

April 25, 1940

Mrs. Tomi Shibutani
2419 Channing Way
Berkeley, Calif.

Dear Madame

Well I guess its about time that a respectable bum like me send glad tidings and best wishes. But being the socially unaccepted low-brow that I am-- ask your worse half-he'll tell you--I've overlooked that point till now.

Guess now that it's "For better or for worse" any propaganda I may present to you about--the you know who--would be futile.

Befor we go on any further, I would like to have it understood that I hold no grudges or gripes against --you know who. If I did I have forgotten them due to worry of conditions in general or am trying to forget them. Guess its rather poor tactics to present the facts in the way I've stated them -- But so help me it's the truth.....

Well now let's pass on to pleasanter subjects.....(pause)

Saw Barry yesterday---same ole' Barry,... CORNY as ever.

Oh yeah guess what --- I'm a working man now... in fact a bloomin' plutocrat. Among other things I'm a bill collector, grocery clerk, wholesale salesman, bookkeeper, auto dealer, and general manager of a large gas station--- NO FOOLIN'-- kinda went up in the world didn't I--- (pause while I pat my back---"It's really only the beginning, Al, we always knew you had it in you-- carry on and buckle down who knows you might get a real job which pays off in hard cash instead of gratitude."

. Yep! it's really a sad case--cause you know as well as I do that one cannot pay for a "date" with gratitude.

Enuff' said about "Yours truly"---- how's the marital "bliss" coming along. Heard you folks were staying in the Channing Chapel--Hope things haven't come to the point where your tearing down the curtains and throwing things about--The McDermotts were always fussy about cleanliness you know.

By the way while I'm at it give my regards to the unfortunate occupants of the Chapel--The McDermotts, Art, Maurice, and--I've forgotten the others. Say "Hello" to Tosh an' Sue. Guess the students have all left for home so we can skip them.

Since you're not present in Stockton, I gather that you're headed for Tanforan. Guess you're running about trying to get everything ready for "M" day. Hope you're not too busy to overlook this letter.

Your other half's pater comes over rather often came over and first read the application announcement here.... rather took it as a matter of course.

With a very abrupt ending I'll terminate the agony of having to read this letter.,..... If that bum Koe happens to write tell him to answer my letters..... Adieu .. and keep those Tanforan stables clean..

As ever

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ITHACA, NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

February 4, 1942

Mr. Tamotsu Shibutani
2419 Channing Way
Berkeley, California

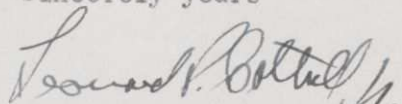
Dear Mr. Shibutani,

In reply to your letter of January 29, I suggest that you get in touch with Professor Louis Wirth, Department of Sociology, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois. Professor Wirth, at the present time, is preparing a research memorandum for the Social Science Research Council on the effect of the war on the national minorities in this country. It is quite probable that he would have some useful suggestions to make to you on this score.

You might also write to Dr. Donald Young, Social Science Research Council, 230 Park Avenue, New York, New York for suggestions in this field. He has done a good deal of work on minorities.

By way of a return request I should like to know about the kind of things you are undertaking and methods you propose to use. I happen to be chairman of a committee of the Social Science Research Council which is interested in promoting research of this and other sorts of the social effects of the war. Your suggestions might be valuable to pass on to other persons interested in doing similar research in other parts of the country.

Sincerely yours


Leonard S. Cottrell, Jr.

LSC:mt

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230 Park Avenue
New York City

Cable Address: SOCSCIENCE, New York

726 Jackson Place, NW,
Washington, D.C.
March 4, 1942.

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Dear Mr. Shibutani:

It was with real interest that I read the tentative outline of your study of aliens of enemy national origin in the United States. There is some doubt in my mind, however, whether I can offer any constructive suggestions at this distance and with only your outline to go on. Perhaps I may be able to be of more help later, when you face specific problems in carrying out your plans, if you then think it worth while to ask for advice on matters of procedure and method.

I should like, however, to raise one very tentative question concerning your plans. I wonder whether the four hypotheses you set forth include the most significant possibilities. This is, of course, in large measure a matter of personal choice. Any hypothesis which a scientist wants to test is a proper hypothesis for examination. All that I am asking is whether you have consciously considered the alternatives. Hypothesis No. 1, in that it is concerned with differences in the history of group relationships, may be interpreted as including practically anything, including the subject matter of the other three hypotheses. No. 2 is confusing to me in that it includes both culture and a geographical concept, location. No. 3, it seems to me, is concerned with symptoms rather than with causes, in that race attitudes are difficult to separate from actual interracial behavior, and both are undoubtedly determined by something else. No. 4 goes back to history, and I doubt its significance. Indeed, I can not at the moment think of any specific lessons which the American public might have learned in the field on minority-majority relationships in the first world war.

Quite a number of people, including myself, have advanced hypotheses in explanation of so-called interracial behavior. John Dollard, for example, advances a very definite hypothesis in Frustration and Aggression, although I doubt its validity. You are, of course, familiar with many other hypotheses in the field. Some are indirectly covered by the four hypotheses you suggest as possibilities for testing. What I am suggesting is that you deliberately take one or more hypotheses which have been advanced by sociologists and are well known, and see whether they can be supported by the kind of study you are undertaking.

This letter may not be at all helpful, but at least I have raised the one question which presented itself as I read your outline. It may well not be a valid question. I am confident, however, that your proposed study has such potential value that it should be carried through if at all possible in view of the existing situation on the west coast.

Sincerely yours,

Donald Young

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

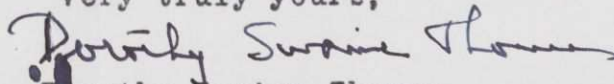
THE GIANNINI FOUNDATION OF
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

April 22, 1942

To the WCCA in Berkeley:

Mr. Tom Shibutani has been working on a research project in connection with my program at the University. Professor Donald Young, of the University of Pennsylvania and of the Social Science Research Council is arriving here by plane on Saturday. It is extremely important, from the point of view of the future of Mr. Shibutani's career that he have an opportunity to see Professor Young on Saturday, early in the afternoon, since Professor Young has expressed interest in having a meeting with him. Any courtesies extended to Mr. Shibutani to make this meeting possible will be greatly appreciated by me and by the University authorities

Very truly yours,



Dorothy Swaine Thomas
Professor of Rural Sociology

COPY

POST CARD

Tom Shibutani
Tomi Shibutani

May 2, 1942

Tanforan

May 2, 1942

Dear Virginia,

Conditions are not so hot, but we are improving today and very soon much more. I am typing this on a spring bed with the typewriter case as a chair.

We sure were griped yesterday, but it seems to have worn off a little today.

Our address is: Barrack 16, Apt. 49, Tanforan, San Bruno, California.

We live in horse stalls with straw mattresses and what lousy food.

Thanks so much for helping us and for taking care of our stuff.

Will write a long letter later.

(signed) Tom & Tomi

Copy

May 4, 1942

Dear Virginia,

I'm sorry that I haven't written for so long, but I'm so busy running around and bothering with everybody else's business and snooping around that I haven't time for much else. I haven't had a bath or a shave since I've come to camp and here I am pounding away on a typewriter at 3:15 p.m. with everybody else around here including Tomi is pounding away on the hammer making furniture out of cast-off wood. I've wormed my way into the administration by getting a job as the barrack-manager here. It gives me an opportunity to get some inside dope on how things are done as well as giving me an opportunity to know the people on my block well. I've canvassed the neighborhood twice already and have started asking innocuous questions on background. I tell them what I'm doing in camp (I tell them I'm a student) and they come through with their background. I only regret to say (in a way a regret) that we live in one of the best groups in the camp. All the people here in my barrack are unusually sincere and conscientious workers. Furthermore, they all seem to be honest. I have a couple of ministers in the flock. Most of the people here are young newly-married couples or else they're old-timers who have had no children (our barrack is for families of less than three). Other house-managers have difficulty in getting people to do any work, by my group always volunteers and does practically all the work. When Tomi (who volunteered to be a dietitian in our kitchen when she was so dissatisfied with the cooking in the main mess hall) started kitchen no. 8, all the workers who helped her came from our barrack, even though two other blacks were asked to provide workers.

Some of the sections around here are just like slums. The houses are filthy with mud, and laundry is hung all over the place. The place is dirty and we're having a hell of a time cleaning up the place. We don't have enough workers to do anything, because the younger fellows, who are the strongest, quite often play baseball and stand around, while the older fellows and old men do the dirty work. Mr. Lawson, the director (who incidentally is a swell guy) said that eventually he may make everyone who can work.

Visitors are allowed to come, but they cannot get into the camp. You had better get a special permit if you intend to get inside. We are allowed to meet friends in the reception hall, but not in our barracks. You can bring anything you want except contraband, and you will not be searched, although if contraband slips into the camp, this privilege will be withdrawn. By the way, parcel post is open, and I wish you would send me a carton of fresh Spuds (cigarettes) pronto. Lack of "weeds" will drive me nuts, and a good supply always helps in our quest for information. Tomi wants her lab-coat (white), her smock, and her apron, which I understand she left in her trunk (in Dr. Thomas' basement).

Please call Najima and tell him before he evacuates that he had better bring plenty of stuff or he will have a hell of a time in camp. First of all, he ought to bring plenty of tools (hammer, saw, screw driver, nails); plenty of wood is still available, but tools are not supplied by the Army. The rooms have as yet absolutely no furniture besides the bed. In fact we are given nothing but a horse-stall or a room, with two electric bulbs, two beds, and two mattresses (of straw unless you're an invalid). We expect to have some furniture made soon,

but as yet we have none. Everyone is getting the left-over wood, which is left in huge piles, and making furniture out of them. The reason why I couldn't write sooner was that I had no place to write. I just made this table and stool yesterday, and so far today I have been running around getting blankets for some of the people on my block (blankets are supplied by the W.C.A.A.). Tomi has been busy as hell nailing up things, and helping organize a gang of people to operate a new kitchen.

Tell Naj also to bring plenty of electrical equipment. Bring plenty of extension wires and plugs and especially sockets with screw ends. We can't use so much electricity because there is so much voltage in the whole barrack, and if someone uses a heater or a wooker, the fuse blows out. In some barracks, the fuse blows out two or three times in one night.

Tell Naj also to bring some brooms (small ones), for the Army is providing us with only one broom per barrack. Until today, we didn't have any and we had a tough time keeping the place clean.

He might also bring some food. The food here is lousy so far although we expect some improvement presently. It has to be better; if there is any change, it must be for the better, it can't possibly be worse. The first day, we almost puked and many people refused to eat, but during the past couple of days the stuff has been edible.

Tell him to bring plenty of blankets. The place is cold. Boy o boy, is it cold? The W.C.A.A. provides us with a blanket if we absolutely need one, but it takes a couple of days to get one. The floors have huge cracks in them and there is a large opening between the roof and the wall. The dust as well as the cold wind gushes into the barracks. It's both cold and dirty. These open rooms, incidentally, are useful for the purpose of our study. We can hear absolutely everything that's going on in the next couple of rooms, even if it's spoken in a whisper, and we've gotten some dope eavesdropping (unintentionally, of course) already. It's hell though on the young married couples, because they have to restrain themselves more than they otherwise would. Some have been moaning already.

The first thing we did when we got here was stand in line while some husky guy frisked us for contraband (women were not searched). Then we stood in line in for a long time to sign up for typhoid shots, and finally we registered for a room. Ann Saito Kunitani was one of the registrars (Ann, incidentally, is p.d.g. she's moaning every day, and I can't say that I blame her, although it seems unfair to ~~mean~~ because the fellows who are working are working voluntarily and there are so few of them that they are all being overworked). When we got to our barrack (they provide a little runt to take us to the place), we are confronted with a dirty, filthy dark room, with absolutely nothing. There is just two unopened beds and two small bulbs. The mattresses are delivered eventually during the day, but when we came there were no brooms, no equipment or tools to clean out the place. We had to leave everything in our packs (which incidentally were delivered to our door by volunteer Nisei workmen) for a couple of days until we borrowed a broom and cleaned the joint out. We then borrowed some tools from our neighbors, swiped some nails, grab some wood and made some furniture (1 table, 4 stools, 2 cabinets, and 2 shelves). By that time, I was working full-time as a house-manager. One advantage is that the house-manager has all the supplies for the entire barrack; therefore, we have been pretty well set since that time.

In spite of all the cleaning-up, though, we haven't much to brag about. It's still a dump.

The people in my section are swell, but the others don't seem to be doing so well. All the other house-managers (25 in the camp) are always squaking. Social disorganization is beginning in this camp, but it isn't as bad as it might have been. The morale in general is very good, in fact some people are actually happy that they are now getting more than they ever had before. Some of the younger kids are griped, but the older folks seem to be taking it pretty well.

We had a dance a couple of nights ago, and the conflicts began. Young kids from 11 or 12 up attended and mixed with old-timers up to about 35. The wolves had a swell time. Since there is no curfew here, some of the kids apparently stayed out pretty late (even though the dance was over about 11) and many parents stayed up quite late waiting for their wayward offspring's return.

Another symptom of disorganization: large-scale stealing. Stealing is very uncommon among the Japanese. As one woman said to me is disgust, "Before, whenever something was gone, we said that the Filipino or the Negro in the neighborhood did it. Now the Japanese are doing what the Filipino used to do!" Everything that isn't nailed down is taken. Toilet paper, brooms, wood, nails, food, milk for babies, everything, even garbage cans, are stolen. The opening of our shower room was delayed indefinitely because some wise guy took away all the electrical connections. Unfortunately for the study, most of the people in my section are settled down, and have nothing to gain from disobeying rules; I have to go out to other groups for study.

Economic castes have not formed and cannot form for the time being, because no one is being paid--yet. Some are working, but most of the kids are brouseing around playing games. Recreational groups tend to follow the lines of past friendships, although not necessarily. In general, territorial proximity is the basis for the formation of groups. The people in our barrack all know each other by now, and lend their belongings to each other readily. (More of this in considerable detail, along with other material, will be sent later, when I know what the score is)

I haven't been able to do anything on the paper as yet, but I hope to have a rough draft done by the time, Dr. Thomas comes back. We may have some difficulty getting things out through visitors, however, so warn her that she may not take anything out without special permission. Anything that leaves the camp must pass through the post office--thus far.

Tomi was disillusioned the first day, and hardly ate at all. She seems to have recovered by now, and is busily working every day. I seldom see her anymore because our duties take us to different places every day. She's in her specialized field, though, and she seems contented.

Well, so much for the bull for the present. Later, I'll send copies of bulletins and newspapers, as well as the stuff I am supposed to study. I haven't had a chance to work out my report as yet, but I have my notes pretty well in hand and can work on it tomorrow--if I don't have some other rough assignment.

Please remember Tomi's things and my Spuds (if they won't inconvenience you too much, and please knock the expenses out of my salary. Will write again soon. adios.

Tomi

COPY

M047
Barrack 16
Apt. 49

Dr. Thomas:

Thank you for sending the cigarettes via Naj. It was more than I expected, but very welcome.

I'm busy as hell out here, but gradually worming my way in -- both in the administration and the people. Will write more in detail later.

I'm doing my best to keep field accounts but have given up the idea of sending in two reports -- objective and subjective -- for the time being.

No time to work on paper as yet -- three chapters to go.

Another request. Could you get me about 500 sheets of the paper on which I'm sending this note? I'm taking notes in this loose-leaf binder.

Promise: will write when I get the hang of the situation out here. So far so good.

Tcm

copy

May 8, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

This is your thoroughbred reporter baying from the 49th stall of the 16th barrack of Tanforan.

Naj blew in yesterday and told me that you were back in Berkeley. He told me that your trip East had not been too successful, but since at the same time he brought me three cartons of Spuds I personally was not too disillusioned. On second thought, however, it occurred to me that we could not make any large-scale study without more money. Personally, I don't care whether I'm paid for the study or not. If I can get money, fine; if not, I'll do the best I can mooching off the government. However, I myself cannot possibly cover the ground, not even in one camp. This place has a tremendous set-up and from the way things are run around here, I doubt if the men on the top know what's going on.

Conditions as yet are not so hot, in fact they're lousy. However, day by day, things improve. I learned, much to my disgust, just today that the Army may try to put as many as 9,000 people in Tanforan. We're only half full now and much too overcrowded already. The facilities just aren't ready. The new showers are not open; some of the latrines are not ready; the new barracks have no electrical equipment; the mess halls are too small to accommodate all the people that are going to be squeezed in. Furthermore, there just isn't room. The capacity of this camp (with every single space used) I understand is about 8,000. However, some families are of such a size that they cannot be placed in rooms exactly their size. For example, families of two have to live in three-barracks (apartments for 3 people), families of five, six or seven are all given the same size rooms. Therefore, if it's going to be filled, strangers will have to live together. The office of Mr. Green, the man in charge of registration, is seriously considering forcing people to double up. (This dope I got as a house-manager--who get supposedly inside dope--from the Nisei workers on Mr. Green's staff. They may be haywire.)

Intellectual advancement has very definitely taken a back seat to welfare work for the time being as far as I am concerned. Things in the camp are still in an uproar and with people pouring in every day, everything seems to be getting more confused. There are but a few workers--the rest refuse to work unless paid--and the few have a tremendously huge job to do. After talking to some of the maladjusted people here, I just couldn't sit back and take case-studies when I could actually help to alleviate the situation. That is one reason why I took the job as house-manager--the dirtiest and toughest job in the camp (ask anybody in the camp). The study was not entirely ignored, however. As house-manager, I get some of the inside dope on the administration, on where the errors and shortcomings lie, on where trouble is brewing, on what type of trouble is occurring, as well as getting to know the people in my barrack well enough to get them to spill something that they otherwise might not. Since I am the only contact between about 80 evacuees and the administration, all their troubles, complaints, and expressions of attitudes must pass through me. Needless to say, I am writing them all down. If there is anything specific that you feel I ought to look for, will you please let me know?

Although I'm pretty well tied up most of the time at the present since new people are still coming in, whenever I can, I browse around looking at everything. As house-manager, I can get into places where others cannot go. Today, I dropped in at the men's dormitory--the reputed source of evil in the camp. Rumor has it that prostitution has begun there. The appalling sight I saw there made me resolve that I shall be a frequent visitor there from now on. Naj is living in the dorm, and if you could convince him that he ought to stay there once in a while, we might get some good material--better than I can get here in this ideal barrack. We have nothing here in the line of my theoretical interest--social disorganization--as yet. People in this section--reputed to be the best in the camp--are very satisfied and well adjusted. However, even here other things can be studied. As yet, I think it is too early to look for anything specific; I want to wait until I get the hang of the situation; in the meantime, I'm writing down anything that seems of any significance to me.

Since I'm on the go almost all day and half the night and since Tomi is also working in the kitchen and cannot help me, for the time being, I am preparing only one report for each day. I had originally planned, as you know, to write one report as objectively as I could, and another one giving my personal views. In my single reports, however, I have clearly differentiated between my opinions, rumors, and what I feel is objectively describing what I see. (objectively as possible)

There has been absolutely no time to work on my paper as yet and I have about three chapters to go. Judging from what I have picked up thus far, however, the material inside the camp is much more valuable than the stuff I had worked on before I came here. In some sections of this camp, things have already started to happen, and I have my nose to the ground. The formation of groups is one of the things we came out here to see and I'm keeping my ears and eyes peeled for it. Apparently, many of the old groups are being maintained; however, there are many significant changes--most of them due to new conditions--that I have already noticed.

Rumors of maladjusted personalities and social disorganization are abundant, but I have yet to come across anything concrete substantiating the rumors. No doubt they exist, but I haven't come across them yet. However, judging from the way things are going, we shall have a fertile field for study before long. Family trouble, girl trouble, stealing (of anything that is not locked) are beginning to crop up and concrete evidence will be available presently. Groups are forming on the basis of territorial proximity, but since everyone is being moved every now and then, these early formations are being changed.

The mails may or may not be censored, but all packages are very definitely being inspected for contraband. Therefore, I hesitate to send out the stuff I have collected so far. I have all the official bulletins (confidential and otherwise), the forms we were supposed to fill, the orders we have received, the problems that have arisen, the attitudes and rumors that have been abundant, letters I have written and received, as well as my own written report. All these, along with the paper (which I hope to clear up this week) I want to give you personally if you come here. If you cannot come, I think I'd better hang on to them for a while. If you come to camp, you had better bring an important official or a permit; otherwise they will not let you inside (even though I can talk to you) nor will they let you take anything out. Nothing can leave

the camp except through the post office, which can open anything it pleases. Perhaps they're afraid that the truth about this place might leak out. I don't think truth ought to be censored even though false rumors should be squelched. The place is lousy--even at its best.

There are several requests I should like to make and I hope that they are not too cumbersome and objectionable. Some of these things I need badly; others, I want for comfort. I hope you use your discretion in sending only things I really need; otherwise there will be no end to the things I will eventually ask for. I really need:

- 1) 3 cent stamps (about 100)
- 2) letter size paper (like the one I'm using now)--1 ream
- 3) carbon paper (about 100 sheets)
- 4) envelopes (letter size)--about 100

} 4.75
.93

I'm asking for less than I shall eventually use because space here is limited, and we don't know when or where we shall have to move or with whom we shall bunk. If we have to double up, we'll try to stay with Tomi's sister and her husband (both of whom know about our study and have cooperated thus far).

I should like to have:

- 1) 1 box of kleenex
- 2) about a dozen manila folders (filing--half cut or third cut)
- 3) a box of cheap candy (almost anything)
- 4) Food (salted crackers, some cheese, Italian salami--about 1 1/2 inches in diameter, a few cans of fruits)
- 5) clothespins (about 15)
- 6) comb (with fine teeth)

.26

.50

1.42 + 1.58 + .90

.25

Please deduct the amount necessary from my salary. After this month, if I get paid (if I don't quit this lousy job and if house-managers are paid), I'll send money orders for these things.

Since I began writing this letter almost a half day has passed and some complications have arisen. I may quit this job as house-manager unless the administration becomes a little more reasonable in one of their demands. If I quit, I shall have time to snoop around, but I shall also be liable to heavy labor and cleaning the latrines (a job that house-managers have sometimes done anyway when there was no one else).

I'm sorry that we ask for so many things, but when you see how things are around here, I think you will understand. Sorry to inconvenience you.

Please let me know when you are coming here; then, I can make a special effort to finish my work by that time. The records are fairly complete thus far (in my notes), but sometimes I just don't have time during the day to type them up and I can't type at night because I'll keep the entire barrack awake (all rooms have huge--2 or 3 foot--openings connecting them with the next room).

Shall write soon. Tomi says hello. Hope I can hear from you soon.

Tam

Copy

May 11, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas and her "associates":

I was indeed glad to hear from you and from Virginia. Your note gave both bad and good news, but in comparison with what we have out here anything is good. I'm sorry that the trip back East was so lousy (please forgive me if I seem a bit crude in this note; we forget ye olde King's English in this dump). I hope that things can be worked out in some way. At any rate, I'll do my best out here in the camp, so long as I'm not too demoralized (I haven't hit that stage as yet).

This job of house manager has me in a dilemma. If I continue, it is so tiresome that I just don't have time to make as many observations as I want to. On the other hand, if I quit, I won't be able to get in some places that I want to have free access to, and I won't be able to snoop around in the Administration. I have concluded that one of the mainsources of evil is inefficient administration, and I'd like to look around to see what's what there even if it's out of my line. Furthermore, this job gives me an opportunity to see and talk to many people--even though I can't take notes all the time. One thing has come up however; Henry Takahashi (Berkeley J.A.C.L. and arch-enemy of mine for a long time who resorts to red-baiting) has wormed his way into the confidence of Mr. Lawson, the camp director. Lawson, apparently completely ignorant of the nature of the social organization of the Nisei, relies very heavily on Takahashi's judgment (The dope is one of the council of four who are to help run the camp). Takahashi is now attempting to rid the place of all people whom he considers "red." He opposed the formation of the press here on the ground that the "proper people" were not in charge and held it up for a week; we got it through by a trick. Now, he is arguing that barrack 16 (my place) has too many house-managers and one of them ought to be canned. I don't think either of us will lose our jobs on account of him, but you can see what we're up against when we try to get any information from Lawson's office. I ran into difficulty when I tried to get a copy of the map of this joint. They exist in fairly large numbers, in understand, and I tried to get one for you; but none of the members of the council of four considers me sufficiently conservative to give any break to. No doubt I'm magnifying my difficulty and I'll iron it out in some fashion, but right now I can get only the dope on the reaction of the people in various sections of the camp (I can't get anywhere with the administration). I'm not interested personally in the political squabbles any more, except that I'd like to see things run as smoothly as possible by the people who are the most intelligent and most capable; certainly the council of four on whom Lawson relies so heavily cannot be said to be any more intelligent than the lowest scum here.

In regard to the various questions Virginia asked, I can answer tentatively (subject to checking) some of them; other questions cannot be answered as yet. The new barracks are about 80 feet long and about 18 feet wide (I'm not sure), and they contain about five apartments apiece. These rooms house from five to seven or eight people apiece. The old horse stalls that have been converted are of varied sizes. Ours consists of two rooms separated by a split door: one room is about 9 by 11, and the other is about 7 by 8. We have two windows in the front room and none in the back. The stalls are back to back, and each side has such apartments. One side (the other side) gets all the morning sun; we get just the late afternoon sun and all the north wind.

I could very easily copy a map of Tanforan for you that is hanging in the main supply office. However, rather than to make a lousy copy of this map, I think that eventually I might be able to persuade Tally (supply manager and a good friend of mine--who also smokes Spuds) to get an official copy for me. Please be patient; I'm working all the angles.

Multiple rooms were issued to large families. However, last week several such groups were moved to rooms for which they made a better fit. Families of two were placed in apartments for either two or three (ours is for three) and at the present time new apartments for two's are under construction. Families of three and four were placed in apartments of that size. Families of five, six, seven, and eight were placed eventually in one large room in the newer barracks or in the end rooms of the stalls. Families of nine usually took two rooms in the newer barracks, as did those of ten to twelve. I don't think that the number went over 12; the Berkeley group of 24 (including all the employees of the man in charge) was broken up and several of the single men ended up in the men's dormitory (a hot-bed of vice in this camp).

The ill, the invalids, the children under 18 months, and pregnant mothers are being given the first consideration, both in the distribution of cotton mattresses and the distribution of milk. However, this isn't saying much. Such individuals must have written permission from one of the camp doctors before they can get anything; and in complicated cases, the camp doctors don't know what's going on and until the outside doctor who had been treating the patient writes it, the victim simply suffers. The milk situation is serious. Children under seven are supposed to get milk; however, sometimes some women take a thermos bottle and steal all the milk, and the children have to do without. Special diets are provided for diabetic cases now, but it was not until a few days ago. People with high blood pressure are having a hell of a time, since the camp doctors are so busy that they cannot certify them all as such cases and because some such individuals look so healthy.

