

June 22, 1942

Mr. Fred Hoshiyama
Barrack 4, Apartment 18
Tanforan Assembly Center
San Bruno, California

Dear Mr. Hoshiyama:

I am very sorry that I can't come down this week, but I hope you got my message about my trip to Tulelake.

I have read all the material that you and your associates have given me. I find it very interesting and well done. My major criticism is that you assume that I know so much more about the whole situation than I actually do. Also, I find that you do not give enough specific details in regard to the events that you mention. Therefore, I have written out a great many questions which I think you will find it easy to fill in and thus supplement your report. When I come down next Tuesday we will go into the methodological problems of record taking, and will perhaps bring you a couple of books. The only document which I have not yet criticized is Kikuchi's diary. It is a wonderful piece of work and will certainly be important for our study.

I am sending in the pay roll for June and have put each of you down for \$15. For July, you will each receive \$20.83. I hope you understand that this small payment is in no sense an indication of what we consider your work to be worth. In fact, it should not be considered as salary at all but rather as an honorarium on a sort of scholarship basis. Our budget is so limited that we can do no better than this. Furthermore, I believe questions would be raised if we took the stand that this was salary for work done; whereas, no questions will be raised if we have it on an honorarium basis. Will you please warn your associates that if they discuss this matter at all they should say they are members of a study group and are doing research in connection with their studies. In other words, they are not employees.

With cordial regards.

Very sincerely yours,

Dorothy S. Thomas
Professor of Rural Sociology

DST:rj
Enc.

Thurs

Dear Dr. Dorothy Thomas:

We missed you last Tuesday, but it was probably fortunate that we did. Morton has related to you the happenings of that morning I trust.

Group is and will continue with our individual studies. We shall await further instructions as to medium of contact.

Just for curiosity I checked with the list in the Interior Police office and lo and behold! Morton's name has been added to it as one who must have special permission to enter. Bob Spence may still come as visitor...

Mich Kuritani received his moving orders. He will leave Friday 7 A.M. ... to L.A. & then to Poston, Arizona.

491.
Charles is trying to get back his bulletin, minutes, report etc. which Mr. Greene confiscated. He doubts whether Adminis. will return it.

Thank you for the notebooks.

We would appreciate more
yellow paper and few more
carbons if possible.

Here's hoping that
some clearance and cooperative
attitude can be solicited from
W.C.C.A. (Sorry - Ran out of ink)

Earle + Charles are still
waiting for orders to move.

Sincerely,
Fred Hoshizawa

Tanforan 4-18

August 14, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas:

After much waiting the long expected package containing 100 3¢ stamps, manila envelopes, 12 reams paper, 2 boxes carbon sheets, scotch tape arrived today. Thank you for sending them. Also, I received a letter from Morton Grodzins about specific things we can do and what we cannot do. I shall convey the message to rest of our study group. I shall also convey your best wishes to all of us.

Your letter with the good news came yesterday evening and I want to thank you sincerely for it. I told Charles about the transfer and while I'm on the topic of Charles - here's his address - Tanforan 10-5...

By the time this gets into your hands your vacation would ~~have been~~ be over - I trust that you enjoyed yourself with golf and detective thrillers.

Our golf course here is
nice for a fast round of
pitching and putting.

This last month at
Tanforan will see many
shifts in social trends and
attitudes. We shall be on our toes
to catch much of it as possible.
Just got word that Gault
Kentel will be moving to six
different spots starting Sept 15th
and completely out by Sept. 29th.
Our camp is rumored to
be moving on 15th of Sept.
and the ones arriving first
will move first - most
probably to Utah.

Our best regards to Virginia,
Morton, Dr. Therman, etc.

We shall be waiting for
you at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday.

Cordially
Fred H.

Aug. 17, 1942

Dear Morton:

Thank you for your letter and the valuable bit of information regarding our study.

Hope Dorothy really gets a good rest and enjoys her vacation.

Today the package containing carbon paper and stamps plus manila envelopes and 2 reams of paper arrived. Will distribute to group and will convey your message and good wishes to all.

