold. No additional chickens will be purchased and both meat birds and laying hens will be slaughtered and consumed well in advance of the closing date for the center.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Travel permits must be obtained by all alien evacuees before the travel is actually undertaken. Aliens at the relocation centers going out on relocation either to the West Coast or elsewhere may obtain permits covering travel to the original point of destination by applying to the relocation office at the center. All those outside the centers desiring to travel either back to the centers or to another community should apply for a permit at the office of the United States Attorney for the district in which they are currently residing. Within five days after reaching the point of destination on any type of travel, alien evacuees must report their new address to the Alien Registration Division, Immigration and Naturalization Service at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and to the Federal Bureau of Investigation field office mentioned in the alien's certificate of registration. If there is any further change of address, the same requirements apply.

Travel to Hawaii and Alaska is controlled by the War Department. Evacuees wishing to go to either of these territories should apply to the Office of the Provost Marshal General, War Department, Washington, D. C.

Frozen funds are not affected by the lifting of the exclusion orders. Alien evacuees eligible for relocation throughout the United States whose assets have been frozen and who now wish to regain possession of them should

consult the nearest office of WRA. In justifiable cases, arrangements will be made for taking the matter up with the Foreign Funds Control Division of the Treasury Department.

Legal residence of evacuees in the states from which they were evacuated has not been affected by reason of their having lived in a relocation center. Those who have relocated and who have acquired legal residence in other states, however, can regain legal residence in the states of the evacuated area only in accordance with the provisions of the state law.

Voluntary evacuees who have never resided in relocation centers and who have an approved plan for returning to the evacuated area are eligible for relocation assistance (if they request it) on the same basis as persons who have been relocated from WRA centers. For this purpose, a voluntary evacuee is defined as a person of Japanese ancestry who left the evacuated area in response to government urging between February 16, 1942 and the date when voluntary movement from that area was prohibited by military order (March 29, 1942 in the case of Military Area No. 1; June 2, 1942, for the remainder of California) or who later departed by special permission of the Western Defense Command. Application should be made at the nearest field office of WRA.

Deportees and parolees now residing at relocation centers may relocate under sponsorship arrangements approved by the Department of Justice, and are eligible for relocation assistance on the same basis as other evacuees. Full particulars may be obtained from the relocation office at the center.

Government property at the relocation centers which is surplus to the needs of center operations will be disposed of through the regular established procedures of the Treasury Department. WRA has no authority to make such property available to evacuees either through sale or any other arrangement.

Gate control will be maintained at all relocation centers even though leave permits are no longer required of those going out on relocation. All evacuees leaving or entering the centers will be expected to report at the gate.

Address cards will be furnished, as previously, to all relocating evacuees in order that they may report arrival at their destinations and subsequent changes of address. There are many situations where the WRA will wish to communicate promptly with evacuees regarding restoration of personal property and similar matters, or where the Authority will be called upon to furnish the address of a relocated evacuee to friends, relatives, and business associates. It is highly advisable, therefore, for all evacuees to keep the WRA constantly informed of changes of address as long as the field relocation offices remain in operation.

9:15 P.M.

Dear Bette:

Your big sister, Mariko, is in great distress and her ~~bowels~~ bowels are in an uproar because you failed to bring her suit back to her. She said that you were ungrateful for the loan and that you had no consideration. I felt like laughing while she was talking so hysterically, but I just snickered politely after covering up the phone. She just finished phoning me. She has been waiting impatiently for you to bring the suit over. I thought that it would serve her right to go without it so I said that you were out and that I had told you about her message to return it.

If I feel in a good mood after I finish typing this, I might take it over for her. She is just about in fits. She said that she was going to come over and get it herself, but that did not move me too much. I told her that you might bring it over tomorrow. Then Mariko said that if she did not get the suit, she was going to work on her dress and you would not get your Christmas present. I don't want her to postpone making something else for you; the suit is enough!

If I don't take it over tonight, she wants you to bring the suit to the Illinoise Supply and Tool company where she works. The address is 950 W. Lake street, three blocks west of Halsted. I didn't tell her that I would bring it over as I think it serves her right to suffer a bit. You should have heard the things she said over the phone. She is mad at everybody, including you, but I cooled her off a little. Following is an account of her telephone fit, while a man was waiting to use the booth:

"I've just got to have the suit for tomorrow. Our company

is throwing its annual Christmas party for the employees and all the women have been talking for weeks about the new clothes they are going to wear. I just haven't a think to wear. I've been wearing my two other suits all the time to work and my coat is so shabby. I feel ashamed at wearing such a moth worn coat. I just had an argument with George. He refuses to go over and get the suit. He is pretending that he is sleepy. He won't even go out and look for a job. Now is the best time to do that and he shouldn't wait until next year. He never does anything. He still thinks it is so hard to empty the garbage and he won't take the laundry out. He won't go shopping. All he does is sit at home and fill his fat stomach, while I go out and work.

"This is the first time in my life that I've had to dress so pathetic. I haven't got any clothes at all. I don't have the money to buy anything. I feel like everyone is looking at me when I wear my terrible old coat. I get an inferiority complex. I've always had good clothes until I got married. Now I have to put all of my money into paying the household bills. George tell me to buy a new coat, for christ sakes, but how can how when I have to pay the bills which he shirks. He had just better keep quiet when I go up there because I am ready to explode because I am so mad. Tell Bette to be sure to bring my suit over, will you. It's going to be a big affair and I don't want to be the poorest dressed one there. I haven't got a thing to wear. None of my things are ironed either.

"On top of that Eileen is getting on edge. I've found out that she just can't take criticism so I have to be very careful of what I say to her. I told her once that I didn't like vinegar in my food as I would have to get used to it gradually, and she thought I insulted her cooking so much. She had a very hurt look

on her face all evening. She just pouts. She's used to being the boss, I guess. I have to be careful all the time not to hurt her feelings and think what I have done wrong when she goes around with such a long face. She is just happy when her stooges like Buddy comes over to see her. I don't think she is too happy staying here. I can't help being the way I am. I like Eileen a lot, but sometimes I blow off. I think she was hurt because she heard me saying something about her sewing. I didn't mean to cast any reflections on her; I just wanted to let her know how hard it was to finish Bett's suit.

"Well, the man wants to get into phone so I had better hang up. Good bye."

So I guess you are in the doghouse for a while, Bette, but she will forget all about it by tomorrow.

Chas.

I changed my mind at the last minute about going over to Mariko's with her suit. When Bette came home, she got quite worried about it. She said that Mariko would probably hit her and she would have to hit her back. Bette said that she had a lot of wrapping to do yet so she persuaded me to go out into the cold night with Mariko's suit.

Mariko and George had gone to bed by the time I got there. It was after one. Eileen was ironing Georges shirts since Mariko had not had time to do anything about the house. Mariko was quite relieved to get her suit. She stormed around most of the evening and she had everybody scared of her temper. It would have served her right to go without the suit so that she would get a taste of how it felt to wait around. Eileen said that she knew something was up just as soon as she came home because there was an electric atmosphere.

Eileen is getting worried about her own status in that apartment because she wants to prevent words with Mariko at all costs. As a result she gets stepped and imposed all over. Mariko has no method to keeping house so that Eileen goes ahead and does things so that the house will not get too messy. She said that she realized that Mariko meant well, but it was quite hard at times. "The thing which gets me is that Mariko hates to see me sleep late on sundays. She would let me get up and cook, but I figure that I do enough during the week. She has been very nervous during the past few days. She just finished Tom's pajamas and I put on the last touches for her because she didn't have time. I think that I am doing enough for her so that she should have no reason for complaint. I have wrapped many of her presents, I make her lunch, I do the shopping, I put stamps on her Xmas cards, I

make her bed, I wash dishes, and I do many other things. I'm not complaining at all; but I don't like it when I get criticised for nothing. I was trying out a dress the other night and Mariko says, 'Oh, I don't like that. It looks awful.' She could have been a little more tactful about it. I make allowances for her because I know that she means well. I never tell anybody about her except you." It took Eileen until 3:30 in the morning to finish all of Mariko's ironing. Otherwise George would not have had a clean shirt for Christmas.

This morning, George cleaned the oil stove so that the house over there was like an icebox. I gave him a haircut afterwards and it was a pretty good job if I say so myself. Maybe I missed my true avocation. George mentioned that he has been working on Mariko lately because he wants her to get over the idea that she is a social queen. He feels that it is too much on her to go dashing all over to take in cultural things, throw big parties, etc. He wants her to settle down more. George seems to be a very patient guy. He said that after he got his job, he could be firmer with Mariko. "She's just like a little child yet and she pouts around and blows her top when things do not please her. She has to grow up more." George is now thinking of looking for a job doing personnel relations work and he plans to go out to International Harvester Company to see if it has any openings in this line since that company hires many Nisei and Negro workers.

Eileen looked quite worn out today as she has been driving herself too hard. After the holidays, she plans to get some sort of an afternoon job so that she can start saving a little money. She said that she loaned \$200 to some person last year and not a cent of it has been paid back yet. Ken

Morioka still owes her \$35 which he gyped her out of last summer. He never intends to repay that because he feels that the Nisei orchestra is jointly responsible for the debt and it has ^{been} disbanded for some months.

Eileen said that she was inwardly mad at Mariko the other day because of the egg incident. She went in and sat on her bed and cooled off without saying anything. Mariko did not like the idea of Mr. Thomas coming for an "egg breakfast" the morning I was there. She felt that he was just mooching. Eileen was burnt up because she thought that she ~~xxx~~ had just as much to invite her friends over since she pays her share of the food bill. I think that Eileen is too good natured about the whole thing and she should raise a big fuss once and assert herself. Mariko has gotten ~~xxxx~~ over there bullied and practically cowed because they pay deference to her sharp and uncontrollable tongue.

Eileen also mentioned that she was going to give Alice an old baby bed, but Alice went ahead and bought a new one. Mark has not gone overseas yet; he is sick in a hospital in Seattle. He hasn't received any of Alice's letters for five weeks.

There seems to be some conflict in our Christmas dinner plans. Bette and Emiko are planning to spend the day here and Yo and Davy have been invited. Mariko expected us to go over there. She said that it was going to be a family affair, but she has already invited other people. We don't feel like going over there in a crowd. Bette and Emiko don't care to go over there anymore. I suggested that Mariko, George, and Eileen be invited here for Christmas dinner and we could go over there the day before. I don't think Mariko is going to like it very well when she learns that Bette and Emiko are making plans of their own. It's up to her to phone and get things straight.

George has built some nice bookends to give Bette for a Christmas present. Mariko will no doubt take the credit for designing them. I hope she has the sense to shut up. She could get a lot more things built over there if she did not nag and belittle her spouse so much. She makes so many problems for herself when it is not necessary at all. I guess it must be too much of that Hollywood influence. It's okay for her to be an individualist, but not to the point of stepping over other people. She will learn one of these days.

Bette was busy most of the day cleaning the house as she is having dinner company tomorrow evening. She wants me to be around so that I can meet her college friends. She finished wrapping all of the presents to be sent out, and her shopping is practically finished. She has not had time to do any advance reading for school yet.

Jack got up early to go to the WRA to find out if there were any new developments in returning to California. He was an hour late for work. He asked me to write a letter to his father in law requesting that he be the sponsor for his return. (attached.) Guess I will go to bed now, or maybe I will read for a while. I phoned Fukiko and she said she forgot completely about the interview last night. She will come next Tuesday and she wants to take me to dinner afterwards. I guess I will have to forgive her. The radio is playing joy to the world now so I have to be in a nice peaceful mood.

It won't be such a pleasant Christmas for the soldiers overseas. They have five more fighting days before Christmas. The Leyte attack is going slowly; the Germans have started a large counteroffense in Belgium and the fighting has been quite heavy. Sure wish the war would end.

6591
4743 Drexel Blvd.
Chicago, Illinois
December 20, 1944

Mr. H. Yngojo
1552 Webster St.
San Francisco, California.

Bear Father-in-Law,

This is a rather urgent letter, and hastily written, so that I hope you won't mind the formality. You see, the Army just this week has announced the lifting of the exclusion order for the Pacific Coast. Under this regulation, I will be allowed to return to California to resume my career there. However, it is necessary for me to have a sponsor and an approved plan of resettlement before the War Relocation Authority will grant me transportation costs and the permit. It is a routine matter and I do not expect any difficulty so that I am looking forward to seeing you once more. I must say that I am a little nervous about this, but I am sure that we will be able to get on real well as I am determined to make the best impression possible upon you.

There is something definite that I would like to ask you to do in order to facilitate my immediate return. (I hope to start out from here January 2, 1945.) In obtaining clearance for my approved plan of return, I have put in your name as my sponsor. The reason this is required is that the WRA does not want any returning person to be left stranded out there.

The WRA office in San Francisco will be communicating with you within a few days to verify your sponsorship of me. This means that certain housing provisions and job possibilities will be guaranteed. I hope that you will not consider it too bold of me to ask if you could put me up for a few weeks until I get settled out there. As for the job provisions, I would appreciate it very much if you could say that you have offered me a position in your business enterprises. Of course, I do not really intend to impose upon you to this degree, but this is merely for approval purposes. My real plan at present is to get a job in a shipyard or some other type of defense work as I have enough experience to do it. At the same time I will make vigorous efforts to get enrolled in the U. of California Medical School. I have already initiated this process and I am confident that I will be admitted in the near future. It looks like things are really beginning to break in a favorable way for me at last.

I am particularly anxious to return to San Francisco as soon as possible so that I will have some time together with your daughter and my wife. My draft status is still uncertain, but it may come sooner than I expect. For this reason, I am taking every opportunity to hasten my return. I cannot begin to tell you how much I will appreciate it if you will consent to be ~~my~~ my sponsor when the WRA office contacts you. As long as I have housing and job provisions, there will not be any difficulty in getting my plan to return approved. You may rest assured that I have no intention of imposing on you in any way


as you have been most kind in any suggestions you have made.

I hope you don't mind the hasty nature of this letter, but it is a rather urgent matter for me. Naturally I am quite excited about the whole thing because it has been a rather unexpected development. I am looking forward to returning to San Francisco, a city which is so familiar to me and it holds the best of fond memories for me. I suppose the city will be quite changed during my absence of several years, but I am sure that I will quickly get readjusted to life there. I hope to be able to enjoy a few months there among familiar surroundings, family and friends before I answer the call of duty to the Army. I am quite hopeful that I will finally be able to get started on my medical training there and I shall work upon that the very first thing after I get to S.F.

Best of New Year's greetings for yourself and your family. I hope to be seeing you shortly after the start of 1945. And thank you ~~xxx~~ kindly if you could consent to be my sponsor for housing and job possibilities as this will facilitate my return immensely. I am looking forward to a long talk with you about my future plans when I get out there as you no doubt will have many useful suggestions to offer me.

Very truly yours,
Your Son-in-Law

John Kikuchi.



Sort of a slow day today. Dorothy sent a letter asking me to make immediate arrangements for the Berkeley trip. ^{I had a conference of the study group} The end of January is not very far away even though it is next year. I will have to go downtown and make my reservations. I don't know exactly how long I will be there, but the next quarter at the University does not start until March 23, 1944 so that I will have plenty of time. I will try to find out if there is any way that I can make the return trip via Gila so I will have the chance to visit with the family for a few days. I would like to make some sort of plans for Tom's resettlement and I should know where I stand on the Study again. Dorothy mentioned that there was some chance that I would receive another appointment until the end of 1945, but this will depend upon the finances.