You ask, "What's wrong with the food?" Well, will you quit making jokes? If you had asked me a few days ago, I would have said, "Everything!" The food was foul, and in the main mess hall it still is unbearable. Poor Naj has to eat there. However, out here Tomi and another Cal dietitian organized a new kitchen and we're being fed some edible food. Furthermore, a colonel came out here for inspection of food the other day, and on that day, they gave us some roast ham. I was wondering why the food was so good that day; it was really delicious. On the following day, however, we went back to the same old stuff. Our cooks over on this side however are better cooks and season the material in such a way that it's palatable. Since I eat with the kitchen help (with Tomi) I get all I want to eat, and I'm no longer kicking, but I feel sorry for the others. In the main mess, all they used to serve was weinies, lima beans, and a half-baked potato. A couple of days ago, we had fresh vegetable (half cooked spinach) for the first time, and the day the colonel came, we had meat for the first time. No kidding, kitchen no. 8 (where we eat) is reputed to be the best and cleanest kitchen in the camp and so many people try to sneak in that the house-managers of the barracks that are supposed to eat in mess hall 8 have to stand guard all the time. We have had to throw out a couple of guys every meal.

How can we spend our money? Well, we have a canteen in which they sell candy (a few varieties), soda (cola and orange only), sometimes ice cream, and a few brands of cigarettes. Tomorrow I understand, they will sell Kleenex. In the post office, however, money is honored and we can write out a money order for any amount. If one has a Sears' Roebuck and a Montgomery Ward catalogue, the number of things he can buy are almost unlimited. However, beside that, the money we have is useless, even in poker games--in which they use nails. Food, good food, is the one thing that is most in demand around here--not money.

So far as I can see there is very little division between the Nisei, Issei, and the Kibei, except among the more progressive groups. The "liberals" claim

that the Issei and the Kibei are "fascists" at heart and in some ways try to avoid them. However, I feel that such labelling is unjustified, for the vast majority of the Issei and the Kibeis just don't give a damn what's going on just so long as they get their three squares a day. Among the Nisei, the factions which had formed before we came here are sometimes still operative--as you might infer from the difficulty in which I now find myself. However, on the whole, most Nisei seem to prefer to forget past differences and work together--that is, those outside the men's dorm. The men's dorm is such a hopeless case that the administration here is no longer even considering them as a source of labor. So far, Issei and Nisei have mingled freely, and the Nisei are gradually beginning to speak more Japanese, and the Issei are beginning to speak more English. Tomi had a hell of a time because her mother always spoke in one dialect, and she speaks very poor standard Japanese. My knowledge of speaking Japanese is coming back quite rapidly, but I fear that my slight command of English is diminishing progressively day by day. The Kibeis who live among the families get along quite well because they can speak both languages. In the men's dorm--predominantly Issei--is indeed a hotbed of "fascism." Some Nisei (one of our crowd) had the ~~nerves~~ to hang up a huge American flag in a conspicuous spot. The Issei don't dare tear it down, but every time they go by they shout "baka-tare"--equivalent to "dope", "fool", etc. The conversation in the dorm centers around Japanese victories if not women. The place is a sad place, and I don't blame Naj for wanting to get out. I'm going to spend as much time as I can afford up there; I think that is an ideal place to get some leads on what one segment of the population thinks. If any neurotic cases come out, and I expect them to come presently (rumor has it that several have gone bats, but the medical staff refuses to deny or verify the rumor), they will probably come from the dorm. Here the Nisei take a beating unless they are pro-Japan in their sympathies. Here, the more eloquent Nisei are very definitely separated from the Issei and the Kibei; however, elsewhere in the camp, there doesn't seem to be any splits on the basis of place of birth or education (except among the "liberals").

The only groupings that the Army has provided for are the family groups and these they are maintaining at all costs. One exception: now they may be forced to put a couple of families together (so far they have been putting only friends who volunteered to live together in the same barracks). Other groups have been ^{almost} entirely ignored by the administration. Religious ceremonies are held and different places have been provided for the different groups; in this regard, religion has been respected. Recreational facilities are restricted; dances are held in laundry rooms (approved and unapproved) and sometimes in the reception rooms, and in these various groups work together as they had in the past; however, no definite provision was made. The Administration has a lop-sided view on the political situation--given to them by the J.A.C.L.; according to some of the things I have heard (sources I personally trust) the camp has been divided into the "respectable" and the "communist cliques." Efforts are now being made to displace some of the "dangerous elements" in the key positions.

This time, I have fewer requests to make than before. Tomi says that she would like to have some darning ^{thread} ~~socks~~. Since my shoes are both worn pretty close, my socks apparently don't last very long (they're all rayon and can't take it). Therefore, could ~~have-ha~~ we have a little white and black darning thread? (cotton)

My second request is a bit more difficult. I want to emphasize that I don't want to get mixed up in any political squabbles in this camp, even though I have been approached as a candidate and apparently have some support. I don't want to be in such a spot because I would then not be free to make observations as

I choose. I should like to have a little more freedom around here, and a little more cooperation from the administration, if I'm going to get some of the things we need. As far as the Japanese people here are concerned, just give us some time, and we'll get to work on them. I can't guarantee a first class job, in fact, I doubt if I'm capable of doing a first rate job, but I can promise this; the stuff in this camp will give me more basis for a good paper than the junk I worked with during the first twenty weeks of the war. Given the same cooperation I got in the other project, I think this one might turn out to be a little more promising. The last project (on the first twenty weeks) which I have not yet completely revised has in a way disgusted me; I'm just not satisfied with the work because it seems so far away and abstracted from reality. This study, I should like to make more human, more real, more down to earth. Therefore (now I'm winding up for what I started to say at the beginning of the paragraph), as far as case-studies go, I think we shall make more of them if we can. Life-histories are out of the question for the time being, and I don't think I can get any letters just yet because people are still rather suspicious. However, presently we'll devise some means of getting some of them--if I have to dig them out of the dry garbage. The thing I wanted to ask for was this: could you in any way set me straight with Lawson (through Neustad or someone else if necessary)? I don't want any political pull and I don't want any favors; all I want is for Lawson to recognize me as a research student who has specialized in Oriental minority problems for the past five or six years. I don't want gravy, but I don't want to be black-balled around here either. That would wreck things for the study.

Elections are coming up in a few weeks, if not sooner. The J.A.C.L.L. and its opposing groups are going to tear at each other's throats and the red-baiting is going to break out--it has already started. I know how my opinion stands in the matter, but I intend to be an impartial observer watching the fun. However, I might get smeared with the rest of the guys that certain people don't like if I don't watch out. I promise that unless you say it's O.K. I won't try to influence my friends one way or another, and I'll keep my Cal group (still more or less intact) on the fence and voting as each individual sees fit. (I'm sure of how they're going to vote anyway).

Maybe I'm getting the fathead, not wanting to lower my dignity and getting into this mess, but I think that there is a good opportunity to make enemies if we get in too deep. I'm bending over backward to keep on friendly terms with the most unreasonable guys, but I think it'll be worth it soon--when this study really gets under way. Connections count among the Japanese--believe me!

Well, I guess I've moaned altogether too much about some perhaps imagined difficulty I'm facing. I hope my requests don't inconvenience you too much, and I hope that my work out here compensates for the trouble I cause you. I'm keeping my daily records here along with all the official bulletins that I've got my clamps on (in cooperation with a friend in the supply house) and will keep them here until you come, rather than risk them in the mails. If you come here, please let me know the approximate hour and the day when you intend to arrive--at least four or five days in advance. Your letter, postmarked the 7th didn't get to me until this afternoon; so I may not know anything about your coming if you come a few days after writing.

Tom asked me to thank you for all that you have done for us. She says the place is lousy but people tell us we have the best place here so she's happy. She says the place is interesting, but she regrets that she doesn't have the background to study the joint. Finally she says that she looks forward to seeing you when you come here--with or without food (especially Chinese chow mein). Will you please say hello to the staff. In spite of what I say, most things O.K. here.

Tom

P.S. Love

P.S. Could you please send Toni a couple of small (about 2" x 3") notebooks that she can hang around her neck so that she can jot down anything she sees or hears. Please don't get anything expensive because it's just for jotting things down. Thank you.

Tom

COPY

May 12, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

I have sent you the answers to Virginia's questions along with a sketchy account of some of my difficulties out here under separate cover. However, there were a couple of things that I forgot to mention.

Could you please send me the following two items:

- 1) Time Magazine for April 20, 1942 (there is an article in it that I need for my paper).
- 2) A ream of yellow scratch paper (business size and without holes).

I feel guilty asking for so many things in so many different times, but we're so damned busy out here that I just can't keep things in mind; I feel the pinch when I'm caught short and then write immediately. I hope you'll forgive me.

Tom

COPY

May 12, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Sorry to bother you again. I'm turning neurotic. I just saw the article on Tanforan in the Chronicle for May 12. It griped me so much I'm writing this to blow off steam. It's full of lies and inaccurate statements. From beginning to end, it's full of lies!! Why do they have to lie about this lousy place ? Why not call a spade a spade. I'm p.d.g.

T. S.

May 14, 1942

Mr. Tom Shibutani
Barrack 16, Apartment 49
Tanforan Assembly Center
San Bruno, California

Dear Tom:

I have your letter of May 11. Things certainly seem to be troublesome for you but I hope you will keep your chin up. In regard to making too much in camp politics. I advise strongly against it as I think it will work against your research interests. In regard to getting you released from some of your work there, I am pretty sure I can arrange it so that you can spend more time on research. But I believe you will understand that I don't want to make any move at all until I get clearance on the whole project from Mr. Eisenhower.

I am enclosing the stamps you requested. I believe George Mehren is going up to see Naj on Saturday. If so, I shall send you some of the other items you requested.

Did I tell you that Virginia is on a field trip in the Valley. She will be back tomorrow and you will hear from her then.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy S. Thomas
Professor of Rural Sociology

DST:rj

P. S. I am enclosing a memorandum which may give you some ideas of what ought to be done. Don't try to cover all aspects of the situation. For the present leave the administrative out and don't worry about it. I am most anxious to see what you have already collected.

Copied

May 15, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

May I say that you're an angel? I don't know if anyone has ever called you that before but Tomi and I were so glad to get the things that you sent us that I think we came very close to worshipping you.

You stated in your letter that you thought Naj was depressed and noted that we must be having a "rotton time." I don't like to squack, but boy o boy ~~if~~ anyone accustomed to the American standard of living and trained under American culture would be moaning and perhaps even starting a revolution around here. Sure the guys running this place ~~are~~ having a hell of a time, but their apparent unpreparedness is inexcusable. These men who are administrating the camp are supposed to be trained and experienced men; if so, they ought to do a better job. Things are getting better, to be sure, but they are far from adequate. Sure they have no organizational pattern to follow, but they should have planned some things a little better than they did. You noted that "it is just bound to be a long process to get things straightened out." However, with a little more planning, with a little more foresight, with a little more knowledge of the type of people that were coming into camp, many of the things that they are now frantically ordering could have been purchased long before the evacuees arrived here. The head man here is a swell guy, but he knows little or nothing about Japanese; he ~~admits~~ it. They didn't even know what kind of food to buy. They fed the Issei sauerkraut during the first week and they are now for the first time ordering rice in large quantities. Errors like this one I think are inexcusable.

In regard to Naj, he I think has a right to be depressed. They made him stay in the men's dormitory--a hellhouse if I ever saw one. Nisei are given heck in there if they speak English and when some bold Nisei (Cal student) hung up a huge American flag, the men razed them as they went by. The hall in which he is staying is a huge place--almost a hundred yards long with beds placed about every eighteen inches, three or four rows deep. The place is filthy, stinky, foul, etc. I don't see how anyone could live in a dump like that one and stay sane. Naj got a job on the police force so that he could get out of there at least while he was on duty. However, that was a lousy job too, and yesterday he resigned. I guess it was just as well because today they fired about 20 men anyway and Naj would probably ~~have~~ been canned. No kidding, you people on the outside ~~can~~ have no conception of what some of the things in here are like unless you lived here. People, fearing that the mails are censored, have been pulling their punches. As you might infer from what I am writing in this letter, I am reasonably sure that there is no censorship on outgoing mail.

The administration is apparently not too proud of the job they are doing either. The other day, an Army colonel came in to inspect the food, and on that day, we were given roast ham! Imagine, they spent enough money on that one meal to feed us better food for a week. The day after our inspection, we went back to our regular diet.

I feel like a heel bawling like this after you have so kindly sent us things to make things a little lighter for us. We're sharing the things with Naj and a number of other people and I don't know how long it will last. However, we'll make the best of things. The girl next door has a Sears, Roebuck catalogue and her husband (an engineer) has connections in a San Bruno grocery store and we may be able to get food delivered to us. I feel badly about bothering you over trivial things, and in the future shall not disturb you unless something urgent comes along.

I'm ~~not~~ spoofing. Living in this stall is no fun. Tomi and I try to make the best of things. I'm trying, by working as late at night as I can without disturbing everyone with my typing (about 8 or 9:30) to finish my paper, and I have only two chapters to go. I think I can finish by this week-end unless some heavy work-order comes out.

We heard over the radio that we are to get room and board, from \$2.50 to \$7.50 for personal expenses, and a salary ranging from eight to sixteen dollars a month. If we were prisoners of war, if we were entirely unable to make a living on the outside, if we were indeed potential saboteurs, such a pay would be wonderful. But, we are American citizens and many of us can go out on our own outside. Many of us could certainly make a better living than we have now. I don't care how much I'm getting paid in here (it happens to be top salary), but the whole thing and the attitude of the people outside toward us (prisoners of war) gripes me. What the hell. They take us out of our paths of life and put us in a rat-hole like this and expect us to be contented. Who do they think we are anyway?

I'm sorry if I seem to be a bit blunt, but this is exactly the way I feel right now. I don't think I'll do anything rash; in fact, I've been behaving a lot better in camp than I did outside (ask Tomi). We try to improvise and to make the best of everything. We try to be happy and we try to get along with everyone. I have not forgotten the study for which I was sent out here. I'm taking notes on anything I see, and at the end of the month, I think I'll compile the material and write up a summary.

So much for the beefing. I should like to get back to the things that you sent us. We received the stationery yesterday noon, and a few hours later we got the yellow paper and the groceries. We should like to thank you for them again. You just can't imagine how welcome they were. I still miss three-cent stamps, but I inferred that you purposely didn't send them because you told me to lay low on my writing. For ordinary correspondence we have a post-office here, but I have practically no money. I sent so many orders out that I don't know when I asked for what and from whom. I should like to have a few manila folders pronto (if they're not already on their way) so that

I can file my material in order. I have official bulletins, the new newspapers, confidential information, attitudes, diary, letters, etc., which I should like to keep separate in places where I can find them immediately. Elsewhere, we could put them anywhere, but here unless we have a definite place, there is nowhere to put there, since there is nothing in the barrack. We have to leave things in our binders or our suitcase if we don't want to get them all dusty. I intend to send for a small file box to Sears and Roebuck when I get paid, but for the time being, I'll settle for a couple of folders.

In regard to your question concerning the key to our trunk in your basement, I gave the key to Virginia along with the key to the basement that you gave me. On the day I brought the trunk I left both keys at your home. Naj was there and he confirms this statement.

That reminds me. I left some things with Virginia which I'm sure she has taken care of, but I'm a little worried because some of the people whose material I gave to her are complaining that they still do not have their things. I left a large binder full of notes on the Nisei which belonged to Kenny Murase, Rt. 1, Box 346, Reedley; I requested that you take out whatever you need and copy it and then send it back to Kenny as soon as possible. Kenny has spent years collecting the stuff and he is worried about it. Kickuchi wants a copy of his paper, which was in Kenny's collection. Furthermore, I left a copy of Hoshiyama's paper from the files of the Department of Psychology, which was to be copied and returned immediately to Dr. Gundlach (since it was out of the files illegally), and I have not heard of what happened to it. Finally, Barry's typewriter was left in your care; could you tell me what happened to it? Barry was evacuated and he wants to know what we did with it. He is in the Stockton Assembly Center.

I know this letter sounds as though I'm not too happy in this dump. I want to say frankly that the place is lousy and I don't enjoy being here--work or no work. Please don't worry, though. I won't quit and I don't think I'll go nuts. I'll try to be as efficient as possible. Maybe when the canteen opens up next week, when we get some toilet paper, when we get some edible food, when we get some cotton mattresses, when we have a dozen other things that were promised us when we first came in here, it won't be so bad. At any rate, we hope to make the best of a lousy situation; we hope for the best. I can say one thing though. If we get out of this dump alive, we'll be able to take anything; we'll be crude and rough; don't be too surprised if one of us spats in somebody's parlor.

Mich and Ann are not too happy out here. Frankly they are less adjusted than we are. Naj is in a sad state, and I don't blame him at all. Some people are happy some of the time, but unless we're pretty good at kidding ourselves, we can't be happy most of the time.

Once more, may I thank you for sending us the things that we asked for. We're sorry that we caused you so much trouble. Thank you very much. We're looking forward to seeing you; when you come I'll have everything ready for you. Tomi sends her regards as does Naj. Please say hello to Virginia and the rest of the staff.

Tom

COPY

LETTER

Tom Shibutani
Tanforan

May 18, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Yesterday as you know, Virginia and Bill came down to see us. I cannot say how glad Tomi and I were to see them. Virginia was very encouraging. She told us that we were lucky because the other camps which she had seen were much worse than Tanforan. She also brought good news concerning the project. I hope that things go through.

I cannot say that things are running smoothly here. To be sure, this place may be better than others; it probably is, but that is not saying much. Naj just missed seeing Virginia and even if he had, she probably would have been disappointed because he is having a hell of a time. He is doing the best he can going around taking notes, but they have put him in such a lousy place that no one can blame him for being demoralized. To make things worse he has had a cold ever since he came here. Right now I'm laid out too, and Tomi is typing this letter for me.

I have heard rumors to the effect that volunteers are now being recruited to work in the permanent relocation centers. I don't know when these workers are to leave Tanforan now whether or not they will be given a choice as to where they wished to go. I think that I should stay in Tanforan at least another month if not longer. However, if we are to get information on any resettlement center from the beginning, it is important that someone be there from the beginning. Do you want me to stay here or shall I volunteer to go out? I realize that conditions are terrible for the first couple of months, but if any valuable information can be gotten, Tomi and I would be willing to go. We should prefer to go to the Tululake project for obvious reasons. Dr. Jacoby of the College of the Pacific whom you mentioned as one of the advanced administrators there is indeed a fine man. I knew him when I was a student at Stockton Junior College.

There are two things in this camp that people want more than anything else--good food and toilet paper. As a housemanager I can get toilet paper and you have been kind enough to send us food. With these two essentials in stock I think that Tomi and I are ready to join the ranks of the aristocrats of Tanforan. Thank you very much.

If it were not for my cold I would have finished the paper today. There is not much more left to do. The daily reports on the camp are still all in one (both descriptions and personal opinions). As soon as we get settled down, I intend to go through these and sift out the material that you really want.

I studied briefly your "Memorandum to observers", and I cannot say that I am entirely satisfied with it. As a general outline to be sent to all camps, it would certainly be very helpful; however, I am afraid that there are many local factors of considerable importance.

LETTER

Tom Shibutani
Tanforan

May 18, 1942

For example, in Tanforan aside of the house in which a person lives may make all the difference in his attitude toward the camp. It is not so much the influence of his neighbors but rather the simple fact that the wind blows straight through his room.

Do you think that we ought to take records of changes in material culture? Should we keep a record of the various gadgets improvised to meet unforeseen problems? I think these artifacts are very important and the mention of them should be made in the outline. It seems that the solutions to unexpected problems are of some importance.

In regard to collecting subjects we are once again facing the same difficulties that we made in our previous study. It is relatively easy to get material and cooperation from certain types of people; the others, in whom we are most interested, are rather difficult to approach as yet. In regard to Dr. Lowie's questions there are some that have provided very convenient frames of references, but others seem to have no connections to reality. Perhaps I just do not understand what he is driving at. Naj and I intend to discuss the matter and will write back presently.

Thank you for the stamps. I shall try to use them discreetly. We are sharing our things with Naj and the boys. I am glad to hear that prospects are brightening out there. It is certainly encouraging to hear good news in here.

I am sorry that we caused you so much inconvenience. Thank you ever so much for everything. Please thank Virginia too. Tomi and Naj also send their best wishes.

Very sincerely,

(signed) Tomo

P.S. I am enclosing the first copy of the Tanforan dirt sheet. It was so completely censored that it isn't even funny. The fact the Mr. Lawson is personally censoring everything indicates that there are many cases of inexcusable inefficiency and lack of coordination that he wishes to cover up. If he had nothing to be ashamed of why should he censor everything?

COPY

LETTER

Tom Shibutani
Tanforan

May 22, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Thank you ever so much for so kindly bringing things to us on your visit yesterday. The food is swell. But most of all we were glad to see you to talk over and clarify some points of doubt. There are several points of interest that came up that I feel should be considered more in detail.

First of all, I am concerned about the news you brought concerning going to Tulelake. I am all for going there if you think that we should do a good job there, but there are so many odds and ends here in Tanforan that I think someone should stay behind to take some notes. I have scouted around and have discussed the matter with Naj and Tomi and have selected some people to observe for us after we leave. Mich and Ann, while both are neck deep in political activities, educational work, plus their regular work, are both busy but I think they can be counted on for some information. Charlie Kikuchi (whom we shall discuss below) may also be interested in taking notes, although at present he is still horsing around. There are two individuals, however, that I feel we can rely upon to some extent. One is Mr. Tally Yusa, a former sociology student at San Francisco State. Yusa is not a very brilliant student, but he has the interest even though he may not have the knowledge. Yusa is now the head of the housing headquarters and can give us plenty of inside dope so long as you make it worthwhile for him to collect the stuff on a part-time basis. He has cooperated with me wholeheartedly since we came here and without his assistance I would not have been able to catch on to what's going on in this dump. Another student that I think can be relied upon is Ben Iijima, a junior at Cal. Ben is a very conscientious student of economics and plans to go to the mid-west to end some law school. At present he is interested in working on the project (until the time that he leaves for school) that he has volunteered to work for nothing. He emphasizes however that his primary interest is law. Ben does not have the background, but I think he has a vague notion of what we're after; I told him to write down everything and then we could sift out the material later.

Concerning the personnel of workers on the staff at Tulelake, Naj and Tomi and I had a long discussion and came to several names that I should like to submit to you now along with what we feel are their qualifications. (subject to checking, of course):

- 1) Amy Nomura (now married to Furuta and was in Dan Diego), a former sociology student at Mills College and certainly one of the most brilliant Nisei women I have ever known. She had read (last year) all of the books on the Japanese in America in the Mills Library and had wandered over to Cal to pick up more information. With her brilliance and background I feel that her contributions would be invaluable if you could interest her in the work. One danger: her husband guards her very jealously and may not permit her to work. Furthermore, it might be better, if you could place her in

LETTER

Tom Shibutani
Tanforan

May 22, 1942

work wherever she is rather than asking her to move--that is, if you feel that she should be put in the study. If you want references on Mrs. Furuta, you can get them from Dr. Hedley at Mills or from Dr. Reinhardt herself--who was formerly Amy's employer and personal friend.

- 2) Kenny Murase. I need not tell you too much about Kenny. I understand from you and from other sources that Kenny is going to an Eastern Negro college. However, I judge from his letters that he is lonely for some of the boys and were the compensation adequate (not necessarily financial compensation) I think that he might be interested in working for you. Kenny is but a junior and has little background in sociology, but I can say this: he is a very sincere and conscientious worker and a very amiable person. The consensus of opinion here is that the addition of Kenny, with his background of Nisei life, to the staff would considerably enhance the work of the group. Furthermore, Kenny is a first-class writer.
- 3) Emi Kimura. Miss Kimura was a social welfare student at San Jose State and did considerable work among the Nisei in the Y.W.C.A. there. I don't know of her other qualifications, but you might check up on her.
- 4) George Yasukochi. About George, as with Kenny, I don't have to tell you too much. He is indeed one of the most brilliant students I have ever known. He has some background and considerable interest in Nisei problems and at present is working on a thesis at the Rochdale Institute on the evacuation question. He is now debating whether he should stay in the East or return to work on cooperatives in the centers here. His ability and training in administration, but for part time work we feel that George's contributions would be very valuable. We certainly miss his genius in Tanforan--this place would be different if we had him here.
- 5) Grayce Kaneda. Miss Kaneda was formerly a student at the College of Pacific and did some work under Dr. Jacoby. She is very intelligent and has been active among the Nisei welfare groups. A very reliable worker, her contributions would no doubt be helpful.
- 6) Florence Sato (married to Ken Nishimoto of the California State Employment Office). Mrs. Nishimoto is now engaged in helping out the Japanese in various W.C.C.A. offices with Deki Nakazawa. She majored in sociology at the College of the Pacific and studied Oriental minority problems. A hard worker and very efficient and would be good if you could interest her.
- 7) Mari Okazaki. Since you interviewed Mari I don't suppose we have to say anything further. A very bright prospect.
- 8) Hideko Nakazawa. Miss Nakazawa likewise you know. Sometimes lazy but nonetheless a brilliant mind. If the return is great enough she would turn out a first class job.

LETTER

Tom Shibutani
Tanforan

May 22, 1942

I just happened to think. In listing the people who would cover Tanforan after we left we forgot one of the most reliable people here-- Doris Hayashi. Doris, a political science student, has always been interested in social problems. She is a very intelligent girl and her sympathies and attitudes are sound. She might be a good worker to have on the staff.

A long discussion came up concerning Charles Kikuchi. Although none of us question his ability and all of us feel that he has the background to work, no one of the three of us care to stick out our necks to recommend him. He is a personal friend of all of us; we all like him and feel that to leave him out completely would be a waste of talent. Nonetheless, we hesitate to recommend him favorably because we all feel the danger of having him around. His general attitude of trying to get something for nothing, his bragging about getting praises on things that had required but little work on his part, and his general spirit and outlook are demoralizing to those who work with him. To those who know him well and are accustomed to his ways, Charlie can be tolerated, but to newcomers he would seem a nuisance. When he is in a serious mood, he is an excellent student and his talents are such as to make his work valuable; however, when he is in other moods, his being around may make the work of others in the camp rather difficult. Therefore, the consensus of opinion here was that Charlie should not be left out--he is too valuable--but certainly don't toss him in with the entire staff where he might possibly do more damage than good. It is with some misgiving that I write this because it seems as though we are stabbing him in the back. I have known him for a long time and we have been good friends; and yet the three of us feel strongly about having him with the group at Tulelake. Our main wish, naturally, is that Charlie would change some of his obnoxious ways; he would then be a grand person. Since you asked for our opinions purely with the interests of the study in mind and with no personal feelings, we are making this recommendation. He is too valuable to leave out but be careful that he does not demoralize your entire staff.