I'll tell Charles about the notebooks. Order for him and Earle should arrive anytime now.
With best regards,

Sincerely,
Fred Hoshuyama

August 29, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas:

No doubts you received word already that Charles and Earle will leave Sept. 1st, Tuesday morning at 7:15 am. A bunch of others will leave for Gila from Tanforan at the same time.

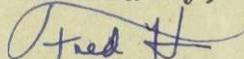
I checked with the visiting office and found that only one name was on the 'black list' and it wasn't ~~xxxx~~ any of your group.

I have been getting my materials organized and will have it ready soon, but I'm delayed more than I expected for I have been tied up day and night these last few weeks. I wanted to quit my job here, but they won't ~~let~~ me resign. I'll have to manage best I can. If I can't get it all completed here, I shall promise to have it done at relocation. You can depend on that.

Received your message (I believe you sent a copy to others for they said they got something from you) I'll check and if not, convey the information to them.

will be expecting you Tues. Last day for visiting is Sept. 11th.

Cordially,



Fred Hoshiyama

copy

Tanforan ~~4-18~~ 4-18
September 3, 1942

Dear Bob:

Dr. Thamas tells me that you are getting used to the camp life and are coming along famously. I'm glad to know that you have improved and that you are able to 'take it' so to speak.

I am writing this to let you know that I wrote to a resident at Gila Project (I don't know which camp he is at) but I think he is in the hospital as an exray technician. His name is Verlin Y. Yamamoto and he is a very good man to know and talk with. I told him to get in touch with ~~him~~ you, and I think he will when he finds time unless he has done that already. I have known him for a long time, and I count him as one of my best friends. He has a very searching and sharp mind and I'm sure he's an invaluable help to you in your ~~work~~ work. He is the type of person who has his fingers on and in everything which goes about the camp and since I ~~had~~ heard that you might have a hard time to get right into the nisei and issei people, I wanted to see if I could suggest anything to help you out. He can give you entire right into the group or at least help you get their inner feelings and attitudes and he can probably give you all the addition information you might need. He is recently married and his father is a dentist, sent from San Francisco. That is why his family was separated from the San Francisco ~~ex~~ people. Merlin is about 5'3" and weighs about 120 lbs. wears glasses and smokes quite a bit. He is scientific minded and has many skills, one of them being an expert photographer. He is of the Protestant faith and has been quite a leader among the Christian youth movement in our community.

Both Tally and Charles have left and probably they have reached there long ago in good shape and in one piece. Charley might not like the camp from what Morton and Dorothy tells me about the predominance of the Japanese speaking people. Now, I wished that I might be there at Gila, although my folks wouldn't want me to separate right now.

I am going to leave Tanforan on ~~Sept~~ Sept. 9th and I have volunteered to go on the first contingent which will set up the camp. Others will follow beginning Sept. 15th and continue until about the end of the month. I feel that it will take until early part of Oct.

We are planning a tremendous big affair called the Mardi Gras, the biggest thing to happen to the Japanese people for it'll be a three day affair, Sept. 5, 6, 7th and it'll be all-inclusive of every age group from baby contest to grand pa races. This is something which is being put on by the whole camp residents and the enthusiasm and the interest is mounting daily.

Let me know how things are with you and you can write to above address for I'll get it. When I'm permanently relocated, I shall let you know, but in the meantime, my folks and brothers will all be here until the very last for our mess hall will be the last group to leave Tanforan.

God luck to you in your work and best wishes to you Bob....

Sincerely,
fred hoshiyama

dwg

Tanforan 4-18
September 3, 1942

Dr. D. S. Thomas
Giannini Hall
Berkeley, California

Dear Dorothy:

The package of notebooks was received yesterday and I want to thank you for sending them to us. They were a convenient sized notebooks and we liked them very much.....

I am enclosing Lincoln Kanai's statement which Morton requested. I haven't heard from him since last week, and I am afraid that his commutation did not come through and that he has already been put into the Dupont Federal Prison. I am waiting for his letter.

I also wrote to Bob and I am enclosing a copy of the letter. There are few other good people he can meet and have a chat with but I think if he gets in touch with Verlin Yamamoto, he will get the necessary connections which might prove helpful to him.