◀ I suppose I should dismiss this worry. ▶

By next spring, I will probably start to worry about my draft status. I had almost made up my mind to go in this time anyway, but now it is the problem of getting Tom out here. There is also the question of getting enough finances for Bette's next academic year at the University. Life is so full of uncertainties, but it would be so dull if it were not this way. Looking back over the past year, I am rather pleased with the results as I feel that definite and constructive progress have been made in most respects. I think I have achieved a little in my work although it gives me a great deal of concern that I am not entirely fulfilling my functions because I am still uncertain about the direction I am going in. ◀ I'll find out about that in Berkeley. ▶ Emiko is well started in nursing school; Bette likewise; the family in camp seem to be in fair health; Jack and Mariko got married this year; Alice pregnant; I finished a few units in my course and I only have 5 units to go. All of these

things are personal, but it indicates that life does not stand still. I'm glad that I don't have any feeling that I am in a rut like so many of the Nisei who continue to wander aimlessly with no direction or goal in sight.

I am getting rather excited about the California trip since it has been almost three years since I left. That's quite a long time. It will be good to see San Francisco again, but I don't think that I would want to live out there right now. I have more roots out there and I see more of a future for myself in this direction, although I don't know exactly what it is. Jack is just the opposite as all of his hopes and ambitions are in California right now. He mentioned this morning that the WRA here is not too definite about the procedures for returning, but he is hopeful that he will be able to receive his transportation money. He is making renewed efforts to get admitted into the U.C. Medical school. Jack said that the University of California has always had a quota for Oriental students in the medical school and he felt that he would have more chance to get in if he were one of the first to apply.

I won't have to worry too much about Bette because she will be deep in her school work. She has already made plans to invite some of her girl friends to stay over with her during the time I am gone. <I am certainly glad that Bette is making such good adjustments in this direction because it is much more healthy than wandering around in a lost Nisei society. There is no use in her getting mixed up in that yet, if it can be avoided.>

I hope that the Student Relocation Council or some other group will be able to help her financially again next year because I would have a difficult time raising \$500 for tuition by myself. So far, things have been breaking favorably and I hope that it continues.

Frank and I talked a little about my work hereafter and he gave me suggestions on how I could start the classification work. It will amount mostly to case reading and figuring out a few major headings as I do not have it clear in my mind yet just exactly/^{what}the objective is going to be. I don't relish it too much right now. We got into a general talk on future job prospects. Frank thought it would be wisest for me to finish up my MA work within the next year and then try to get into some sort of research or social work. I told him that my future plans were very indefinite. I asked Frank if he would consider going to California in the event that the Study required his presense there and he thought that he would not mind too much. He felt that Michie would not care too much either because the contract for the language teachers would not last too much longer. Frank said that he had to wrestle with his conscience about the draft deferment too, but he thought that it was a justifiable deferment because the Study could be classed as contributing to the war effort.

Frank hopes to get into a teaching position in Sociology eventually and he is not too worried about it because he thinks that an opening may develop. He would like to go to a large university, but he is not particular. He said that he would even go/^{to}the University of Hawaii if such an opening came up. I suppose that Frank is pretty well set. He said that he and Michie were enjoying a very good income right now and it did not particularly bother him that Michie earned more because they did everything jointly. Frank really knows his stuff and I think he is overstressing things when he says that some of his methods are in conflict with the Study. He will probably pull most of the resettlement stuff together out here.

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Today is officialy the first day of winter and it was plenty cold--five degrees! We spent a very enjoyable dinner at home. Bette had two of her friends, Olga and Phil, over for dinner. They are both 18. I was rather impressed with their maturity. We talked af all sorts of things and I was struck by the fact that discussions on this level does not exist often among Nisei groups. Olga is of Polish extraction and Phil is White Russian. He said that his father had come to this country after escaping during the Rvolution. His father is very anti-Communist, but Phil thinks that the peopless government in Europe will take over in spite of England's attempts to reestablish the status qup. He hopes to be able to take a trip to Europe after the war. Phil will try to get into some language training when he is drafted next year. He is studying in the field of International Relations as he would like to enter the diplomatic service as a career. Olga is less certain about what she wants to do. I think that it is true that the U. of Chicago must have some precocious students because all of Bette's friends I have met so far have seemed to be so mature and intelligent. It is largely home environment which gives these kids a sense of social ease.

Bette cooked a very good dinner and she was so pleased that it turned out well. She said that she liked to cook when it was for her friends. She got a little rattled right at the beginning and burned the coffee pot! Bette is going to the country with Olga and Phil over the holidays. Nothings seems to be definite yet. It seems that Phil does not want to go too steady with one girl because he has a career to think about. Olga is a very attractive girl and she has quite a crush on him. Her mother has the winter resort on one of the lakes in the northern part of the state. Phil is not quite sure that he can make it because his

fraternity is planning big doings. Olga plans to go up with Bette anyway. The whole thing is getting Bette a little worried because Phil is getting interested in her and he wants her to go Christmas caroling with him and the fraternity brothers and he asked Bette right in front of Olga. Bette feels that she is on the spot because they are both very good friends and she doesn't want to be any cause for a breakup. What a life! Bette no longer is interested in Rod. Those kids on the campus seem to have so much fun. I'm glad that Bette has been able to make such good adjustments. In Mariko's group, she is just little sister, but among her college friends she is a university co-ed! >

Mariko phoned Bette and asked her if it would be okay if she came over for Christmas dinner and that she would not feed us the day before because she would be too tired. That makes about 10 people to feed on Christmas day and I think it might be a little too much work for Bette, and a lot of bother. When Bette realized this, she decided to go see Mariko tomorrow and find out if she could wrangle a dinner invitation for us for Sunday as she does not feel like cooking big meals two days in a row.

I went downtown today to find out about train reservation for California. It makes me feel guilty to go tourist because I am not worth that much to the study. I have to put in the reservation one month ahead so that I will probably go down and buy my ticket next week so that I can be in Berkeley by February first. I want to clean up a few cases before I go out there. I thought for a while that I would go at the same time as Jack but he is indefinite about when he is going because he wants to wait for the WRA transportation money. He is still the only one to make an application to go back from this area altho Togo did mention this afternoon that he knew of another couple who were going. Jack wants to spend a little time in camp with the family. I plan to go directly to the coast and then come back by way of Arizona if that can be arranged. The ticket agent said that this would be possible but I would have to make the reservations in Berkeley.

On the way downtown today, I had a very interesting conversation with a Negro Air Force officer. He said that he had just returned on a furlough from the front. He apparently had been drinking all night so that he was in a very gay mood. He kept telling everyone on the elevated that the world would be such a nice place to live in when all the lights went on again. Some fat stinking women muttered that the Negroes were getting too cocky, and most of the other people on the car who ~~did~~ heard her gave her a dirty look. The fellow said that he had met some Nisei on the western front and that they had a fine record. He was very indignant about the evacuation. I didn't want to discuss it at all but he persisted. He said that it was a dirty racial discrimination trick to remove the Japanese from the coast, but that he believed strongly in Democracy and he felt that the lights would go on for the Nisei as well. "Yo know, we all are fightin' to make it good for democracy in America as well as in Europe."

A caucasian sergeant who happened to be sitting in the next seat agreed heartily to this. He said that he lived in northern Washington and he knew a few Nisei before he went into the service. He thought that the Nisei here were getting a much fairer chance than in Canada. >

I dropped in to talk to Dr. Yatabe for a few minutes. I haven't seen him for some months. He is still the same old conservative and he has not thought out where he stands yet. I guess he is too well set in his thinking habits to change too much although he tries to infer that he is quite the liberal now. < I don't think he is getting enough of the Tajiri and Roger Baldwin influence so that he has not gone ahead in his thinking like some of the other JACL old liners.

Yatabe re: 'acl future "We haven't gotten the chapter too well organized here yet, although about 50 members come out to the meetings. You know that we allow caucasians to join, don't you. I don't know if that is such a good thing. We want their advise, but it may not be so good. Fellows like Smeltzer and some of the Civil liberties group want to get in. They are too smart for our members so that they may want to take over the leadership. I don't say that is bad, but we want the Nisei to develop too. There is still a lot of resistance against the JACL here because the Nisei don't really know what we are trying to do for them. Many of them are too selfish to work for the rest of the group and I think that our people must pull together.

"I was a little disappointed in the Salt Lake (JACL) conference. There were a lot of young Nisei there, but I had the feeling that they did not reach the caliber of the JACL leaders of 10 years ago. Some of us old timers have to sort of guide them along because we have had more experience. The army has taken

a lot of our leaders and we have to do a lot of rebuilding. None of us are in this thing for the glory or the money. We feel that we have definite policies to work out and we will do our best for all the Nisei even if they are not members."

From his comments I got the impression that Yatabe was worried that the old Guard JACL'ers were getting shoved out and he did not want that. He also felt that caucasian liberals would outshine the old timers and they would have a much better perspective of the whole problem. Yatabe talks about developing the young Nisei leaders, but he also feels that they are a threat to him so that he emphasizes that they are still too green to know the ropes like he does.

Yatabe also feels that the JACL is fighting for survival now. He does not want any caucasian on the left to come in and influence the Nisei because he feels that they might make the organization too political. He still throws the red herring. All of the top JACL'ers voted straight democratic this time. To really be consistent with its policies, they should have voted Socialist straight down the line. I don't think they realize yet just how much to the left they are going under the influence of Larry and Roger Baldwin the the Civil Liberties. Too many of the top JACL leaders still think of themselves as middle class and they are fundamentally conservative in their views. They have changed their hides in many cases for self protection. The JACL never has gotten over its flag waving tactics. You can't make good Americans of the Nisei that way although a certain amount of that sort of thing is necessary. Its whole history has been one of confusion and kissing assing of caucasian fascist groups. I have to give it credit for jumping to liberal groups for support; this had to be done out of necessity. *Thru 6607* Guys like Yatabe still think along their old con-

servative lines though. They view the Jacl as a self protective organization and they will continue to staddle issues. There is no doubt that it is very sensitive to criticism, too much so. I still think that it would not make much difference if the Jacl died a peaceful death as I don't see what function it can carry on that the WRA and other groups could not do. The Jacl still overestimates its influence. I think that its future growth will foster segregation rather than integration and for that reason I would not support the movement. I told Yatabe this in a round about way, but I think that he was too dumb to catch on. He still thinks that I am a loyal Jacl follower. Tom was definitely blacklisted out here because of the report which Tsukamoto sent in from Tule Lake saying that he was an agitator! Togo saw the letter in Salf Lake when he went through the Jacl files.

Togo feels that the Jacl will go on. "If it passed away, there would be a similar group springing up to take its place. The top leaders have really changed though." Togo has just completed a report on the history of the Jacl and it must have been a darn good job because he had access to the complete files when he was in Salf Lake.

Yatabe's change of attitude regarding segregation versus integration: "Our people must get together. The poles and every other group has done it and they are stronger for it. Our people have a lot to offer to American culture and if we attempted to completely integrate we would lose our racial characteristics. There is a lot of good things in it too. I have come to this conclusion after talking to many Nisei out here and in other cities. It is not natural for them to be spread out without contacts with our people. What would the Isssi do? For our own self protection we have to organize our people. There are some of us who are sacrificing for this end and we are not doing it for the Jacl alone."

With that statement, Yatabe completely repudiated a belief that integration was possible. He has been giving lip service to it all along and he still continues to do so when addressing caucasian groups. But he really does not believe it. Yatabe is very race conscious and I don't like the way he talks about "our people" Why in the hell does he have separate them from other Americans? Yatabe feels that it is safe for him to come out into the open now and advocate segregated programs because most of the Nisei believe that this is the only solution. I can remember about a year ago when Yatabe was yelling his head off about integration. The trouble is that he does not realize the implications of things so that he follows the appeal of the masses just to maintain his prestige. Ordinarily I would dismiss such a fathead as impossible, but he is in a position to do a lot of damage. What he advocates now is more than resigning himself to the "inevitable" process of segregation; he would actually give it impetus. It's one hell of a question though, but I still think that integration is not an impossibility. The third generation is not too far off and I would hate to see them start out with a handicap of complete segregation. This could still happen yet and some of those damn fool Nisei just can't see it. They mean well and I suppose they are sincere, but I just can't agree with their methods. I might be all wrong, but I still haven't been convinced.

Yatabe Re; Development of Japanese town on Clark Street: "I don't think that it is too good for the Japanese town to be located on Clark street. But they might raise the standards down there and chase all of the bums out of there. I don't think that there really is a growth of a Japanese town there though. But it's no good when the young fellows down there get too much out of hand. It would be useful to have some sort of an organization down there to

give advise. Then the Nisei will be able to give other Japanese their business and there won't be any trouble. Did you see what the Tribune had to say about the Nisei Fellow who assaulted an old lady yesterday. His name was Walter Yoshida, 24, and he went up to this 79 year old women and attacked her right in front of a church. Some passerbys saw him and they beat him up so that he is in the hospital now. It's little things like this which causes undesirable publicity. A strong Japanese community would be able to control such things. As it is, there are a lot of lazy Nisei fellows along state and chark street and they don't want to work or anything."

Yatabe Re; his future plans: "I don't know what I will be doing for myself now that California is opened. It will take me a couple of months to think it over. I had always thought that I would go back at the first opportunity, but now I am not so sure. I have a job to finish up for the JACL and I would like to stick with that for a while. It took us 20 years to build it up and I wouldn't want to see it go to pieces now. But I have to think of myself too. My salary is not enough to live on and I have been drawing on my savings for the past three years. I can't do that indefinitely. (Togo reports that Yatabe gets \$175 a month from JACL and he used to have an income of around \$500 a month in denistry.) I may stay out here if I can find something that I will be able to fit into. My wife and child like it out here and they are getting settled. I'm not so sure of regaining my California practice because I have been away for so long. And I can't practice out here because I can't get the license.

Yatabe re: Army lifting of exclusion order: "I can well imagine what excitement the lifting of the exclusion order will

have in the center. It hasn't caused much excitement out here. I have only received about 13 calls on it during this week and I don't know of anyone who is making definite plans to return. The WRA will have to give more financial assistance to get our people reestablished ~~back~~ there though. I am a little worried that the undesirable element may go back first. It would cause riots if four or more of those zoot suiters wandered around Sacramento. Certain areas are not any good to go back to because there are too many Filipinos. It's not like going into a new area like coming to the Midwest because all of that hostile feeling has to be overcome yet. The JACL will open up office in L.A., S.F., and Seattle as soon as possible in order to give as much assistance as possible. I don't imagine that too many will be going back though. There is a lot of publicity work to be done. We kept after the court decisions and a favorable ruling has come down at last.

Re: Nisei soldiers: "Our boys in Europe have done a lot to help us win back our rights. They know what they are fighting for. I can't say that the Caucasian soldiers know as well because Roosevelt seems to be rejecting the four freedoms. Our boys won't stand for that.

Re: WRA new policy: "I think that it is good that the WRA is taking definite steps to get the people out of the centers. They won't get all of them out, but the people will have to decide definitely what they are going to do. If such a step were not taken, the people would just sit back and postpone resettlement indefinitely. Sooner or later they have to make the decision and it might as well be now. I don't know what all those old people are going to do. It's quite a problem.

Yatabe Rumors:

"The Army is not going to allow any of the 4C Nisei to go back to California. I knew that they had something up their sleeves."

"The Army will still hold control over the evacuees because they will have the exclude list and they might put all of the Issei on it in order to slow down any mass movement back to California. Certain politicians in California has warned the Army that they can't be responsible if any riots break out."

"Everyone knows about how the Legionnaires in Hood River took the names of 16 Nisei soldiers off the roll of honor. They have also heard that Brawley is determined not to let any 'yellow bellied rats' back there, and these things will make the Nisei stop to think before dashing back. They can't get defense jobs back there anyway. In Chicago, only about 30 places of work are restricted out of 3000, while it would be almost the opposite in California unless some of the big companies out here put in good words for the Nisei to the branch offices."

I also talked to Togo about two hours this afternoon. He told me about writing up the JACL report and he will send us a copy as soon as he is able. Togo said that he did not think he would be going back to California even though he owned a home there. He said that he had some plans in mind about his future if he were not drafted next year. Togo did not know if he were going into newspaper work or not. He does not think that he will stay on with the Friends even though he may be asked to go to California. He thought that there might be some possibilities in government work, but he was not sure. He thought that he would like to stay in Chicago because he likes it better than any of

the 40 odd cities he has visited in the past few years. Like all of us, the future is a big question mark to Togo. When I stop to think that even fellows like him have worries about the future, I can understand ~~it~~ why so many of the Nisei doing unskilled work out here find thought about the future a very painful and doubtful problem so they seek other avenues of escape to occupy themselves.