Our submitting these names and our opinions may seem pretentious. However, I recall your asking for names; that is the reason why we got together and had this little conference. I hope that you would consider these recommendations and would check very carefully with them before making up your mind. Our opinions may be mistaken and certainly our views alone are not sufficient for selecting a staff.

I hope that this list may be of some value to you. Tomi and I are now working on the assumption that we will leave sometime in the first of June so that we would not get caught short in case we should be transferred. Haj is also working hard on his part. We decided among ourselves what each would cover and I think we can have some kind of report for you soon--perhaps after we get to Tulelake.

I have not yet had an opportunity to write to Virginia to thank her for coming out here. Could you tell her that I am sorry that I have neglected to write her? Please give my regards to Mr. Thomas and to your staff. Tomi just asked me to thank you for everything and to say hello.

(signed) Tom

COPY

LETTER

Tom Shibutani
Tanforan

May 23, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Tomi and Naj and I are now working on the assumption that we shall be transferred sometime around June 1. All the preliminaries have been completed and tomorrow we shall begin a series of interviews to cover whatever we have not been able to get thus far. We hope to get all the necessary data for the first month in Tanforan by the end of this month so that we can write it up when we get settled down at Tule Lake (if we ever do).

In the meantime, Ben Iijima, Tally Yusa, and Doris Hayashi have all agreed to do their best to cover the camp after we leave. Charlie's where-about I don't know, but when I find him I'll let him in (if you want him). These individuals have all expressed deep interest in the project, and Doris and Tally want to get in if they can make the grade. Ben is set on going to an Eastern college but wants to work with us until he goes. I have one question to ask. While these individuals are all willing to work for nothing since there is not much to spend money on around here anyway, don't you think that they ought to be paid at least some nominal sum for their work? Since top salary here is 16 a month, they don't expect much, but I feel it only fair to them that they get some compensation for their work--even if it means some deduction from the salary of some of us already on the staff. How do you feel on the matter? Could you let me know soon? Thank you.

I have worked out an outline that I intended to use to write up our experiences in Tanforan. I wonder if some like this could not be worked out for our study of Tule Lake before we go there. After squandering around here for three weeks, I am convinced that we would have less inefficiency, less overlooking of valuable stuff, more organization, and less overlapping if we have some plan. Going into a project with an open mind would be fine if all of us had sufficient training to know what to look for, but we don't. Therefore, some outline must be worked out. If it is found to be lacking or otherwise unsatisfactory, then it can be changed or replaced. I am enclosing a copy of my outline with this letter.

I feel it very important that we investigate in more detail some of the constituent groups in this camp. Naj is now working on some factions in the men's dorm and on the radical element in this camp. Tomi is covering the clique of girls that are trying to run certain parts of the recreational and educational programs. I am trying to make some spot observations as well as cover families in this barrack. Frankly, I am very dissatisfied with our work thus far. We have wasted so much time getting started that now, one week before we go, we are just getting under way. A teacher used to tell me, "It's human to err but only a fool makes the same mistake twice." Let's hope that we don't do the same thing at Tule Lake. I'd just as soon get out of here and start on scratch and do a better job there.

The second copy of the Tanforan Totalizer came out a few hours ago. I am enclosing a copy in this letter.

A hearty hello to you, Mr. Thomas, and your staff from Tomi, Naj and me.

(signed) Tom

COPY

LETTER

Tom Shibutani
Tanforan

May 24, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Bothering you so often when you are busy leaves a guilty taste in my mouth, especially when I write about such trivial things. At first I was just griped about the place; now, many things pertaining to the study which I should have written about before come to my mind.

Two girls delivered to me today your note via Dr. Chernin--and the folders. I was glad to hear that you found the paper tolerable, even though I hesitated to hand it in in the form that it was. I feel that inasmuch as most of it has not even been carefully proof-read and none of it has been corrected even when I saw the shortcomings myself, it must be subjected to severe criticisms and corrections. Please don't pull your punches simply because I happen to be an undergraduate and didn't know any better; if there's anything wrong, I'd like to know all about it no matter how embarrassing or uncomfortable it may be. As for the first chapter, there are some things that I feel are quite essential; such as, the definition of the problem and some of the things that we did to gather the data. If you feel that some of the other material constitute boloney sauce then it's O.K. by me if you take it out. If you feel that some of the stuff ought to go in the appendix, that's O.K. too. As for copies of the paper, I don't think that more than fifteen or twenty copies at the most ought to be made. I fear what would happen if some fellow with the mentality and the attitudes of Martin Dies got a hold of it. With this whole matter of taking citizenship away from the Nisei being so seriously discussed I think that we ought to be careful of what we do. Furthermore we have to revise the thing anyway.

I have sent a long list of suggested names to you for workers on your research staff. These individuals have all done some work on the "Nisei Problem." I found another individual, a conscientious and faithful worker, whom we had forgotten. I happened to see him in the camp yesterday. He is Fred Hoshiyama. Fred has expressed an interest in working on the study. He would probably be more valuable than most of the people whose names I sent in.

Specifically I am writing this note because the matter of books arose here. We had another conference and decided this: A set of the Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences would be indispensable and it should be obtained even if we have to chip in and buy it ourselves. Copies of the American Journal of Sociology and the American Sociological Review for the last five or ten years should be available along with journals of social anthropology and social psychology. Naj has a copy of Lynd's Middletown, Blumer's analysis of the Polish Peasant and Allport's work on Personality Document. I think that we ought to have between us one copy of Sutherland and Woodward and one copy of Ogburn and Nimkoff's introductory works on sociology. I personally should like to have copies of Katx and Schanck, Social Psychology, both volumes of Thomas and Znaniecki, the Polish Peasant, Eubanks' Concepts of Sociology, Floyd Allport's Institutional Behavior, along with

COPY

LETTER

Tom Shibutani
Tanforan

May 26, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Thank you for coming to see us yesterday. While you had no definite news on moving, we were glad to see you anyway. We have talked over the matter here, and everyone concerned seems very happy about it.

Yesterday I got a letter from my parents and they are apparently so disgusted with the Stockton Camp that they have buried the hatchet and want (actually want) to be with us in Tule Lake. My father says that he is very tired and judging from the tone of the letter, he has been doing more work than he ever did before in his life.

Here in Tanforan some interesting things are going on. The men in the bachelors' quarters are being moved into the barracks to mix with the married people. They started moving today, and you ought to hear the kicks that are coming from the married people, especially those with young wives or pretty daughters. Wow! The women are getting scared, and since at night we have to walk so far in the dark to the lavatories, everyone here is disgusted. The squacks are beginning to pour in. As a house-manager I have my hands full straightening out the affairs of the poor lost souls who have lost things while they were moving. The others are boarding up their rooms to take precaution against theft. The place is in an uproar. We have been snooping whenever possible. I think the whole mess will be settled definitely in a few days. In the meantime the written report on Tanforan will have to wait for a couple of weeks--or perhaps longer.

We have the material for the report outlined in a tentative fashion and have already made half the interviews to straighten out some of the general dope on the camp set-up. We have been making observations on some of the groups that have apparently crystallized, but these are very few. Our report may be restricted to a general description of what's going on and perhaps a report on the radical element, that is very strong here. I should like to cover one informal group in our barracks and perhaps the house-managers' group in more detail. The other things will be treated as best as we can. If we work out some kind of a report then it will leave something for those who stay behind to fill in; however, I doubt if we can finish the report that soon because we are so damned busy now.

I hope that the news from Washington is good. We are more than ever anxious to get out of this dump--and we are not alone. Naj probably got tossed in with some fellows he doesn't even know and he probably wants to get out right away. Tomi is moaning too. So am I. We'll cover this mess as best as we can, but we want to get out pronto.

Sorry to moan so much. I am not ungrateful; just disgusted and want to be an escapist. Hope to see you Monday.

(signed) Tom

COPY

LETTER

Tom Shibutani
Tanforan

May 29, 1942

Dear Virginia:

I'm sorry that I haven't written you until now to thank you for all the things that you have done. Since you last came out here a number of things came up about which I had to write to Dr. Thomas directly, and in these letters I included a number of things about which I no doubt would have written you. This is not to say that we do not appreciate your efforts; we do.

Conditions in Tanforan are improving somewhat slowly but judging from what we hear from the other centers I guess we're pretty well off. However, I don't think that the comparison of Tanforan to the other camps forms a fair basis for opinions regarding our fortunes or misfortunes; we must compare this life with that which we lived before we came to camp. Once again--the place is lousy.

I am now working on a paper covering in some detail the first month in this dump. Since much of the information concerning the administrative setup in this camp was taken from official orders (which are kept confidential from the people but which I have managed to "borrow" for a while), on paper the thing looks pretty good. However, many of the things promised on paper have not come through on schedule and there are a lot of things going on around here that do not jive with what the official orders say. For example, we had a minor revolt around here concerning the canteen and its operation. The officials remain mum about the whole thing even though they speak freely about anything else. It sure is fishy.

Yesterday, rather late, I got notice that Barbara Jones was here in Tanforan to see us. We got the message (after it was too late for us to see her) that Dr. Thomas would be here on Tuesday to see a number of us. We will be there at 10 Tuesday morning.

You told us that if we wanted anything that we should contact you and not Dr. Thomas. O.K., you asked for trouble and here it comes. I understand that we are moving to Tulelake pretty soon, but there are some things that we should like to have during our brief stay here (a little more salami and a box of soda crackers). Now here comes the real catch. When we pull out for the new camp, we prefer not to be caught empty handed like we were before. We will no doubt have to eat lousy food there until things get settled down; therefore, Naj, Tomi, and I want to chip in and bring along about ten dollars worth of food--just to play safe. I'm sure that if you saw the crap that we had to eat out here for a while you'll understand. I just wanted to warn you in this letter and on Tuesday we'll have a list of things all prepared.

In the meantime we hope to be working on this report I mentioned above. All three of us are working together on it and have accumulated considerable information on the administrative angle. However, our material on the

COPY

LETTER

May 29, 1942

Tom Shibutani
Tanforan

sociological end is not as yet very promising. We'll put in what we're reasonably sure of but not too much. We hope to have a series of recommendations on how this aspect of the study should be conducted. We've learned a great deal from our mistakes here in Tanforan. The emphasis in the report will of necessity be on the section on which we have plenty of dope; however, if there are any specific questions that you feel are of sufficient importance that they must be answered, if you'll write to us pronto we might be able to dig up the dope.

On the sociological end, we have information on the following items: a fairly good study of the "radical" element in the camp, some material on some of the informal groupings in the neighborhood, general information on the adjustment during the first couple of days in camp, the adjustment to a non-money economy (before canteen opened), religious groups, some data on administrative crews, some mechanisms of control, material culture, social problem (unmarried men, sex difficulties, delinquency, conflicts between generations).. We hope to have a case-study of the J.A.C.L. clique in this camp as well as other groups (newspaper group, Y.M.C.A. clique, S.F. Mikado Club clique, Berkeley Nissei Club clique, the Buddhist group, etc.)

As I told Dr. Thomas day before yesterday, I have given up the idea of using a stratified sample, especially when the stratification was so arbitrary. Here in camp things have changed (we must measure or at least describe these changes), and these stratifications no longer hold. It would be much more accurate if we took definite social groups (defining the term broadly as any aggregation of individuals with a relatively homogeneous set of attitudes and relatively uniform behavior patterns) and analyzed them rather carefully. We are using this approach now. It is much more difficult but I think much more accurate.

Well, anyway, we'll get something out in a couple of weeks--we hope so anyway. Please say hello to Bill. Tomi and Naj send their best regards. I'm really sorry that I didn't write sooner. Adios

(Signed) Tom

COPY

POST CARD

Tom Shibutani
Tanforan

June 1, 1942

Barrack 16, Apartment 49
Tanforan Assembly Center
San Bruno, California

Dear Virginia,

This is a P.S. to the letter which I sent to you yesterday. As usual, I forgot a few items. I hope this further request on our part does not inconvenience you too much.

When we left Berkeley I left in your care some folders for term papers and a laundry mailing box full of books. I wonder if I could have three or four of those smaller folders when Dr. Thomas' group comes here Tuesday. I don't need the large ones like those in which I handed in my report on the first twenty weeks of the war, but I should like to have a few of the smaller ones to keep in tolerable shape the report that we hope to have ready on Tuesday on the first month in Tanforan. The books we would like to have for various purposes.

Sorry to cause you so much trouble. Thank you very much. We hope to see you again soon.

(signed) Tom

Barrack 16, Apartment 49
Tanforan, Assembly Center
San Bruno, California



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Dr. Dorothy Swaine Thomas
2710 Garber Street
Berkeley,
California

Dear Dr. Thomas,

I have sent you the answers to Virginia's questions along with a sketchy account of some of my difficulties out here under separate cover. However, there were a couple of things that I forgot to mention.

Could you please send me the following two items:

- ✓ 1) Time Magazine for April 20, 1942 (there is an article in it that I need for my paper)
- ✓ 2) a ream of yellow scratch paper (business size and without holes)

I feel guilty asking for so many things in so many different times, but we're so damned busy out here that I just can't keep things in mind; I feel the pinch when I'm caught short and then write immediately. I hope you'll forgive me.

Copied

Tom



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Dr. D. S. Thomas
2710 Garber St.
Berkeley

Dear M. Thomas,

Sorry to bother you again. I'm turning
neurotic. I just saw the article on
Tanforan in the Chronicle for May 12.

It gripped me so much I'm writing
this to blow off steam. It's full of
lies & inaccurate statements. From
beginning to end, it's full of lies!!
@Σ*!!! O! Why do they have to
lie about this lousy place? Why
not call a spade a spade. I'm f.d.g.

Copied

T. S.

Copied Barack 16
apt. 49 .

Dr. Thomas:

Thank you for
sending the cigarette
via Raj. It was
more than I
expected, but very
welcome.

I'm busy as
hell out here, but
gradually worming
my way in - both
in the administra-
tion & the people.
Will write more
in detail later.

I'm doing my
best to keep full
accounts - but
have given up
the idea of sending
in 2 reports -

objective & subjective -
for the time being.

No time to work on
paper as yet - 3
chapters to go.

Another request:
could you get me
about 500 sheets of
the paper on which
I'm sending this
note? I'm taking
notes in this loose-
leaf binder.

Promise: will
write when I get
the hang of the
situation out here.
So far so good.
Tom

"Project"

June 3, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

It was indeed good to see you again yesterday. Thank you for coming and for bringing our things. It was swell.

As soon as you left I got to work and tried to finish up my business here. I got Tally Yusa to clean up my job as house-manager, and he told me this morning that everything has been cleared up. More important, I called together the entire staff that is to stay here in Tanforan after we leave and Naj, Tomi, and I talked the whole matter over with them. We planned general procedures and discussed problems that might arise. I have explained the whole set-up to them and have given each of them a copy of your memorandum for research (which we took the liberty of reproducing) and also my outlines of suggested frames of references and my outline of the report on the first month in Tanforan. I have also given them specific instructions; such as, collecting rumors and expressions of attitudes and the types of spot observations to make. Some social groups have also been assigned and the others they will decide on among themselves.

The group staying behind consists of: Fred Hoshiyama (Barrack 4, Apartment 18), Charles Kikuchi (10-5), Earle Yusa (Tally) (4-2), Doris Hayashi (68-3), and Ben Iijima (21-20). The group is in the hands of Fred Hoshiyama a social psychology student of Cal who worked in the San Francisco Y.M.C.A. after graduation. Don't let the "Y" connection bother you; he is a very conscientious student and has sufficient background to handle the study. The others all have at least an inkling of what is going on and with Fred telling them what they might do I think they will do a much better job than we did.

The entire group is meeting again Friday night to plan things more in detail. One thing that they wanted was a conference with you. I wonder if you or Virginia could contact Fred to tell him when you are coming here again so that they can have something prepared and have all their questions ready. They seem to be a very intelligent and interested group and they have wormed their way into the camp life to such an extent that we can get plenty of inside "dope."

I hope that my selection of personnel here meets with your approval. They are all good workers. Charlie you already know. Fred you can find out about from any psych. prof., Doris you know, but you might ask some of her public ad. professors or Aikin about her; she is an excellent student. Tally studied sociology at S.F. State, and Ben is very interested in working with us until he goes out to continue his education elsewhere; he likewise is a conscientious student. I think they can do a good job.

Tomi and Naj have asked me to thank you, Mr. Thomas, Morton, and Virginia for everything. When we move, we'll let you know in some way.

Tom

Dr. Thomas

Under
"Project"

June 3, 1942

Dear Virginia,

Thanks for everything, Virginia. It was really swell to see you again.

We haven't been moved yet but we're expecting a half hour's notice any minute. You can't tell about the Army you know. In the meantime we have been hastily cleaning up our business here in camp.

In regard to the study, we are leaving behind a staff of five people whom I understand are to be employed as part-time assistants at a salary of \$250.00 a year. These five people are:

- | | | | | |
|----|------------------|------------|--------------|--------|
| 1) | Fred Hoshiyama, | Barrack 4, | Apartment 18 | (chm.) |
| 2) | Charles Kikuchi, | " 10, | " 5 | |
| 3) | Earle Yusa, | " 4, | " 2 | |
| 4) | Doris Hayashi, | " 68, | " 3 | |
| 5) | Ben Iijima, | " 21, | " 20 | |

They are all capable individuals, all Cal students or graduates. They have been given definite instructions and know about the general set-up. Hoshiyama, who is to act as chairman but who is not to be held responsible for the work of the other four, is an excellent worker and he (a graduate in social psychology) has the background to direct the work. Will you please contact him for any business that you may have? I'm sure that you will find him an excellent student.

Since these individuals did not come prepared for the study, they need supplies. I wonder if you could rush in the following items to them:

- ✓ 1) 2 reams of typing paper
- ✓ 2) 100 sheets of carbon paper
- 3) 25 three-cent stamped envelopes
- ✓ 4) 10 small notebooks (like those you got for Tomi)
- ✓ 5) 50 manila folders

Since most of these people have done studies on the Nisei before in some way or another, they have an idea of what we're after. However questions are certain to arise. I have left them outlines and memorandums, but in case they should get stuck, could you help them out? They are all swell kids and eager to work.

Tomi and Naj send their best regards. Will write again--maybe from the northern swamp near Oregon. Adios.

P.S. Tomi wants more clothespins.

Tom

Virginia

May- June 4, 1942

Dear Tom:

Received your letter this morning. It was swell seeing you kids the other day. I'm sorry we can't make a big day of it when we go down, but the time seems to fly and then off we go.

The group sounds okay to me and you know them which is the most important thing. I'm sure your directions will be good enough for them to get the idea and as time goes on they can get the feel for it themselves. Besides the graduate in Psych probably knows more about this sort of study than I do.

I'll send the supplies immediately. Tomorrow morning I'll do the buying so you'll get them right away.

I'll send the clothespins to Tomi with the food to Tulelake. Okay? Or does she want them at Tanforan? If you want to add anything to the list it is quite okay with me as I can spend a morning in the store piling it in a basket. Tell Tom that if she needs any drugstore items or dimestore stuff I can get that too.

You needn't talk that way about Tulelake as I spent a whole summer up there on my grandfathers farm. His farm is just five miles north of Tulelake (which is a little jerk town). Really it isn't bad country except it's roughing it.

Morton just put a new ribbon in this typewriter and as you can see it smears. Sorry, but you won't be any dirties when you finish reading it ahan when I finish writing it.

My best regard to Tomi. Dr. Thomas says hello.

Dr. Thomas says to tell you that the people on the sudty you mention in your letter will be paid on a \$250 a year rate, but ~~this-will~~ it is understood that we cannot at this time appoint them for a year. The appointment will run on form one month to another. Savez-vous?

How's the dust? I haven't had a chance to wash my hair yet, so I can sure sympathize with Tomi. I suppose she just lets it go.

I've been doing my best to make a file out of these reports etc. and let me tell you it's a job, but Morton is a great help with it. I'm afraid I'm giving him the impression of helpless woman-kind. But I hope to be able to get things under control in the near future.

Hope you get this---no one knowing when your're leaving.

Thanks for the letter Tom. I'll write you at Tulelake, soon, I hope.

Bill was pleased at your sending regards, not believing that he was remembered. So he now recipricates.

Sincerley yours,

COPY

LETTER

June 6, 1942

Tom Shibutani
Tanforan

Dear Dr. Thomas,

We are still at Tanforan waiting for the moving order. Hell! We're all itching to get out but they keep stalling and stalling. We have made all the arrangements--including getting some friends to live in our rooms and to forward our mail to us.

One very interesting thing happened a few hours after you left. Warren Tsueeishi, the newspaperman whom you met, had signed up to work on the sugar beets. After he had signed, he like many others changed their minds and decided not to go. At four o'clock Friday Warren, along with about twenty others, received Army orders to leave camp, and at 6:30 they all left for Idaho. I did not see him when he left, in fact, I did not know about it until this morning. He has promised to write and I hope to keep in touch with him. Frankly I feel worried over his future, since he has been a very close friend of mine and Kenny Murase; but for the purposes of our study, he should prove a very valuable source of information. As a writer, he probably went to seek information and he has enough intelligence to get significant things. It seems cold blooded to jump at things like this, but it was one of the things that came to my mind. I have thought a lot about Warren all day today. I fear that he has bitten off more than he can chew.

My paper--or rather our paper--is now completed, although it is strewn with typographic errors. We have three copies, none of which we want circulated anywhere. After reading over the stuff we put in, I don't think that any of it should get out to anyone. While I should like to have to five people staying behind to read it so that they might improve it, I fear that if I leave it in their care it will get out of their hands. I know them well enough to keep it away from some of them. In Berkeley, I wish that you would keep one copy and let Dr. Gundlach and Dr. Nisbet (no one else besides those on your staff) read the other copy if they care to. I have already written to them about it. While there may not be anything too touchy in the paper, we have personal reasons for keeping it quiet. I shall keep one copy to correct and revise. When Nisbet and Gundlach finish, I wish that you would lock up the second copy as well. I wish that you could discuss some of the contents with those who are remaining behind so that they might check on my work. I want it corrected and verified as much as possible without getting it back into Tanforan.

We feel that the paper gives a fairly accurate picture of what is going on and we have not pulled any punches. That is one reason why we don't want it floating around.

Thanks for coming to see us. We want to send our best regards to everyone in Berkeley. Till Tule Lake.

(signed) Tom

COPY

LETTER

Tom Shibutani
Tanforan

June 7, 1942

June 7, 1942

Dear Virginia,

Here it is Monday and we are still in Tanforan. What the hell's wrong with the Army anyway. If we were under the German Army, we would probably be in Tule Lake by now--maybe dead. Anyway, we're just taking life easy waiting for our orders. We have packed up, and I had to open three packages to get together the things to write this note.

I feel like a heel writing to you when I want things. Honestly, people should write out of the warmth of their hearts, not out of the emptiness of somewhere else. To be blunt we need more things.

- 1) several clothes hangers (about 15)
- 2) our trunk (in Dr. Thomas' basement)
- 3) my file case (in ")
- 4) paper (1 ream of typing paper, and 1 ream of typing paper with three holes punched in it)
- 5) scotch tapes (just the rolls)
- 6) other items lying around, like my diploma, Naj's ditto, and other things.
- 7) a copy of the Tolman Committee Hearings (if there is any)
- 8) Naj's tools (hammer, saw, plane) -- if you can get in the house (DST has the keys)

Could you send the junk up to Tule Lake as soon as we get there? We should like the tools especially so that we could make a table so that we can type on it.

Our report on Tanforan is now complete--even with oodles of typographical errors. We mailed it special delivery this morning-- to make sure that it arrives there (since registered mail would cost up almost a buck and a half).

Sorry to bother you so often. Naj and Tomi send their hello. Say hello to Bill, too.

(signed) Tom

P.S. Naj is including a diagram so that Mehren can find the stuff.

COPY

LETTER

Tom Shibutani
Tanforan

June 8, 1942

June 8, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

I know that it is against the law to write notes to include in packages, but what the hell. These are the two carbon copies of our report on Tanforan. I am keeping the original to work on in Tule Lake. Believe me, it needs working on.

We feel that it is ^a fairly accurate account, but we won't guarantee the accuracy of every single detail. Some of the things that need changing we have found already and we shall revise it as soon as possible.

As you will no doubt find there are numerous typographical errors. Please use your imagination if you come to something that is not in ye olde King's English.

(signed) Tom

COPY

LETTER

Tom Shibutani
Tanforan

June 11, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

I have a suspicion that this letter will constitute a waste of paper and stamps, but we want to say exactly what's going on so that you might lay your plans accordingly. Perhaps by the time you get this note, we might be on our way to Tule Lake, but as yet we are still sitting around Tanforan. We had our things all packed and sat around for a half a week waiting for the order, but by now we have given up and have partially unpacked again. I am going around making observations and at the same time taking life easy. This is really the first vacation I have had since the last summer vacation.

It's very boresome around here with nothing to do but snoop around. All our books are packed and tied up and I hate to tear up our very scarce rope and string. Most of the time that I was here, I was typing up some paper, either the former report or the report on Tanforan. Now I feel free, but I just don't have the oomph to start working on observations.

If our orders don't come tomorrow, I think I'll unpack more things and begin interviewing some of the candidates in the coming election as well as their cohorts. There is something fishy going on, and I might be able to pick up something interesting. These interviews, however, are on the unusual and the object is to get something on the internal intrigues and conflicts. As far as the everyday life in Tanforan is concerned. I have virtually given up hope of getting a good report. As you will no doubt gather from the report that I have sent in, we do not have much on the normal routines of the "average" resident of Tanforan. I feel that I spent too much time working on my reports to get detailed observations on other items that I should have. I am not apologizing, but am acknowledging an error that I have made.

Is there any way in which we can speed up our transfer to Tule Lake? We are rapidly getting into a rut since we broke our work routine a few days ago and are getting very bored. We are itching to get over there at to get to work pronto. Another thing, thousands of people are going in on June 15, and I think it is very important that we get there and have a couple of days to settle before they get in. What the heck, it's the 11th. already. No wonder the Japs are beating us in the East; the efficiency of our Army is amazing!

I have a special delivery letter to be sent to your home all typed out. When we are given our walking papers (you see how optimistic I am) we shall drop it into the letter box to be rushed to you. Hope to see you soon-- at Tule Lake, we hope.