No definite word as to when we shall leave has come to us yet, nor has there been any word as to where we are definitely going. I am gradually getting things packed and I shall be very busy until my leaving for I have to wind up my Boys Activities work and on top of that I have the Church, Sunday School and the Mardi Gras Hobby shows (seven sections) to chairman and supervise. It'll all make interesting writing as it develops and progresses until the leaving. In the meantime, best wishes..

Yours,
fred h. *trudt*

TO FRIENDS OF LINCOLN KANAI:

OUR MUTUAL INTEREST IN LINCOLN KANAI'S FLIGHT BEHOOVES ME TO MAKE COPIES OF HIS LETTERS FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND SINCE HE ASKED ME TO CONVEY HIS BEST WISHES TO YOU ALL. LINCOLN KANAI: "Since I cannot individually contact or write to many of the people, I wish you would be free to do so. Thank you".

COPIES

#1 Dunbar Lane
San Francisco, California
August 18th, 1942.

Dear Fred:-

Case to be on the 25th before Judge Roche--I understand that he's quite conservative. Letters of testimony of loyalty and convictions to constitutional and inter-racial emphasis perhaps to FBI will be helpful. However, I guess we'll just have the court decide. Saw Dr. Galen Fisher and he's getting a lawyer for me. If not, I shall take the problem in my own defense. Thanks for your good wishes. Your courage and perspectives have been most enlightening to me. I am willing to face any sentence to affirm my belief in the constitution of racial equality before law regarding native citizens. Best of luck to you and others. Yours is a bigger responsibility in camp. Mine is a real experience for me and I have no regrets as it is my conviction.

By the way, I would appreciate some penny postals from you. I cannot obtain them here. Thanks muchly.....

Sincerely,
Lincoln (signed)

#1 -- Dunbar Lane
San Francisco
August 25th, 1942

Dear Fred--

Thanks for your favors. I do surmise that it was you who sent the e postal cards.

Now that my sentence has been committed, and that I have selected to do six months rather than probation for a year, my freedom will be nearer with each day's passing. On the other hand a few letters to Attorney Biddle may hasten decision on the case.

I have received a letter from Congressman Sam King that the case is being continued and that the WRA has recommended dropping the prosecution. Now it will have to be a commutation of sentence. In a few days I shall be taken to #5 Federal Prison at Dupont, Washington.

The past experience has been invaluable and none the less, my convictions will remain as per. Keep up your end and my regards to the friends I know.

Sincerely,
Lincoln (signed)

HEARING EXCERPTS FROM COURT TRAIL---August 25th 1942

L. Kanai.

Your Honor:- My plea is 'noble contender' and I should like to act as counsel in my own behalf and leave the case at the mercy of the court. It is my desire also for an early termination of the case. (I had to do this as it has been too long for me to remain here). Because the prosecution asked for the case being guilty or not guilty, I plead guilty.

Statement in part:-

"It has been my personal privilege to have a cosmopolitan rearing of many races and this has developed in me a tolerance which has developed into a conviction to believe in the American traditions of our founding fathers

of rights of individuals regardless of race. It is the way I have always lived.

I have also pledged my loyalty to my country, all my life, and my pledges and oaths have been to support and defend the constitution of the United States against all enemies, both foreign and domestic. The case of internement or restrictions of citizens by race is a domestic problem. It is my conviction that environment plays a greater part in loyalty and character than ancestry, and I shall reaffirm here that the important basis is that my pride, loyalty, and honor is in being thoroughly American.

This is my native land and in violating that restriction I had to choose either to support the Constitution and my convictions or to temporarily suspend them.

I have acted in consistency to the pledges and oaths that I have always taken and believed.

My aim has been during this trip to make relocation and evacuation a pattern for future emergencies with the possibility~~xxx~~^{making} of the people of the midwest and central states aware of their mutual responsibilities and the need of their cooperation. I should not have ~~xxxx~~ made this attempt if there was an equitable policy and that the courses of procedures were not subject to politics."

I presented also the fact that eventually at the completion of the trip to Washington D.C., I have planned to present the problems to the Department of Justice.