Togo started to talk about the war. He said that he was not at all sure that this country was morally on the right side. He said also that he had certain feelings about England, knowing the past Imperialist policy of Britain, and he was a little pleased that England is now finding itself in an uncomfortable position. He said that a Nisei who was pro-Britain would be a great rarity. We tried to figure out why so many of the Nisei read the Tribune. We concluded that some of the factors were: It had good comics, sport coverage, and cartoons; it had an isolationist policy although we did not think many Nisei read the editorials; it offered the most pages for three cents; it had the best classified ad section; it was more favorably disposed towards the Nisei; it lambasted Roosevelt and England.

Togo felt that the reopening of California would have a great effect out here. "I have a feeling that there will be at least 6000 more resettlers coming into Chicago within the next year. The people in camp will have to decide and Chicago is the most logical place for them since there are already so many here. They would come for mutual protection and the job opportunities would be better. It will create a sort of slum community out of necessity. I don't know where all of them will find housing, but we thought the absolute saturation point was reached a year ago and they are still coming in large numbers. I don't think they live in very desirable places, but still they come."

Togo showed me some of the headlines in the LA paper about the lifting of the Army ban. It crowded the war news right off of the front page and all of the "anti" groups had a lot of threats to make about what would happen to any evacuee who came back. Togo does not believe that too many will return for the simple reason that they have not housing and they do not have the equipment to go into farming on a large scale yet. Walt Godfrey is a little more optimistic. He feels that many jobs will open up. He has been sounding out public opinion in California for some months. (His comments are attached)

Ate dinner alone. Emiko came home about 10:30. She is getting the weekend off from the hospital. She said that she had been ill most of the week with stomach flu. The other night she vomited four times. Emiko was quite pleased with her progress on floor work and she said that she was getting very good results with her patients. Since Mt. Sinai is a Jewish hospital, it does not celebrate Christmas. One of the Jewish students there gave all of the Non-Jewish students \$1 checks for a Christmas present because she "told us that she respected our beliefs." Emiko said that the girls in her house all chipped in and bought her a Christmas present. Emiko only spent \$40 for presents this year as she has had to be more careful. She said that her money had to last for the next three years since she did not have any other income. She gave a lot of her last year's presents away this year. Most of her money was spent in buying things for the family. She made most of her own Christmas cards. She was in a very good mood when she came home, but we got her into a bad mood for a while because of all the difficulties in getting Christmas plans arranged with Mariko. >

Bette must have had some argument with Mariko. When she came home she said that she was so mad that she almost walked out on her. ~~<George was trying to patch things up.>~~ Mariko did not want to invite us over Sunday in return for our having them over here on Christmas. She said that it would be too much work for her. She was a little irritated because her own plans had been disrupted. Bette said that Mariko got quite sore and she told George that the reason why I did not want to go over there was because I didn't want to meet his parents. I never said anything of the sort and I think that it was a dirty trick to say anything like that when I was not there to defend myself. Mariko was trying to get George on her side by telling him that Emiko made some comments about his mother. We just don't bother with his folks but we don't have any particular feeling against them. Emiko said that she feels embarrassed in her psychology class because so many of the neurotics that she studies about sound just like Mariko. ~~<We were all pretty griped about Mariko's solution that we go over there Christmas and share half of the cost of the meal and that we would have our own affair on Sunday without including them. Bette said that Mariko was sore because she thought we were trying to leave her out of things.>~~ "What a rotten and busy Christmas," Bette mutters, "It's no more fun getting together with the family because all it seems to end up in is arguments. I'm glad I'm not going to be here New Years." The way things are now we will have six in all for dinner Sunday and then Emiko and Bette will go over to help Mariko cook Monday and we pay half the expense. ~~<6617>~~ Mariko got sore at Bette because she said that we wanted to be guests since we never ask Mariko to work or share expense when they come over here to dinner. Emiko is going to phone Mariko tomorrow and tell her that the plan is now okay with us. What a time we had in deciding that.

Bette said that she got so mad at Mariko that she cried. Mariko must be in quite an upset state of mind because she has been under such pressure to finish her Christmas presents which she is sewing. It was partly Bette's fault for not taking action sooner. Bette has a habit of letting things go too and it only causes confusion when it involves plan making with Mariko. Apparently Mariko must have given her some idea that Eileen was the cause of trouble over there because she told me about things which happened. Mariko was just guessing wildly to find out how much I had told Bette. She still doesn't know that we know all about the cutting up of George's shorts incident! It's too bad we have to keep it such a secret. Emiko said that she told all the girls at the hospital but she didn't say that it was her sister.

It is hard to understand why the family is sort of drifting apart out here. I think it is because Emiko and Bette are growing up and they like to make some plans for themselves so that they resent it when Mariko tries to do it all for them. That is why they went ahead with their own plans for Christmas. Mariko is married and she shouldn't be trying to pull us with her by getting us involved in any other in-law sentiments. She tells George we have certain definite attitudes towards his mother and that is not true at all. We just go our way and they go theirs and it doesn't concern us that much. Mariko just has to learn that she is a wife now and that she has to go along with George more instead of resisting every step. She is just making things hard for herself. I never can understand why she invites so many people over to her place if it makes her so tired. I would think that it is not worth the effort to entertain them all the time. I hope we have a nice quiet Christmas, but we will have to cater to Mariko in order to prevent any explosions.

The following is a letter from Walt Godfrey:

Pasadena, California
December 17, 1944

Dear Friends:

Since August I've visited several communities up and down the state, some of them for the first time, others, for the second and third times. First, I'll try to illustrate with specific interview comments. These observations are drawn from talks with people who were neighbors of evacuees, farmers, business men, laborers, professional people, newspaper editors, students, educators, agitators, churchmen, and chance acquaintances through hitch-hiking experiences.

Generally speaking, we seem to have two distinct minorities actively at work, with the great majority of people falling in between them. The more minority group is definitely antagonistic to the return of the evacuees to California. It is well organized and quite vocal, but not nearly so well organized nor noisy as it was a year ago. Its leaders come from the obvious groups: associated farmers and ~~six~~ distributors, Native Sons and Daughters of the Golden West, American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Grange. It is stimulated by the Hearst press, and, in the northern part of the state, by the McClatchy press.

The other minority group is very cordial, friendly to the idea of returning evacuees. It is much better organized than a year ago, and much, much more vocal. Its leadership comes from religious and educational circles, and from among those who had close personal friends among the Japanese Americans.

Most of the people in California fit in between these two extremes. They are much too busy earning a living, working overtime, volunteering time to various war activities, to have given much thought to this matter. They are potentially members of either extreme. When they are forced to face the issue in their community, as did Pasadena when a Nisei student returned with the permission of the Army in September, they will fall to one side or to the other. Here they seem to have accepted the return. Whether this will happen in other communities is dependent ~~x~~ largely upon the amount of educational ground-work which is done ahead of time, and upon the attitude of the press in the community at the time.

The size of these groups ~~x~~ varies, of course, from community to community. In some communities one of the two minority groups already pretty well controls the situation.

I visited one community recently where sentiment seemed to be quite good. I wouldn't hesitate to recommend that an evacuee family return there immediately, and we have actually started proceedings that that might occur. A laboring man there spoke something like this:

"This is the way I feel about it. I knew a lot of Japanese here. They worked in the plant and were in

the local union. All the Japs I ever knew were all right. They were good Americans and not like those Japs over there in Japan. The Japs were good neighbors, good workers, and right guys, and you could always count on their word. I never did know a Jap that wouldn't keep his word. You could always trust 'em. Of course, if they come back you'll have to watch out for the Filipinos, but generally speaking I wouldn't worry much. The men in the plant here say they don't want the Japs back, but when the government gets ready to send them back they'll feed a lot of propaganda about it in here and the people will take 'em all right. The American people will do any~~xxxx~~ god-damned thing you tell them to. They are just made that way. All you have to do is tell them, and then keep telling them. One thing about it, though, when they let these Japs come back they shouldn't be allowed to all live together in one section like they did before. They ought to be spread out and mixed up. That was one reason for all the trouble before."

A prominent business man in the same community, as well as the local newspaper editor, indicated that they also would expect no particular trouble when the Japanese return, "as long as they come gradually, and not all at once."

In a community near the one mentioned above, the sentiment is very bad. I would not recommend that evacuees return there now. The place has been so thoroughly indoctrinated by the "anti" forces that even many of those who are inclined to be friendly have accepted the propaganda of opposition. One of the persons with whom I talked there was a well-educated man who represented commercial interests. He started by asking me how long I'd been in California -- they all get me on that one! -- and then proudly stated that he'd been born and raised here and lived among the Japs all his life, that he knew the Japs, and that it was obvious I didn't know a damn thing about them. He went on like this:

"Any man who ever had any business dealing with them knows that you simply can't trust a Jap. As a race, the Japs are absolutely untrustworthy and trucky and sneaky. Their word isn't worth a damn thing. They'll tell you one thing and go right out and do another. Oh, like with all races, there are a few good ones -- you always find a few good people in any race. The _____'s were high class people; they had a nice home right out near us, but they were the exception. If anyone ever tells you the Japs are o.k. they're either Jap lovers or they're making money out of them... And remember, fellow, we're still at war with those little yellow devils."

He went on and on and on. Refused absolutely to distinguish between the Japanese in Japan and Japanese Americans over here. The Nisei in the Army meant nothing to him. "They'd be on the other side if they could. Hell, anybody'll fight if you put him up there in the front lines and stick a gun in his hand."

An elderly lawyer in the same town, a man who looks after the property of some evacuees "would advise the Japs to stay out for their own good. They have their legal rights all right, but we don't want them here. You know, we're the real Californians up here in the north and we treat people square. When we tell them to stay out we mean it. Now maybe it's different with these people down in Southern California because they aren't Californians at all. They have their Iowa Clubs and Missouri Clubs and what not down there, but we're the old stock, the pioneers, up here, and we don't want the Japs back."

In another community the "anti" forces are also strong, but there is considerable good feeling evident which needs to be made more articulate. One man there had been pointed out to me for miles around as a "Jap lover", and it's all because he's making money out of the Japs". Talking with him revealed there were other reasons for his point of view:

"There's going to be a tremendous increase in the wave of hysterical reaction against minority races in the post-war period, just as after the last war. I see it already down in Los Angeles where you hear them talking. If it rains they blame it on the Jews, and if it doesn't rain they blame it on the Jews. Feeling against the negroes is increasing. You can see that all over. And what does all that mean to me? Brother, I'm looking out for my own skin. What the hell! I'm not a very good one, but I'm a Catholic. Do you think I want to see the Ku Klux Klan rise again? You bet your damned life I don't!"

It is interesting, of course, to see the way in which constant agitation is maintained by those who are anxious that the evacuees not return. In Salinas, for instance, in the heart of the lettuce country, the commercial interests are very active. The story circulating when I was last there, just a few weeks ago, was that the bottom had dropped out of the lettuce market because the Jap & farmers in Idaho had just shipped 85 carloads of lettuce to the eastern markets. When I was in Sacramento the following week, however, I discovered that the Department of Agriculture reports indicate that some 6000 acres more of lettuce was planted in the Salinas area this autumn than last. And that there has been no time in the past ten years when the autumn acreage has been so large. I've written to several of my "friends" in Salinas asking them whether or not it is fair to infer that this increased acreage has something to do with the surplus on the market now.

Perhaps it should be pointed out here that there is a little more to this wandering about the state than simply talking with these folks -- though to be sure, that really is a large part of it. Further, however, we try to be constantly on the alert to stimulate interested persons to discover openings in jobs and housing for those who will be returning; to encourage student groups at the various colleges to assist in helping nisei students return to their campuses; to visit those who have been left back here in hospitals, etc.

We feel that the trend is growing in the right direction. Dillon Myer, director of the WRA, stated early in October that more than 800 permits to return had been granted by military authorities. Many more undoubtedly have been granted since. Esther Takei has been most warmly received here in Pasadena, despite initial agitation from the opposition. At Stanford there are nine nisei teaching Japanese to the Army and Navy. Seven more are expected soon. They seem to be getting along well. We know of no unfortunate or really disagreeable experiences having occurred in relation to any of those who have come back.

Everyone likes to guess when the military authorities will lift the evacuee ban. Some thought it would come in November. Others are sure it will be in December, or after the first of the year, or in the early spring. I refuse to go out on the limb.

Some of you will certainly be interested in my visit to the Arizona relocation centers last month. I'll try to be brief.

Morale in the camps was good, but there are so many factors involved in determining morale that it is difficult to analyze. It seems evident that the changing seasons is one factor. The Arizona centers are approaching the most pleasant season of the year after a dreadfully hot summer. Morale has not been so good at Topaz recently where winter has arrived.

The parents of many of the nisei whom I know have left the centers. Some are making plans to do so. Others are waiting to come back to the coast, and many find it difficult to move because of any number of circumstances which stand in the way. It was a grand experience to meet the parents of many of my friends.

We will do well to pause and pay tribute to the issei, the parents. They are brave and courageous people. All their lives they have given their utmost that their children might have advantages in education. Often they have sacrificed personal pretige, status in the family, that their youngsters might be "Americanized". Many of them are still "giving". It isn't easy for them to send their children out; it isn't easy to stay behind. It is hard to try to figure out just exactly what one should do. The issei are struggling.

Some surveys have been made relative to the plans of those who are still in camp. The findings are tentative, but they seem to indicate that perhaps 20% of those still in camp will make an effort to return to the coast within a year after the "opening" date is announced. More conservative estimates are as low as 15%. Possibly 5 - 10% would be stimulated to go east by an announcement that the coast is open. This is because of the psychological factor involved in knowing that they could return to California -- if they wished to do so. The remainder want to wait and see how the pioneering group fares.

The question as to the closing of the relocation centers is a source of constant speculation within them. It is a very direct threat to the security of many who don't see which way to turn.

Charles Kikuchi

Diary

Dec. 22, 1944

6614

Gossip-mongers without much to do help stimulate rumors. Many of them are absurd; others are reasonable. All have the effect of creating fear and instability in the camp population. To many this is a most serious concern....

(CA-50)
Slept rather late this morning. Davey came in and woke me up. He had a lot of vegetables, pineapples and other things which he wanted me to come over and get. He brought them over for our dinner tomorrow. Davey was very appreciative of the gifts we gave him because he felt so homesick and lonesome. He didn't have any other place to go for the Xmas day other than the bar. He said that he really appreciated it when he got invited to dinner for Sunday and Monday. Davey burned his arm on the hot iron while he was phoning. He mentioned a little about his work. He said that it was very cold and unpleasant. He had to go out there at 2:00 a.m. in the morning and he said he almost froze. We decided to get him a pair of long underwear. Davey said that he had been getting along quite well in his job and he got along with the boss without any sort of argument. "I did have one fight with a guy out there but he backed down. When I first went out there they tried to make me do all the heavy work but now I just work along with the rest of the guys. They don't say anything if I get late. I don't know how much longer I can stand the job because it's getting pretty cold. I'll try to hold out as long as I can. I'm moving from this place next week. I owe about a month and a half rent to Mrs. Reynolds but I'm not going to pay it because she has charged me too much. I'm just going to pack my things and walk out. I don't care what she thinks. She is never able to check me around because I am working at night. I don't know when I'll be heading back to camp but it may be in a couple of months. If I get a notice for the draft, then I will head back. I was going back after my trial indefinite leave was up, but I'm not so sure now. The camps may close up and I don't think that my folks are planning to go back to California. My father wrote and said that they are investigating all of the camp people."