Very discouraged,

(signed) Tom

COPY

LETTER

Tomi Shibutani
Haruo Najima
Tom Shibutani

June 11, 1942

Tanforan

Dear Dr. Thomas,

We are preparing this note in the expectation of a moving order. I think that we are being unduly optimistic, but we might actually be moved after all. When the order comes, we shall drop this in the mails.

Could you rush our junk up there as soon as you get our note? We would appreciate it if you would.

We received our order to move on: June 12, 1942
at: 1 p.m.

We are scheduled to leave Tanforan on: June 14, 1942
at: 3:30 p.m.

All this may seem silly to you, but we know of cases when people were given but a half hours notice to pack and leave. Since all three of us are roaming around all day, we may not see the notice to move until a little while before the deadline. Therefore, we are preparing for the worst.

See you in Tule Lake,

(signed) Toki, Naj, Tom

P.S. The moving order for Tom and Tomi came in with a horrible misspelling of names: Tamotsuin Shibutain, and Tomika Shibutain, and the camp officials hesitated to let us go on the grounds that such individuals were not on camp. Fortunately Doris Hayshi was on the spot and objected. Naj's order has not yet come. Could you check immediately. We are sending Naj's name out on the teletype today. (June 12, 1942). Tomi and I are leaving Ferry Bldg. by train to Klamath sometime after 5 on Sunday.

Tom

COPY

POST CARD

Tom Shibutani
Tule Lake

June 16, 1942

Building 413, Apartment A
Tule Lake Relocation Center
Tule Lake, California

Dear Dr. Thomas

Arrived at 11:00 a.m. yesterday after some delay at Klamath and as yet all mixed up. Am typing this note on the floor. The place is wonderful in comparison to Tanforan. We have a huge room all to ourselves, although we may share it with my parents if and when they arrive (are they coming?). The administrative personnel is wonderful and Dr. Jacoby has been more than kind to us. The physical facilities are almost completed and the food is wonderful. Everything is swell.

Our food has not yet arrived; neither has our tools. We have nothing as yet, but we intend to stock up today at the canteen, which is surprisingly complete

Thank you for everything Sunday. Tomi also says thanks. We met Sakoda at Klamath and came out together. No one else here.

(signed) Tom

Copy
✓

June 19, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

I received your note postmarked June 16 yesterday. Thank you ever so much for everything Sunday. It was swell seeing all of you again; in fact, it was the brightest spot on our trip up here. We had a horrible time on the train. Nothing unusual happened, and we actually got to eat a decent meal in the train (even at an atrociously high price it was good); but sleeping on that coach left us both with nightmares. I doubt if either of us got more than three hours' sleep that night. Oh well, we're through with it now.

I was very sorry to hear about Mehren's baby. It's really tough that things like that have to happen to such swell people. I don't know exactly how we can tell George how badly we feel, but could you please tell him that we are hoping along with him for the best. You might also forget about tools. There's no sense in bothering him at a time like this, and tools are of minor concern.

We still have heard nothing from Naj. I presume that he is still in Tanfor--poor guy. I guess Davis' refusal to act really griped him. We met Sakoda and part of his family at Klamath and we came down together. Jimmy and his brother and sister are here, but the other four are still in Tulare. We met Frank Miyamoto day before yesterday--the day her arrived. The three of us and our family met at Dr. Jacoby's home and talked over the study. Miyamoto seems to be a swell guy, judging from what little we have seen of him. I think that most of his group are already here. My mother and father are still in Stockton.

The food arrived day before yesterday. For a while we thought that we would not need it since the food here is much more abundant than in Tanforan and because the canteen here sells canned food. However, yesterday, something seems to have happened to my cast-iron stomach and Tomi has kept me on a diet of food that you sent. She doesn't think I can live on the stuff they serve in the mess halls.

I am sending you a check for the amount that I owe you for various supplies and for the food. I am sorry that we had to trouble you and Virginia so much. Since the canteen here is so complete, I think from now on we shall trouble you less often--especially after we get our two mail order catalogues. We are badly in need of paper now, but I guess they are on their way by now. Thank you ever so much for advancing these things to us. You can't understand what these things mean unless you live this kind of life and see.

I have given the form to Jimmy, and he promised to send it to you at once.

Please give Tomi's and my best to Mr. Thomas, Virginia, Morton, Bill, and the others.

Very sincerely,

Tom

Enclosure.

AV 5- Ben 33 Oct 2
Id. no 3274
↔

copy

June 22, 1942

Dear Virginia,

Thank you ever so much for everything. It was certainly swell to see you last Sunday. I'm sorry that I haven't written you sooner, but we were a bit mixed up here for a while getting furniture made, etc., and I just didn't have an opportunity to sit down at a typewriter. We received the food that you sent, and has it been put to use! I was laid up for two days with a minor case of food poisoning, and Tomi has been laid up for the last couple of days with stomach trouble and tonsillitis. I guess she'll have to have an operation sometime soon; we may as well get rid of the tonsil if it lays her out every now and then. Anyway, the food came in very handy because we couldn't go to the mess halls--or we didn't dare.

Tule Lake is pretty good in comparison to Tanforan; in fact, it's wonderful in comparison. I think that we disliked Tanfo so much that anything is good in comparison. We received a royal welcome when we blew in. We were greeted by Dr. Jacoby and Mr. Shirrell and were escorted to our quarters by Mr. Friedman, the housing director. In a way, this was unfortunate because the people around us saw that we were in well with the administration. Furthermore, Tomi and I are occupying by ourselves a huge room meant for at least six people. Since my parents have not yet arrived, we are just lost in the place. It's three times the size of our quarters in Tanforan. Anyway we like it (in comparison of course).

I am enclosing with this letter a copy of a report which I promised to send to some people in Tanforan. At first I drew up a copy of things as I felt like writing them down, but decided that it would hit the poor Tanfo people too hard and revised it. This is the revised copy. After looking it over could you show it to Dr. Thomas? I am not sending a copy to her since you two are together so often. I think the report gives a fairly good indication of what is going on here. If Nisbet or Gundlach want to see it, will you let them read it too? Thanks.

Although I am not writing to you out of desperation this time, I might say frankly that we need paper badly. We can't seem to get any here. I think that I specified the type of paper we needed in a note dated June 7, but I know that you have been busy as hell with your work there. We hesitate to write to you for supplies because you're so good about sending things, but dammit we can't get some things up here. The paper I'm writing on now is the last of this kind that I have and I don't have any typing paper left. I feel guilty asking for things every time I write you; some day I'll write a regular letter with no strings attached--a promise.

We met Miyamoto and Sakoda, and along with Jacoby have already started plans for our work. Jacoby is a gem; in fact, we couldn't get along without him. He has lined up the whole administrative personnel behind us and we are getting swell cooperation. We are now awaiting Dr. Thomas' arrival for more concrete plans. I hope that you could come with her. We'd like to see you again.

Tomi is a little under the weather yet but she says hello. Please give our best to Bill and to Morton and the others.

Tom

copy

June 28, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

It was really swell seeing you this week. We really enjoyed having you here. The repercussions of your visit are still to be heard--all favorable. Thank you ever so much for everything.

Naj blew in the day after you left. I had told him that the place was swell, but he came on an unusual day, and now he refuses to believe anything I say. The day he came we had a terrific dust storm and rain (I had told him 'little wind and no rain'). The dust was so thick that I thought that the camp had been engulfed by fog. Really, it's a lucky thing you left when you did. Naj was griped.

The bank mess is pretty well settled. The man told me that the check had come back and that he would fix everything up in a few days. As soon as I get my deposit slip, I shall send Dr. Thomas his \$10.

In regard to books, I have made up my mind to purchase certain books which I shall be needing again and again. I have written to the Campus Textbook Exchange and have asked them for a price list on sociology books. One of the books that I shall certainly buy is the Polish Peasant. You promised to lend me a copy, but I feel that I may as well get one to keep anyway. The five of us (Naj, Sakoda, Miyamoto, Jacoby, and myself) between us have many of the standard works. The library also has a fine collection. Therefore, with a few additions now and then the books will not be a problem.

Jimmy is going into welfare work. Miyamoto has not quite made up his mind, but his wife I believe is going to teach music. Tomi might work in a nursery school, but she is not certain. I have been signed up as an assistant teacher and am now drawing up a program for an orientation course for students leaving for midwestern schools. The course includes: general study methods, scientific method, mental hygiene, race relations, the evacuation and the future of the Nisei, racialism and democracy. We hope to have lectures, discussions, and assigned readings in the library.

I wonder if I can ask two favors of you. First of all, if you should see Mr. Conard, could you please ask him what he thinks of the orientation course and ask for his suggestions for other topics? I shall send an outline shortly. I just can't seem to get in touch with him.

Secondly, I wonder if you could send me my notes on the history of sociological theory which Joe Softish sent to your office. I need them at once to catch up on some of my background before going on in the reading of original works. I would certainly appreciate it.

Tomi is still working on her curtains, but says hello. Please give our warmest regards to Mr. Thomas, Virginia, Bill, Morton, and the others.

Tom

July 6, 1942

Dear Tom and Tomi

Just a note at this time. I was in bed all of last week with a cold so now I have just gobs of stuff to catch up on! I'm terribly glad to hear you kids are so well situated and happy. Tule Lake sounds fine to me. I can't get over this censorship--we got the first censored letter from there--very strange.

I have your duplicate slips here for your bank deposits and am sending them to you. Dr. Thomas says to send in your expense account for all material used. If you have receipts send them along, but if not send in the itemized account. Remember you can be paid for all material you use for the study. I am also sending you Naj's check. I will write him just as soon as I get time. James Sakoda's check has not come through yet, but will send it as soon as it does. Any day now.

We are all fine. Tell Naj. I got the candy and we will take it down to Tanforan tomorrow. Thank him so very much for our box, he really shouldn't have done it, and we do appreciate it. The candy came to \$8.24 and I am enclosing Dr. Thomas' check for the remainder, \$1.76.

I guess that's all the business to be transacted. Hope you are well and over your dietary trouble. Tomi will fix it up I'm sure. I miss not seeing you kids on Tuesday, but after all you are better off so that is consolation enough.

My very best to you all. Dr. Thomas and Morton send regards.

Sincerely,

9721

July 7, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

We just heard some good news at lunch, but we doubt if it is entirely true. Shimbo (block-manager) announced that the censorship has been revoked, but he may have gotten the wrong slant on some other announcement. At any rate, we are sending this note through.

We have received a copy of Charlie's paper, and Miyamoto is now pouring over it. We may find some very interesting contrasts between Charlie's account of S.F. and Miyamoto's study of Seattle. Judging from the conversations that we have had there were some significant differences.

In regard to finances, I have sent back the check that bounced because you stated that my check has been deposited. As soon as the check for June comes through, I shall repay Mr. Thomas.

Naj seems to be having an awful time and a good time all at once. He is pushing the administration to do something about the planning on this project. Apparently there is absolutely no planning as yet and this bothers Naj. He is contacting various individuals and is talking about drawing up a master plan himself in collaboration with others on the project.

Frank Miyamoto is quietly taking observations now and then. I guess we bother him so often that he has not yet had an opportunity to settle down and go to work.

Tomi as yet is so busy with housework and entertaining that she has not been able to get much done. I have begun my work on background and am reading faithfully every day. The Town Hall forum has begun and I am working in that as well as in the adult education program. Jimmy is still roaming around but I think he will work in the employment office. Frank is considering working in the welfare division. Michi (Mrs. Miyamoto) is teaching music.

Have you any news on the remainders of our families. With the various assembly centers being moved one by one, the whole thing is getting on our nerves. Could you let us know what is to happen one way or the other? We would certainly appreciate it.

I am enclosing a list of books that I need. A copy of this is going to the Campus Books Store. Some of these works I should like to have for references but most of them I need immediately for a course on race relations that I may give in the adult education dept. Whatever I cannot get from Cal, I suppose I'll have to buy.

Tomi and Naj say hello. It's been hot as hell here but they are bearing up well enough to say that much. Please give our regards to ~~MRs~~ Mr. Thomas, Virginia, Bill, Morton. Hope to see you soon.

Tom

July 7, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

We just received your shipment of the Polish Peasant and some paper. The notes on sociological theory also arrived. Thank you ever so much for sending us these items. Since hearing that you had sent them we have awaited anxiously to get them. I am sending this note more or less as a post script to the letter I mailed this morning to check up on some other things. You said that you would send several things as soon as possible, but many of these things have not yet arrived. Could you tell us whether the delay has been in Berkeley or whether it has been held up somewhere along the line as we suspect.

The trunk and file case have not as yet arrived, and some of the things in the file case I need immediately for courses that I am to teach in the adult education program. While the courses do not begin for some time, I must draw up the outlines ahead of time for approval. Although I can draw up a general outline without leaning on notes I am not sufficiently familiar with the fields that I am teaching to fill in the details without some references. The three file cases I need as soon as possible. Could you tell me what has become of them?

There is one question I should like to raise in connection with my paper on the first twenty weeks. When may I have a copy of the paper? If the stenographers have completed the typing (almost two months have passed since they got the paper), could you at least send me the original copy with the material for the appendix? Not only do I need some of the material for work here but I am also anxious to begin working on correcting and revision.

One further point: could you tell us what is to become of the remainder of the families? If the W.C.C.A. reacts unfavorably to your request, could you let us know at once so that we can begin negotiations through the W. R. A.?

I am sorry that I must make such unreasonable requests. I realize that you are very busy, but we must check up so that we know what is in the mail, what is supposed to be here and what isn't. I am really disgusted with the mail service here and fear that some things may just be lost in the mess. May we hear from you soon?

Very sincerely,

Tom

July 8, 1942

Dear Virginia,

It was indeed swell to hear from you. Thanks ever so much for writing. We were sorry to hear that you were laid up last week, but I suppose that by now you're on your way again. Thank you for sending Naj's check and my deppsit slips. Now we can get some badly needed books.

I may have some difficulty giving Naj the check that you sent. Somehow or another he seems to be allergic to money and he will not accept it. He won't even let me pay for my own cigarettes. What do you make of it? I have a suspicion that the candy was for a certain party in Tanforan that Naj seems to miss rather badly. He always declines to comment about her, but somehow the conversation always drifts back to her. She's really nice. Anyway, out here, Naj is all excited about economic planning. Apparently the administration here had done absolutely no large scale planning although they are talking about cooperatives. Naj really got burned up when he heard about this and is now recruiting some expert personnel to draw up a master plan for this dump. The director, Mr. Shirrell has given his approval and he may get to work pretty soon.

Tomi is groaning under the weight of house work and I'm cussing like hell (like usual) about all the work I pile upon myself. I'm teaching in the adult education division--public speaking and race relations. Speech doesn't take much time and I enjoy teaching race relations because it was my major field of interest and I want to work on it as one field for my advanced degree anyway. I'm working on the Town Hall Forum and am supposed to speak on the 13th. The Student Relocation Council put me to work too. This work and the terrific heat (110 degrees a couple of days ago) keeps up pretty well laid up--never too laid up to chase out for spot observations.

In regard to the expense account, I feel that since most of the items I ordered I did not use entirely for the study, I should pay for at least half of it. Therefore, except for those items that were obviously used only for the study, I have deducted half the price spent. I am enclosing an itemized account on a separate sheet.

Mrs. Jacoby told me today that Dr. Thomas may be coming up this week end. If she is going to come, please remind her of the heat. Please give our fondest regards to Bill, Morton, and the Drs. Thomas. Tomi says ditto.

Very sincerely,

Tomi

P.S. Am enclosing check for \$10.00 that I owe Dr. Thomas

July 27, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Thank you for your note. We received the trunk and file case this morning but were stumped when the Army man wanted to inspect it because we didn't have the key. It's still in the warehouse, but I think I can get it in a few days. I'll distribute the material to the others here.

It seems as though you are having more than your share of the troubles again. Some of the things you wrote shocked me. I am sorry to hear about Charlies' mother not being well. I hope that some satisfactory arrangement can be worked out. I am glad that you might be able to get more money; of course, by now I know better than to be optimistic. In regard to W.I., if he can repeat his performance of several months back (hole in one), well

Is Vriginia sick again? It seems that she was ill just before she came up. Was it the Tule Lake food? Please give her our best wishes.

Things are coming along rather smoothly out here by now. We are all getting used to the extreme heat and are beginning to work in earnest. I don't know what Jimmy is doing because I never see him anymore--I think I had better make some observations upon him and his new woman! Frank and I are worming our way into the camp life; while Naj is doing a swell job on the farm angle. Michi is teaching music and Tomi might go to work in a nursery school to make observations on youngsters. Frank and I may be able to get a job on the public relations department as "social analysts" and get all over the camp. I don't know about Jimmy, but the three of us are roaming all over the place and we may be able to get something yet. My class in public speaking is not only encouraging in that I have many very promising pupils but that they are all very honest and tell me what they think about all kinds of things. We are making plenty of friends and valuable connections so that when we finally get down to work we will have relatively clear sailing.

The other night we gave Naj a terrific time. As you know, he is the only one among us who is not married, and he takes a beating. Frank was in rare form and kept Naj on the defensive all evening--in fact, he confessed he dreamed about it that night. Frank offered to sing at his wedding and we guaranteed to get Naj's worst enemy to be the janitor at the wedding. Naj was flustered.

On the few hours of the day (usually in the morning) when I'm not working or when I'm not roaming around, I am getting in some solid study. I realize that my main job out here is to make a study, but I feel that my background in social institutions is not sufficient for my work. Frank is coaching me in social psychology; we are starting with some of his notes on Blumer, and from there we plan to go through Park and Burgess, Cooley, Mead, Dewey, W.I., and Sumner. Frank has been more than helpful and I have learned a great deal from informal discussions of social theory with him. Naj is going to teach me statistics (up to correlation analysis) and economic theory (Marshall, Chamberlin, Robinson, Hicks, and Keynes). Michi is teaching us all music appreciation. In return I have to teach public speaking (what little I know) and possibly racialism later on (one of my major fields of interest, which incidentally I should like to take for a field for my degree if I may). I have a feeling that we will all come out of this experience with more than we went in with (terrible English).

Your comments about Ernie Takahashi really scared me. You spoke rather highly of him and were surprised when those of us who knew him did not agree with you. What you do with your study of course is your business, but I am very concerned about getting mixed up with people whom we definitely cannot trust. Frankly between you and me, and Tomi and Naj will confirm what I have to say, the less you have to do with that go-getter the better for everyone concerned. He is a good worker but very ambitious to get ahead himself and will go to no ends to do so. Don't let him use you for a tool if you can help it. If you want to put him on, that's up to you, but for god's sake keep him away from us or you'll probably lose some of your investigators. He has absolutely no background in the social sciences and he knows it, but he realizes (he told me himself) that he cannot get very far as an optometrist in the center. He feels that education is a useful field in which he can advance. We have no objection to his getting ahead, anyone has ambitions, but when a person will go to the ends that he does, well, he gets a little too dangerous to deal with. It might interest you to know that the reason why he went into education in Tanforan was that he got kicked out of the recreation department because he didn't know enough about rec. Ditto for education, only there was no one to contest his job. Since he is a good worker, if he took orders from you it might be swell; but from past experience we know that he will try to run the show. Why do you think he wants to get in? Because he is humanitarian? Hell, no; he finds it a convenient place to get pull to get up! I don't know what kind of a line he is handing you, but Tomi has known him all her life (they went to the same church together since childhood) and she has absolutely no respect for him--neither have I judging from what I have seen of him.

If not for any other reason, then for the sake of the project, could you consider keeping reactionary politicians out of it. His connections are not going to do the study much good; in fact, they can all use the project for their own ends. I know that I get over-emotional about things that are none of my business, but please---please consider the matter carefully before you take the fatal step.

Ernie may be otherwise a good boy, but he's too damn selfish to suit the rest of us. We've just talked the matter over and have decided that there are a hell of a lot of other people whom you could put on and who would definitely contribute more to the study. We are afraid that he will actually harm the rest of the people. As I've said before, it's none of our business so long as you keep him an adequate distance from the rest of us, but please consider the matter carefully before toying with dynamite.

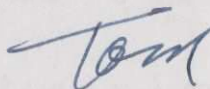
In a way we do have a vested interest in this project. Believe it or not, some of us have worked like hell and we hate to see our project jeopardized. I know we haven't turned in anything yet to prove what I just said, but by the end of this year I think we will all send in plenty of material (too much for Jacoby to read by himself). I guess we are being selfish in not wanting to see all our efforts--as futile as they may have been--go in vain. We're not saying that merely putting our friend on the staff is going to wreck everything, but there are potential dangers of the thing getting out of hand. I don't trust skunks, even though I may personally have nothing against the skunk.

Sorry if we seemed to have gotten too emotional. Sorry if we hold prejudices. Perhaps when we get older, we will get over them.

Thank you again for sending us our things. We shall continue our work here in spite of the blow-off above.

Tomi sends her regards. She has also asked me to thank you for everything you did when you came here. We hope Morton will find a suitable place. Please take care of Virginia. Greetings to W.I. and better luck in his next golf game.

Yours very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tom".

August 1, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

We were glad to hear from you even though your note did not sound too optimistic. I am sorry that you have so much trouble. I'll try not to increase your woes in any way.

Thank you for sending me copies of the paper. I have given copies to Jimmy, as I had promised him months ago, and one to Frank in exchange for a copy of his paper on Seattle. I want to keep one copy to mark up myself. The other two copies will have to abide there ~~time~~ for the moment. I am sorry that I do not know Gundlach's exact address. I am fairly sure that he is at U. Washington, but since I have not heard from him, I cannot be certain. He told me once long ago that he intended to return to Cal sometime in September for the fall semester.

Could you spare a copy of the paper for Dr. Hodgen. After all, she gave me two units credit for work on the paper, and even though we did cut out most of the material that I prepared for her (including the bibliography meant for her course) I think that I should hand in something for the course. I don't think that she is too interested in the subject, but as a matter of formality could you please send her a copy? Besides Dr. Hodgen, I have made commitments only to Dr. Young and Dr. Cottrell, but I have not had communications from either for quite a while. Maybe they have forgotten about the paper by now. Wirth didn't even ~~answer~~ my letter; I guess he was busy, but the hell with him. You said a number of people asked for the paper, but since I don't know who they are I cannot say anything.

Frankly, I think the paper was terrible, and I shall begin revising it sometime perhaps this winter when we have more time. There are many errors that I have detected myself, but I am certain that there are many more. I am asking everyone to whom I give a copy to criticize it severely. Could you do the same sometime when your worries are less acute--maybe a long time from now? I would appreciate it.

Our trunk arrived last week and the key came on the same evening. We received our trunk the next evening after inspection, and found things in quite a mess. Apparently the trunk had been banged around quite a bit, and many things were wrecked. Some of Tomi's notes were torn from the rings holding them together and one of her rings was mashed into an egg shape. Boxes were broken and the small items were strewn all over the trunk bottom. Fortunately, there was nothing important in the trunk. The file case took quite a battering too but the only casualty it suffered was loss of paint. In spite of everything we appreciate your sending the things to us. Thank you.

Since we have not yet received any definite instructions as to how to go about this study--nothing definite on procedures other than taking daily records--Frank and I decided to go on ahead on our own. We started by listing some of the obvious differences between the social and physical environment here and on the outside (Japanese community) and this list has already suggested several problems for investigation. We are now planning to get our clamps on some statistics so that we can get a general picture of the place--this might also suggest some problems. In order to work on this thing systematically, we decided to get an over-all picture of the camp administration and activities so that we would have some perspective in which to see things. We plan to cover the points step by step, while making observations on interesting things that occur on the side. It was strange and yet fortunate that both of us felt that something was wrong with our procedures on the same morning. We sat down that afternoon and mapped out the program.

In order to help us get a picture of the differences between this camp and the outside--so that we can see the difficulties more clearly--there are some publications that we should very much like to have. Most of these items I didn't send for because I thought that those on the staff would get them anyway. Bates has not come through with Fuller's thesis on ag. labor or the Tolan committee hearings. We should like to have at least one copy of both of these publications if we can. Are you getting them, or shall we send for them ourselves? We should also like to get our clamps on some of the statistical material that the W.C.C.A. has. I noticed that they have printed age, sex distributions and occupational data from the 1940 Census which are more complete than the releases that we have. Could you get us some of that material? Frank has some of them now (from Carpenter), but when he leaves for Chicago this winter, we'll be stuck with nothing. Naj has some dope on this place, as has Jimmy and we hope to do some more work on them.

One problem of some importance has arisen which I think we ought to do something about toute suite. Somehow or another the news on this study is spreading too much around this camp and it's cramping our style. Mr. Elberson has heard so many rumors about us (W.R.A. stool-pigeons, F.B.I., etc.) that he has become somewhat concerned. I don't know whether it's just rumor or some of our friends (?) that I'd like to choke some day (Walter Tsukamoto among others), but someone is directing the finger at us. (I didn't start this argument; I merely made a speech in which I omitted mention of the J.A.C.L. and the repercussions have been greater than we expected) At any rate, a couple of his cronies were those whom Elberson mentioned specifically by name. If the situation becomes critical enough (I doubt if it will), is it O.K. for me to put an article in the paper telling these guys that the study is being made with the view of aiding in the post-war resettlement (make it sound good for the colonists) or something of that nature? It's not the matter of pay, as Jimmy says, but the idea that someone is watching them that bothers some people. If we can convince them it's for the benefit of them (not humanity, since they hate keto), then we can count upon as much cooperation from the colonists as we get now from the administration. Don't worry too much; this isn't serious yet, but if something comes up, we'll have to do something.

Good news for a change! Believe it or not, Dr. Yamato Ichihashi is here in camp. He lives in 7307-D. I saw his wife the other day, and have made an appointment to see him. I haven't spilled about the study yet and will not unless we get an O.K. from you. I frankly believe that he knows more about the history of the Japanese in the U.S. than perhaps any man alive--at least his book is by far the outstanding work in the field. I told his wife, that I was working for an advanced degree and wanted to talk to him sometime and she very cordially invited all of us to see him. If he comes through like the others here have I think it will be swell.

There are a couple of requests that we should like to make. The Bible and book ends that we left with Virginia were not in the trunk and Tomi is somewhat concerned about them--particularly the Bible since it was a gift from the church she attended since childhood. We don't need these things and if they are lost it won't hurt too much, but could you ask Virginia what happened to them? Sorry to cause these minor difficulties when you have so much more to do. Incidentally, may I have some cigarettes sometime? We're all out. (Spuds, king-size and cork-tipped)

We were very sorry to hear of the mess that our friend Ernie caused in Tanfo. I'm sorry that we didn't warn you about him earlier when you were in Tule, but you sounded so enthusiastic about him that I thought I ought to keep my mouth shut and let well enough alone. He is one hell of a guy to get tied up with and the less we have to do with him the better. His bro. was the fellow that red-baited us in Tanforan; Ernie is a bit more reasonable than his brother, but I can't say much more. I hope that you can manage O.K. Good thing I wasn't in Tanforan; there might have been some serious trouble by now.