If any of you wish to write to Lincoln his present address is

Mr. Lincoln Kanai
#1 Dunbar Lane
San Francisco, California

In the future it shall be:

Mr. Lincoln Kanai
Federal Penitentiary #5.
Dupont, Washington

Topaz, Utah
September 13, 1942

*Topaz
Sept 13 1942*

Dear Dr. Thomas:

We arrived at Topaz, Utah, our new home, on the morning of Sept. 11th and we like it. That's our first impression. We left Tanfo. at exactly 8:00 pm Wednesday evening and reached ~~Delta~~ Delta, Utah the nearest train station from Topaz, Utah, at 7:38 am. Friday morning after spending 5 hours at Salt Lake City, Utah. The train ride was fun and I enjoyed it--being my first trip out of California. As we passed by the Bay Bridge and saw San Francisco in the evening dim out atmosphere for the last time for many years (perhaps) a sad refrain was running through our thoughts. Window shades were permitted to be drawn up throughout the trip except when the lights were on in the trains during the night up to 10:30 pm. The guards were more than friendly and courteous to all of us.

It rained in Utah as we arrived and later we found that the rain proved to be a great blessing for it kept the dust down. As we took a motor bus which transported about 20 passengers each from Delta to Topaz (newly named for our camp instead of 'tokyo' as some called this center--Topaz, an Indian name taken from the beautiful mountain peak which lies nearest to us in the western direction from us) we felt that we would like our new home because just about a mile away from the camp area, we saw the rainbow which seemed to be just over the camp grounds. It was an sign of good luck and greeting!

Every single individual in this camp, 213 persons in all came in the first volunteer contingent, comments on the friendliness and the graciousness of the camp director, Chas. Ernst and his staff members. These men come to mingle in with us and are so humble and open to suggestion that all those I interview express the same thing, that the attitude of the adminis/tration was a pleasant surprise. It sure is a big change from the Davis & Co. They met us at the station at Delta, and then at registration, and then they came to our first meal and introduced themselves and Mr. Ernst intro. his staff members. They told us that they were there to serve us and that they were open to any suggestion, criticism, and they wanted to learn together with us to build the best city that Utah will ever have. Incidentally, Topaz will be the fifth largest city in Utah and that's something to feel proud about.

Wea/ther has been very swell. It's cold in the morning, quite cold, but very warm in the afternoon. Today, it was 90°F. in the barracks. At about 7 pm it cools down to a very comfortable temperature. Around 9:30 pm it gets chilly. At midnight, it's cold.

Food has been so excellent that we are bewildered. We expected beans and the type of food we had at Tanforan the first two weeks. But, no, we are given better food than we ever had at Tanforan. Everyone just loves this camp and we are not going to call it camp, but we are calling it city and the evacuees as residents.

The staff here really are top men and they know what they are doing. What interests me is that these men have a certain social philosophy which they believe in and want to devote their energies and time ~~ix~~ in meeting the challenge. Mr. Lorne Bell, chief of community services told me that we will have one of the best faculty men for our education system in this state and Utah ranks second to California in this area.

I'm enclosing a copy of the report on the first Assembly meeting. It'll give you the attitude of the administration and the problem we face. Nothing definite has been planned for us as far as projects are concerned. Lens grinding, farming, ceramics are some of the possible suggestions.

The buildings are built much better than I had expected. I did expect to find improvement from Tanforan, but not as well as I did ~~find~~ find here. I understand that Topaz will be the most modern of all the WRA camps and of any of the service men's camp. It seems that we are really a test group, a test colony, and the authorities are waiting to see what we can do and they expect a lot from this group because of our supposedly high education and better class of people. It is a challenge for us and the residents seem to want to prove themselves. It's a good sign. We are trying not to mention morale here. We are going to call it 'mental Climate' which we will call just 'climate'. Even when it's raining, we shall reply, Climate is grand, when asked how everything is.

First family group will arrive Sept. 17th and daily at rate of 500 which I doubt because we're not ready for them yet. They are working Sundays and night time, but I doubt whether it will be finished in time. This place wasn't ready yet when we arrived, for toilet seats and hospitals aren't ready, but we did have hot water, showers and etc. when we arrived. Everything on the administration side seems to be well organized before we stepped foot on our new city.