December 10, 1944

Dearest son ^{Davey}~~Mommy~~

Very glad to hear from you. Sorry I did not write you for a long time. Mr. and Mrs. Yamasaki of S.F. were visiting us for a week. They were sleeping in Nagata's room and eating with us. Mom was kept busy to prepare food for them and I was also kept busy to entertain them every night. You know that they love to play Mah Jong and even if I do not play games I could not write letters when they are playing games in our room. They have relocated to Denver in June and bought a suit cleaning house there. The business was very busy and the customers were mostly young men. But so many young men were drafted to the army and the business was getting slowed down so they sold the shop to another Japanese and he started commission agency. Their sons and daughter is working there. Mr. Morozumi wrote me and said that his wife went out to Chicago to help his son to go through the college there but this son was inducted to the army. She was very much disappointed and wished to come back to Topaz but she stayed in Chicago too long and the WRA in Topaz will not reinduct her so she is staying in Chicago with another son. One more son is in New York so Mr. Morozumi is living in Topaz all alone. I feel very sorry for them. I will not be able to live in this camp without mom when our two sons are out. I am an old man and some one has to look after me. I do not like the idea of a family living separately like that.

You say that if you cannot get the extension to your temporary or trial leave to Chicago you will have to return to the center tomorrow. You can get the extension up to 6 months. If you wrote me sooner I could get it for you. How many months of trial leave did you get? They usually give 4 months and extend it to 6 months on your request. You should have let me know beforehand. You know that I could do anything for you.

Mom sent a small check from WRA for your clothing allowance. Did you get it? Many boys in this center did not receive the re-classification card yet. Do not worry about it. You can volunteer to the language school after you received the notice. Do not do anything without our knowledge.

We had 2nd snow of this fall and it is getting pretty cold here. Many Xmas cards are coming to us from the outside. Mom forgot to order some cards this year anyway the Xmas and New Year in this camp is just another day of the year.

It is rumored widely here that this camp will be closed up next spring. Many people will be allowed to go back to Calif. and those who want to stay will be shipped to Arizona camps. If it turns out to be true, we do not know what to do. We do not wish to go back to Calif. as pioneers for we may not be able to make our living there. Immigration officers are here to question Japanese in this camp now. Those who were here in American before 1924 are to be investigated. I am supposed to go there tomorrow at 2 p.m. No other news, so will close with love.

Dad and mom

We stayed home this evening. Jack started to build a fireplace in order to create some Xmas atmosphere. He was acting very cynical about it and said he was doing it for Miysko, but I noticed that he really enjoyed fooling around. I got out the lamp and helped him so that the fireplace would look realistic. Bette stuffed some stockings to hang them up and she put all of the presents around it. Most of the presents were for Emiko and Bette. We were fussing around until after 2:00 a.m. this morning. Emiko went out on a date and she is staying over with one of her girl friends. She has invited Yo to come over for dinner tomorrow and Xmas since the girl does not have any place to go. Yo is 18 years old and we call her Emiko's stooge because she is just like a maid to her. Some of the girls at the hospital have become very curious about Jack and me and they are always sending crazy messages back with Emiko. We fix them up by writing some silly love letters to them and these will be posted up on the bulletin board. Davey has been carrying on a romance with one of the Jewish girls at the hospital over the telephone. He is willing to make an exception to his prejudices if the girls turns out to be good looking! >

Alice wrote and mentioned that she would probably be having her baby on January 10. I'll be uncle pretty soon! Alice seems to be having a hard time financially from her letters, but Toshi has told me previously that Alice and Mark have plenty of money in the bank so I don't believe everything she writes. She wants us to send her the card table so she can bathe the baby on it, but we think that it is too weak and she shouldn't take the risk. I'll still send it up to her if she really wants it but I'll suggest that they buy a bassinet and charge it up to me. I wish she shouldn't talk about her finances because she really isn't as bad off as she tries to sound. She is too penny conscious. Her letter attached.

Thru 6631

Dec. 21, 1944

Dear Bette & Emiko:

Made your Xmas gifts in all good faith - and then discovered that the material was old and more or less falling apart. You see, Mom bought the material quite awhile ago in Vallejo and had it packed away for a long time. She gave it to me in Gila so I used it for your gifts - and when I finished it and washed it, I discovered that it was worn thin in spots. So if it doesn't hold up too well after awhile you'll know why. That's why I send the other package - as a sort of apology - and later on I'll make you another gift of the same sort with better material. So let me know if they fill all right.

How is everything going along - all through with your shopping, wrapping, etc.? What a relief to be all through with mine - now I can make a few things for the baby - such as sheets for the bed, etc.

We've put up a cute little tree with home made decorations and electric lights and our gifts stacked under - and I feel a little funny - as May has only a few and I've been getting so many probably a lot of baby gifts in them. You should see the cute bed I bought for the new arrival. Wish you both could make a trip up here some time after the baby comes.

Eileen says she's going to Minot on New Year's so I'll be seeing her for an over-night visit - if you have any messages - tell her.

Have to go shop for our Xmas dinner, so I'd better close. Merry Xmas. I'm sure miss being with all of you - remembering last year when we sang Xmas carols on the street car and went to midnight mass. And no Mark around too to enjoy a first Xmas in our own home.

Write soon - and better be good or Santa won't come down as far as the basement of 4743.

Love,

Alice.

Dec. 21, 1944

Dear Chas & Jack:

Sent a little Xmas package to you two, as I wasn't sure Jack Satow would be able to get what I had intended for you - in time. He did get it, but couldn't get a pass to come to town - so your other gift will be delayed a little. It isn't very much - but finances being what they are, I know you'll understand. As it is, I had to buy a baby bed and mattress which runs up to \$30, and my \$80 allotment won't start until the baby is a few months old, as it takes time for the government to check up on such things.

Haven't heard from Mark directly but Tommy Kobuchi writes to May that he and Mark are some place in the South Pacific - having sailed from Seattle in a luxury liner - movies aboard and everything. So I guess he won't know about the baby for a little while after it's born. The doctor doesn't prophesize - but from all the symptoms it seems as though it will be Junior, after all. It's only about 19 days more now and everything is coming along fine. I have more energy than I've ever had - and will probably be vacuuming up to the last minute - and then walk over to the hospital when the time comes.

What plans have you all made for Xmas? We're having 6 or 8 for dinner - a turkey dinner with all the trimmings - and in spite of our having a little tree with lights - I still don't feel the spirit of Xmas as all of you seem so far away and with Mark gone - even with May here, it's still lonesome.

Perhaps my slight depression of mental state is due too to the sudden decision of closing up the relocation camps - what have you in mind as far as Mom and the kids go? Perhaps it would be a good idea for Mom to hurry up her operation so she'll be ready to relocate at any moment. Whatever you decide please count me in - I'm still part of the family you know and after the baby is a few months old I can go out and work again and maybe contribute financially at least. Or, if I can find a larger place maybe Mom and Miyako can come here - if you will take care of Tom. At any rate I guess I can't do much planning until after the holidays and the baby's birth - but we should start a little planning from now, shouldn't we?

How is everything in Chicago. I received both your presents in good shape and will thank you appropriately when the final day of waiting comes and I open it.

By the way - are you kids using the card table Dr. Harvis gave us at Tanforan? If not, do you suppose I could have it? I really could use it to bathe the baby on - you know, set the tub and equipment on it as our kitchen is too small, as is the bathroom - and our dining table would get all spotted with water if I should use that. Jack Satow is going to Chicago over the New Years so if you could it it up good for him to bring back O I really would appreciate it or else you can send it C.O.D., it shouldn't cost much. Merry Xmas to all and I'll be thinking of all of you that day.

Alice

We were up quite late last night so that we slept until about 1:00. Davey and Yo came about that time. Emiko didn't get home until about 5:00 o'clock so that Bette and I had to start dinner. Jack went to the dentist during the afternoon to get some more teeth filled. It seems that there was a grand mix-up in our plans for the week-end and everything has not gone according to plans. We had all intended to go over to Mariko's one day and invite them over tomorrow but Bette got some other plans when Phil asked her to go out Xmas caroling tonight. Then Jack decided he was going to get a date and go to the Nisei dance. Emiko then decided that she would go to the dance too. On top of that Mariko got all mixed up in her schedule and she decided she would ask us to dinner tomorrow if we would pay for half of the cost. This left me all mixed up on my date with Eileen because we had planned to go Xmas caroling together. Emiko was over there this afternoon and apparently she gave Eileen the idea that I was going to the Nisei dance. She wasn't sure about it so that she called up during dinner and asked if I would be willing to go. In the meantime Buddy had asked Eileen if she wanted to go to the dance. Eileen didn't know definitely what our plans were so that she didn't give him a definite answer. Therefore she had two dates on her hands for the evening.

I was rather burnt up about this because I thought that everything was scheduled. It seemed that everyone was trying to railroad me into attending a Nisei dance. I didn't know what to do because I didn't want to leave Eileen up in the air. At first I said I definitely could not go to a Nisei dance even at the risk of losing a friend because I had certain convictions about it. Then Jack and the rest thought that I should go because friends were more important than convictions. I was rather reluctant about it but I finally told Eileen that I would pick her up at 10 o'clock and take her to

the Nisei dance.

Eileen was still in a predicament because Buddy was up in the air about his own plans and he didn't know whether Eileen was going with him or not. Emiko saw that everything was fixed up so that she definitely decided to go to the Nisei dance with Tets. I didn't particularly to want her to get started in this pattern but I felt helpless about it. I rationalized by feeling that Emiko would not find too much enjoyment in a Nisei dance if all the reports I've heard about them are true.

About 8 o'clock Phil came over and he said that the group decided not to go Xmas caroling so that he wanted to take Bette out on a date. They went on downtown to a show. Part of my disturbance about the whole affair was that I felt that if I went to a Nisei dance then Emiko and Bette would feel that there would never be any more opposition to their attending these Nisei functions. I know that it is a difficult proposition but I have tried to point out to them that every time they take part in a Nisei activity they are directly contributing to the tendency toward segregation. It's hard for them to see this point clearly. I don't suppose that very many Nisei see this point as I do because of the great uncertainty and fears in their heart and mind. That is why there is a tendency to go along with the crowd. I realize that they may have a perfectly good time at these Nisei functions, but I sort of fear the implications of such events. I just can't conceive of a segregated Nisei society becoming well adjusted and apparently the present movement is backward in this direction. I think that Bette is affected by it a lot less than most of the family members. Emiko also has similar ideas but she has more of the pull of a Nisei society because of the group she is involved in at the present time. She felt that I would not raise any objection to her attending the Nisei dance because this

was a special occasion.

I was in a very difficult predicament, and possibly I caused it unnecessarily because of the mix-up I found myself in. I didn't want to say that Emiko couldn't go to a Nisei dance because I felt that this matter was up to her to decide for herself. One experience certainly wouldn't mean that the cause was entirely lost because there are so many positive elements in her adjustment processes and she is as well integrated as any of the small number of Nisei who have taken definite steps in this direction. But the process is slowed down a little when she gets in with a Nisei group and I don't know how to answer this sort of a dilemma. It may not be a normal thing to push out and away from old friends but I don't see how the integration program will achieve any sort of success unless the Nisei themselves are willing to make some sacrifices.

After everyone left for the dance I sat around and deliberated for a while on whether I was doing the best thing or not. It was a dilemma because I didn't want to lose Eileen's friendship on one hand, but on the other hand I felt uneasy about shelving certain principles and convictions which I have consistently upheld since coming to Chicago, and even since before the war. I have had to face this problem a number of times before but it hasn't been difficult up to now. I suppose that the difference is due to certain emotional feelings which I have towards Eileen and I tend to overlook a lot of things that I have upheld previously. I can understand better now the sort of mental conflict which I caused Emiko during the period when we were trying to get the whole business straightened out about her own Nisei contacts. People live to be happy and those who follow convictions and principles are respected and honored, but often their personal lives may become disorganized since they have to make certain sacrifices in order to be consistent with what they say. The whole

business really distrubed me quite a bit but I finally rationalized and decided to go through with the plan for attending the Nisei dance.

I went on down to pick Eileen up about 10 o'clock. When I got to the corner where we were supposed to meet, she cam walking up with Buddy because he had not been able to be informed that the plans had been changed again. This left Eileen with 2 of us. She said that she didn't think I would mind because she felt so sorry for Buddy and she didn't want him to spoil his whole evening by staying at home by himself. I was rather relieved at this even though I thought it was sort of a dirty trick on me. After we got on the street car I told Eileen that she and Buddy should go ahead to the Nisei dance because I didn't want to go in the first place. Eileen said she understood how I felt about such matters but she wanted to go and dance and that's why she had asked me. When I told her that I was not going to go now because it would solve certain other complications if I remained away, Eileen decided that she wasn't going to go either. This left Buddy in a very peculiar position and he was greatly embarrassed. Eileen refused to get off of the street car to make the transfer so I got off with her to continue the discussion right in front of the Sherman Hotel.

Eileen kept insisting that all 3 of us go to the Nisei dance. I told Buddy that it didn't make any difference to me and I really meant it. He felt pretty bad about the whole thing. Eileen was not completely to blame because of the mix-up in the general plans for the weck-end. She was so worried that I would get angry and not speak to her any more. I told her that there was nothing personal to it at all. I said that it only meant that I would have an easier time with Bette if I did not go to the dance since she would want to go once I did. Eileen didn't thin this would happen at all. Just

then Bette and Phil walked by. Bette said that Phil had never seen a group of Nisei together and he was a bit curious about the Nisei dance. Bette said that they wanted to drop in and look. She said that she knew I was going to be there so she thought it would be okay. I suggested to Phil that it wasn't worth \$3.50 admission because he could take Bette to one of the hotel dance floors. Phil said that he didn't mind so I got aside and talked to Bette. She said that this wasn't her fault at all and she had not intention of going to a Nisei dance. She said that she probably wouldn't go to another one. I didn't want to spoil her evening so I said that it was okay. I had been at fault in the first place for leaving myself wide open to this possibility by agreeing to go myself. I was quite mixed up about the whole thing because I realized at that moment how difficult it was to getting ensnared into a Nisei society once contacts among them were made. I decided then that I really wasn't making a compromise, but that it would be an actual defeat of my conviction so I went back and told Eileen that she and Buddy should go ahead and I would find something else to do.

Eileen looked so disturbed about this and she really was worried. She looked so quite as she was trying to convince me that I should go. She said it would be very embarrassing also if Jack, Emiko and Bette saw her coming in with Buddy. I told her that she could go to the other Nisei dance at the Ashland Auditorium since there were about 3 Nisei dances going on. Eileen asked if I was really sure that this would be okay. I told her that I was taking it very impersonally and I didn't have any hurt feelings or anything like that. This was generally true altho I can't say that I didn't feel hurt for a while. Finally Eileen asked me to kiss her right in front of Sherman hotel with all those crowds of people going by. I

was so embarrassed that I didn't know what to do. So I just kissed her and all those people were looking. I guess it must have made Buddy feel kind of funny too. Eileen was so worried that I was going to be angry with her that she used a feminine weapon and I succumbed. Then I left and went on up to visit Violet and Sunny. I was going to ask Sunny to go to the Nisei dance just to solve my hurt pride but she had gone to work. Violet was willing to go but I didn't think that it would be quite right since her husband has only been in the Army a short time and I know how Nisei will gossip. I thought that it would be childish to do such a thing anyway. So I asked Violet if she wanted to go to a mass. My idea in going up there was that I felt that if I was feeling blue and lonesome, I should go and find another person that was blue and lonesome and cheer her up. Violet was feeling so blue because she missed her husband very much. We started out to go to a mass but it got to be late so we started to go to a midnight show. However, Violet didn't want to stay too long because she thought the other Nisei in the house would say nasty things about her if they say her going in late. We went to her apartment and visited her until about 3 a.m.