Sorry to hear of all the trouble you are in. I hope that things straighten up pretty soon. We'll keep plugging away out here in the meantime. If minor difficulties come up, we'll try to handle them with the help of the administration here. I doubt if we shall get into serious difficulty in the camp. If our friends start red-baiting or try anything else, they'll get into more hot water, because the administration is already wise to their tricks (I didn't tell them either). As for the people, we are making plenty of friends who will stand up for us.

Please forgive Naj if he doesn't write. He's a bit concerned about a young lady in Tanforan--rather seriously, so don't kid him. On top of that worry he has a hell of a job here. He is ag. director and has a heavy responsibility. I'm sure he'll write when he has time. He's doing very well out here and sends his regards.

Tomi, Michi, and Frank also send their best wishes.

Very sincerely,

Tom

August 8, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

We received your very encouraging note and the bank deposit slip this morning. Thank you very much.

Judging from the nature of your note and the things that I have been hearing from Ben and Tally from Tanforan, I infer that you are pretty busy all the time. It's too bad that these trivial things have to come up that occupy your time and prevents you from going to the more important part of the project. Judging from what the boys tell me from Tanfo, our friend Ernie had better make himself scarce if he wants to stay healthy.

It was certainly swell to hear that everything is finally settled. I can well imagine how you must feel after these months of struggle. With the Tanforan mess cleaned up and with the financing worry over I guess that you'll settle down to work. Frank and I were talking the matter over this afternoon and decided that this would mean that we would have to get off the dime and produce results. I doubt if we could have very much for you to take away when you come next week, since we have but one copy of some things, but we may have plenty of things to show you--we hope.

Up to now and perhaps for a little while yet, we have been primarily spending our time getting into all kinds of places and getting acquainted with the people. Since I have to work throughout the year while in Tule Lake (since no one else can or will) I have tried to bear down and finish all the dirty work in the beginning and concentrate on the study after getting the hang of this place. It seems that I am very definitely going to teach race relations. I was thinking of quitting but the old battle-axe backed down and consented to letting me work part time "if I found it necessary." I have a feeling that some of my students will be very fertile sources of all kinds of information; the people in my public speaking class have already come through with excellent material (for our study I mean). I have a group of pro-Japanese Kibei and Nisei and they don't pull their punches.

As far as general procedures go, as I indicated last time, we are going to get a general picture of this dump first and then define specific problems for investigation. We hope to cover this place systematically step by step, but will await instructions from you before going too far.

We'll be waiting for you next week.

Tom

August 16, 1942

Dear Virginia,

How are you? I heard that you have been sick--from fish poisoning. I understand. For a while, when I first heard of it, I was afraid that you had been poisoned here, but Dr. Thomas assured me that that was not the case.

I gather from D.S.T.'s latest letter that many of her difficulties have been ironed out. She also tells me that you are very busy. That is one reason why I hesitate to bother you.

Thanks for sending me the Spuds. The day after I asked for them I found that one of the canteens here carried them. I'm sorry that I caused you the trouble. In the event that we run out (myself and the canteen too) I'll order it directly from Whitie's. Could you please tell me how much a carton costs--partly so I can pay you back and partly because I want to pay them when I order.

We've had quite a bit of excitement around here lately, in fact, all of us have been running wild during the last three days. When we heard that D.S.T. was coming naturally we began to hustle, but just then three incidents occurred that took up most of our time. On August 13, I got up at 4:30 a.m. to rush over to a fire at canteen #3. It seemed awfully strange because the people didn't want the canteen to be placed there anyway. Naj was there in a T-shirt in freezing weather snooping around too, but Frank and Jimmy were apparently asleep through all the commotion. It was a beautiful fire, but the crowd was well behaved.

On the following day, I was called in by the administration to form a committee of residents to talk over the matter of Issei entertainment. Apparently there had been some subversive stuff going on which they wanted to stop without clamping on a censorship because the relationship between the Issei and the ad. men was bad enough the way it was. Boy, it was a delicate situation because there was a possibility that if we slipped some men would be sent up the river for years. The master of ceremonies had said in Japanese, "Since there are no Caucasians around here, we are free to say anything we please." Apparently someone on the recreation staff was there and reported the incident. The Issei never caught the real guy but blamed someone else and someone sent the poor victim a letter threatening his life. The following night some Kibei with some 2x4 boards went over to his house and were dispersed by wardens. Wow! Are things popping!

Yesterday was the real day. The farm labor, the construction crews, and parts of the transportation and supply division went on a general strike. This paralyzed everything in the camp except the mess halls

and the hospital. Even these would have been closed, only some of the more cool-headed of the leaders argued that while the men might be able to starve the women and children would suffer. Naj saw the strike coming for days, even weeks, and warned the ad. men, but they were too dopey to catch on. Yesterday, while the strike was going on, Naj cornered Eastman and asked him if he ~~know~~ knew the full significance of the strike, and the dope answered that it was just a "family affair!" Some of these ad. men and a little slow in catching on even if their intentions are good.

The strike was precipitated when there was a scarcity of food yesterday morning. Men were expected to go to work with two slices of bread and a cup of tea in their bellies. For the past week the mess halls have not had sugar or butter and discontent has been high, but this was the pay-off. Furthermore, the men in the fields had not been supplied with shoes, clothes, soap, or gloves and all their own things had worn out. They could not purchase things because no one had been paid for June work yet. The administration apparently meant well and were working hard to get these things, but the governmental red tape and misunderstanding and inefficiency just slowed up everything. For example, no one has been paid yet because they have changed the system of timekeeping three times in the last month and the time crew is working late at night to get the books in shape. The W. R.A. owes me about \$35.00 out of which I have yet to see one cent!

It was not, however, the food, clothes or pay that touched off the strike. I'm inclined to think that there is a deep underlying feeling of distrust and suspicion of all Caucasians on the part of the Japanese--particularly the Issei. They seem to hate all keto, and they don't give a damn what happens to them as long as Japan wins the war. Unless this administration gets off the dime quick and establishes some kind of a personnel board or a public relations board, this feeling is going to get stronger and stronger. We have asked the administration over and over again to do some little things (that they considered insignificant and not as important as their present tasks) but they have not listened. Then when something breaks, they call in Frank, Naj and some others and ask us what they should do. Boy, they are slow!!! The strike is partially settled by now, but I doubt if this underlying feeling has changed. I hope the ad. men become wiser from this.

Well, so much for the excitement here. May we ask a favor of you again? Sorry to ask for so many things, but I was instructed to write you when we needed books from the library. I have finished reading most of those that were sent before. We would appreciate your getting these books for us:

Weatherford, W.D. and Johnson, Race Relations, 1934.
Toynbee, A.J., A Study of History, volume I only.
Eubanks, E.E., Concepts of Sociology, 1931
Muntz, E.E., Race Contact, 1927
Park, R.E. and Miller, Old World Traits Transplanted, 1921

F.J. Brown, Contemporary World Politics, 1940
F.L. Schuman, International Politics, 1938
F.M. Russell, Theories of International Relations, 1936
(sorry, Harp and Kirk, Contemporary International Politics
cant find Buell, New Governments in Europe, 1937
initials) Simonds, Great Powers in World Politics, 1937

These books (not all my own requests) are not directly connected with the study and I feel that we ought to bear the expenses ourselves. They are a part of our project only in that they will help us get established in this community by making our courses better. The spy hunt around here has become sufficiently intense to make us take some respectable job and at least make some showing at it to prevent suspicion. I am working on a course in race relations and Koso Takemoto is working on International relations. We have planned to work together when we come to the section dealing with the rise of modern racialism and its relation to realpolitik. That is why we are asking for these books.

In regard to books directly relevant to the study, Frank was wondering if you did not have any of Blumenthal's studies on the community or any of Mayo's work on personnel work. We could certainly use such books if we could only get our clamps on them.

Naj says he wants his copy of Willcox (ed.), International Migrations, which he left in Dr. Thomas' office when he evacuated. If you could send us my copy of Kawakami's The Real Japanese Question (also lying around in the office), we would appreciate it. Well, I guess if we went on making requests, there would be no end of it, and you're too damn busy already without having us heap more work on you. We're really sorry that we have to ask for these things. I wish there were some way whereby we could accomplish these ends without bothering anyone.

Well, we'll let you know if anything else pops. Something might go off pretty soon, you know. Please give Bill our warmest hello. Naj says he'll write presently, and Frank and Michi send their regards. Aside from a few things here and there that irritate us, all is going well--relatively, of course. Adios,

Tom

Tog
Chiz

August 17, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Boy o boy, are things popping around here!!!! Finally the long smouldering feelings of hatred are being released in full fury and the camp is in a hell of a stage. I asked Tomi to phone you this morning to ask you not to come here; we reached this conclusion after a long conference last night at Frank's place. We are all keeping our eyes and ears open and our mouths shut. Could you cooperate with us by not coming down here for a while? We will let you know when things have sufficiently cooled off. Unless you want to have three or four investigators found in a ditch some day, please stay away from here for the present. These people are plenty mad and they mean business. They suspect everyone and we may very easily get involved if they see us with any Caucasians.

Although the administration here (unfortunately without Mr. Shirrell who is in S.F. until Friday--the only Caucasian respected in this camp) thinks that this is just a family affair, this whole thing is much more serious than they think. Those assinine dopes are making one mistake after another and are making things worse by letting things ride. They all mean well and are trying hard, but they just don't know what to do. Frank, Naj and I have been after those guys for weeks now telling them they had better do this or that and warning them that something is going to pop, but they went on in the usual way--saying that the things we asked for were unimportant compared to other things that they had to do. They just don't seem to realize how sensitive the Japanese are and that there are insignificant things that mean a great deal to them. Now that the whole thing has blow off they pester us with questions. What a hell of a time for them to come. I told Jacoby, Waller and the rest of them to stay away from my house.

In spite of Mr. Shirrell's humanitarian motives there have been some suppression (by Army orders I understand) which have created a great deal of distrust and suspicion for all Caucasians. We must remember, of course, that most of the Issei and Kibei cannot read English well and they have no means whereby they can find out what is going on in the camp. There are practically no Nisei involved in this strike, and all the discussions are in Japanese. They have had little contact with Caucasians and have heard many stories of persecution in the past and here the Nisei have been running things without adequately taking their desires into consideration. They have had a feeling of resentment and distrust for months--the whole thing has been smouldering for some time even though the administration still doesn't believe it. They think that all they have to do is to meet the demands of the strike--better and more food--and the whole thing will be over. May I assure you that this is not the case. We may not have another strike, but in some way or another this resentment is going to continue to spread, and it will pop up in some other manner unless something is done to eliminate this basic cause. The administrative men here mean well but are too dumb to realize this.

Beginning last Thursday we have had a series of incidents that led to this thing breaking out. For a long time there has been much bickering in this camp about canteens. The people--who cannot read English--cannot understand that the canteens belong to them. They feel that the canteens are a means ~~whereby~~ the administration (the damn keto) are trying to take away their money. All people have objected to having canteens near their homes because it would be impossible to keep their children from wanting things. In spite of this, the director of community enterprises insists on putting canteens in every ward! On Thursday morning the canteen near my place burned down mysteriously at 4:30 in the morning. Everyone attributes the fire to electrical trouble and everyone is letting it go at that. The significant thing is that not a single individual expressed his regret over the loss of the canteen--many were glad it burned down.

Friday, at my place, we had a long conference with Mr. Waller of the recreation department over the matter of Issei entertainment. The Wednesday before there had been an Issei program in which there were some questionable numbers--songs glorifying the Japanese spirit and bushido--and the announcer had said, "Since there are no keto around here tonight we can say anything we pleased." Actually the program itself wasn't so bad, but the announcer's attitude put a bad connotation on the whole thing and the audience went home thinking that the whole program was anti-America. Many Issei were genuinely concerned. Before long, rumors got around that someone had squealed to the administration. Actually the ad. men had not heard a thing about it, but the rumor got around that the announcer had been sent to prison for 20 years. One man was singled out and the following day he received a note threatening his life. On the following night the wardens dispersed a group of Kibei boys surrounding his home with two-by-fours in their hands! Kill the squealers! is the cry in camp.

Saturday morning, the men were expected to go to work on two pieces of bread and a cup of tea. There had been no sugar since all that has been squandered (no one seems aware of the sugar shortage) so that coffee could not be served. On the farm the morale has been low because of contradictory orders and lack of organization and the farm men struck. Furthermore, the clothes, gloves, and shoes that had been promised them by August 15 had not arrived. They had not been paid for June work yet. In desperation the administration paid the farm hands to ward off trouble. Then the carpenters and the construction crew objected that they should be paid too. The whole mess ended in a general strike that paralyzed everything except hospital and mess hall trucks. The men are all mad with hatred and suspicion. Anyone seen associating or talking to a Caucasian is immediately blackballed. There have been fights and threats. It is really a wonder that someone has not been hurt by now.

Saturday afternoon there was a meeting of representatives of the various departments and a committee was selected to talk things over with Mr. Hayes (assistant director and a little slow in the head).

The committee demanded better and more food and were promised by the administration that there was plenty of food (this was a grave error on the part of Pilcher, the mess man, because in fact there wasn't enough food and it was apparent by what was served on Sunday). Since nothing was received but empty promises, the men, madder than ever, held a mass meeting Sunday night at the outdoor platform.

All of us, Frank, Jim, Naj, and I, were out there covering the meeting. Believe me that was an experience and all of us were a little hesitant. The tension was high and the mob was milling around ready to do anything. If anyone had said the wrong thing they would have torn him apart. In clusters of ten or fifteen the men stood around brooding and waiting for a stupid Christian meeting to end so that they could use the loud-speaker system. The meeting went on and on--the preacher thinking that all the people standing there were there to hear him (three-fourths of the audience didn't understand a word he was saying and were patiently waiting for him to go). Finally the mob decided to storm the meeting in spite of the pleas of the leaders and en masse descended upon the Christian group. They stopped short for some reason and hooted and heckled the speaker in Japanese. Finally the Christian boys caught on and left. The man in charge of the microphone was seriously hooted and booed for speaking in English since most of the mob were made up of Kibei and Issei.

In the meeting it was disclosed that the council was demanding a wage increase to \$30-35-40 scale. This was read in such a way that many interpreted to mean that either Shirrell came back from S.F. with more money or else. . . ! It was revealed that the cooks were demanding the discharge of Mr. Pilcher (a skunk anyway) and complete control over the food or else they likewise would go on a strike! After the meeting a crowd gathered at the platform and threatened the speaker--many came running with the cry "sock him" (nagure! nagure!). It was really a wonder that someone didn't get hurt. Were it not for a professional actor who got up and ridiculed some of their gripes, there might have been serious violence. Finally the appeal was made that after all they were all Japanese and must show the Japanese spirit--"we must show these keto that we can take it like real Japanese!" This was the only appeal that had any effect. Anyone else who talked was in danger of being slugged. The tension was really high and the men really meant business.

This morning, all of us made breakfast for a change. We were all at the Placement Office (where the farm crew checks out for work) to see whether the strike would go on or not. Apparently the back of the strike today movement has been broken. The firebrands lost out and the more sensible of the men prevailed and the men agreed to go to work until Mr. Shirrell comes back; they they will make their demands again and if they are not carried out they will fight "to the death." These men--Issei and Kibei--not only do not realize what might happen to this camp if this news got out nor do they realize what they might be doing to the Nisei in this country. As far as they are concerned, as long as Japan is winning the war, they don't give a damn if every Jap in this camp were shot. The individual doesn't count; it's all for the glorious cause!

The administrative men, knowing how Mr. Shirrell is, have not yet told the Army what is going on; nor do they plan to do so unless a riot breaks out or unless there is a murder. Both these things are more possible than many of those dopes seem to think ("just a family affair") and if the Army ever takes over this place, with Captain Patterson in charge (God curse the damn . . .) then good bye our liberties and good bye our study. Frankly we are very concerned about all these Issei difficulties partly because they are of scientific significance and partly because if the S.F. Regional office or the Army or the F.B.I. ever find out what's really going on, they will just clamp down. Then, we may as well leave Tule Lake because we will not be able to carry on our research. If we can't work on our project here, I think that we are all pretty well agreed that we want to get the hell out of here--to go anywhere. The administration here is made up of a bunch of swell guys who mean well and work 10 to 15 hours a day (including Sundays) but they are just inefficient and think they know too much. If they would listen to some of these more intelligent Issei all this wouldn't have happened. It's too late now. I doubt if starting a Japanese language press would help much now; it's just too late. All the prejudices have already formed and it's just going to take a lot of guts to oppose a bunch of maniacs.

This whole thing is very demoralizing to me. Ever since childhood my father had told me that the Issei were a bunch of uncivilized barbarians who had to be cared for. Since my high school days the one ambition in my life was to do something for the welfare of the Japanese minority people in America. That is why I entered college as an English major--because I was so impressed by the social effect of Steinbeck's Grapes of Wrath that I wanted to be a writer on Nisei problems. That is why I eventually shifted over to sociology and have specialized in race relations. That is why, being dissatisfied with most modern theories of race relations, I want to work on my own and pioneer in this relatively barren field (abundance of literature and barren in ideas). I am demoralized because the very people for whom I had naively hoped to work now really show their hand and show themselves not to be the simple, honest, hard-working peasants but a bunch of self-interested wolves--just like a pack of uncivilized savages. No reason--no thought--just violence. I suppose I should have expected people to act unnaturally and without the usual inhibitions in a mob situation, but it was so shocking that I just don't feel like going on--not for them. As far as academic work is concerned I suppose that I can go on for my own as well as before, but I can't see how I can continue to kid myself into thinking that someday I may develop a theory in race relations that may be applicable by practitioners for their benefit. I know it was nothing but a far-fetched dream, but it was a powerful incentive to work even when sleepy and tired. Really, I've been lying awake nights thinking ever since a couple of Wednesdays ago when I first heard the Issei entertainment. These people just aren't worth the consideration they are getting from the W.R.A. I suppose that if we took their point of view--with their limited contacts and knowledge--we just can't blame them for the way they feel. I feel sorry for them and yet they seem so unreasonable and so barbaric and uncivilized that it just repulses me.

In spite of personal feelings, we are all covering the strike as thoroughly as possible. Kay Hisatomi has become secretary for the investigating committee for the workers and he is the only one who can take notes without being struck. We can get all the minutes from him. Naj and Kay are now out at the farm browsing around at the risk of their necks. They have been with the firebrands since the outbreak of the trouble. Jimmy was in the mob milling around with the rest of them and taking mental notes last night. Frank had to help Michi at a record concert and missed part of the works last night, but he was out there this morning--as keen as ever. I've been covering everything I could get close to during the past four days and was among the strikers yesterday and this morning--talking with them to draw them out without suspicion. I had to borrow a work shirt from Frank and pull stuff out of the dirty laundry so that I wouldn't be taken for a spy, but a regular worker. I haven't shaved for three days to get dirty enough to mix with these guys. Naj is working like hell. He was out til almost one last night and had to get up at 5:45 this morning to write down what he had since he was too tired to write last night. He insists that he wants to return his salary, but believe me he is working for it now. Frank is covering things systematically. I don't know what Jim is doing but I know he is up to something.

It has become quite apparent to us that we had better get some respectable jobs out here. As it is, I am the only one that has a job beyond reproach--provided the ad. men leave me alone. It is unfortunate that teaching takes up so much time but that is one profession that is respected by the Issei. Frank is working from the Chief of Information and I think he had better get out of there quick. Michi is worried about him. Jim is working with the census--which is in disrepute Bore asking direct questions on personal matters, but thank god, he will be getting out of it soon. Naj is on the ag. technical staff, which the farmers hate. We had all better watch out because we all speak English with very little or no accent and know plenty of Caucasians.

In regard to jobs out here, I am asking Virginia for a number of books for the course I am now organizing. Since those books are not for our project, I feel that I should personally pay for the expenses. Could you please just deduct it from the amount due me for expenses--paper and other items that I purchased months ago? We would appreciate your help. Sorry to bother you.

We will hold up the fort here as best we can. Please cooperate with us by staying away from us until the whole thing blows over. We will keep you informed on the whole thing. If you have business that has to be settled, please send it by mail; I doubt if it will blow over for weeks or possibly months. As I have already said, it is not just the food, but the long-held resentment and suspicion of all Caucasians ("enemies of the Japanese") that is coming out and being expressed. We are not happy out here but are keeping our bearings sufficiently to keep tab of what's going on. If there should be any action by the Army (it is possible that they will hear of this eventually) we shall mail you the material at once before they take over.

Please don't worry about this. We'll keep you informed.

Tom

August 21, 1942

answered
Aug 27

Dear Virginia,

We received your letter a couple of days ago and got one from Dr. Thomas this evening--thanks to the efforts of Frank's sister who ~~lives-in-th~~ works in the P.O. It probably wouldn't have been delivered until Monday were it not for here

Since we plan to wire Dr. Thomas tomorrow morning giving her the green light, I doubt if she will be in Berkeley when this letter gets there. So, I'll answer some of her questions as well as yours.

Thanks ever so much for sending us the books that we wanted. We got all the books except two--which were on reserve. We are already working on Mayo and Blumenthal and will get around to the rest of them by the end of next week. In regard to Kawakami's book, I agree with you that it's not so hot. I'm sorry that I didn't make myself clear, but I didn't want the book from the library. There is a copy that belongs to me (or maybe it's my father's) in 338 Giannini, and I asked if I couldn't have it sent along with Naj's copy of Willcox, International Migrations (also in D.S.'s office). I wanted to get my own copy of Kawakami so that I could then donate it to the library here and use it in one of my courses. Books are awfully scarce around here and we just have to buy some if we want them. I sent for several copies of Fuller's thesis, but they have not arrived. We don't have any copies of the Tolan Committee hearings either. You comment favorably on Millis' book; it's pretty good, but have you ever noticed the similarity between that book and--say Naka's thesis of 1913 on Japanese farmers? Have you seen Gulick's book or Ichihashi's? I feel that Ichihashi's book is one of the best in the field--they are all pretty sad, though. Incidentally, we met the old boy himself here in Tule. Is he a conceited bastard!!! All he did was talk about his experiences; all he does is evaluate things in terms of his own self!!! What a man!!!

The description you give of your life in Berkeley almost makes us glad that we aren't stuck here. We hear of inflation over the radio; we read in the magazines and newspapers, but I guess it's a little hard for us to realize what it's like in reality. All we do is get mad as hell about the lousy food and the waste of everything here in camp--hell, we waste enough gasoline, rubber, wood, nails, and meat in this camp to feed a good portion of California. Guys are kicking in here about no sugar in the mess halls; the head man says the sugar is delivered but he can't help it if it disappears. I discovered yesterday at the canteen that Kool-Ade, which requires about 60 teaspoons of sugar per pack, was selling like hot-cakes! Where did that sugar come from?

Really, Virginia, I don't see how you and Bill make it on 62. Hell, I get 62 plus 19 per month and yet it somehow disappears little by little by the end of the month. Of course, right now I'm buying a lot of books that I'll be needing pretty soon and that cuts in deeply, but it's surprising how (even with room and board supplied) the money can disappear.

Thanks for writing me the price of the cigarettes. I'll pay Dr. Thomas when she comes up here.

The letter we received from D.S. tonight was just I just couldn't decipher her hand-writing myself. It's a good thing that Frank dropped in as I was reading it. He is used to reading blue books and he made out most of the words. We are still in a haze as far as some parts of the letter go, however. If she is still in Berkeley, please thank her for writing.

Please tell Morton that I received his corrections on my terrible manuscript several days ago. However, because of the strike, we were so damn busy running around that I just didn't get around to writing him. I think that his remarks were very much to the point and I think that all his comments will be considered when I get around to working on the paper next spring. Please thank him for me, Virginia, because I doubt if I'll get around to writing him myself for some time. I do appreciate his comments and will write him what I think as soon as I get a breathing spell.

Right now, Tomi is helping Mrs. Jacoby organize the Y.W.C.A. in camp and is working in a lousy nursery school. Just like everything else in this place, the nursery school is run by people with no experience and no training--imagine! not even basic training in elementary psychology!! Tomi has a hell of a time because she has had some experience, having worked in the Institute of Child Welfare and being a home ec. major. She just comes home disgusted at the stupid errors that are made, but she can't do a damn thing about it. The woman in charge is like the other W.R.A. officials; they are all swell guys and they work hard and mean well, but boy o boy are they slow! They are among the most inefficient and blundering bunch of dodos that I have ever seen.

I'm working like hell doing three things. First of all, I'm supposed to be doing field research. But in order to do a good job, I have to have a background so I'm studying whenever I can. On top of that, I have to work here to keep the suspicious hawks away from me and I have to work like hell to get a decent course ready to teach. We average about ten hours a day of work usually but we are still way behind. Although we do take time out to fool around now and then and do have bull sessions with Frank, I'm pretty much on the go from the time I get up (about 10 a.m.) until 1 or 2 a.m. Still we are way behind in our work. I haven't kept up my journal except in note form and it's going to take months before I catch up with myself. I wish it would hurry up and get cold so that we can work more efficiently.

We are finally getting under way in the field work. We are beginning to get at the thing systematically. We waited and waited for D.S. to send us her instructions but she kept promising and didn't come through. I guess she was so damn busy that she just couldn't get around to it. We went around haphazardly, but we are now planning some sort of division of labor so that we can cover the whole damn thing and get an overall picture within a few weeks. Once we get this background junk all typed up, we will start working on all the informal organization of life in this camp. We want to cover the formal organization first. We don't know what the hell Jimmy is doing because we never see him anymore. Frank, Naj and I all work pretty closely together though. I'm really lucky having such swell people to work with. Tomi and Michi are fitting into the picture quite well.

The strike was quite a thing. It hasn't blown over yet, but it has cooled off considerably. The administration dopes, thinking that food was the major problem involved, merely got some better food and they are stupid enough to think that the whole thing is over. Mark my words, Virginia, something else had better be done or else there's going to be blood shed in this camp yet. The Army brought in over 20 truckloads of soldiers and the way they people felt at the general meeting Sunday night (which I discussed in a letter to D.S.) those Issei and Kibei would have just charged regardless of machine guns or bayonets. The fundamental problem is the lack of rapport or understanding between the administration and those who cannot read English. As far as the Nisei were concerned the strike was a farce; no one was interested. More later when the report is written up.

The picture you drew of Berkeley did not sound too good. I hope that you and Bill find a way out. Incidentally, to help you buy a few mills worth of war bonds, we are enclosing some coupons that Tomi saved for you. Are you still saving them?