Mr. Ernst told me that other centers were taking away our best people to their projects and he said that Tule wanted to take Prof. Umeta. He mentioned that couple of good men went to Gila to do study for you. He seemed to know about the study and mentioned your name and said that the WRA tried to arrange to have the study concentrated in one place--Tule Lake. I didn't say anything to him, but he seems to be very receptive to anything in way of research. He is a grand person and I have an idea that Topaz will be the best WRA center of them all. It's interesting to watch it grow.

There are six other young men in my room at this moment having a bull session so my thoughts are incoherent and I'm jumping around but I'll try to get this information out bit by bit.

We have an area of one mile square which is our living area and the whole center is ~~xx~~ 12,000 acres. We are on the salt bed, bottom of a lake and all around us are mountain ranges, the nearest being Topaz whence cometh our name. Military police patrol the outside, and during the day, they are supposed to patrol the 12,000 acre area. We have all the land we need for anything. We can't get out unless accompanied by some Caucasian staff member. Perhaps, later, we may get permission to get furloughs to visit other cities for important meetings. Mr. Bell told me that perhaps it may be arranged to have some one go to YMCA conferences and that we may start the first YMCA in Utah. Being "Y" secretary, I may try to organize a group here and try to build other youth movements such as Scouts and etc. The people mostly Mormons are very friendly and I believe that we will like it here so well that no one will want to move.

Thomas:

My family won't join me until the end of the month so I'll probably be at the present address Block 3, Barr. 3, Apt. E, Topaz, Utah, until then. Right now, they have nominated me to be the house captain and since 11:00 am of the day we arrived, Mr. Lorne Bell wanted to put me on the pay roll as secretary of the executive committee of the Community ACTIVITIES. I'm trying to keep away from permanent assignments which will require too much time much as possible without arousing too much suspicion. The pay range is \$16.00 and \$19.00. Only one top man in each section will receive \$19.00 in addition to professional men. All others will receive \$16.00 which I think is very fair and good for the "mental climate". It should be something like this to prevent pettiness. Mr. Ernst said that all the caucasian staff members will have to take an attitude of humbleness or else the ingenuity and skillfulness of the residents will put them to shame. They have to work with ~~and x t o g e t h e r~~ us and learn with us. Such an attitude is certainly a different type of attitude from that of Tanforan officials. Mr. Bell kept emphasizing that WRA and WCCA are altogether two different set-ups and for us not to think them as one agency.

If you can arrange to get me some plans for city government and city planning, I would appreciate having some materials on it. I have a rating with Civil Service Commission as Jr. Technician for Public Administration and Mr. Bell asked me if I might help organize this city. I would like to do what I can, but any text material or city plans for government will be invaluable since I have been away from school for so long. I know Prof. May would be able to help you. I took lots of public administration from him. Principles of Public Administration by White is a good text. Thanking you for anything you can do to help me in this.

I'll be waiting for your instructions and for the other studies so that I can get the Tanfo. study organized. I want to get at it soon as possible before too much time elapses for memory is such frail things. My other cases which has the studies and books has not arrived yet. I believe they will ship it to me as room in the baggage cars present itself. I'm afraid that I'll have to wait until the end of the month for them, but I have some paper and carbon paper, and few notes which I am writin up. I have been busy getting the camp organized and helping with the administration get started. It seems that I'm always in the the pie and get myself tangled in lots of things. I guess I'll never learn better. But, it gives me chance to get the inside of everything. We already got the house captains organized, the police which will be called safety council, and community activites. Employment will be rolling right along now and every job at this place will have a category which will fit the Civil Service ~~Classification~~ classifications.

Delta is 16 miles away from Topaz. We will have a post office at this city and Giv. Maw asked to be invited here soon. Streamliners pass through Delta, they have Telegraph office and Ry. Express office. We're at an elevation of 4,680 feet and the air seems pure. The water is salty and soft, but quite pure.

I better close now and write up my minutes and my other reports. I'll write again, but in the meantime, let me hear from you and will be waiting your instructions. Hope you can help me on the Public Administration (city planning and government). With best personal regards to Virginia, Morton and Your husband, Dr. Chernin and the rest. I'll watch the political activities for Dr. Chernin also.