When we got up there, Mary had just arrived from Detroit. She was planning to spend the week with Violet. Mary is a cute little girl and she was willing to go out even at that late hour but I didn't think that it was practical so we just sat around and talked. Mary has been doing a domestic job up in Detroit. She said that there were 9 children in her family but most of them were still in camp except a couple of her brothers who were now in the Army. Mary was a little distrubed because she had just heard a rumor that the camps would be closed up by next spring and she didn't know what she could do for her parents. I told her that I didn't think the WRA would close up the camps that soon. Mary went on to say that her

parents were too old to work and they couldn't possibly support the remaining children in camp. She didn't know what she could do if the schools in the centers were closed down. I told her not to worry too much about it because things always look worse than they actually were. I tried to cheer her up as much as I could. Mary said that she had to put all of her thoughts into her family because she just couldn't go off and leave them during a time like this.

Violet was also very blue. She said that Kiyoshi didn't like the Army life at all. She was sure that something awful was going to happen to him. She mentioned that Kiyoshi wanted her to follow him down to Florida later on but he wanted her to wait until he knew for sure that he was not going to get into the language school at Snelling. In that event, Violet will move up to Minneapolis. Violet said that she had very few Nisei friends in Chicago so that she was rather lonesome. She said she had been devoting her whole life to her husband up to this time and it didn't make any difference as long as she had him. Now she feels it. She said that Kiyoshi didn't care if she went out with me in dates because I was a good friend and he trusted her. Violet bought him a wristwatch for a Xmas present and she is practically broke now. She wanted to know if I would like to attend a Negro church with her some time and I agreed to go if I were not too busy. I told her that I probably would be rather busy during January since I had to make plans for going to Berkeley. It's all very innocent between us but I don't want any sort of complicated situation to develop.

I started home about 3:30 and it was snowing. It turned out to be a white Xmas after all. When I got on the street car a drunk soldier came up to me very belligerently and asked me if I were a Jap. I told him that I was a Chinese so he began to talk about all that he had done in the South Pacific. I kept emphasizing the point

that we were all Americans. The soldier then said that he was discharged as a psycho-neurotic because of the intense bombing he had undergone in the South Pacific. He said the people didn't understand him now because they saw him twitching and the only escape he had now was to get violently drunk. He said the Japs were to blame for this but he wasn't sure whether his time had not been wasted. I told him that I believed that it was a very important thing to fight for the general democratic principles. Then I told him that I was of Japanese ancestry but it didn't my affect my loyalty at all. "Well, I'll be damned," he said, "I thought you were a Chinaman all this time." I answered, "Well, I'm really an American but I told you that I was Chinese at first because I thought you'd start swining before I got a chance to explain my position." The soldier then said, "Well, to tell the truth, I was feeling very mad about everything and I had come up to you with the intention of socking you if you answered that you were a Jap. It's a good thing that you explained just how it was because now I can see your point. My grandfather was a German but that doewn't make me less of an American. The same goes for you," I then went on to tell him a little about the Nisei in the service and he was quite surprised.

Finally the soldier insisted that I go to a tavern with him and have a drink. He said that he had been a professional boxer for 10 years and he had fought Lee Savold and few of the topnotch heavyweights even though he had not gotten too far himself. He said he was all shot now and he didn't know what he was going to do the rest of his life. "I come out of the Pacific a psycho-neurotic but people in this country just don't appreciate it. That's why I get so mad and I have a grudge. These civilians just don't know what it is to go through hell." When I left the soldier, he was just about ready to pass out but he was talking to some other ex-veterans who had also

fought in the South Pacific and they were busy bragging about their exploits. This incident made me think that there might possibly be a lot of this sort of thing after the veterans came back. Dolores wrote Jack about another incident which she read in the San Francisco papers. She said that a Nisei soldier was stopped by a man and asked if he were a Jap. The man got a little ugly so the Nisei asked him if he were a German. Then he went on to say that he had killed a lot of Germans in Italy and the last one looked exactly like the man he was talking to. This shut the guy up. But there will be many Nisei who will not have Army service and they can't answer in this way. It's almost impossible to reason with most people, especially if they are intoxicated. It is misunderstanding like this which create race prejudice and riots. I certainly hope that this won't happen, but I am a little afraid that it might. If it does, it will only discourage the Nisei all the more and they will lose their remaining faith in democracy. They feel so persecuted now that they can't see the positive elements.

I was in a pretty good mood by the time I got home and I had gotten over my wounded pride about being stood up on a date. It really wasn't that important to me but I suppose a man has to uphold his ego. As soon as I got home Bette and Emiko began to tell me of their experiences so I didn't have to give them a "lecture". They had come in at 3:30. We were up until about 6:00 talking ~~about~~ over the evening's affairs. Jack came in after I did. He had taken Setsuko to the Nisei dance for an hour and then they had gone to a mass.

Emiko said that the Nisei dance was not very successful as far as she was concerned. Bette said she enjoyed her evening up to the

last. Bette said that the crowd at the Nisei dance was very well behaved because only couples were admitted. She said they stared quite a bit at Phil and her. I then suggested that Bette should continue the development of her college friends instead of dragging Phil into a Nisei group because he would soon tire of it. Bette thought this was the most practical thing. Emiko added that she was satisfied that she had attended a Nisei dance now and she didn't think that she would make a regular practice of it. She said that she had never gone to one up to this time and that I had no reason to distrust her. I answered that this was not an important factor any more because she was old enough to know what was best for her. We had a very understanding discussion and nobody was angry. I went on to tell Emiko and Bette about how I felt toward a segregated Japanese community and I didn't like to see them contribute to this growth if they could become better adjusted in the general American community. I didn't think that they had to give up their Nisei friends and they could carry on their informal contacts with them without any difficulty.

Then Emiko and Bette began to tell me why they came home so late. "We decided to get something to eat. I wanted to go to a cheap place and Bette did too but Aki is going overseas soon and he wanted to go to a more fancy place. We ended up at the Latin Quarters. We just ordered a sandwich and a salad. We watched part of the floor show and Aki had a \$10 bill in his hand to pay the check. We were so amazed to get a check for \$26. It was awful. We didn't know what to do and we took up a collection and I contributed \$5. They didn't want to pay any of the bill but he insisted on putting \$5 in. We didn't know there was a \$3 per person cover charge. It cost us \$18 to sit there for an hour just to watch a crummy floor show. Boy, it


was awful. Tets didn't want to go there in the first place because he knew it was going to be expensive but he felt that Aki was leaving soon and he wanted him to have a good time. We learned our lesson now. Never again!

Jack and I then began to have a discussion with Bette for about an hour. We suggested that she should be very careful about making her escort spend too much money. Phil is working his way through college and he is about 18 years old so he can't afford to be spending that kind of money on dates. We told Bette he would hesitate about asking her again if it cost that much. Bette said she really tried not to have him spend so much but he insisted. We told her that he was trying to make an impression on her but it was rather foolish. Bette was also in a mental turmoil because she didn't know what to do about Phil. She said that he indicated that his affections were turning toward her and she didn't want to cut Olga's throat. She said she was going to phone Olga up and tell her all about what they had done during the evening. Olga is one of Bette's best friends and she is the one who has invited Bette to come up to spend a few days at the winter resort. Bette doesn't know whether she will be up through New Year's Eve as she is hoping that she will be asked for a date and then she will come on down to Chicago. Bette is very excited about the trip and she doesn't think she is missing on anything even if she decides to hold a semi-formal party. She said that if Olga was through carrying the torch for Phil, then she was going to start going around with him and invite him to go to a play after buying the tickets herself. I'm glad that Bette is making headway in her college group because it is a more normal and healthy atmosphere to be in than to confine herself to a Nisei circle. It's a little difficult to explain to her why I never say anything about attending college functions but I do oppose attendance at strictly

Nisei affair but I think she understands though. It's not that I object to Nisei as such but I do oppose the implication of Nisei flocking together in a clannish way.

Emiko thought that I was having more trouble with Bette than with her but this is not true at all. When it comes right down to it, I think I have been fortunate in handling Emiko and Bette because they have eventually come to the point where they can understand what I am trying to explain to them. That is why the crises which we have had have not been of a permanent nature. Emiko has been a little more emotional about these things but it was a little more difficult in her case because she had stronger Nisei ties and she is inclined to be a bit more emotional than Bette. But I'm pretty sure that they are making fairly good adjustments now so I need not worry too much even though there will be other minor crises ahead.

Our dinner this afternoon was very successful and we all enjoyed ourselves. We opened up most of our presents. Emiko and Bette got quite a few things. We also fixed up a package for Yo. Yo is 18 and rather bashful. She was quite embarrassed when Jack and I started to tease her about her romances. I even kissed her and it was the first time in her life. Emiko was out of the room at the time and Yo wanted me to hurry up and wipe the lipstick off as she knew that Emiko would tell all the girls at the hospital about it and she would get quite a ribbing.



Our second Xmas in Chicago passed along very smoothly altho there were some false starts due to irritable temperaments. We slept quite late yesterday because we were up most of the night before. We didn't want to get over to Mariko's too early because we knew there would be too much work to be done around the place. We felt entitled to take it easy because we were paying half of the dinner expenses and we were bringing our own vegetables. We didn't start out until after 4 o'clock because we were having a pleasant time at home. Yo and Davey came over around 2:00 and we just ate breakfast and fooled around until we got ready to leave.

~~W~~ Since we were so late anyway, we decided to drop in and see Toshi for a few minutes. Toshi was just getting ready to take some presents over to Mariko's place. { Cherie was visiting them for the day since she is out here alone doing domestic work. I wheeled Lucy up to Mariko's place. Lucy is getting quite cute altho she is still very spoiled. The new baby, Albert Jr. seems to be coming along nicely. Toshi said that Lucy was not too jealous of it yet. I had to help Toshi zip up her dress because she still has not lost all the weight she carried during the pregnancy. Albert was in town on his furlough but I didn't get to see him.

While we were walking up to Mariko's place, Toshi said that she had quite a few worries on her mind. She felt that Mrs. Ikeda was still a bit resentful of her even though she had complete management of the household now. Toshi added that it was because of the fact that Mrs. Ikeda felt a little left out of things since most of the people who came to the house were mostly nisei. "The Nisei don't seem to have very good manners and they never include Mrs. Ikeda into the conversation so that she has to sit off sort of alone. I just feel that Mrs. Ikeda resents it because I got most of the attention from Albert when he came up on his furlough. He

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didn't tell me that he was coming so I just cried and cried when he came into the room. Albert didn't even say hello to his mother at first and I could see the pained expression on her face. Then the other day Yuri phoned long distance and I talked to her. When I told Mrs. Ikeda, she dropped her face and I could see that she thought that she should have the right to talk to her own daughter. I try all the time to make Mrs. Ikeda feel most important in the house but it is difficult. It's a good thing I have the 2 children because that holds us together. Mrs. Ikeda has even mentioned about going back to California with the children but I don't think they want to go. They don't have any friends back there. What's a home without some friends. The family is getting scattered now as the boys are going into the service so that none of us feel too secure. I guess sometimes it pays to be dumb because I don't feel the restlessness that some Nisei complain about. My life seem to be wrapt up more and more in my children. I feel sort of settled here so that I don't feel deep urges to move back to California. I would like to get back into some normal community in the suburb later on but that will depend on what happens to Albert. We can't make any definite plans now until he comes back so the only thing to do is to go along as comfortably as we can under the circumstances. I don't have any deep complaints toward life as I feel I am fortunate when I add up all the good things that have happened to me. I don't know what I am going to do about my parents in camp. We just haven't got the room to bring them out here. We are the only ones that they can turn to. I'm afraid that if Albert comes back he won't get along so well with my parents. I don't know why they have to close up the camps right now. In a way my parents are better off in camp right now because my father isn't in the best of

health and he is old. I just don't know what to do about it. If your mother leaves camp then I am sure my mother will leave right away. All my friends out here are worried about what to do because very few of them can actually support a family. It would be hard to find housing in the first place. I feel sorry for those old people whose sons are in the Army because they have no place to go. I haven't heard of too many planning to go back to California because it would be harder to make a living out there. I expect to hear from my mother about her future plans. I don't know how we can work things out but something will have to be done if the WRA closes the camp. But right now is Xmas so I should be in a joyous mood so I refuse to let myself think about it today." >

We got over to Mariko's about 5 o'clock and she and Eileen were still busy cleaning the house. They had not started the cooking at all. < Toshi had a lot of fun addressing her Xmas gifts while Lucy ran all around the room. She was quite fascinated by the large radio since she has never been that close to one before. > Reiko, Emiko, Amy, and I played cards for a while. Jack went out into the kitchen and he fixed all of the vegetables. Mariko was running around with her usual temperamental threats and ready to explode at any moment. She and George had made an agreement to say, "Peace on earth, goodwill toward men" if they felt an argument coming on. It's not normal not to see at least one argument over there each time. < Sure enough, Mariko blew up just when dinner was coming on. It arose over the seating arrangements for dinner. She thought that I should sit on the otherside with Amy and Jack while Davey would have to sit all by himself on one side of the table. I wanted to balance things up. Emiko and Tets had gone down to the station with Jane to see Aki off so they were late for dinner.

After the soup course was finished, I made a remark to George

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that he had better hurry up or else we would beat him up afterwards. Mariko happened to be collecting the soup dishes at that time and she interpreted that George would be henpecked later on. She blew up and said I was trying to get her mad. I don't know why she had to be so sensitive because I wasn't even speaking to her at that moment. I decided not to argue with her so I just let her nag me. After a few minutes she got back into a good humor and she treated George nicely during the time the dinner guests were present. I certainly wish she would do this all the time instead of nagging and belittling George. She is very fond of George and she really thinks she is spurring him on but some of her methods are a bit untactful. The trouble with Mariko is that whenever she gets angry she brings up all the past grievances for the preceding year, when these things actually have nothing to do with the issue at point. I'm glad that she settled down into a calm mood for the rest of the evening and she was a very good hostess.

Mariko just thrives on giving parties but sometimes I wonder whether she should be doing such large scale entertaining when she always complains afterwards that she can't afford it. It doesn't make us feel too comfortable to go over as guests and then pay for the meal. There were 14 people for dinner: Mariko, George, Jack, Emiko, Bette, Eileen, Davey, Yo, Amy, Otto, Tets, James, and myself. Yoshi didn't eat because she wasn't feeling so well. Toshi, Reiko and Lucy went home before we had dinner. They stayed long enough for us to open all the presents. There were a couple of other people who dropped in for a minute but I don't know who they were.