Please thank Morton for his criticisms. Naj is threatening to write you. Please give Bill and Ruth our heartiest hello. We'll write again presently. If you see Nisbet will you congratulate him for me--I hear he had a baby (didn't know he could do it!) Adios,

Tom

P.S. - god! what fancy envelopes?

August 27

Dear Tom and Tomi:

Received your letter, very informative and thanks a lot. You're quite welcome to the books, since the Library is so nice about sending them. I sent the Kawakami book from the Libe before I realized that you had your own copy. However, you speak of a shortage so perhaps one of the other kids can use the extra copy. I also sent Naj's International Migragtions which he should receive shortly. We have several copies of the Tolan co. report but really can use all of them. I suggest you write for them from Washington. They send out as many as you want with no expense---so go to it. Yes, I read Ichihashi's book and also knew that he was at Tule Lake. I think the book is okay, but am disappointed in all the literature in the field. Bo y, it sure is a case of heart over science.

Conditions are steadily becoming worse in Berkeley. Meat should be rationed as the prices are just ridiculous. All the stores are out of coffee but I heard that it will be rationed in Sept., which I hope for. I have loads of sugar but Dr. Thomas advises against trying to send it to you.

You kids sound impossibly busy. I couldn't keep up the pace, I'm sure. I received a letter from Constance Murayama at the same time I got yours. She said she had met you kids (admiring you, Tom, my friend) and was herself very busy. When I met her I was indeed taken in--I think she's just darling, besides being damn bright. I noticed her poem in the Tudean Magazine section. Maybe this is the answer to Naj's prayers. Christmas!

I have been and will be working at the library for the week. I am going through all the copies of the Pacific Rural Press from 1890 to present, in order to trace the farm attitude and labor scarcity etc. It is a good source, but a helluva lot of work. It takes an hour for one year to read the thing carefully. I hope it's worth it, but have a feeling it is. Dr. Taylor says it is the best source for the industrial farming picture. It has a big circulation and is very much for the big farmer.

I saw Kramer yesterday. He asked about you, as he always does and said he had heard, but not too recently, from you. Also Dr. Nisbet asks about you every time I see him. He's a swell joe. Bill is taking his 121B now and the same old stuff.

The strike there really sounds exciting. I can hardly wait to read your report on it. Constance wrote me a little about it, agreeing with you.

Everyone is well and working hard. I didn't know Nisbet had a baby but I'll congratulate him. (He looks well, incidentally)

Please give Frank, Mitchi, and my pal Naj my very best. For you and Tomi lots of love. Bill said the next time I wrote to "damn well say hello".

copy
pt

August 29, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

We received your note and the outline of procedures this morning. Since you are coming this Thursday, this note may not reach you in time; however, I'm writing this hastily to warn you of what you might be up against when you come. Just a fair warning.

(1) To begin with the trouble is brewing more now than it was last week. I think that last week was the quietest since the strike. Now the fireworks are beginning to pop again and we may have trouble in a few days. This time, I think we may see some troops in the camp. If you come down here Thursday (and we hope you do), could you cooperate with us by not coming down to our living quarters. Even being seen with Caucasians is bad now. If you can let us know when you are here, we'll all come down to where you will be staying or the ad. recreation hall or Jacoby's place or anywhere else you wish to see you. If the situation is calm, we may retire to our place.

(2) You asked us to have all our reports written up. Furthermore, you ask for weekly reports and other things. We all agree that this would be ideal, but I think it will be very difficult for us to do this. All of us, except Frank, will be working full-time. I think that we just have to work full-time if we want to stay in good with the people around here. It is quite possible to work full-time and still work on the study. We were all employed on the understanding that our research would not take all our time anyway. In the case of Naj, I think it would be impossible for him to write up his notes. It is now harvest season and he has enough extra work to do without asking this of him. As for myself, I'm just in the midst of getting a course in final shape for presentation and was working like hell. However, I think I can bang out something for you by Thursday. I wouldn't expect too much, though, if I were you. Heck, we don't even know how to begin. Frank and I have been discussing procedures all this time and laying plans and all of a sudden you send us an outline and say, "produce in four or five days."

2
(3) Another headache! Davis McIntyre was here last week and he explained to Frank and me the new employment policy. Anyone residing in the project who has outside earnings must turn the difference between what he might earn in the project and the actual amount to the community council for them to dispose of as they see fit. None of us would have a chance against the council. We would all be working for nothing but experience. I suggest that you change the compensation (as little as we deserve it) into a scholarship or an award. That might not be impounded.

1)
2)
(4) Yesterday, I spent a little time talking over with Tomi what Blaisdell had suggested when he came. He felt that I should leave camp pronto. I told him I wasn't interested, but later thought the matter over. Tomi, Frank, and Michi, and Naj are all pretty well agreed that they want to get the hell out of here if they can and I can't say that I disagree with them. The question I want to raise is: are we just working for you on this project gathering data or were you serious when you said that we would work of our degrees at the same time? I feel that this is an excellent opportunity to gain experience in field research, but unless I can have an opportunity to be guided in my study as well, I feel that I just don't have the background as yet to carry on. In spite of the fact that we have plenty to do without graduate study, I think that if we know precisely what fields we are to cover in our reading we can plan our courses better. As things are now, I don't know what I'm doing or where I'm going and we may just grab at any chance to get out of here if it sounds half-way decent.

(5) Warning if you are coming here: bring some heavy clothes because it is really cold. The cold weather set in at the beginning of this week and the nights are really chilly. It rains every other day.

8 copies available ✓
(6) I am going to raise some questions concerning the disposition of my manuscripts. I have had many requests and you say you have a list of names.

✓
(7) We have already sent for copies of Fuller's thesis and I guess we'll just have to send for the Tolan Committee hearings; but how about Blumer's Critique? Did you say you could get copies for us or shall we buy them? I want a copy of Blumer even though I'm not too enthusiastic about Allport. I know where to write; can you tell me how much the thing costs?

(8) We shall raise questions in regard to daily records. I think we shall have to make a distinction between the things that we feel as participants and the things that we shall describe as observers. In this light, the summary you ask for will have to be done differently. More on this when you come.

Yes - in two weeks M.C.
(9) Is there any chance of getting the names and address of all relocation centers and where the inhabitants of each came from? We have some vague notions but we're not too sure. This would help in the letter writing. You see, I've given up the idea of collecting diaries; I'll leave that up to Jim, but I've opened a tremendous amount of correspondence (which takes up much time) and I'm filing all the outgoing and incoming letters.

ordered
(10) May we all have typewriter ribbons. Could we have about three each. Naj has a Royal portable; Frank has a Underwood portable; and mine is a Remington portable. None are noiseless.

(11) May we have the address of the American Sociological Society? I want to take the Sociological Review but no one here knows where to send the subscription.

Manuscript Editor
Conrad Taeuber
U.S. Dept of Agric
Wash., D.C.
\$2.50 student subscription
\$6.00 full membership

✓ (12) Is there any chance of seeing--or let's say--borrowing copies of your studies on the Swedish population and your two works on observational techniques (Columbia and Yale)? I want to study the population book this winter, and Tomi wants to read the other two before she tangles with the nursery school.

(13) If you have time (I really doubt if you have), could you get for me a copy (either unmarked used copy or a new one) of Karl Mannheim's Ideology and Utopia? I shall be glad to pay you along with the amount I owe you for cigarettes when you come.

I realize that all these gripes and requests are irritating. But these are the things that have been bothering us for a long time. Some of these things have been bothering us for months but we kept still because we know that you were having a heck of a time getting things started. I write this note hurriedly in order that you would be prepared for what troubles you may run into here.

We'll all be looking forward to seeing you Thursday.

Very sincerely,

Tom

P.S. Incidentally, my parents have not yet arrived and Stockton is heading for Arkansas soon. Jim's sister and her family have arrived from Tulare; Michi's folks decided to go to Idaho.

checked your
WRH
they are on
list to be
moved to
Tulsa.
Stockton will
not be
arriving for
months, what?

September 8, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

It was really swell to see you last week. I think your coming here raised our morale somewhat and we are bearing down to work a little. Furthermore, I have made up my mind on a number of things and I think it only fair to tell you.

In regard to our preliminary report, the three of us have gotten together and have agreed on procedures. We are now going through all our stuff to select and organize frames of references. We meet tomorrow at nine to see what we have and what we have to go out to get to complete the picture. Since we are going to take a couple of weeks working on this, we thought that we may as well do a thorough job as possible. The organization of material will be slightly different from that in the report on Tanforan, but I think far superior. We now plan to make a rough copy (three copies) and send one to you to have several copies typed. We should all like to keep a copy ourselves.

In regard to my paper on the evacuation, could you send copies to the following people:

- 1) Miss Lorraine Knoles
College of the Pacific Campus
Stockton, California
- 2) Mr. George Yasukochi
5648 S. Harper Ave.
Chicago, Illinois
- 3) Dr. Chitoshi Yanaga
Japanese Language Department
University of Colorado
Boulder, Colorado

If you wish to send copies to Tally and Charlie or anyone else on the staff, it's O.K. with me. Incidentally, I should like to have severe criticisms from anyone who reads the paper.

In regard to graduate work, I have decided to stick around for a while and work at Cal if I may. I should like to take for my fields (later on) social psychology and either social theory or social organization. I need social theory, but perhaps if I took the psych. and the org. I would get the theory anyway. For the outside field, I naturally would like to take race relations (anthro., econ., psych., history combination) but since it's not an orthodox field, I doubt if I can take it. Anyway, that's way off in the future--I have to get my languages and my stat. first. By the way, is there any chance of getting a bibliography on some of these fields so that we can begin work sometime? I would appreciate it.

Michi, Frank, Jim, Naj, and the others have asked me to thank

you for everything (books, sugar, and the visit). We are now bearing down on work--your trip down was not in vain! Please give our regards to W.I.; it was swell seeing him again too.

Tom

P.S. I almost forgot to say that we might pull out possibly next year or the year after for a little work in some eastern or mid-western school if I find myself getting too stagnant. However, after the brush-up I'll probably come back (my money won't hold out anyway). However, if the W.R.A. policy should change in the direction that Redfield was mentioning a few weeks ago (getting all loyal Americans out of camp), we may have to leave in self-protection. This doesn't seem likely now, however.

September 15, 1942

Mr. Tamotsu Shibutani
Building 413, Apt. A
Tule Lake Relocation Center
Newell, California

Dear Mr. Shibutani:

I have the honor to inform you that, under a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation, you have been awarded an honorarium to enable you to participate in the University of California Evacuation and Resettlement Study. Your activities in this connection should in no way interfere with your performance in the Work Corps of the War Relocation Project to which you have been assigned.

The honorarium has been awarded you in the expectation that it will be used by you for the continuation of your research training at the graduate level after you are released from the Relocation Center. Funds will accumulate for your use for a period of 10 months beginning September 1, 1942 at the rate of \$62.50 per month. This accumulation will cease upon your departure from the Relocation Center unless the senior staff decides that, because of your usefulness in preparing reports, the honorarium should continue. In this event, additional funds will be awarded to you. If you remain in the Relocation Center longer than 10 months, the honorarium is subject to renewal. During your residence in the Relocation Center, the senior staff may, at its discretion, release funds to you from time to time.

Very sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas
Professor of Rural Sociology

DST:vp

September 16, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Thank you for your very nice letter. I am sorry that I haven't written sooner, but we have been pretty busy of late. I was glad to hear that you have succeeded in overcoming so many of the problems that were confronting you. We have some problems out here too but I don't suppose that they are as bad as yours or those of Gila.

Incidentally I haven't heard either from Charlie or Earle as yet. I have no idea of what they are up to and am rather concerned because they are both very close friends of mine. I hope they write before long.

In regard to the financial matter, the money you set aside will no doubt help us a great deal. As yet, Jim is the only one who is using a stenographer. Tomi helps me once in a while but she never keeps time nor is she steady enough. Frank has been pounding away lately and so have I. Rather than the stenographer, the problem we are mooting is research help. Kay Hisatomi, Naj's right hand man on the ag. staff, has been keeping all the records on the farm. He, being secretary of the farm group and a technical staff man, can carry around a notebook without suspicion and he has been getting all the stuff we need. He turns over anything we want and very assiduously writes up the stuff every night. While he is not a college man and doesn't know what he is doing, I think that the service that he is performing for us is so great that he ought to be paid if anyone around here is. Frank and I have discussed the matter and feel that Kay should be given something for his work. Jim has not been around so much and we haven't discussed the matter with him as yet. I think that he has several people helping him whom we will no doubt want to repay in some way, but I think we can figure it out ourselves. In the event that we run short, is it O.K. to use some of the money you have set aside for stenographic assistance--provided we stay under the total limit that you set?

I had to do a little running around today to settle some of my mundane affairs around here. We are having some difficulties with Mrs. Halley. As you might have suspected, we have run into trouble trying to get at the social welfare files. Jacoby is cooperating well but Halley is a problem as yet. Fortunately, all the welfare workers are on our side. I am very seriously considering giving up my teaching job and taking one in the welfare division so that I could have closer contact with the type of data that I want. I am pretty certain that I want to take social disorganization as the field of

research while I'm in Tule Lake. I do not think that I am interested in taking disorganization as a field for a degree (judging from the type of courses you listed in the graduate catalog) since I am interested in social disorganization as a social process rather than in the fields of criminology and penology. At any rate, I want to work in the welfare office for a while not only to get at the records (which I can if I'm working there) but also to contact people when I do some field work. Mrs. Halley is never around the camp anyway so that I can leave the office when anything exciting comes up. It's a full-time job, but I don't think that my time would be wasted as long as I'm getting the kind of data that I need. I have found that the people in the welfare department have kept surprisingly mum about the cases and that they know plenty that no one else in the camp knows. They are helpful when I ask them questions but I want to get some first-hand stuff (minus their interpretations) if I can. Don't you think it would be better for me to transfer there? I will teach until the last week in October, but that won't take much time since the groundwork for the entire course is done.

I almost forgot to mention that the supplies arrived. Thank you for sending us the things we wanted. I am afraid that we shall need more typing paper; could you send me at least one ream of white typing paper (without holes). May I also have some five-by-eight scratch paper? I use the paper of that size to take notes on my reading and to keep rumors and expressions of attitudes classified. By the way, is there any chance of getting some of those forms we used to collect rumors? I don't think that the forms were perfect and they need some changes, but for the time being they might help.

As for the preliminary report, all of us are working like hell on it. Frank is continually typing and we never see Jim at all. I am still tied up with a lot of things around here, but every spare moment I have I am typing up my reports and daily records. I think that since all three of us are anxious to get the preliminary report out of the way, it will be completed within a month or so. Don't be surprised if you get a 500-page manuscript.

The place is getting to be more of a mess every day. I am now covering all maladjustments in the camp and there are so many that they are almost driving me nuts. Fortunately, the others are helping me in the coverage. Kay is indispensable in this respect. A couple of strikes are on now and there is a big mess in the hospital. All this affects the community.

Well, we'll write again soon. Please thank Virginia for sending me my bank slip. I haven't written her or Morton as yet but will do so as soon as we get settled down. Thank you for ordering the journals; we are looking forward to seeing them. Please give W.I. our warmest regards.

Very sincerely,

Tom

September 19, 1942.

Dear Tom,

Delighted to get your letter. You can't shock me with a 500 page report. Even if it runs larger, I'll survive.

I have ordered white typing paper and scratch paper to go out on Monday. If you want to revise the "rumor" form, send me a suggested form and I will have it dittoed.

Regarding the important question of finances. Here is the situation: I have allocated \$480 for stenographic assistance and \$250 for "honoraria for special reports" to Tule Lake. The two items are interchangeable if you wish, and I can add to either one of them, if it becomes necessary, from my "contingency fund". I prefer to keep the situation flexible, i.e. to give as many "honoraria" for small completed jobs as possible, and to avoid "cumulating honoraria" or whatever we call the regular appointments (These euphemisms are wonderful) unless or until we are sure we need people for continuous work. Be as conservative as you possibly can in the allocation of these honoraria, but do not let the study suffer because of failure to have someone prepare an essential document.

Regarding these honoraria, I have been able to cut a lot of red tape. We have set up a blanket requisition for "Japanese case histories." On this requisition, we purchase a product, not services. You send me a bill, on behalf of the person concerned, indicating that we are indebted to him for so and so much for the preparation of "case histories" (a "case" can be interpreted as field notes made available to you, analysis of a group or a situation, etc. as well as the usual interpretation in terms of a personal document). The person concerned is not on our payroll, he does not have to be a citizen, and we do not have to fill out the endless forms or send them to Sacramento to auditing or worry about whether he becomes eligible for retirement pension! On the other hand, the minute we purchase "services" such as stenographic assistance or research assistance, the person concerned must be a citizen and we have to go through an endless process, as you well know.

So---by all means go ahead with Kay Hisatomi, also with his helpers. Since this is the first case, however, be careful to discuss with the group the matter of what you consider adequate compensation, for you will be setting a precedent.

It is difficult to advise you about the social welfare situation. I can see advantages to your working for them, particularly since Mrs. Halley is so resistant to letting you see the records (Personally, I can't see how she can possibly
la

hold out) On the whole, I think the change might be to the advantage of the study.

Re social disorganization as a "subject" for the PhD, there are no courses that are at all adequate at UC, but that does not mean you could not offer the subject. It would mean more work for you, that's all. You have never told me whether you want me to go ahead and try to arrange residence credit for you this semester. Please let me know by return mail if the answer is "Yes".

Earle and Charlie are getting along all right at Gila, but they have had a hell of a time. The situation there is a mess. My big worry is that Spencer might be kicked out, for he is certainly holding up the morale of the Yusa and the Kikuchi families. I feel terrible about their being there, but there was no possible way of anticipating what would happen. The physical difficulties will, of-course, be straightened out shortly, now that Fryer has taken over personally. But I am apprehensive about the other difficulties, i.e., Fryer, as administrator being antagonistic to the research, etc. etc. Earle, by the way, had a bad attack of dysentery (he wouldn't take the Galen B I had sent him; now he knows better!) but has made a good recovery. He is shocked at the Japanese ways and attitudes of the inhabitants. He will certainly get better sociological observations than if he had stayed with the Tanforan group.

Morton is en route to Washington. He stopped off at Salt Lake City and saw Larry Tajiri and others. He will be away about a month. Virginia is buried in the library, making a complete analysis of the Pacific Rural Press, and I never see her. Our secretary is functioning marvelously (don't judge her from my letter: I write 'em myself and the typing is almost as temperamental as the handwriting)

Every mail brings masses of material now. I am working hard and am happy. I have been relieved from teaching this next semester. All I have to worry about in the University is committee meetings and PhD exams. Unfortunately we had to flunk a student yesterday. You never saw a sadder bunch of professors: it was harder on us than on the student.

Enclosed a letter from Taauber. If anyone else wants student rates, tell him to let me know immediately.

Yours,

September 21, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

We have received your statements concerning our appointments. All of the supplies that you sent have also arrived. Thank you for sending them. The news that you sent in your note--that we might leave for a semester of work sometime and that I might take race relations as a field--was very encouraging. As Frank pointed out a few days ago, one of the functions that your visits and your notes serve is the bolstering of morale (which for some of us, as you know, is not too high).

We are now digging in on the report that we promised you and are getting along quite well. Jimmy has a couple of stenographers already and is turning out stuff by the ream. Wow! Frank is still pounding away (he broke his typewriter last week and is using Naj's) and spending part time doing some field work. I am spending all the time that I have free pounding away on the typewriter. Bob has already gone to work on the administration (which we asked him to cover since he would not be of much use out in the camp) and has already prepared some stuff for us. He and Hanny are really swell and I am sure that all of us will get along well together. Naj's stuff is still in note form but Kay has all his stuff on the farm written out and ready for our use. Koso is still coming through with all the reports of the Council (including stuff marked "Confidential."). I think it will take us another month to turn out the report, but we will try to make it a good one.

The following is the general outline of what we hope to hand in: No, I'll put it on a separate sheet on second thought. We have made out index cards on all the topics that we might cover and have hundreds of cards. We are all writing up different sections, and at the present time are working on reports for other's sections; that is, if Jim has some dope on something that I am writing up, he is writing the stuff that he has up so that I can use it. I am doing the same thing now with my material for Frank and Jim. When we have all the stuff that the others have, we can combine it with our own field notes and write up the entire section. Frankly, this is the first time, Jim and I have worked together so smoothly; maybe Frank's being here is a good thing. All of us have different views: Frank is essentially a social psychologist and his interests and analyses run along that line; Jim is a psychologist and his analyses are along that line; whereas most of my training has been in the study of history and social change and I have a tendency to see things that way Teggart sees them. We have pooled our resources and have worked out a fairly comprehensive outline which I am enclosing. Will you check through it to see if there is anything that we have left out that you want. If there are any problems that you want to make sure that we discuss, will you tell us about them right away? We should appreciate it.

2 -

There are some requests that I think I had better make. I am afraid that our supply of paper is going to run out by the end of the month at the rate we are going. Will you send us some more paper-- with three holes punched like those you have already sent us. I need some white paper of that kind and we all need some yellow paper. I still have a ream of yellow paper that Jim brought in the other day and Jim says he has three more reams, but that won't hold out at the rate we are going now. Incidentally, the typewriter ribbons were of the wrong kind, but we have found them on our own spools and have cut them to fit our machines. I think we can manage. It's a good thing Bob and the Jacobys are here because our typewriters are taking a beating and are beginning to wear and need repair. They have agreed to take them to Klammath for us.

I started typing this letter this morning before lunch. Frank came in a little while ago with another note from you. I shall take up in order the things that you brought up. I am sending in this letter the "rumor form" with some suggested changes. I think the date should be put in the upper right hand corner to make classification easy. 2 should I think be the occupation of the person in camp. The line for citizenship can be made smaller; for all we put would be U.S. or J. In 6, instead of residence, I think we ought to have "Background" with two or three whole lines to fill in. 7, "place," I think ought to be and so should "Attributed original source, if any." I think that more space should be given to "Circumstance." This form will be sufficient for the time being.

In regard to finances, Jim came in this morning and we planned to get together and talk the matter over. We will have to work together the next three or four weeks and will have ample opportunity to talk it over. As soon as we make up our minds, we will let you know so that you can approve or disapprove.

You say, in reference to my going into welfare work, that you can't see how Mrs. Halley could hold out. You just don't know the woman. I have been talking to Deki and Naoko who have taken over the place, and they tell me that she is driving them nuts. Deki says that Mrs. Halley needs a little attention herself and that she is now trying to straighten her out. Deki, incidentally, has volunteered to give us the dope on the hospital, which is now the hotbed of trouble. (I think that something might blow off around here in a couple of weeks. I smell trouble everywhere I go and the atmosphere is getting tense again. Boy, I'm getting some dope for my study on "Disorganization" but it's not too pleasant.) I have applied for a job in the welfare division, but they are a little slow in getting people in. Both Deki and Naoko and Mrs. Murayama and Mrs. Akamatsu are pulling hard to get me in, but my age (too young) and Mrs. Halley's dislike of people who go into welfare for other purposes (research included) may count against me. On the other hand, they assume that a sociology major should have a better background for welfare work than other people (uncalled for assumption but they are making it). At any rate, I am still with Dr. Francis, who is getting to be one of the better adminis-

2

trators in the camp, teaching a course in race relations. This course will run for five weeks (until October 23), but since I have already done the groundwork I can go into any other job and finish up the course on a volunteer basis. Mrs. Francis has approved my transfer and told me that I could do anything I wanted to do. She told me that if I wanted to I could work in the welfare division until I got sick and tired of it and then come back into her division whenever I wanted. This, of course, simplifies some problems for the time being. (Hunch: she is so hard up for teachers that she is very desperate; many of her courses have closed up because of lack of personnel.)

In regard to graduate work, please register me at Cal if you can. My temporary gripes about the camp have died down for the time being and although we are not too happy here, I think it would be better if I stuck around for a while and did some field work. Working on this report has put me down to a routine and I find my morale going up a little. The extreme heat has passed (although it is still warm now and then) and we can actually work during the day. I think I am gradually getting callous toward the people around here and look at them more as a physicist would observe an atom. As far as subjects or fields for study are concerned, I am not worrying too much about the choice as yet because I have too much preliminary work to do. Frankly, I should like to take all the fields, but I know that is impossible. If things keep going the way they do, I should like to write my paper (thesis) on social disorganization but I don't think I want to offer it as a field for the degree. I look at social disorganization more as a part of the process of social change and I think that I can work in the subject in the field that you have labeled, "Social organization, processes, and change." I should also like to take "Social psychology" and of course, "Population and ecology" is required. I want background in "Social theory" but I think I can pick it up by studying the fields I have chosen anyway. So, if I may I should like to work in:

- 1) Social Organization
- 2) Social Psychology
- 3) Population and Ecology
- 4) Race Relations (or Econ. Theory or History)

Naturally, I'll have to clear up my German, French, and stat first. Frank is coaching me in social psychology (Blumer's course), but I should like to have more guidance in the other fields.

I got a letter from Tally yesterday and he seemed to feel the way I felt when I came here. "The people here are a bunch of hayseeds compared to the Tanfo bunch." How true! Judging from what he says, the same things that happened here are happening in Gila. It is interesting when we consider the fact that both centers are loaded with rural peoples. The comparative study should be interesting. I understand from Michi (whose parents are in Idaho) that the Minidoka Center is not experiencing the difficulties that we have had. Now if Utah turns out to be the same way as Idaho, some of the rural-urban differences may turn out to be rather significant. Incidentally, a problem comes to my mind: why is it that the Japanese behaved so well at the assembly centers (bent over backward there) and are demanding so many things now?

4.

You say that every mail is bringing in a bunch of stuff. I think that some of our field notes are coming in there soon. I have some stuff that is accumulating (diary almost up to date now, and some write ups ready) and will send them in as soon as I find an envelop to send it in. I think I can snich one in the ad. bldg.

The reply from the American Sociological Society is very encouraging. Thank you for sending in my name. I miss the journals quite a bit out here, even though I never read them carefully from cover to cover in Berkeley. With the journals and all the books you have sent me and that I have bought, I think I'll keep myself busy all winter.