Yours, fred h. *[Signature]*

*Block
Covers
to see
city*

Topaz, Utah
September 20, 1942

Greetings to you from Topaz, our new home which will be the fifth largest city in Utah, when all of Tanforan and part of Santa Anita gets here.

There has been rumor that part of Tanforan will be sent to Arkansas. That's not true and Tanforan will all come here definitely. I promised to write to you, but since I'll be writing just about the same thing to all of you, I am making carbon copies which I hope you won't mind too much. It's just a little over one week ago that I first set my foot at Topaz, and within that week have had a chance to get some information about our city-to-be and get a cross section of our community life.

After a long 35-hours of tiring and uneventful train ride, we arrived in Delta, Utah, Fri. am. Sept. 11th, from Tanforan, California. Since the 17th of Sept. about 500 persons have been arriving daily and will continue coming in until the 23rd. Then, a short lull and more will follow in about a week. To date we have nearly 2,000 in our new city-to-be, Topaz.

Our new home is called Topaz which is about 16 miles from Delta, the nearest train station. Name TOPAZ is taken from a beautiful mountain which lies about 12 miles west of us. Topaz is situated on a former lake bottom and is surrounded all around by long ranging mountains which make our sunrise and sunsets very picturesque. The temperature varies from 20 degrees below zero to 120 degrees F. It is not uncommon to find a difference of 50 degrees in one day as we have experienced. Elevation is about 4,600 ft. above sea level. Our first impression of the land around Delta was good; nice country with small farmlands of alfalfa, corn and sugar beet, and pastures. Area around Topaz which is 12,000 acres is very alkali, and we do not know what type of agricultural products will grow best.

Our city will have 42 square city blocks, and 32 of them will be used for living blocks. Other blocks are being used for schools, civic center, playgrounds. When fully housed, there will be approximately 9100 persons

Fred Hoshiyama

here. Hospital with 250 beds is being rushed to completion and later there will be erected an auditorium, gym and civic center right in the middle of the mile square area which is the residential area. Soon as the clever and industrious Nipponese plant park trees, gardens and pools, we shall have a true oasis right in the heart of the Utah desert. Each and everyone of the residents will have a part in the building and creating of this 'dream' city into a reality. We can do it and we will!

Approximately 300 to 360 persons will be housed in one block. Each block will have two rows of six buildings each making 12 buildings in all, and each bldg. will have six apartments of three different sizes to accommodate couples, family of 4s and 6s. Between the two rows of bldgs. will be found the laundry room, men and women showers, 4 baths for women, wash rooms with individual basins, and men and women toilets all in one bldg. and the other large bldg. is the dining hall capable of seating 350 per sitting. The walls of the apts. are not completed since inner walls and ceilings will be constructed later by the Japanese carpenters with rock sheet boards which are fireproof and excellent insulators. Floors have masonite coverings and each room will have stove burning coal. Bldgs. are 120 ft. by 20 ft. There is a vestibule for every two apts. and each apt. has an individual door and it is necessary to enter the door leading into the vestibule first.

There are three 'first' impressions which everyone experiences as he enters Topaz. First, the sincere, cordial friendliness of the Director, Mr. Chas. F. Ernst, and his top staff men, second, the uniformity of the bldgs. and of the blocks, and third, is the fine, whitish, clay dust. After one week, one gets used to the dust, learns to like the well structured buildings and appreciates, respects and loves the top administrators. There's no question

Fred Hoshiyama

that we are very fortunate to have a man of Mr. Ernst's calibre, his rich social welfare background experience, and his genuine interest in our welfare and future.

After mixing around with the various residents, new arrivals and veterans, I got all kinds of answers to the query, "How do you like it here?", but all of their answers can be succinctly put into one statement, "We like it here at Topaz." This attitude is the first step in the building of a great community life and it's a healthy sign.