George went downtown himself and bought all of us presents. He gave me shoe trees; Jack, red suspenders; Bette, book-ends; Emiko, shelf; Eileen, cat set; Yoshi, teddy bear; and Mariko, teddy bear, slippers, and ^{bubble} bath salts- powder. Mariko was a bit disappointed

with her presents. She just doesn't appreciate the sentiment of gift giving. I tried to explain that Emiko and Bette couldn't give her more than a bottle of perfume as they had put their money to gifts for camp. Mariko and George were pleased with the illustrated books I gave them and they did get some nice presents. But Mariko was disappointed at what George bought her. She didn't say much about it until after everyone had left. Davey was very appreciative of everything as well as Yo. Davey even wore the long union suit we gave him as he said he had to go to work at 2 in the morning and it would prevent him from freezing. It was a little too big for him but he refused to allow anyone to sew it up. He gave Emiko and Bette a bottle of nice Tweed perfume. >

After the presents were opened we just sat around for a social evening. We didn't get to sit down for dinner until after 9 o'clock. Mariko was worried that there wouldn't be enough seats available and she started to nag George for not building another bench for the table until he reminded her that this was the day for peace on earth and goodwill toward men. George said he wouldn't build another bench as this would encourage her to give bigger and better parties. He said they just couldn't afford it on their income. < 6637 Mariko is very impractical because she splurges on a lot of unnecessary things but she won't go out and buy a pot for herself. She needs brooms and a lot of household items but she just won't go and buy them. She pinches pennies on little things but is foolish at times on large amounts. I guess it's part of her temperamental nature. I don't know how to explain her contradictory nature of tightness combined with generosity in any other way. She charged each of us 50¢ for the dinner and Eileen and George were charged 73¢. Actually she made a profit on the dinner but it's no use dis-

cussing finances because she will only blow up, or else she will think that Eileen has been telling things about her and this is not true at all. I have noticed that Mariko tends to impose upon Eileen. She charges her one-third of the laundry bill when Eileen only sends her own sheet. All of the rest of the stuff is George and Mariko's clothing. She also charged Eileen one-third of the cost of the spout for the oil drum. Eileen really shouldn't be charged for any of the household fixtures since she pays one-third of the rent, gas and light bills already. She puts in her share for the food bill but sometimes she runs short on Fridays so that she puts out the money herself. She just doesn't want to discuss it with Mariko. I don't know what Mariko and George will do when Eileen goes home for vacation. They depend upon her entirely and she is just a maid as far as her work is concerned. Eileen ~~was~~ chipped a glass one day and she went out to replace it because she didn't want Mariko to blow up. Eileen is beginning to rebel a little now and she refused to hang up the laundry at 2:30 in the morning. ~~M~~ Perhaps I am being unjust to Mariko because she never exposes these minor flaws to other people. I think that I may be too critical of some of her actions without realizing that the basis for this is due to the hard economic struggle she had during the depressing years. I suppose that most women tend to be thrifty in little things but I've never seen it in other people besides Mariko and Alice because I've never had the occasion to notice it before. It's no crime to be thrifty but it is rather irritating when there is no excuse for some of the things that Mariko does. If she didn't invite so many people for Xmas dinner, she could have invited the family members as guests instead of making us pay for it. It's just the principal of the things and not the amount involved. All of us felt that Mariko should not invite people for

dinner unless she could afford it. As for the confusion in the week-end plans, we concluded at home that it wasn't exactly anyone's fault. We were all to blame because we left things go until the last minute. I ~~wazxk~~ had less to do with it than some of the others since my plans had already been arranged previously. But it got complicated because of the mix-up over where we should go for dinner. Fortunately this matter was not discussed during the day and Mariko's party had a very good atmosphere. I think that all of us there enjoyed ourselves and we certainly did appreciate all of the trouble that Mariko went through.

Yoshi was acting like a lost soul. She wanted everyone to give her attention and she didn't get it. She made a big story that Miki had slepped her and that's why she was feeling sick so everyone sympathized with her. We later found out that her real trouble was a stomach cramp. I don't know what is wrong with Yoshi exactly because she seems to be a pleasant person. I begin to suspect there are a lot of maladjustments when she takes leeping pills and sleeps over the whole week-end.

Jack was having a very good time rushing Amy. What a wolf he is! Amy is Eileen's friend. She is half-Chinese and helf-English or something like that. She came from Shanghai about 4 years ago. Eileen met her at the music school and got friendly with her. Amy has been going around in a Caucasian group entirely up to now. She speaks several languages fluently. Jack got into some sort of dis-cussion with her and she concluded that she disliked England because the British were too imperialistically minded. Her brother is fighting in the English forces. Amy is working downtown but I don't know the exact type of work. She seemed to enjoy the attention which was given to her. We ribbed her quite a bit about the pot in which the rice was cooked. We said that it was the pot from under the bed

and it had been used by mistake. We asked her to carry it on the street car when she got ready to go home and she didn't know whether to believe it or not. Jack danced with her and got quite romantic but it was all innocent. I think she enjoyed the party most of all. Yo, Otto, Davey and Bette seemed to have a lot of fun. There is rivalry between Davey and Otto so they both tried to make a big impression on Bette. Otto showed off by showing Pets up in working equations and he began to pay a lot of attention to Yo. Bette wanted him to dance and he threw a jiu jitsu hold on Bette and dropped her to the floor. Bette was so surprised by this that her mouth opened. Otto said it was just a reflex and he didn't mean it. Bette is borrowing his ice skates so that she invited him to come over to dinner on Wednesday. I scared Yo by acting as if I had thrown an epileptic fit and she didn't know what to do.

Most of the day for Eileen was spent in the kitchen. I helped her do all of the dishes but there was a very awkward and strange silence between us. I tried to act as if nothing had happened but Eileen wouldn't say very much. I didn't know what to think because I didn't do anything to make her angry at me. I think she was just embarrassed and she had a guilty conscience because she thought all of the Kikuchi clan were down on her for what she had done the other evening. I couldn't hold such a thing against her even though I was a little angry at the time. > Everyone left for home about 1:00 o'clock and I decided to stay over and talk to Eileen for a while < to find out what was wrong. > Eileen gave me a beautiful picture of herself in a very expensive frame. She had the following poem written on a separate card:

Dear Charlie -

"One who know you through and through,
Understands the things you do,
Keeps on pulling just for you --

That's a friend.

One who trusts you all the while,
Grips your hand and shares a smile
Bears no thought that's not worthwhile--

That's a friend!"

Eileen said that it bothered her all day because she didn't know what to do. She thought she that I would throw her picture away. I told her that I am very fond of her and that I feel a deep friendship for her. < She said that she knew she had made a mistake but she just didn't know what to do because she didn't want to hurt Buddy. It bothered her all day because she respected me so much and she didn't want me to be angry with her. I don't think that I could ever be really sore at her because I like her too much. She does a lot of things that I don't see in the same way she does, but that is no fault in character. She just sees things in different ways altho she says that she is beginning to get influenced by the things I say, especially in regards to a Nisei society. I told her that the real reason why I didn't want to go to the Nisei dance was because of the feelings I had about a segregated Nisei society in general and not because I objected to ~~being~~ going with her under those circumstances which existed the other evening.

We talked all night long. Mariko and George were up until about 3:30 so we talked to them first on things in general. Mariko began to nag George about the cheap slipper that he had given her. She said that they weren't even worth 2.98. Then she added that he had gotten the bubble bath because he wanted to use them himself. < She was burnt

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up because he had given her the same kind of teddy bear that he had given Yoshi. > Eileen and I just sat there and we just didn't say anything. George kept quiet and he had a perfect right to blow up. I think Mariko made herself look silly because she just didn't understand the sentiments behind George's gifts. George is unemployed and he only gets the \$20 a week compensation out of which he pays one-third of household expenses. He didn't have much money for presents and I think it was nice for him to go out and buy those things for us. < It was rather insulting for Mariko to say that the red suspenders given to Jack was very impractical. Even if they were, she didn't have to say it in front of him. > Then she belittled the photo frame which Eileen had put her picture in. I don't know why she does things like that because it was obvious that it was a very expensive frame. I didn't like it very much when she said that but I just felt that it was no use to say anything. I wish Mariko would get out of the habit of belittling other people. She regrets it right after it happens but it's too late because the damage had already been done. I don't know how to interpret these things. It might be that Mariko has certain amount of guilty conscience over the way she treats George and that was her way of expressing it.

After they went to bed Eileen and I started ^a long conversation. < We got everything all straightened out and then Eileen said that > she had bought tickets to "Winged Victory" to give to me but she didn't say anything about it before because she was afraid that I wouldn't go. She certainly is a strange girl to understand. I was very pleased with the presents which she had given me and I felt quite lucky. I suppose that a lot of it is due to certain confusing things which Eileen has in her own mind. She is very anxious to continue her musical career and she feels blocked in this. She is inclined to be a social individual so that she likes people. She knows

a lot of zoot suiters and she also realizes that they aren't doing her any good. She feels that she can help them out but many of the fellows interpret her actions as "leading on". She said that there were several fights at the Ashland nisei dance and that Jake Kikuchi, no relation, was involved in one of the brawls. Eileen said that she was very fond of Buddy but she drew a line as to her relationships with him. Then she went on to say a lot of nice things about me which flattered me, etc., etc.

Eileen then told me about her relationship with Mariko. She said that she understood Mariko but certain things were going too far. I promised not to tell anybody so she told me about what happened to Mariko's Xmas present to her. "Friday night I came home late because I had stopped for coffee with the girls at the show. Mariko was very upset because I didn't get home until 11:30. She said she had been working very hard on a detachable collar she was making for my black dress. She insisted that I put my black dress on so she could fit it. She worked on it until about 1:00 and then she had to go to work. She said she was almost finished so would I mind if I finish it. I knew I would be busy during the week-end so I stayed up until 5 a.m. sewing on my own Xmas present. I have been so busy so I haven't had time to buy Xmas presents for my own family so I'll have to do it this week before I go home. I know Mariko worked hard on those Xmas gifts but she should have started sooner. I didn't object to helping her out but I was expected to do a little too much so that's why I'm beginning to assert myself before I get completely trampled on. I have to do it or else I may lose Mariko's friendship and I don't want that to happen. I don't want to get mad at her because I am fond of her and I make excuses all the time. I can't tell Mariko all these things because she is sensitive and her sharp tongue gets started and gets critical. She turns around and says I am the

critical one. I think that the best thing for me to do is to move out. It's not that I dislike living with Mariko that much, but it will be better for all concerned. I may move out after I come back from home. It's so hard to find housing though. I appreciate everything that Mariko has done for me but sometimes she uses it as a weapon a little too much. I am inclined to be individualistic too and sometimes I am dominating and so I have to suppress myself because it would be futile to have an argument with her. Maybe I am in a rut because everything is not going as smoothly as I hoped. I admit I am a little disappointed because I have not reached my hope in music. Someday I may write a musical comedy if I collaborate with someone who can write the music. I get all sorts of ideas in my head but I never am able to put them down."

We heard the alarm go off at 6:30 and Mariko dragged herself out of bed after sleeping only 3 hours. She certainly looked shot. We made breakfast for her and got her off to work in time. Then the "maid and servant" washed all of the dishes left over from last night and retired for some sleep. I made up the couch in the front room and I almost froze because the oil heater ran out of fuel. After 4 hours of sleep I went on downtown and tried to get my reservations for California. A lot of people are going to California for the winter. After a long wait I was told to come back tomorrow for my ticket so it was all a waste of effort.

Thru 6649 (CH-59)
I rushed home so that I would be there when Fukiko arrived for her interview. I sent Emiko, Bette and Yo to the show so that we could finish up the life story. After about 3 hours we did get it finished. Then Fukiko insisted upon taking me out to dinner. I didn't want to refuse her because she might have misunderstood so I went along and enjoyed the chicken barbecue dinner. I felt pretty silly though when she handed me the money to pay the bill. I just-

fied myself on the basis that Fukiko has forgotten about the money she owed me so I can call the debt off now without reminding her of it. Fukiko is very conscious of being Japanese but at the same time she believes that the solution to her trouble is to lose herself in American society. I don't think she has been too successful in doing this. There are about 8 members in her family group out here and apparently they have a strong family solidarity as they get together for all holidays and Sundays. Fukiko thought it was quite brave for her to start smoking. She is 29 years old. She said that her mother would be quite shocked if she saw her. Fukiko is worried about her family in camp. She said she was making plans to bring them out in the near future but she was worried as to whether she could take care of them or not. She said her older brothers were married now and they were having their own family problems. Fukiko is helping to support one younger brother. She said she was unable to save much out of \$35 a week except for an occasional war bond.

Fukiko is very undecided about her occupational future. She said that she had always lived a very secluded life so that she wanted to taste real living now that she has an opportunity to do so. That is why she doesn't object to working in a dice factory any more. She said that she would even work in a tavern as a cigarette girl if the opportunity came up. She expects to try several different types of work yet. Eventually she hopes to get back into cosmetometry work in which she has some experience out here. She doesn't think her musical ambition will be economically possible but she does have some hope. She definitely doesn't want to return to California to start a music school of her own in a Japanese community. She said the main trouble with her was her association was too much with children so that she hasn't tasted real life yet. Apparently she gets ideas from novels which she has read. She believes that if

she pursues her individual program for integration, then it will contribute to the general adjustment of the Nisei group which she feels is too clannish yet. She had quite a bit to say on how she hopes to make adjustments but she was rather unsettled in her mind and she felt that most of her opinions were still in the realm of wishful thinking. She admitted that she was drifting along right now because she didn't know what she wanted. She only hoped that the war would hurry up and end so that all the people in the world would be able to assume their normal way of life. I am very satisfied with the completed interview with Fukiko even though it took a long time and it is not lengthy. I think many of her remarks are rather significant and she elaborated on many personal problems which may Nisei are too sensitive to discuss even though they are in the same condition.

I typed and wrote letters until about 3:30 this evening. Bette and I were talking for a while. She said that she had phoned Olga up and Olga was through carrying the torch for Phil so Bette now feels that she can go with a clear conscience and develop Phil's friendship. She is going up to the country with Olga on Friday evening but she doesn't know if she will be back for New Year's Eve because Olga is still waiting for a date and she will come down if that materializes. And so to bed!

Insert:

Bette's testimony (as taken by Jack in their talk after coming home last night) about the party mixup.

Original Plan:

Dinner at alternate places. Yb and Davy expected for Xmas day, but place yet undecided. Bette was to consult Mariko which day she was to come to Drexel.

But in meantime Chas went to Mariko's also to find out about dates. He took it for granted that Emiko and Bette had made plans for Xmas day. Told Mariko that Emiko and Bette had guests and plans for Xmas and for Mariko to phone Bette. During this visit, Chas invited Eileen.

Mariko planned on having us over on Xmas day, but since Chas told her we planned dinner on Drexel already for Xmas day, M's plans were upset so M phoned B.

On phone--

Mariko: Since she worked on Sat she wanted us to go to Halsted on Xmas Eve and sing carols. She could not give dinner on Xmas Eve as she would be too tired. Then on Xmas day, she could come over with George and Paul to Drexel for dinner.

Bette not thinking of all the people expected nor the finances, agreed to M's proposals.

Bette told Chas M's proposition. Chas said: It was not fair that we should feed M and not have her feed us in return as he thought we should carry out original plan of alternate dinners. Chas also said we do not have accommodations for so many people.

So Bette journeyed to Mariko's. Bette asked why she couldn't have us over one night as originally planned. M. answered that Xmas Eve was impossible as she would be too tired. Bette told her we could not accomodate 10 people. So Mariko suggested well in that case why not bring all the guests over to Halsted on Xmas Day and share expense. Then G. and M. could come to Drexel for Xmas Eve. Bette then gets huffy and says, How come we ask you to dinner and not ask you to share expenses but when you ask us to dinner you want us to share expense.

Mariko said: (gets huffy) Well the greater number of guests would be yours and since we (Geo and I) are only two, there would only be little extra expense. (Forgets that Paul and Eileen would also come.)

Bette--Well we just can't handle 10 people.

Mariko--So come over to my place Xmas day, but you will still have to share the expense. Mariko still insists upon coming to Drexel Xmas Eve.

Bette could not accept these terms as she had definite orders from Chas that we couldn't handle all expenses for Xmas Eve in addition to expense for 10 people on Xmas day.

M would not arbitrate but also stood firm on her proposal. Finally Bette proposed eliminating Xmas eve dinner and only have Xmas day dinner at Halsted and share expenses.

Both proceeded to make out menu. Bette believed the issue was settled and there was to be only one dinner and that on Xmas day.

M. took it for granted that she was still coming to Drexel on Xmas Eve.

Worked hour on menu.

After Menu was made, M mentioned coming over to Drexel to see the presents and have dinner.

Bette said NO! I thought ~~xxx~~ we settled that.

George enters and said "We better not make definite plans for Xmas Eve as we may have to go over to my mothers. Then M. suggested that she would be over to Drexel later after visiting Taki.

George said, "No, we can't plan on that because we don't know how long we'll be there so let's let Xmas Eve plans drop. Besides Mariko will be working on Xmas presents on Xmas Eve.

Mariko still wanted to have dinner at Drexel. Started complaining about how hard she will have to work to get dinner.

So Bette exasperated said: "Let's call the whole thing off. It won't work. You make your plans and I'll make mine." Boo hoo. (she cries.) Bette puts coat ~~xxx~~ on and prepares to leave

Mariko: Why won't it work out. It would if we would all cooperate.