There are some things that are bothering us. I think the one thing that is worrying all of us to some extent is the draft. We all feel that it would be terrible if the Army would not take Nisei because that would mean that we are not full-fledged citizens any more; on the other hand, I don't think that any of us want to go ourselves (pretty selfish, but true). I think that if the Army started drafting people from the camps, the repurcussions would be terrific and we would really have something to observe. Many Nisei are pretty bitter about the evacuation and you can't expect them to fight their haarts out for something that they know is not worth fighting for. What the hell, they take a man from this camp to go to the Army, and he can't even come home to see his folks during furlough because DeWitt doesn't want and Nisei soldiers walking around in his area. Many Nisei are discussing the matter and most of them don't see anything to fight for. As one fellow put it, "Either we're Americans or we're not. If we are, then we go to the Army and we also get freedom and the rights of any American--not be locked up in this dump. If we are not Americans and cannot be trusted, then they have no right to draft us." We all have our feelings about the matter, but the whole thing is hanging over our heads. The whole feeling of insecurity, not knowing what is to happen soon, makes it a little hard. Jim doesn't seem bothered at all; Frank is a little concerned; I feel uneasy at times; and Naj is taking it rather hard.

My father keeps writing me letters demanding to know if I'm doing anything for him. He also wrote to Shirrell and got a courteous reply, but he isn't satisfied. I told him in a letter today that his name was on the list, but he is so afraid that someone is going to make a mistake and send him to Arkansas that he keeps writing me. I've been holding him off with every excuse I could think of and I'm running out of alibis. I don't think there is anything that we can do but to sit and hope for the best.

Well, thank you for everything. We will keep plugging away down here. I think we are getting "camp-broken" and are getting into the routine of "uncivilized swine." I think we'll be wows when we get out. Am enclosing our tentative outline and the "rumor form." Please give our heartiest hello to W.I. and to Virginia.

Very sincerely,

Tom

September 24, 1942

Dear Tom

I was glad to get your long letter of September 21. Let me first take up the more personal problems, and then go on to the questions relating to the report.

I was unable to arrange the residence credit for this semester. Dean Lipman was adamant, and has, I understand, refused a similar request from President Sproul re research on the guayale rubber project. Things will straighten out in time. Lipman is in a bad spot now with regard to the graduate school, since so many of the faculty members have left for war or government service. His reaction is to become more strict rather than to relax in the face of the emergency. He was talking of refusing to permit examinations for the PhD in some fields on the ground that there were not enough competent instructors around to examine the students. And so on. I tell you this to indicate the extent of disorganization in regard to graduate instruction at the moment.

I do not think this is any cause for worry. We will plan your program on a long-term basis. You will pick up one year of residence credit at some other university, and it would be necessary for you to be around here in actual physical residence on the campus for a year before coming up for your exams anyway. You will be able to short cut on the time necessary for a thesis. We, of-course, run the risk of losing you to another university, and I should deeply regret that. But it is a risk we have to take, and no one knows how long it will take to get the West Coast situation straightened out anyway. As one step in another direction, I have written the enclosed letter to Ogburn. We will take our time and put out feelers in various directions. One thing you will have to face is the general disorganization in graduate instruction everywhere. Margaret Bright, for example, started out by bus to go to North Carolina. Just after she left, letters came from Odum advising her not to come, since the two people she was planning to work with (Hagood and Vance) had just taken leave of absence for the duration. I caught up with her in Chicago, and finally got her settled in the University of Missouri (of all places). As far as I know, Ogburn, Burgess and Blumer are still around Chicago; Wirth and Stouffer are not. No one can guarantee how long any of them will be there.

Regarding your fields of study, I can appreciate your interest in covering all the fields. The realistic approach right now however is the following: start work on a field which will be necessary wherever you go, and which will be a direct aid to the work you are now doing. At the same time, work up your languages, which are necessary everywhere. Statistics is something which can be learned much better in a course than by yourself, and I would advise dropping that for the time being. Of the fields you list

I sympathize with your worry about the draft. I cannot predict what the government will do. As I told you some time ago, Dillon Meyer said a committee had had the matter under consideration for several months. Since nothing has been released on the matter, I suspect that it will be held in suspense for quite a while. They must realize how severe the repercussions would be if the draft began to operate under present conditions. If the Relocation program gets any real headway, i.e., if they are able to move people out of the camps in appreciable numbers, the situation will undoubtedly change. But so far there seems to have been little progress in that direction.

Re your father: the only further suggestion I have is that he should talk to the Assembly Center manager. I was assured that everything was under control, that he is definitely on the list that will be moved to Tule Lake. He is, of-course, impatient and feels insecure. But I don't believe any of us can hurry the thing up.

Re supplies; I have just signed an order for 2 reams of punched yellos and I ream of white punched. On Monday, 2 reams of white unpunched went out to you.

Fred is apparently getting everybody in Topaz working on the project, whether or not it is approved, whether or not we have any money to put into it. Fred is enthusiastic about the administration, but reports that the situation is terribly confused. He is a member of the army and feels that his training is at last being used. His sisters and brother do not like it there, and

I don't blame them.
Relocation Centers.
will strightend out.

Blaisdell says it is the worst of the
If only they get a good director, a lot

Sept. 25
Dear Tom,

This is page 3 of the letter I had to break off yesterday. Enclosed a few reflections on the outline and one some notes of Jimmy's. The outline is very good in general.

I realize that I am asking a great deal of you at present, and hate to add to your burdens. But there are two things that can be most helpful to me, if you will put your heads together.

(1) You are, collectively, in a position to indicate very briefly, types of situations which should be looked for from the beginning at Gila and at Utah(I told you, I believe, that Fred, with his usual energy and exuberance, is organizing the community for research whether or not it comes officially under our study!) Just a few brief notes may save them a lot of headaches later trying to pick up the missing links.

(2) I had a letter from Deki today. As you know, she was a student of Chernin's. He wrote her some time ago and asked her to write up her experiences with the WCCA. He referred her to me, however to settle details. He offered her an unspecified "honorarium". She did not, of-course, bring this question up with me, but I shall have to take it up with her when I write. Since it would be a very bad policy to have too great inequalities in respect to honoraria for short-term jobs I believe we should reach some sort of decision, even though we may modify it later. Some sort of "unit" price for documents must be established. We can, of-course, repeat in the case of a person like Kay, who will presumably give a series of records. Indeed, I gather you may also want some further records from Deki on the medical or social service situation or both.

The only basis of comparison I have at the moment is the Tanforan group: they got about \$75 each for very extensive documentation, taking them about 3 months or more each. They were not paid for specific documents. It was not a good arrangement. I would prefer to pay for documents(I don't like the precedent of a rate of pay so low for continuing "service", so to speak). A simple job might go as low as \$5, a complicated one as high as \$50. I want to consult with Spencer about this before reaching a decision, but I should certainly like your present sizing up of the situation and suggestions.

I just came back from a qualifying exam in Social I. Kohrs, do you know him? A very thoughtful fellow, but so philosophically inclined that he was completely floored by any questions dealing with concrete problems. Also, I was surprised to note that the Social I students have no conception either of probability or sampling.(This generalization based on two cases where I have been present at qualifying exams) And that their idea of sociology is gleaned (a) from studying titles of courses listed in University

catalogues and (b) from examining chapter headings in text books. Right? He passed, as far as I know. I left early. Virginia took her French exam today, but I haven't heard the outcome.
Regards to all.

September 25, 1942

Dear Virginia,

I'm sorry that I haven't written you for so long. How has everything been with you. Judging from what you wrote in your last letter, the inflation is hitting you people pretty hard--~~damn~~ those farm block b.....s anyway. Is Bill still going to school or is he working? God, a letter like yours is demoralizing in a way but it makes us feel a little more at ease about living in this damn dump. We spend a hell of a lot of money in here (believe it or not) because the W.R.A. is so damn slow about paying people--they are still paying people for work performed in July! Even though we do blow a lot, though, it's really nothing compared to out there. Incidentally, I received the tag from the bank for the deposit in my account; thank you for putting the money in for me. The whole thing makes me feel guilty because I know damn well I'm not doing half the work you're doing.

It's funny what difference in skin color and features can do, isn't it. Judging from what I know of you and what you have written, it would seem that you enjoy field work; that is, you probably wouldn't mind too much being out here doing the research from this end. I would rather sit in Berkeley and do the work that you're doing; in fact, some of it I did do once upon a time. But, dammit, there is nothing that I would like to do more than just sit in the libe and read. Is that because I'm lazy? Anyway, the only reason why we can't be on the opposite sides of the research is that I'm a Jap and you're not.

This damn place is getting to be a hotbed of trouble. In making our preliminary report, we have gone through all our notes and have discovered that there isn't a single department that is functioning efficiently in the whole damn camp! Everyone has troubles and it's a wonder that the Caucasian personnel hasn't all gone nuts--like one of them did! Shirrell is on the breaking point and I fear that we might ~~lose~~ a good man pretty soon unless something turns for the better; he looks pretty haggard nowadays. There are so damn many strikes around here that I can't keep up with them all. I've decided to study social disorganization and I have so damn much material to be noted on paper that I have a hell of a time keeping up. Usually research men go out for their stuff; we just sit and it comes to us. All you have to do here is to keep your eyes and ears open. Whatta place!

Tomi and Michi are always talking about going out. I was that way when Dr. Thomas came, but have since changed my mind (she raised my morale--I think). Frank is working contentiously and I guess Jim is too. Naj is always talking about pulling out for the beet-fields; I guess we'll just have to watch him. He sure is a great guy; you get attached to him when you work with him. Bob and Hanny are both really swell and we get along very well. Most of us work together very well.

Please give our regards to Bill. The Miyamotos say hello. Tomi sends her greetingstoo.

Tom

has been agreed

September 25, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

We received your letter a couple of days ago and there has been, I am sorry to say, some trouble as a result of it. I'll ease you into it gradually, however, by discussing the other things first. I know that you have already heard from Jim, Frank, and Naj and no doubt all of them told you some of the things, but I think I ought to lay the whole thing open to you.

We are working on the report, but the whole thing is coming along rather slowly. I have just started a new course on race relations and I expected so few people to come that I did not do too much work. It has turned out to be a very popular course and there are so many taking the course (including some brainstorms) that I have been forced to prepare my work more carefully. This takes up considerably more time. No word from Mrs. Halley about work in the welfare division as yet, but the more I think of it the more I think I ought to get in there. I enjoy what I am doing very much but I am not getting the type of dope that I need.

As you may know, Frank's typewriter broke and so he is stumped temporarily. One of Jimmy's secretaries banged her finger in the stove and can no longer type. Incidentally, Jim has set 20 cents an hour for the wage to be paid and neither Frank nor I have bothered about it since. It's agreeable to us.

You asked about Bob Sakai in Poston. I know Bob very well and can say that unless he has changed a great deal he is really a swell guy. He was a brilliant history major who got his degree last December at Cal. He was one of the Christian leaders and very much like Fred. He has always been interested in the Nisei problem and should be able to provide a great deal of background because he majored in Far Eastern history. He is intelligent enough to know about research too. If you want the low-down on him, just ask Dr. Yamaga. Another potentially good worker is Mrs. Amy Furuta (also in Poston)--Kenny's ex-girl friend. The only thing is she is going to have a baby.

Thank you for sending my reports to the various people whose names I had sent in. I have no one else in mind, but if you think that there is anyone who ought to have it and who would not misuse it, please do not hesitate to send it. I think I should trust your judgement since I know very few of the other people well.

Now the problem. As you know, Naj has been indefinite for a long time. You did not know, however, about the feeling that some (I should say all) of us have about Jimmy and his work. There have been disagreements and misunderstandings ever since the beginning, but they have not cropped up until now. This week a few incidents combined and the whole thing popped off. Please keep this confidential; because Jim doesn't know anything about it yet (although he may have felt it) and I think that the rest of us can keep it quiet and let the whole thing blow off. I'm sure that we can work out the whole thing ourselves. In time, I think we can all forget about the thing and work together.

There has always been some sort of misunderstanding between Jim and myself. I wasn't that we hated each other, because we got along quite well; however, we very seldom agreed on anything and neither of us has much respect for the other. Both of us kept our mouths shut and everything went on quite well until this week. Naj never did like Jim.

The first thing was that Jim brought his journal around for Frank and me to read (just like he shows it to too many other people--we think). Frank looked over some of the stuff and came to the conclusion that some of the things that Jim put down were too dogmatic and that his comments were "obtuse." What got Frank was not so much the inaccuracies (which were obvious to us because we are likewise familiar with some of the things that are described) but the comments that Jim had written about some of us. (Jim should keep his personal grudges to himself--that is, he ought to write them down and then not show them to us because we are all human--he ought not show them to anyone else either). The things he wrote made me pretty irked too (although all of us agree that he ought to write what he feels) because his selection of the most undesirable things and the complete omission of other things was not quite on the up and up with what we thought was fair play. All of us (Michi, Frank, Naj, Tomi and I) were a little griped.

Next, Billigmeier had gone through some records. When Jim came along, Bob told him that he had already gone through them. Jim hurt Bob's feelings terribly when he insisted on going through the same thing all over again. He accidentally made some remark that Bob seemed to take to mean that he didn't trust Bob's judgment. Naturally at this, Bob and Hanny got pretty mad.

Both of these things, however, were excusable and we would have forgotten about the whole thing, but Jim (perhaps unintentionally--but inexcusably nonetheless) committed a crime. You had written him a note in which you asked confidentially whether Naj was to stay on the study or not. Jim showed Naj the letter and asked him bluntly when he was going to get started in turning out things. Naj was really hurt. You know how sensitive he is. He has been very moody lately because nothing seems to turn out his way. All of us were afraid that he might crack up unless something happened. We are all very fond of him and were all trying to do something to get him out of his misery. Naj, as you know, feels very guilty about not turning in his stuff, but he has really been too damn busy to do it--really, he has. Since he felt low and since he felt guilty, when he learned that you (whom he admires a great deal) had asked Jim about him confidentially (or as he would take it--behind his back) he felt that you were disgusted with him and were censuring him. That feeling hurt him a great deal and we could see it and feel it as we talked to him. On top of that, his dislike of Jim has become greater than it was before. Naj was in no condition to be approached the way Jim did and Jim should have known it. This thing really burned us up, and for the time being Sakoda is not very welcome around these parts. Naturally, when people get griped, they pull out everything else undesirable that they can think of and I think that Jim is in a doghouse, even though everyone has treated him cordially and with phony smiles. His extreme ambition to raise his status in the eyes of his superior (that is, you); his talkativeness; his pride with being on the study has caused him to speak more than necessary (on the grounds that he needs help for the study); his dogmatic reports on uncertain things;

his extreme ego and tendency to judge everything in terms of his own standards; his Japanesey traits; and his general lack of background and a lot of other things--many of which we ourselves are no doubt guilty of--have been brought out and discussed at great length.

Please do not tell Jim yet because that might really lead to trouble. He does not yet suspect what is going on and it may not be fair not to tell him, but it's really a matter of expediency. I think that we will eventually let these things go (as we have up to now) and forget most of them anyway. We can all keep our mouths shut and I see no sense and causing any more trouble around here than necessary--there is enough trouble in camp without getting our own staff disorganized. You might tell Jim to keep his personal diary under lock and key and not to show it to anyone. I am sure that he will argue that he has to let people read it to see how accurate it is, but I doubt very much if that is the real motive for his showing it to people. Furthermore, Frank and I can check up on his stuff when we write up our reports--which, of course, should not include any subjective feelings. We have noted that some of his personality analyses of people whom we really know have been shallow and very inaccurate. We suspect that the reports on people whom we don't know might be the same way; we can't tell because we don't know. Certainly, though, if he knew Naj's personality as well as he claims he does, he should not have approached him the way he did. The girls are even accusing him of having ulterior motives for approaching him that way--that's how mad they are!

Please don't worry about this. I don't think it will become too serious. I'm quite sure that we can manage O.K. after this thing blows over. For the time being, please cooperate with us by keeping what I have said confidential; we can talk it over the next time you come up here. In the meantime, I think that Naj will come along in spite of what Jim may have written you about his quitting.

Naj said that he wrote you a letter yesterday. He told me that he wanted to work on an honorarium basis--being paid at the end of the job. He told me that he felt that a job ought to be done well or not at all. You know how contentious he is. He is very hurt and Frank and I have been working hard to keep him from falling apart. When you write to him, please be careful of what you say and unless he mentioned it in his letter, don't let on that you know he has seen the letter you wrote Jim. Give him what he wants (since that will give him peace of mind), but by all means keep him on the study. He confessed last night (in one of his weak moments) that we wanted to work for you, and I think the feeling that you have let him down hurt him the most. If you could just tell him that you want him on any basis that he chooses (without apologizing for the letter incident--about which you are not supposed to know), I think we can do the rest of the work.

I am writing this long explanation because I hope that you will not make any mistakes in writing to Naj. He has become more sensitive than before and the work has piled on him so high that we fear for what might happen. Really, Naj might crack any day so please go easy and be very careful. Kay is worried too (Kay is Naj's right hand man). We'll try to solve the problem if you will give us your cooperation and I am sure that you will.

Sorry I speeled so long. Don't worry. Everything will be O.K.

Tom

September 27, 1942

Dear Tom,

I hasten to answer your special delivery of the 25th, which just arrived. I hope I can trust your last sentence, namely "Don't worry. Everything will be O.K."

Within the past few days, I have received letters from Frank, Jimmy and Naj. Jimmy said nothing about the matter to which you refer. Frank raised some questions about Naj, and I answered them. Naj asked to have his funds accumulated (or, more precisely, to consider what had ~~had~~ already been paid him as an "accumulation" or honorarium). I agreed to take him off the monthly payroll, but indicated very strongly that I wanted him on the study and had put a "lien" on the honorarium that was being awarded him and would let it accumulate to his credit. I realize and sympathize with Naj's problems, and I discussed them in some detail with Frank (but with no one else). I think you and Frank can help him a great deal with his troubles, and one of the best ways you could help is to discourage him from worrying too much about slights, other people's motives, etc. He is an extraordinarily fine and sensitive person, but he must "toughen his gut" if he is going to live through these very difficult times.

In regard to Jimmy, naturally I will keep what you have written confidential. Jimmy has said nothing at all about the situation. I gather there is a pretty definite "clash of personalities". That neither shocks nor surprises me. It happens all the time in the university world. The Giannini Foundation is practically an armed camp; ditto for the Yale Institute of Human Relations in which I lived and worked for no less than nine years. The Child Development Institute at Teachers College, where I survived for three years, was even worse, being composed almost entirely of that dangerous minority group, females; and when I left the Carnegie Corporation Study of the American Negro to come to California, I realized that an endurance test, the like of which I had never witnessed, was going on. So what? You don't have to love your colleagues and coworkers, but for God's sake keep a professional attitude towards them. You are going to meet this sort of conflict all through your professional career. You have got to be able to "take it" as well as to "dish it out".

I hope to hear from Spencer tomorrow, and will then be able to make my plans about coming to Tule Lake. In the meantime, keep on with the good work (which you are obviously making headway on, to judge from your earlier letters this week). It is good to hear that your race relations course is popular, even though it takes more time than you had planned. It will be good experience.

W I sends regards. Sincerely

Copied

September 27, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

It seems that I can never keep up with you. Just as soon as I get through writing another letter comes from you. On top of that things happen around here so fast that I find something or another about which I must write. I sent you a special delivery letter yesterday but I doubt if it will get there any sooner than this letter will (you know the efficiency of the P.O. in Tule Lake!).

I received your very encouraging letter of Sept. 24 yesterday. I wouldn't have gotten it until Monday, but Frank's sister happened to see it in the P.O. and brought it in herself. I was flabbergasted when I ~~****~~ read the very flattering letter to Prof. Ogburn. I doubt if I can live up to the things you said; at least I'm not doing anything now to ~~deserve~~ such compliments. The whole thing is still in the future and very uncertain but I must say that it lifted our morale quite a bit. As you know, Frank and Michi are planning to go to Chicago some time next year. Michi doesn't know anyone around there and she wants Tomi to go too. Frank, on the other hand, thinks that a little work in Chicago will do my background a lot of good and was speaking of seeing Blumer or Burgess himself to see if something could not be done. Whether we can go or not, the possibility of getting out for a little while will make our life here much easier and it will give us plenty of incentive to put in a little more work. After hearing Frank's tales, I am very anxious to do some work in social psychology under Blumer; and while Frank doesn't think too much of Ogburn, I should like to do some work in social change under his guidance.

As for study, I shall follow your advise. I think I'll concentrate on social psychology and languages this winter. Social disorganization I'll have to work on a little; in fact, I've been reviewing my notes for some time already. Right now the report and the things that are popping around here are keeping us pretty well occupied, but when the winter snows set in I'll get down to work on background. The books that I ordered from Berkeley bookstores haven't come in as yet, but I think they will before long.

As you might have expected, Naj has rounded up some "progressives" in the camp and is organizing a political group that might be a fire-cracker. One thing we know for sure; the J.A.C.L. will probably fight it out with him. Very interesting things are going on around here. Walter Tsukamoto, who was in disfavor (as was the entire J.A.C.L.), seems to think that his star is rising again and is making a very definite bid for leadership in the camp. Naj's group will probably fight it out with him (with a pretty good chance of winning). At any rate, Tsukamoto threw a bombshell into the Council meeting yesterday afternoon by announcing that the House of Representatives had passed a bill to take citizenship away from all Nisei and that the Senate committee had reported favorably on the bill. He said he got the dope from the A.C.L.U. paper of Sept. 19. (or some date since that time). Naturally this is serious business and the Council-

men didn't know what to do and they turned to him and begged him to help out. All this, of course, buildsup the J.A.C.L. However, our concern is not so much with the dodoes in this camp but with the bill itself. We all knew that the Steward bill has been in Congress for some time but had heard nothing about it. The S.F. papers have said nothing and neither have the radio reports. Is what Tsukamoto said true? We are inclined to doubt it because if any such an action occurred it would have gotten plenty of publicity. Tsukamoto read from an obscure column in the ACLU news and if this had happened, we think that it would have been in the headlines. Please let us know as soon as possible (by wire, if necessary) what the facts are. I am curious to know what happened, but I think that Naj's group wants the facts to get ready to fight the J.A.C.L. control (and they would gladly pay for the wire). We wouldn't be too surprised if a thing like this went through the state legislature but it's almost unbelievable that the thing went through the Congress without anyone knowing about it.

Things around here are still popping. One of the administration men tried to do something for the colony by bying wood to build a theatre before the priorities set in and there has been plenty of kick about it (the money belongs to the colonists--so the colony thinks). Legally or otherwise, there is nothing fishy about the deal and the man meant well; on top of that the colonists want a theatre. However, few of the hot heads started yelling and there is another strike in prospect. The farm is due for more trouble, because the bastard who was cooking for the farmers got into some trouble with the ad. and resigned. The case has been presented to the farmers through colored glasses (although the ad. man was definitely partly at fault) and the whole thing is now in the air. Some of these men think that trouble-making is quite the thing, since the community is so much against the administration--or any keto. Really, the whole thing is a sad state of affairs. There was a big beef about the mess situation and a petition containing the signatures of 9,000 colonists demanding the dismissal of one steward was presented to Shirrell the other day. Shirrell's reaction: "It's inconceivable that 9,000 people actually contacted this man and knew what the trouble was about. Most of them signed because someone went up to them and said, 'This guy's a son of a bitch; please sign this.'" Shirrell was absolutely right, judging from our own experience. Trouble after trouble, and it seems that pretty soon some of the personnel might resign. Shirrell himself looks pretty haggard and tired. I hope that he doesn't crack; he's really a swell guy. I'm not defending the administration because they have made mistakes too, but some of these agitators are so damn unreasonable that you can't expect anything but trouble. Anyway, we've got the dope on how some of these difficulties arose--thanks to Kay and Naj.

Incidentally, speaking of Naj, I think that if we keep going easy on him he might come out of his gloom. He is still plenty troubled, but he seemed to have more pep today. He is very sensitive, and it won't take much to knock him off again. I think, though, that if we keep handling him with kid gloves and if Jim stayes as far away from him as possible, everything might turn out O.K.

Jim, incidentally, tells us quite confidently that he will get some kind of a job under Jacoby as a social analyst~~is~~-or something like that--in his department of juvenile delinquency. I don't know what he is going to do but I guess it's O.K. He said that he wasn't sure what kind of a problem he was going to take for a study but it doesn't look like he's going to study the family (partly because he doesn't want to work for Dr. Francis). Anyway, he said he might study the various social groups around here in camp. Whatever he's driving at I'm sure that he has probably made his ambitions clear to you; it's got us in a fog because we thought we had worked out a division of labor and his change would disturb our agreement. However, we can fix that after he gets settled in whatever he wants to do.

By the way, I got a note from Naoko Hoshino that I am to be interviewed tomorrow for the welfare job. I'll let you know what happened as soon as I find out. If I pass the interview, I'll get \$12 a month; if I flunk, I'll get \$19 (what a mixup)!

I heard from Freddie and Tally but no word from the others. Fred sent me a long report (which he no doubt sent you too). My first reaction was, "That's the way I felt when I first came here. Wait 'til he's been there for awhile." Tally confirmed many of the things that I had heard from others about Gila. God, it must be a hell of a place. It must be awfully hard on his wife since she is in her second or third month of pregnancy. The girls say that that is the hardest time.

I heard from Dr. Yanaga. He asked me to write you to tell you his exact address so that the ms would not go to the wrong place. I think, though, that since you have already mailed the papers, it's too late. I won't put down his address because he said he wrote to you too. He's a funny guy in a way, but he's really swell. He is one of the most helpful men I've known in my undergrad days.

Tomi might become the director of the nursery schools around here yet. Lucky we have your books on child psych. The girl who had charge of the nurseries left for school in the East and the Caucasian woman does not know whether she is to stay on the W.R.A. staff or not. At any rate, Tomi is the only home ec. student around, and they want her for teaching h.s., dietitian, and the nurseries. She said that she might take the nursery school job so that she can get the entire staff of teachers to take observations on the kids (as part of the daily routine) and then make duplicate copies of their reports--the ultimate motive, of course, is obvious.

Well, I guess I've bulled enough. It must be very tiresome for you to have to wade through pages of stuff every time I write. I'm sorry I'm so long-winded. It must be my debate training.

Please say hello to W.I. for all of us. We'll all keep plugging.

Tom

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

FIELD SERVICE
COLORADO RIVER WAR
RELOCATION PROJECT

Poston, Arizona
October 28, 1942

Mr. Tamotsu Shibutani
Building 413, Apartment A
Tule Lake Project
Newell, California

Dear Mr. Shibutani:

I understand that the National Student Relocation Council has written you concerning the possibilities of doing research work at this relocation center.

We have here a bureau making a social scientific record of the development of this community. With such material, we hope to be able to give the self-governing council and the administration helpful information in regard to current needs. We also hope to acquire a body of information and to develop field techniques which will be of use in the enormous relocation which will have to be done all over the world after the war. An important part of this will of course be the working out of a satisfactory place in national life for the American-Japanese. Our project is dedicated to the belief that understanding and knowledge will be important factors in reducing prejudice and hate which are based very largely on ignorance.