While we were in California, we proudly and boastfully spoke of our 'sun-kissed' state, but I have thousands of Topazian residents who will claim that Utah does not do so bad as a 'sun-kissed state'. In the afternoons, it gets mighty warm and many have been taken to the hospital with 'heat exhaustion' which causes diarrhea, temperature of 103-104 degrees, and severe headache. Couple of salt pills usually brings them back on their feet in a few days. This morning and Sat. morning, there were icicles all over, and the early mornings are extremely cold. Brrr. Brrr. Brrr. Around 2:00 pm. the wind gets ornery and starts blowing the dust all over and sometimes our blankets look white with dust. We can control dust storms later with vegetation so our future isn't so forlorn. It so happened that we had perfect weather all week and on the day the new contingent came in the weather men 'sold us down the river'. We told our friends at Tanfo. what a grand weather we were having and when they came, the dust nearly made everyone physically sick, and I know they were greatly discomforted both mentally and physically. There sure is lots of DUST here.

Except for the first seven blocks, the dining halls and the other essential facilities aren't ready yet. Blocks 3,5,6,7,10, 11, 12, 13, and 14,

Fred Hoshiyama

are now filled. Those in 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 have to come to other first mentioned blocks to eat. There is quite a bit of confusion and disorganization. Tonight, the blankets will arrive from Salt Lake City and those who arrived today won't have blankets until then, and it gets mighty cold. Mr. Ernst sent a telegram asking Tanfo. group to hold up moving, but it seems that they are sending them as scheduled. The experience at Tanfo. the first few weeks should teach the Army something, but no, they insist on sending people to unprepared, unready centers. There isn't any military necessity since all the people are in centers now, and since we have waited this long to be relocated, another week of waiting shouldn't hurt too much. I'm just a small voice in the wilderness so it doesn't count, but there should be some way to modify plans so that food and other problems can be met for another week at Tanforan.

There has been a great deal of gambling going on ever since we got on the trains and it has continued right on in this center. It's not uncommon to see a pot of \$10.00 - \$15.00 and \$30.00 winnings or losings per session. This situation will cause ill feelings sbmewhere and the lid will blow off. We'll have to tackle this problem right away, but it's important to settle this without bringing it up with the administration. Our Council self-government must deal with it.

As for work, most of the workers are now employed in keeping the operations of eating, sleeping, plumbing, boilerrooms, and sanitation, and warehouse activities going. Few are secretaries, few are administrators, few are storekeepers--most of the men are working on trucks, baggages, induction, kitchen and garbage detail. It's hard to get enough men and so the employment situation is all mixed up. Everyone wants kitchen or boiler room jobs.

Fred Hoshiyama

Our life at Topaz is a new experience for the Administration as it is for us, and Mr. Ernst said that we will have to make many mistakes together, learn together, and build together. He said that this was our center and it was up to us to do what we can with it. The Administration will help us all they can, and we are to help them all we can, and together we can make something out of it. We can go as far and as high as we are able. It's up to us and only our limitations will hold us back. Such a humble and cooperating attitude on the part of the administration certainly challenges us and we can't help but attain a harmonious relationship and a smooth, well-organized city.

There are lots of scrap lumber for individual carpentry since we already have a pile over a million bd. feet and if we took 10% of that just for assuring ourselves of usable lumber, we still would have 450,000 bd. ft. which will be enough for everyone, including those coming in on last day. More is accumulating daily as construction progresses and so everyone will get his share. Block managers are handling the details of distribution on equal basis.

Every night, Mr. Ernst brings his top staff personnel to the Assembly meetings of the new arrivals and greets them, introduce his staff, and gives encouraging and inspiring words. These men work all day, and yet they willingly come out every night to meet with the residents. It creates a good family-like relationship and we now adopted a new name for Ernst. We call him 'Pop' Ernst. We call Jim Hughes, Ass't. Director, 'Uncle' Hughes, Lorne Bell, as 'uncle' Bell, etc.

Temporary block managers have been appointed through recommendations and it is the understanding of all concerned that each and every job here is on temporary basis until the camp is 100% organized. Therefore, one can find college grads. in warehouses, dining halls, etc. We have to pitch

Fred Hoshiyama,

in to get the right start. I like this idea of making jobs temporary until all the residents join us for in this way we can be assured of having the most qualified man in the right job and will give everyone a chance. It won't be fair in any other way. By the way, each job at Topaz will be given U.S. Civil Service Classification and when we return to normal life, we can get the same rating.