Bette: "Well it won't because you know how Chas feels about large crowds.

M (gets mad) Blames Chas. "Well you know that Chas obviously likes crowds since he always has a lot of fun. Besides most of the crowd would be Kikuchi's. Look at me. I'm so tired I can't sew straight. I'm just shaking all over. That's why it takes so long to sew." By this time both agreed it was Chas fault!

Charles Kikuchi
Insert:

Diary

Dec. 26, 1944

6649

Note originally left at Mariko's by Chas and saved by Eileen for later evidence!

Dec. 19, 1944

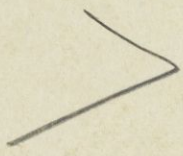
Good Morning, Mariko! Tweet, tweet!

I brought yoursuit over so that you could wear it tomorrow for your party. Bette was not able to bring it as she has been busy doing some last minute shopping for the kids. Sorry! You owe her 80 cents for the cleaning bill. She only wore the suit two times. Bette was afraid you would hit her if she brought it over herself! She says she knows how it is to wait around for a suit! Incidentally, Bette has been invited to a winter resort by some of her college friends for over New Years. She wonders if you could possibly finish the suit by then for a Xmas present as she hasn't a thing to wear. Could you? She has been waiting patiently since September.

Please phone Bette re: Xmas Eve and Xmas day plans. I understood that we would be invited to your place for Xmas day and that you three come to our place Xmas Eve. Emiko and Bette have planned it just the opposite, I think, so you had better straighten it out with them so that there will not be any last minute jam-ups. I don't want to have anything to do with it, but I think E and B are planning Xmas day at our place as they have invited 2 guests.

Do you, Geo, and Eileen want to come for dinner Xmas day or Xmas Eve? Be sure to phone B and get the plans all straightened out so that there will not be any later trouble. Do it today. B. will probably be home all morning. Don't forget. Tie a string around your finger.

/s/ Chas.



It was snowing hard when I went downtown this morning to get my train reservations for California. I will be leaving here on the 27th of next month. It seems to be a long time away yet, but I will be rather busy next month getting everything prepared. I certainly have been doing a lot of traveling during the past three years, more than ever before in my life. It took me about two hours to get the tickets because it seems that January is a month for heavy travel to the Coast, the rich people go out there to spend the winter. I guess there are plenty of complacent people in this country. None of us on the home front have gone through the particular hell that the soldiers on the battle lines have. They just take things for granted. Whenever I read about some society benefit party, it makes me sick to the stomach. I can just see them bragging about how anti-Fascist they are and how much they are willing to help out while they stand around in a plush drawing room drinking in front of a nice big fireplace. Just as long as they get their stomachs bloated, they are satisfied.

I suppose this particular thought occurred to me after seeing "Winged Victory" this afternoon. It certainly made me feel that I was not doing my share in the war effort. Eileen took me as a part of her Christmas present to me. Most of the audience was ladies and old men. The place was packed. We had very good seats so that I was able to enjoy the program thoroughly. I kept thinking what a difficult time soldiers must have when their lives are completely disrupted. The musical play was rather realistic and it did not paint the picture bright. The cast were all service men, except the civilian girls.

Eileen looked practically worn out today. She has been driving herself pretty hard for the past few weeks and she does not get

enough sleep. She still has to do a lot of shopping to do before she leaves to visit her family up in North Dakota. She will leave on Saturday and be gone for about a week. Mariko is supposed to help her shop and pack in return for all the sewing of presents which Eileen helped out with. Mariko did not finish Bette's dress yet. That makes two things which Mariko has not done for Bette. It's almost useless to bring up the subject of the uncompleted suit now. It is gathering dust in the closet. One of these days Mariko's conscience may get her and she will work on it. I doubt if Mariko will help Eileen with much of the packing as she will be too tired and nervous this week. Eileen is just too good hearted, that's all. >

I certainly do think a lot of Eileen now. I don't know just what it is. I know that she is not romantically interested in me, but we seem to have developed a good friendship and I like to talk to her. She does something to me. Maybe I am smitten, but it doesn't look so promising because Eileen is more interested in her "career" and looking for her "ideal." I certainly couldn't fit into the latter category. The thing which gets me down is that she represents a lot of things I am opposed to, especially a Nisei society, and I don't think that bridge can be gapped. That's the way it is with almost every Nisei girl I meet. I guess I am a sap for having convictions! But then, I don't think that I would make a success being one of these socially inclined and giddy Nisei because I am not the type.

< On the other hand, Eileen seems to be different. She has a lot of ambition, but she seems to be blocked right now. She wants to go into teaching desperately, but the right opportunity has not come up yet. In the meantime she is wasting time in a rut and she knows it. She should teach music once for her own satisfaction.

She gets along with people easy, but she likes to be the center of attention too much, like most good looking girls. If that is not done, she withdraws until some sucker like me comes along. Jack believes that her way of acting intimate and trying to impress the fellow of the moment has been the reason why she has lost out on so many of the fellows who were interested in her--Hal, Sugio, Jack, Bob, etc. The new crop consists of Buddy, Jack S., Mr. Thomas, Cracker, etc. I guess I am not exactly in the same group because I don't go under any illusions. I think a part of this can be explained by the fact that Eileen drives herself in everything because her music teaching ambitions are temporarily thwarted. It is a sort of self punishment. She can't help it if she attracts a lot of fellows because she is pretty and she has such an appealing personality. Yet Eileen always says that she finds Nisei fellows so dull because there is nothing to talk to them about. She sure is some gal though!

ch-58

I rushed over to Akahoshi's place about six and I did not get home until after one a.m. We spent a couple of hours in general bull session. His roommate Kiyo came in about 10:00 so that I had to stop the formal interview. Geo.A. certainly does get around with the women. He said that the caucasian girls were all curious about Nisei fellows so that he did not have any trouble at all in getting dates. "At first, I felt a little hesitant about going to their homes to meet their parents, but now it doesn't bother me at all. I find that I enjoy myself much more with them than with the Nisei girl who has a pretty face. I feel that it is not worth the time because I will have to do all the things I don't believe in if I go around with a Nisei girl."

Since this issue is something I have given a lot of thought about lately, I started asking George A some questions on how he

would act if he did not have the chance to take out caucasian girls, assuming that he had normal glandular functions. George said that he still would not take out Nisei girls because they would only irritate him. He said that for the next few years he had plans on getting more education so that this was a better compensation. He felt it would be a personal defeat of his principles rather than a compromise if he started to contribute to the process of Nisei segregation in any way. I was rather surprised to hear these remarks since I had felt this same conflict recently. George said that his main aim in coming out of camp was to integrate himself by making as much caucasian contacts as possible. That is why he has joined the churches, choir, labor groups, etc. at the same time he felt that he owed something to the Nisei because if they were permitted to go entirely their own way, it would make his own adjustment harder. For that reason, he has taken part in certain of the Nisei groups who are interested in integration. He does not believe in the church sort of mixed meeting program as he thought that common interests were developed out of something deeper than that and that it depended upon the individual. George said that the reason why he had gone in with the Relocation Committee out here was because he knew that nisei segregation was coming and he felt that he might as well get into some group and try to prevent it as much as possible. The Resettlement Committee started out with high motives under Harry Mayeda, Hideo Sasaki, George A, Isao Fububo, and a few others but it has sort of bogged down. It has not held any meetings in the past couple of months and George felt that it was going to die a peaceful death now. When he first went into the group, he had high hopes that a group movement like this would further the integration program, but now he is almost

convinced that it can only be done through individual effort.

When he first came out here, George lived in the house with Mr. Temple and about 15 Nisei fellows out on the South side. Mr. Temple had started the group with some noble ideas that this group could win community acceptance and be integrated. A week later he died, but the fellows decided to carry on in a cooperative way for the rest of the year. When the first draft notice came out early this year, the group broke up and now about 10 of them are in the Army. George felt that all of them gave lip service to the integration program but not a single fellow was willing to take positive steps. "They all told me to go ahead and pave the way and they would send their children. They were more interested in going across town to see their old friends from camps." The failure of this group did not discourage George as he felt that certain progress was made, especially in the matter of community acceptance. However, this experience showed him that a group could not integrate as well as an individual. Since the early part of this year, George has been living in a private home and Kiyo is staying with him. They have little contact with the neighborhood. All of George's activities are downtown and out on the South Side where he first started church. Kiyo's activities are mostly with his group of Nisei friends.

George has been thinking about the latest WRA developments. He has just written to his father to find out plans for resettlement in event the camps were closed next spring. He said that he did not know what he could do, but he was willing to help out as much as possible. I thought that the coming of large numbers of new resettlers to Chicago would hasten the growth of a Japanese community. I asked George what he would do if his family ran in opposition to his convictions and principles. George answered: "Well, that is a

hard question to answer. I've given it some thought though. For example, I know that my mother would object if she came out here and found that I was going around with caucasian girls. And suppose my father decided to open up a Japanese boarding house or some business like that. It would cause conflicts and I think that I believe so strongly in my principles now that I would even break with my family. I'm entirely sold on the ideax that I can get integrated. I don't know why I try to pull other Nisei with me instead of concentrating on getting a good position in the general community so that I can be some sort of a power and a spokxsmxn for other Nisei who are a little more hisitant about venturing ~~xxxx~~ beyond their presant levels!"

Kiyo then began to express some of his thoughts. He is about 24, nice looking, but very quiet. "I believe that I am just as strong on the idea of integration as anyone, but I see more of the practical problems connected with it than George. He is able to mix with hakujins easily, but some of us who think like him can't do it as well. We are not the aggressive type. I am willing to follow along, but I don't see too many of the Nisei being the leaders about it now. Most of my friends think it is merely an academic problem and they don't even think about it any more as it is a dead issue with them. They are going to get drafted soon so that they want to have as much fun as they can. I am going to get drafted in about two weeks too so that integration is a dead issue for me right now. And I certainly couldn't follow it in the Army if I am put into a segregated Combat unit. Suppose I go up to Snelling and there is a Nisei USO giving a social in Minneapolis. I would be crazy if I tried to uphold the principle of integration under conditions like that. I would jump right into the segregated pattern because I don't know if I am even going

to come back. A guy like Cracker (ch-) can become integrated easier than most of us Nisei because he has had a different sort of background. I don't find too many Nisei really trying to integrate now although I know that a certain amount of it goes on in spite of ourselves. But there are too many practical obstacles against you.

"When I was in high school, I only went around with caucasian kids and I ate at their homes and did everything with them. Then I went up to Cal to find a Japanese student club on the campus. I didn't know anybody and it was almost expected for me to join in with them. If I did not, I could not get into the caucasian groups. That is why I drifted in the the Nisei students more and more. I grew apart from my high school caucasian friends. Isn't that the same way out here? We don't know any of the caucasians in Chicago when we arrive. We want to mix with them, but it is hard to get the contacts. Then our Nisei friends start to come here and we automatically start to go around with them. Pretty soon, we start to attend organized affairs. I know that it is eventually going to create an undesirable situation, but I am not strong enough to make the sacrifice and uphold a principle. If I could get in with caucasian groups as easily as George does, I probably would follow his example more. But I still believe strongly in integration. But I guess I don't have the conviction strong enough to be willing to give up a lot of things. The same goes for all of my friends. I see a couple of Nisei girls across the street and I want to meet them. I do and pretty soon I am going to Nisei dances with them. I meet their friends and then it goes on and on. I have given up going to Nisei dances lately because they are such rough affairs, but that means I know less Nisei girls because most of the girls are only interested in social affairs.

"I guess I will have to leave it up to Nisei with stronger convictions than me to push the integration program to reasonable success. I know we will all ~~x~~gain if it can be achieved. In the meantime, I will go into the Army and fight for the general principles of democracy and that is pretty important. I am not infused with unrealistic idealism, but I definitely do believe that the Nisei have a lot to gain by making a good record in the war. It is too bad that there are not more fellows like George around to push the rest of us along so that we would be willing to give up a little of our personal satisfactions in order to achieve a greater degree of happiness for all of us in the future. I know that segregation is pretty frustrating."

is

George A. "I suppose that this/the main reason why I am maintaining such an extreme stand. I know how frustrating it was before the war in the segregated Japanese community. We did not even dare to hope than. We just accepted our positions and we were all cutthroating in order to climb a little higher within our limited sphere. I certainly don't want to go back to that kind of a life. I don't think any Nisei does. The trouble is that so many of the Nisei have not had experience on the cost in working so that they only think of the Japanese community in terms of the dances and other social affairs which were held. That is what they want out here. I don't think that they are going to get it though. No matter how many Nisei dances they have out here, it is not going to make them any happier. It is about time they were learning this lesson. I wish I could do more to help them along to a better type of adjustment because I hate to see them being so restless and unsettled now. A lot of it is in the mind only."

Humor: Ken Morioka, ch- , is going to open up a Nisei bar. He is neglecting his wife.

Bette had a dinner for Otto this evening as she is borrowing his ice skates. She was annoyed with him because Otto criticized our apartment and made comments that it was dirty. He kept the door open because that was the proper etiquette when a fellow was alone with a girl! Bette said that she was still mad at him for throwing her on the floor the other day at Mariko's. She thinks that he is getting too smart aleky so that she plans to cut him low after she gets her use out of the ice skates! OtBo is just a bashful boy and he gets so embarrassed around Bette. He seems to appeal to a lot of the younger Nisei girls out here so that he is getting over confident. He gave Bette a silver pin for a Christmas present. Bette sure slays the fellows! < She t6662 thinks that she will develop the friendship with Phil now that Olga told her that she was through carrying the torch for him! She is going to Mariko's to have her suit and dress worked on tomorrow night, but she does not hope to get the suit done this year. She would like to get the dress as she wants to wear it on her trip up to the winter resort. She doesn't know when she will come down yet as Olga may return on Sunday for a New Year's Eve date. There is a chance that they will stay up until Monday.

Dictated at the office all day. Fred Hoshiyama dropped in for a while. He is attending the Yale Theological school right now. He said that he was working his way through so that he did not have the money to come to Chicago until his brother, Willie, sent him some. Willie is working in a defense factory and he works at a part time job in the evening cutting out jig saw puzzles for which he makes \$1.75 an hour. Fred said that Lilian Ota was at Yale in the history department working for her PhD under Laurtertte in Far Eastern History. Fred thinks that he might get drafted pretty soon. He said that he saw Kenny Murase in N.Y. and that he was in the School of Social Work at Columbia but he thought that Kenny was getting drafted pretty soon. Joe Oyama is now the manager of a Japanese food store which serves as the N.Y. outlet for his brother Wes's business ~~xxxxxxx~~ centered in Denver. I guess the economic problems of a person breaks down ideals because Joe was completely sold on integration when I knew him before the WAR.

I went over to Mariko's to pick up Bette this evening. She worked on the dress until about 2:00 am. She will not finish the suit until later because she does not want to do anything on it while she is in a nervous state. Bette is all excited about her trip and she was up until about 4:00 am this morning packing her things and ironing some of the skirts she is taking. She was quite worried about money so that I gave her \$5.00 and Jack \$2.00.

Mariko is still yelling about the slippers which George gave her. "These cheap slippers are the kind that the cheap women wear with a cloth around her head. I want something I can wear when company comes. You only get what you pay for. George certainly had some nerve giving me these cheap things. -feel like throwing them out. I didn't get many personal things this year. I guess that is what happens after you get married." George didn't

say anything as he didn't want to start any argument. He can't even wear the slippers he bought for himself because Mariko would have a fit. He just chuckled and went to bed and read a book. Most of the evening Mariko was in fairly good humor and she worked hard on Bette's dress.

Eileen was in a mood when she came home. She was quite disappointed that Mariko had not helped her with the packing as promised. Eileen did not get to finish her shopping for her family so that she will have to do it after she returns. She went down and bought \$9.00 worth of Japanese food for her folks since they don't have any up in Minot. She only received \$3.50 worth of the food in the delivery so that she will have to go down for the rest of it tomorrow.

Eileen was so tired that she was ready to drop. She started to do some of her washing and Mariko put in her stuff. This made Eileen quite angry but she did not say anything to her. She told me that it was no use in creating an enemy. Eileen added, "I can't put up with this sort of thing any more so that I am going to look for my own place after I come back. I won't say a thing to my folks or Alice as it would not solve anything. Mariko is as she is and nothing is going to change her. I still like her a lot, but it is too hard to live with her."

Then Eileen went on to tell me what was on her mind: "I went down to the School today and the Councillor asked me if I wanted to take that music teaching job up country. They want a teacher for the rest of the term and I would get a year's credit in teaching if I took it. I don't know what to do about it. I think I will go down there and look the place over when I come back. I am seriously considering the job now. I'm not getting any place here and I'm not even saving any money. I would get \$178

a month in the teaching job and I could get my room and board for \$30 a month as the principal of the school will take me in. I will have to give up smoking but that is not a problem. The school is very small and the community only has about 2000 people in it. I won't let the social life hold me back because it doesn't mean too much to me until I get the teaching out of my ~~xxxx~~ system. I won't crave dates. I can come back to Chicago during the summer. The only thing which worries me is that I don't want to get stuck in small town elementary teaching. I want to get into a high school system. I might be able to work for my MA during the summer if I took the job. I'm going to seriously think it over while I am home. What do you think?"

I answered that this was a personal problem but I thought she might as well give music teaching a trial as long as she had the ambitions. I thought that if she waited too long, she would get discouraged and give up. I said that it was always a harder problem for a girl to go into a strange place, but she could make new friends easily and perhaps it was better for her to get away from a Nisei group for a while so that she could regain her ~~xxx~~ perspective. I thought that she could help the Nisei cause out by making good since it would be another field opened in this state. I reminded her that the employer would look upon her as a Nisei no matter what she considered herself so that it would be a good chance to create a good impression and thus spread greater tolerance.

I think that Eileen should take the job for her self satisfaction. She will just strain at the leash down here and not get anyplace by doing the puppet work even though it may be interesting. But she will have to decide it herself and weigh all of the factors. I hope that she will not back down at the last moment because the job looks like an opportunity.

Bette was up very late last night packing. She got up early this morning to do all the shopping for food for the weekend and she cooked Jack's dinner and made his lunch. She went out of here at high speed so that she would not miss the luncheon appointment which she has with the other three girls downtown before they leave. Bette had to put a black dress into her bag at the last minute because Olga told her that they might go dancing on Sat. night. Bette said that Betty Jean had just written from Georgia and mentioned how much she was enjoying her visit home. Those two have been inseparable since last September so they miss each other. BJ told her that all of her home town boys are in the Army now and some of them have been killed in action. >

Jack is making plans to quit his job in a few days. He is breaking another fellow in so that he did not have to work very hard last night. <He has been undecided about taking an indefinite leave or quitting from his job. He doesn't know if he will be able to find work in SF or not. He said that if he could not find anything there, he would come back to Chicago to his old job. On the other hand, he would not be able to get work unless he had a ~~xxxxxxx~~ availability for employment. Jack thought that he might investigate the Kaiser shipyard ads which offer free transportation to the Coast. He is just waiting for the WRA money now. His return plans have been approved. Jack will go anyway if the money does not come by January 5. > He plans to spend a few days in camp first since Dolores is down in Palo Alto until the 26th. He said that if he got a draft notice right away, he would come back to his old job here since the company will get him a deferment. < 66666 He figures that he has nothing to lose by going out here since the medical school possibilities out this way have not been so good. Jack

plans to take it easy for a couple of weeks after he gets there. The reclassification of his draft notice worries him a little and he thinks it will be just his luck to get drafted right after he arrives in California. He is not worried about public opinion in California as he doesn't think it will be any different than out here. He is getting a little nervous about meeting his in-laws, but he thinks that there should not be any difficulty since they seem to have accepted him.

When I go out there, I sort to leave Bette all alone, but I figure that her school friends will keep her from getting too lonesome--not that she will miss me. She will have to keep house all by herself, but some of her friends may come to live with her, like Betty Jean and Olga. I don't know where her next year's tuition money is going to come from and I have to start worrying about that pretty soon. But I must get my suit first! The money I drew out for it last week is all gone now. Spent about twice my income this month, but that was because of Christmas presents.

Alice will be having her baby soon now. Her letters sound as if she is so settled. I guess that is because she is adjustable and she doesn't have any particular wild ambitions. She takes things as they come--sort of complacent like, but maybe people are happier that way. I guess she worried quite a bit about Mark, but her mind is occupied with the coming baby right now. But her letters do not show any ill effects of stresses or strains. She sounds rather cheerful. Davey's father is worried about the closing of the camp, but his letter states that he has no immediate plans as he feels he can't return to California unless he has patients there. (The two letters attached.)

Dec. 26, 1944

Dear Jackie and Chas:

My, I don't know how to start my letter of thank you for the nice Christmas presents you both sent me.

Jack--that's an awfully seductive black slip for a married man to send to a respectably married woman who is soon to be a mother, especially since her husband is so far away now. But I love it--and I really could use a black slip. I'll have to get me a real thin blouse so people can see what's under.

Andas for you, Charlie, thank loads for the leather picture frame. I'll save it for the baby's picture. And also thanks for the Xmas card--a very distinctive one.

Did you both have a nice Christmas? I certainly did--all kinds of gifts for me and the baby. And 10 people for a 14 lb. turkey dinner with all the trimmings.

Dolores sent me the cutest salt and pepper shaker set--and a beautiful baby blanket in pink and blue. Miyako sent some hand make pot holders, baby stockings, a stuffed toy elephant, and Kleenex. Mariko, Geo, and Eileen sent a nice tablecloth and napkin set which we ~~xxxx~~ used Christmas. May gave me a pink jersey slip; Toyo--a silk slip and darling baby sweater coat and bonnet set; Tosh--red frivolous slippers; Mark, a beautiful quilted bath robe; Jack S. a \$10 war bond; Dolores Wing, a cotton housecoat; Beverly, a rubber lined bag to carry baby's diapers and milk bottles in; Mrs. S to, \$5.00 money order; Mark's uncle Tom, \$10.00 (will pay for baby's mattress with that); Yuri, some fancy glass jars; Isao (May's brother) a box of chocolates; Mr. Altre, a box of chocolates; Mrs. Jarvis, 2 hand made linen guest towels; Yukie Tanaka, baby soap, oil and powder set; Geo Yokota, \$10 gift order; a \$25.50 theater ticket book from Jack's friend who always comes to dinner with him; and a cute photo and pin make of shells from Mari Ikebuchi.

So you see, Santa was really nice to me this year and now that Christmas is over, I can look forward to the baby's arrival now. Have purchased the bed and mattress and will have them delivered after the first. I suppose May and I will have to move out to the hall after I get all the baby's things in here.

Please let Emi and Bette read this too as I won't have time to write them separately. Thank B for card too. I want to get all my affairs straightened out must in case the baby decides to come earlier as in Kim's case (ch-25 6 mo premature baby). Feel fine and full of pep although the baby kicks quite a bit now. I guess it will be a boy after all--its so active!

Well thanks again for the nice gifts. How's the weather there? We didn't have a white Christmas but it was very cold. Today wasn't so bad, and so far we haven't had much snow, so I guess I'll be able to walk to the hospital when the time comes, it's right around the corner.

Will let you know what you are Uncles and Aunts of as soon as it happens. Only 15 days more now!! Hold on folks! Will close now. bye

Love
/S/Alice.

Letter from Davey's father to him.

Dec. 25, 1944

Dearest Son David:

This is the 3rd Christmas day that we observe in this Center and the first one we spend the day without you and Paul. We feel very lonesome and sad, Although we are confined in the Camp and living very abnormal lives, we would be very happy if our family can get together for the Xmas. Very much disappointed that you did not come home for Xmas.

The West coast exclusion order will be lifted by the Army at midnight Jan 2, 1945 and we will be permitted to go back to Calif from Jan 22. All centers will be closed within 6 months to one year according to WRA authorities. We expect this center will be closed some time next spring or summer but we have no plan what to do. Eventually we have to go back to Calif because I can not practice my profession in any other states outside of Calif, but no use of going back there in a hurry. Doctors can not go anywhere before patients go back there and settle down first. I can not depend upon caucasians to make our livings for the duration of the war.

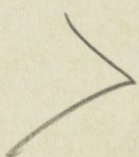
Before the camp closes, we must have a family conferences with you and Paul together concerning our future plans. I am getting old and don't want to make definite plans without advices from my sons.

Did you have a nice Xmas? I had a very good one. About 10 bottles of whiskey, 3 cartons of cigarettes, many boxes of candy and other things and about \$200 in cash was not bad at all.

Merry Xmas from

Your loving

/S/ Dad and Mom.



I didn't do much today. This morning Jack and I had a talk about his future plans. He said that he might be leaving here at the end of next week because he didn't want to wait any longer for the WRA money to come through. He plans to go up to Minneapolis for day or so en route, and then he will go to Arizona to visit the family for about a week. He thought that he would arrive in S.F. about the 20th. Jack does not worry about his adjustments out there as he thinks that it will not be too difficult. He said that he had been out there earlier this year so that he had no fears of hostile public opinion. He hopes to be able to get into a medical school and he will give it a big try the very first thing. He wondered whether the family would want to go back to California. That is a hard one to answer. Much will be dependent upon the economic situation. Bette wants to go because she has a lot of friends there. But these are unanswered problems. We will have to wait for the developments of the new year first before making absolute plans. Jack said that now he was leaving Chicago, he felt a certain attachment to it. "I've never met so many different kinds of racial stocks as out here; Chicago is a very cosmopolitan city. I guess that is why the people out here are inclined to be more tolerant than on the coast. I think that I have 'converted' most of the Nisei fellows at the plant too. I don't argue with them, but I take every chance to point out to them that their thinking has been a little onesided. Most of them are from Rowher and they seem to feel a lot of discrimination out here which I have not particularly been aware of."

I didn't do much today. I went downtown and bought a few things and then I went up and woke Eileen up. She rushed around getting her last things together and then went on to work. I

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waited until about 2;00 in the afternoon and then I took her bags down to Union Station. We had to wait quite a while for the train as it was late. Eileen was able to get a good seat after slipping a dollar to the Redcap. It's quite a racket. They put the bags on the seats so that a chair is assured to those who give the tip. Eileen will be gone for about a week. She is not so sure now that she is going to take that music teaching job in the country. She mentioned something about bringing her sister down and devoting her time to sending her to dancing school. I don't think that her younger sister is ready for that yet since she has not completely recovered from her leg injury last summer. Mai sent me a nice scarf for Christmas. I've never met her, but I correspond with her quite often. It all started when she first went to the hospital last summer just about the time I was starting out for Salt Lake.

I certainly will miss Eileen while she is gone. I guess I am nuts. But she is so sweet that it gets me down. I enjoy her company so much and yet I know that it is meaningless. She has her ambitions on her mind--and too many other male admirers. Anyway, it's a lot of fun even though I know that I would make a hopeless Lothario. We just get together and talk about the dumbest things. A lot of people got the wrong impression of Eileen because of the rumors which were passed around during the time she was running around so vigorously in a Nisei group with Bob, et al. She really is not a superficial person at all although she can't help it if she tends to be socially inclined because of the attention she gets. It's funny that she never gets sore at me when I tell her a lot of things; I guess she can take it. She's the only girl I have liked real well ever since evacuation. It's an interlude and I'll probably plunge back into work at the beginning of the year. She certainly is a nice person though. I'm nuts!

Happy New Year to myself! 1944 just passed into history a few short hours ago. I just came from downtown where I was drawn by curiosity. I guess I should be full of gay spirits, shouting and laughing with the crowds. But strangely, I don't have that feeling of elation and gaiety. As I pushed through that crowd downtown, I got the impression that the thousands were down there in the Loop just to make noise because they were afraid what 1945 would have in store for them. It must be the cynic spirit in me.

That mob downtown reminded me of a pack of dogs howling away as if to bolster up their doubtful courage for the coming year. They don't know what is coming up for them so they want to make a lot of noise in order to blot out forgetfulness of the next 12 months they have to live. They try to live a whole year in one mad evening. The crowds were going nowhere in particular; I was packed in so tight that I just surged along with them. There was no need to go in any direction. People all shouting happy new Year and trying to get into a riotous frame of mind, many successfully. While I was jammed in with the mob, I got to thinking that maybe this will be the year in which the WAR will be over. What a strange thought? I suspect that this was the unspoken wish of the majority of the celebrating thousands out tonight all over the country. They all went out into the streets this evening to shout defiance, come what may in 1945.

I got tired of being trampled all over so that I came on home. I stopped in at a bar as I thought it would be appropriate to have a drink. The bartender gave me a free drink. Drunks all over the place. I was elated for a moment, but the feeling passed. I kept thinking of what 1945 meant for me. I wondered why I wanted to be alone at a time like that. Anyway, I did come home. It's only 1:30 now. I have no desire to be out in company. Davy was

over for a while feeling mighting blue and lonesome. He said that he spent his last \$50 up for a new suit so that he only had \$10 to spend for the evening. He wanted me to go out with him, but I didn't feel like it. Violet wanted me to come over for a party, but I wasn't in a mood for that. Jack left about 8:00 to go to a party and he wanted me to come along, but I didn't feel like going into a group to talk about the Nisei problem tonight of all nights. Bette is still up in the country, I presume. She was supposed to come down today but she thought she might stay over for another day. Emiko is at a party, and I don't know what Mariko and George are doing, since they canceled the party they planned. I feel pretty good right now all by myself. I don't know why people have to go out and shout their heads off tonight. I guess it makes them feel good though. I just don't want to be with a bunch of down at the mouth Nisei waiting for somebody to entertain them this evening. It's too infectious. Financially, I also considered that I would be saving about \$15 if I did not go out on a date and I could apply this on my new suit. How commercial! But I had to think of it since I spent up all my suit money on Christmas presents and I do need a new suit to return to California with at the end of Jan.

I am fairly well satisfied with the year just passed. I think that there was definite progress. There is still that element of uncertainty about things, but everyone has that feeling these days. I achieved certain goals and I think that Emiko and Bette also did the same. The new year will be one in which we have to decide what to do with the family in camp if the WRA goes through with its threat to close the camps down, which I don't think they can do within the year. Tom's problem is settled unless I get drafted, but I don't quite know what to do with Mom and Miyako yet. Alice would be willing to take them, but that is not fair to her.

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It seems selfish to think of personal things when there is such a terrible war going on. In terms of lives and money, 1944 was a bloody and costly year. Since Pearl Harbor over 134,000 American men have been killed in the war; missing 77,000; and 355,000 wounded. The year saw the pushing of the Germans back to their borders, but there is a great German counter attack which will prolong the war well into 1945 in Europe. Japan has been pushed back steadily and the Leyte cleanup is now going on; frequent bombings of Japan by the B-29's are no longer a sensation.

On the home front, we have a very confused Democracy with its inconsistencies, but there is great hope for the future. I don't think that any of us suffered any particular hardships, and inconveniences such as the lack of cigarettes were only minor compared to the hell the soldiers are going through. The national income this year, 159 billion, is about ~~the~~ double the 1939 level. But over 100 billion was spent on the war--all going down the drain as it were.

It makes me wonder whether it is worth it all, especially when I read about England's renewal of Imperialistic policies in the Greek civil war. There seems to be a strong leftist movement in Europe and that may be the "wave of the future" which we have been hearing about. One thing is certain; things will never go back to the status quo. Political ideologies seem to be so entwined with economic status and I often wonder if we are ever going to learn that wars will not be prevented if economic greed is not eliminated. It seems that we still have not learned the lesson. The most we can hope for is that a long step will be taken in the direction of real democracy and that the world conflict will draw to an end without the further loss of lives. But I doubt if 1945 will bring us complete world peace. That's a hell of a pessimistic way to start the new year.