Church services for both Protestant faith and the Buddhist were held this morning. Last Sun. an unique join service between the Buddhist and the Christians was held and it was so successful and well-approved that it was requested to be continued. Only trouble about large gathering of any kind is that there is no large meeting hall. Recreation halls in each block are the only meeting hall except the dining halls. Rec. Halls have three stove chimneys along the middle of the hall and the dining halls have too many beams and posts which get in the way. Sunday school class with 25 in attendance was held this morning.

Last St. night we held a mixer dance and bridge sessions. Last night, nothing was planned since people were coming in daily and they were too tired and busy getting settled in their new homes. A dance is planned for the middle of the week when there will be a lull on arrivals.

Already, we have run out of mattresses and new arrivals have been getting a 'ticks'. Blankets are supposed to come in today, but we ran out of those also. ~~xxxx~~ Comforters are all out, brooms are short, other supplies are out. It's too bad...It causes confusion and gives the newcomers a bad feeling from the start.

Notices for the first provisional self-government for Topaz has been put up already. Bob Iki, and I met with Director Mr. Ernst and Chief of Community Services, Mr. Lorne Bell, and drew up the regulations for our government which will be within the framework of WRA regulations. One councilman will be elected from each block, Election procedures will be determined by election board appointed by Center Director for each block. Nomination will be by acclamation at Nomination meeting, rather than by petition. Housemanagers will be appointive jobs and cannot become councilmen. Council will be the legislative body to make policies and procedures and liaison between residents and administration. Councilmen will serve voluntarily. City charter and constitution will be drawn up later, and at Topaz, self-government will play a very important role.

Today we had chicken fricasse. Quality and variety of food has dropped somewhat since the first weeks food. Perhaps the increasing number of residents and the added confusion in the dining halls due to double shifting is making it hard for the stewards to plan for good foods.

Here and there, one can hear the pounding of the hammer, sawing noise of wood cutting, shaving of the plane from early morning hours to late at nite. It's a good sign for the people are building their homes so it can be more comfortable. Most of the center is quiet by 9:30 pm, but the shower rooms are still a good "bull-session" spot until after midnight. Radios are blasting away in nearly every apartment which makes the community seem alive with activity and noise.

There are few snakes, lots of flies, number of ants, and tons and tons of DUST. Nothing serious has happened yet....one girl had an appendectomy but she is back already from Delta Hospital, and she will be up in a day or so...(Miyo Miura), and Hiroshke Inouye got permission to leave here for

Page 8.
Fred Hoshiyama

San Jose to see his dying wife at San Jose sanatorium. We get action when it's needed without having 8 papers signed when someone is dying.

I tried to sit down and think out what the most important and the biggest difference between Mr. Ernst and Co and Mr. Davis & Co. was. My conclusions are: At Topaz, the officials are genuinely interested in each one of us and what we can do, and tries to provide all the opportunities for us to grow, expand, and learn. At Tanforan, we had to fight for every chance we got and often didn't get them. This difference makes all the difference in the world to us. There will be definitely, a spot in the scheme of things at Topaz for everyone of us. They will make jobs to suit our peculiar talents if ready-made jobs aren't available. That's the extent of their interest in us.

Friday night, Mr. Coverley came to Topaz, met the groups, and gave a short message. He stated that the WRA is sincerely interested in our welfare, not only for the present but will continue to watch out for our interests after the war during the crucial post-war period. Nash is leaving Manzanar, Eastborne Smith is leaving Gila project. WRA will have a headache replacing these men. We hope that we will never lose our director, Mr. Ernst. No other person in the U.S. can replace him, is my humble opinion.

We may get a chance to organize the first YMCA in Utah. Scout movement is strong here, but not the YMCA.

We shall have Jr. college, high school, elementary school, and nursery. We shall have a real good educational staff--best in the state. Well, it's 30. Drop me a line and let me know how things are with you. Best wishes, Yours,

Fred Hoshiyama 3-3-E