The department is composed of myself as coordinator, Dr. E. H. Spicer, Dr. Tamie Tsuchiyama and eight field workers, two artists and a number of secretaries. My training and experience has been in individual psychology as applied to community studies, Dr. Spicer has studied community from the view ~~as~~^{of} an anthropologist and was trained at Chicago and the University of Arizona and Dr. Tsuchiyama has just received her degree in anthropology from the University of California and brings to us some technical knowledge of the Japanese cultural background. The field workers are mostly people who have majored in one of the social sciences and have either just received their degrees or are in their senior year. We are expecting soon another trained social scientist to join our senior staff.

Our work is directed at understanding the social structure of the community, the prevailing opinions and attitudes and the effects of various

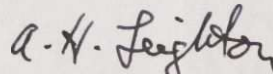
Mr. Tamotsu Shibutani
October 28, 1942
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acts and tendencies which spring from either the community or the administration. Our attention is focused most sharply on those trends which make for good or bad adjustment between the Japanese-American and the rest of the country. We divide up the work in various projects and farm these out to the field workers and then consult with them concerning their findings and re-direct their efforts.

We are giving three courses, all of which are pointed toward the work that we are doing. One of these is an introduction to anthropology, another is a course in individual psychology and the third is field training in social anthropology. Arrangements have been made with the University of Chicago whereby resident credit will be granted to those who successfully complete these courses. This will amount to about ten units per semester.

If you are interested in joining our staff and would like to move here either alone or with your family, please let me know at once and I will try to make the necessary arrangements. If you have any questions concerning either the work or the living conditions in Poston, I shall be glad to try and answer them.

Sincerely yours,



Lt. A. H. LEIGHTON, (M.C.) USNR
Coordinator
Bureau of Sociological Research

AHL/fm

cc: Mr. Joseph Conard - NSRC-1
Mails, Files & Communications-2
Files-1

September 29, 1942

POSTAL TELEGRAPH
NIGHT LETTER

Tamotsu Shibutani
413 A
Tule Lake War Relocation Project
Newell, California

Max Radin says House Joint Resolution 305 introduced by Anderson of California proposing constitutional amendment depriving citizenship went to Committee on Judiciary April 1942 but has never been reported back. Radin says communication of American Civil Liberties Union grossly misrepresents facts unless they have information not published in official records. Have written Morton to check with Tolan.

Dorothy Thomas

October 10, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

It was really swell seeing you again. It seems that you and Tule Lake are quite agreeable with each other. Every time you come you raise our morale. Tule Lake, in return, does not become cold and bitter until the day after you leave. Wow, what a windy day!

My parents have arrived at long last and they seem the worst for wear. They apparently had a hell of a time at Stockton and both have lost a lot of weight and aged. They are both happy to be here and have asked me to thank you for all your efforts. We are already getting some information from the old man.

The report is coming along rather slowly, but it's gradually taking shape. I've outlined my whole section on disorganization and hope to bang it out soon. We have no steno yet, but I think we can manage O.K. for the time being. This time, I think I'll put more work into the report than I have been previously. I hope it proves satisfactory.

In regard to Chicago, I think that all of us are agreed. Tomi says that she will try to get a job (we may get help on that). In the meantime both of us will scrimp and save whatever we can. The expenses that I have had to meet around here will be cut drastically beginning this week because Dad says he will pay. Since he was so frustrated in Stockton, he seems ready to go on a spree. At any rate, we hope to have something by next year to help. If the dream comes true and we do get to go to Chicago, I should like to spend my full time studying and not waste any valuable time. I'll brush up on a lot of things this winter so that the break in won't be so bad. If I can't go, nothing will be lost anyway. I'm returning Ogburn's letter with this note.

May I ask a favor of you. There is no great hurry, but if you should pass the Campus Textbook Exchange (on Bancroft off Telegraph) could you ask them what the hell's holding up their shipment of books? I've ordered 10 or 11 books there and no matter how often I write I get no reply. Some of the books I want to keep; others I know I can't get from the library because Nisbet keeps them on reserve all the time. I can sell them any time when I get through studying them. I should appreciate your asking what happened to my order. Sorry to inconvenience you like this, but I'm just hamstrung out here.

Please give our regards to W.I., Virginia and Spencer. Thanks for everything; we'll try to live up to your expectations. Will write again soon.

Torn

October 13, 1942

Dear Tom,

Just got your letter of October 10. My reactions are the same as yours: Tule Lake trips always do me good, and I always come away feeling proud as hell that I have such swell and competent collaborators.

I sent some messages via Frank a few days ago. Re the steno, try to get help if you possibly can. I hope I made it clear that I am not trying to pinch pennies on this thing: It is merely the damned policy matter that we have to look out for.

I wrote Embree today and sent Morton a special-airmail to try to settle as many of our problems as possible while he is in Washington. One thing I want is a letter to Mr. Shirrel rescinding the Coverley order. Meantime, keep on the way you have, and don't let Jacoby get the idea we are cold shouldering him or anything of the sort.

I will get active on the Chicago matter right away. Also I will stop by at the Campus Textbook Exchange.

Regards to all from all.

UST

October 17, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Thanks for the letter. I'm glad that someone is encouraged on the study. Things in T.L. have turned for the worst again, and it looks like it might be serious this time. Thanks for checking up with Campus book store; I have been waiting for two months for them to come through. One reason why I haven't received anything yet may be that there is a mess in the P.O. again--the Army is back in!

No doubt some one has already written you about this so I won't have to go into details. At any rate, some Nisei employee did what she had no business doing and was caught in the act by a soldier. The soldier immediately reported to the captain and the Army took over again. The b_____ in charge decided that he didn't want to "waste" soldiers by sending them to the warehouse so he commanded that everything that came through the freight had to be inspected at the P.O. Consequently freight and packages have cluttered up the place so much that the employees don't have room or time to do their work. Mail deliveries have dropped to about 1/5 throughout the camp and packages are held up for days and days. It seems that freight is temporarily not coming through--being held up in Tule Lake.

This mess is bad enough, but we have a worse one. The mess hall went on a strike and this disrupted the whole camp. The mess people wanted the rest of the camp to go on a sympathetic strike and to make sure that no one would go to work they served breakfast at 8:30 or 9 and did not say when lunch or supper would be served. People had to stay home in order to eat whenever the crew was ready. Lunch was served in our block at 2 and supper at 4:40! Haruo and I had to do without one day. Shirrell doesn't care if people don't want to work but he does object to trying to prevent others from working. The people in the administration seem to think that agitators are doing all the work--not admitting that perhaps some of their number might be responsible for the mess. No one has been paid for August work yet! Every department is a mess. Feeling is running high--this time on both sides. Rumors are going around that Shirrell himself is involved in the graft started by Piddler and Peck (Peck is a bastard) and others rumors are that Shirrell told some men that he hoped they would be deported soon and that they would be shot down by American bullets. With feeling running like that against everyone in the administration--even the one man who had heretofore been respected--it seems that we are in for trouble for some time.

The administration has at long last started issuing clothing--August clothing! This is helping morale a little, but not much. It seems to me that more & more a common definition of the situation is crystallizing in the colony and that definition is not the type conducive to amicable relations. The whole thing provides me with good stuff for my thesis, but things aren't too encouraging. Shirrell is said to have threatened to bring in the Army if there is one more strike; Jacoby tells me that Shirrell can't do it but that someone else might. Incidentally, he will be in S.F. Monday or Tuesday.

The conflict on our staff here has not cooled off much although Bob is doing everything he can to get Jim back in everyone's good graces. I hope that something can be worked out before long, but for the time being we are just working independently. As long as we don't all get together everything is O.K. I think our prejudices will wear off a little to permit working together before long.

Mrs. Halle went bugs again and this time she left the project-- and left us holding a big sack. Thanks to her muddling everything in our department is a mess. We are closing up the building next week to clean up everything. Mrs. Halle left orders that certain people (Including D.S.T.'s staff) were not to see the confidential files. However, we have reason to believe that she will not come back. No one seems to want her back. Mrs. Murayama sent in her resignation and then came back when Halle left. Ditto with some others. Naoko Hoshino, Deki's roommate and supervisor of the department, resented Mrs. Halle's leaving orders and said that if she could not trust her own workers she would resign. Ergo, we shall have the files at our disposal--even though they don't have a damn thing in them.

The Issei-Nisei conflict is coming forth in full bloom and interesting things are happening. The struggle for power in the camp among Nisei is beginning to show its ugly head too; but we are following your instructions and keeping our hands clean.

Naj is having a hell of a time out on the farm. Kay is working hard but doesn't seem to get anywhere. The farm is really a mess, and it doesn't look like they are going to have much of a farm next year. Nisei seem to be utterly disgusted and many of them want to leave. Don't be too surprised if Naj pulls out next year.

The occupational mobility here is terrific. People just aren't contented with their jobs because of the conflicts. Attitudes among the administration people seem to be crystallizing--in the wrong way. Dammit, they just don't have enough contact with the people to realize what is going on. They are jumping at conclusions which are not true and don't seem to want to admit that they are probably more at fault than the colonists since the colonists couldn't have done anything anyway without their supervision. Anyway, it's a mess.

You say that you might come up before long with Morton. We should very much like to see all of you, but could you let us know a week or so ahead of time so that we can wire you when the coast is clear? We should appreciate your cooperation on this point.

Please don't worry about the mess here. We are getting used to trouble. The whole thing discourages us and will probably leave a scar that none of us will ever forget the rest of our lives, but somehow or another we seem to manage--at least among ourselves. Having people like Bob and Hanny, the Elbertsons and Jacobys helps all of us a lot. We'll manage; we're not as bad off as some people outside--I wish more people here realized that.

Will write again soon.

Tom

P.S. received paper (5 x 8)--a little thin but it fits. Thanks.

Please send staples (Commander no. 11) for
25¢ staplers.

✓
October 22, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Just a note from this rapidly changing community--with an apology attached for not being able to turn in anything for you to use at the WRA meeting Monday. Frank has completed his work on the recreation section and it looks pretty good; you will probably have it by the time you get this letter. He asked me to write up the education part of the program here, but I just couldn't get around to it. Hell, I'm just getting started analyzing some of the documents I have on social disorganization--which, to me, seems a lot more important.

There are some questions I should like to raise in this connection. After much confusion and hesitation and reorganization after reorganization, I have finally started out in earnest on the section on social disorganization. I was wholly dissatisfied with the first stuff I wrote and threw it away. This time I hope to use documents in the same way that W.I. did in his Polish Peasant. I am also planning to use his method of presentation, although naturally I'm not going to stick to it where the facts don't fit. However, the snag came in in connection with the use of documents. As you know, Mrs. Halle had an aversion to letting people see her files (especially students of D.S.T.). She left strict orders that the files were not to be violated. However, we are now certain that Mrs. Halle is gone for good because no one wants her anymore. We found that she had three sets of files: one for the workers to use, which contained practically nothing of any value to us (this is how much she trusted any of her workers); one which was for the use of herself, Jacoby and other administrators; and one which she kept entirely to herself. I now have access to the latter two files, which have revealed a number of things that are of great value to us. Before I could copy the stuff, however, I had to practically swear away my life, and since Miss Hoshino and Deki are sticking out their necks in letting me have the stuff I think it only fair that I keep my promise. The promise I made was that the material was not to be seen by anyone in a relocation center or any Japanese who might possibly know these people who are outside. When you see some of the stuff you can see why some precaution has to be taken in a community like this where people know so much about each other. These documents are not to appear even in disguise. In this group, we have threats of murder, illegitimate children, rape, soldier-Nisei girl relations, etc. which would raise holy hell if known (and get the welfare department into a hell of a position). Confidentially, I think Jacoby has a lot more stuff that he's not telling anyone about (I don't blame him although it may seem unscientific). No matter how much I disguise these case studies I don't think that they would fool anyone who was familiar with the subjects.

I'm now getting around to the question I wanted to ask. I understood that when we had in our report you were planning to reproduce it and send it to the other workers. If you are planning to

do that, I shall be forced to omit documents. On the other hand, if you can eliminate the documents in the reproductions and lock the original up, then I can put in some things that I'm sure you would be interested in getting. I'm sure that this can be arranged, can't it? In the reproduction, you can indicate that case histories have been omitted and just include the generalizations and broad discussions. This may all sound very silly, but I don't think that we will get very far unless we play ball with others in the community. I think I ought to keep my promises.

According to the promise, Frank, Dr. Jacoby, Deki, Naoko Hoshino (Deki's roommate and my supervisor) and you and W.I. are the only ones who can see the stuff. Some of the documents are not worth much as such because Mrs. Halle is not so hot in taking records; but Frank and I will run through them and pick out the ones that have to be followed up. Naoko has agreed to assign me to any case that I want--so the rest will be a lot easier. Incidentally, we ought to thank our lucky stars that Deki and Naoko are in charge here; they are good welfare workers and they both understand research as well--both having done graduate work at Cal. Their help has been indispensable.

The J.A.C.L.-controlled City Council came through with a very fascistic move the other day that would have seriously jeopardized our study--if certain people wanted to make it tough for us. The City charter that they drew up looked innocuous enough but it gave them the power of the Gestapo or the O.G.P.U.: the power to examine the records of any group or individual in the camp. No provision was made for showing cause for the investigation. However, the Council had better tread lightly for the time being because they are in the doghouse, and plenty, because of the theatre issue. The J.A.C.L. clique put the Council in favor of the theatre project (which I think was O.K.), but the colonists voted it down 2½-1. Furthermore, the Issei don't like some of the cracks that Tsukamoto made about them and he is on the spot for the time being. We're trying to change that part of the charter and may get Shirrell's help on it (on the q.t., of course).

My morale has its ups and downs, but it has been tops this week. The camp is as bad as ever, if not worse, but I have been so damn busy that I haven't had much time to think about it. Work is a good morale-builder. I'm working 8 hours a day in welfare and 4 to 6 hours on the structural report. Beginning next week, I won't have any classes to teach so I'll be able to bear down every night. Once the routine gets going, I find that I enjoy reading and writing tremendously. Both sociology journals come to me now and it feels almost like old times again. By the way, I haven't received any books from Berkeley yet, but I suppose they'll be coming this week (the P.O. here is slow because of the reason I explained in the last letter). Fuller's thesis, the Tolan Committee hearings and other reports have arrived. I hope I can stay contented for a while.

There is a favor I should like to ask. ~~Could~~ May I have a copy of the booklet Statistical Methods put out in the College Outline Series? I think it costs one dollar (which I am enclosing with this letter).

By the way, I wanted to ask about Hagood's Statistics for Sociologists. I remember looking at the book in your office once and Naj tells me that it's pretty good. Judging from the review in AJS, I think it sounds pretty good. Do you think it is worth my studying some time early next spring? I have too much confronting me for this winter, but I am anxious to learn something about stat (just a little).

Well, so much for the bull. I know you're too busy to waste much time. Will you give our warmest regards to W.I., Virginia, Spencer and Morton? We hope to see all of you soon.

Very sincerely,

Tom

P.S. : We'll handle Kimball with
kid gloves when he comes - maybe
treat him to a soda! We've
laid plans.

Oct. 24, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

I just got official notice from Embree asking if he could use "excerpts" from my paper on the "First Twenty Weeks for administrative use of W.R.A. No doubt he wrote you about it too.

He wants to know:

- (1) if he can take excerpts from my concluding remarks & other sections
- (2) if he can use my name in connection w. it
- (3) if he ought to mention connections with the E. & R. Study

As for the first two questions, I don't give a damn one way or the other, although I think that some of the remarks I made are outmoded & have since turned out to be untrue. I can give a more accurate statement now on some of the speculations I made then.

Could you let me know what you think? Bob will be there Wednesday & he said he would discuss the matter w. you. In the meantime, may I hear your reactions?

Tom

October 28

Dear Tom,

I wrote Frank last night about the Chicago situation, and the fact that the Student Relocation Committee wants both him and you to put through applications for a test case. I am also enclosing Ogburn's letter about you. Beale of the Student Relocation indicated(confidentially) that he could get his hands on some funds, in all probability. So, you ~~might~~ write to Chicago, to apply for next spring. There are things I have to do in this connection with the Washington office(recommendations, etc.) of WRA. I will attend to them. Student Relocation will send your transcripts to Chicago.

Tell Frank that, since writing him, it is no longer "confidential" that I have been appointed Chairman of the Pacific Coast Regional Committee of the Social Science Research Council.

Now, for the questions in your two unanswered letters. It will be perfectly all right to omit the case histories from the report that we will show to others than those you list. This sort of situation will arise in other cases: Morton has some stuff from Washington which is being shown to no one but Aikin and myself. The locked file is really kept locked.

I am glad that Deki and Naoko are being so cooperative. I gather Deki does not have the time or perhaps the interest to do anything for us directly, since she did not follow up with me when I was in Tule Lake. If there is any supplement to the report that you want ~~xxxxxx~~ from her, and she is willing to do it, we shall of-course pay her an honorarium.

I will get your booklet on Statistical Methods when I go home to lunch today. Yes, Hagoood is an excellent text. Kuznets approves it from the mathematical standpoint, and I from the sociological. It would be well worth getting.

I'll be interested to hear of your contacts with Kimball. Ask Frank to tell you of my meeting with Fryer, and of the "solution" we have apparently reached in our relations with WRA.

Regarding the other matter, i.e. Embree, my first reaction was that it might establish a bad precedent. But developments re Fryer seem to place the thing in a different light, since, if Fryer sticks by his guns, there will be no necessary submission of further "documents" to Embree. I see no reason why you should not let him use excerpts if you wish to. I suggest that you write him somewhat as follows: That all of us on the Evacuation and Resettlement Study have pledged ourselves to keep confidential and not to distribute anything that comes out of the study until

after the war ends; that, however, the paper in question was not prepared as part of the study, but was actually an undergraduate term paper; that you will be glad to let him use excerpts, but would like to have a copy of the report he is putting out; that he may use your name, and also may mention your connection with the E and R study, provided he makes clear the fact that this paper was not part of the study.

The reason for all these elaborate precautions is that I don't want him to be asking to reproduce any of the things that are done directly as part of the study.

As I told Frank, Embree is in the doghouse with the Regional Office because of his requests for detailed reports from all of them, too. He is having trouble running a documents division from Washington, no question about that. I sympathize with him, and realize the difficulties he is working under. Apparently Leighton isn't going to give him his material, either. What a world!

Will write more after I have talked to Bob Billigmeier.

Yours,

Building 413, Apartment A
Tule Lake Relocation Center
Newell, California

November 2, 1942

Director of Admissions
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Gentlemen:

I am a recent graduate of the University of California and wish to work for an advanced degree in the Department of Sociology at the University of Chicago. Since your university maintains such a high standard of work, I am anxious to begin there as soon as possible.

I should like to apply to be admitted for the spring semester of 1943. The National Student Relocation Council has assured me that my transcripts will be forwarded to your office.

Thanking you in advance for your cooperation, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

Tamotsu Shibutani

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

In reply, please refer to:

November 2, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Please don't let this letter-head scare you; it's the only piece of paper I could pick up here in the office.

Sometimes I'm just filled with remorse when I think of the things that I do and say. It seems that I'm constantly causing you trouble in Berkeley and then don't act very much like one appreciating all your efforts by popping off here. I know that I do more than my share of kicking no matter what the situation is; I'm really sorry.

Thanks to your efforts we're starting out toward first base in our effort to go to Chicago. Dr. Beale of the Student Relocation Council was here over the week-end and we discussed the matter of the test case. Both Frank and I are game. I have sent in my application to Dean Redfield, since he knows what to do with it. I have also written to Ogburn to thank him for his efforts. Am enclosing a copy of the letter to Chicago.

I don't know whether to congratulate you for being appointed Chairman of the Coast Social Science Research Council or not. It's really swell, but it means a hell of a lot more work for you. I see also that you are an official of the American Sociological Society for next year. Now we've got something to brag about.

Billigmeier showed us the outline that you gave him for our structural report. For my part, I doubt if I can get my section on social change in for some time. The Welfare Department is still a mess and we're so short of workers that those who are there are working overtime. This and informal gatherings and bull sessions cut in seriously into our work time. I had resolved to hibernate for the month--when tonight Mrs. Jacoby came in to invite us to a duck dinner tomorrow. Oh me. I'll try to finish up social disorganization (including a chapter on family disorg.) by next week, but I can't guarantee it. I'll send the confidential report ahead to you and then work on a revision (minus documents) for distribution.

Thanks ever so much for getting the outline of Statistics for me. It's a convenient thing to have around, and I don't know why I sold my other one. I'm sorry that the Campus B.S. mess is causing you so much trouble. I think I'll write them and ask them to either send the books pronto (since I ordered many of them in July) or else give me my money back. I'm tempted to take up the matter with the Legal Aid Division.

I'm going to write Embree tonight. He can use the stuff, but I'm going to censor it and politely tell him that the stuff we have now is confidential. Speaking of anthropologists, I'm sending an interesting letter I got from Leighton today. I'm also returning Ogburn's letter.

Thanks for everything. Will write again soon.

P.S. Got staples too.

Tom



November 6, 1942

Dear Tom,

Just received your letter of November 2. I wired Bob that I am coming up for the day on Tuesday, arriving in the morning and leaving in the evening. I want to have a chance to talk to all of you before leaving for Arizona. Otherwise it would be well towards the middle of December before I could see you again, and that is a long time off. I shall make this trip alone, as WI does not get "travelling expenses", and since he is going with me to Arizona, that is about all the family budget will allow for this month! Please pass the word along to the cohort. Will you tell Jimmy that ~~xxxxxxx~~ twenty pages of his journal are missing towards the end of September, pp 249-268. If he has no extra copy, will he please have those pages done over for me, as I can't have the subsequent pages typed here without them.

Re the Campus book store, the trouble seems to be that they can't get the books you want, with one or two exceptions, and Mr. Leary promised to write you himself.

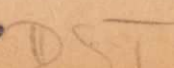
Re Leighton, that is certainly a joke. I'm sure he does not know you are working for me, as I don't think he is the sort of person who would pull anything like that. I will bring along Tsuchiyama's last letter. She is greatly depressed about the situation there. Most of the field workers have left, and those still around are freshmen and sophomores more interested in getting the University credit than in doing any work. They have kept T. in the office continuously, so she has asked for leave of absence from their study for a month in order to try to get some firsthand data. Her talents have certainly been wasted. I count on some good work for her, for she is well-trained and intelligent. But I never did like the idea of the joint arrangement with Leighton. Maybe I will be able to clear things up when I visit Poston.

We are going first to Poston at Leighton's invitation. Then Mich and Anne and Tsuchiyama want to make the trip to Gila with us. I hope it can be arranged.

Do you know Togo Tanaka, now at Manzanar? He offersto turn over a lot of material he has collected to us (through President Sproul).

Am glad you started the Chicago ball rolling. I wrote the letters that Beale asked me to. Will talk to you about it on Tuesday.

Please have as much ready to go over with me as possible, and ask the others the same.

All send regards. Yours, 

November 11, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

It was very good to see you again. As usual your coming has helped straighten out some things that have bothered us for some time. Thank you ever so much for bringing me my books. They are all swell and I am very enthusiastic about them.

I saw Jim today and he seems to be doing quite well. He showed me a terrifically long section that he had finished on the coops. Frank is fighting hard to cut down on his social obligations so that he can get the report out. I'm just being rude and telling people (especially Caucasians) to go to hell (in effect) when they ask me over. Some of these people seem to think that time grows on trees around here and we don't have trees in Tule Lake. They seem to think that we are bored with nothing to do. It's nice of them to invite us but dammit, we can't get any work done.

Under separate cover, I am mailing you two short sections that I have banged out hurriedly. Since you said that we need not work for "perfection" I am sending in two sections over which I think I would blush if I read them again.

One part is the first chapter, a general introduction to the report. I wrote that yesterday when I was feeling gay for a change and was fooling around. There are some flippant remarks in there and many generalizations that you probably don't like. I am going to spend full time on my sections on social change and social disorganization so that I doubt if I shall have time to rewrite the introduction. If you don't like any part of it, please feel free to alter it in any way you please. If you're utterly disgusted, please let me know and I'll force myself to write another one.

The part on social disorganization that I'm sending you is also an introduction--to that section. I am planning five chapters in that section--contrary to the suggestion that you sent via Billigmeier.

- (1) Social Disorganization in Tule Lake (general introduction)
- (2) Disorganization of the Family
- (3) Disorganization of the Community
- (4) Demoralization of the Individual
- (5) Social Reorganization in Tule Lake

Since I intend to finish this section first, you will get the other chapters in the near future. I shall write two chapters on the disorg. of the family, since I have plenty of documents on that. One of the sections that I shall draw up will be confidential (as we have already discussed) and will contain eleven selected documents; while the other will be for release in the structural report and will probably have no more than three or four documents at most. As you suggested to Bob, I shall lay the emphasis for the structural report on Community Disorganization and Reorganization. As for procedures, as you may or may not know I have used W.I.'s Polish Peasant as a Bible, even though I don't understand all of it, and will probably try to follow his conceptual framework to some extent. So much for the advance publicity; I'll send the goods in a week or so. It won't be 'perfect' either, but I'll get it in. Please don't take the introductory section too seriously.

I'm sending these sections with apologies and when you read them you will know why. Today, I got a bill from the American Sociological Society; all D.K. My parents regret that they couldn't see you yesterday. Tomi says hello.

Tom

November 13, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

I am enclosing under separate cover the report that I have drawn up on "Family Disorganization in Tule Lake." This is not for the structural report. Please lock it up when you are through with it.

I had some grandiose notions when I began the report, but was in such a hurry to get through it that I bogged down somewhere along the way. As you can see, the case studies are very brief and the analyses are shallow. I'm sending this ahead to you now. I hope to get more complete data on some of these cases by investigating them myself (many of them have been assigned to me anyway) and then doing more thinking about the matter.

After the first four documents, I have taken time to discuss the cases. I think I made some horrible mistakes, but did not bother to change them. I'll send you a separate report with more details and a more thorough analysis on each of these cases as soon as I get the dope and have a chance to work on the stuff.

We've been working like hell so far but don't seem~~x~~ to be getting anywhere. I've written this section before, but I didn't like it and threw it away. Now I think the one I threw away was better--it's not worse. God, what a mess! I'm rapidly becoming more and more convinced that I had better get down and study pretty soon. I not only don't know enough, but I've forgotten so much that I'm continually forced to look things up in books. You intimated that we won't get a vacation after the structural report is over, but doggonit, we have to study a little and right now we just don't have time to read--even a magazine.

As for books, I think I have plenty to keep me occupied this winter. I've succeeded in getting books that I've always wanted to read and reread and that I intend to do. As for Campus, please don't bother about them any more. I haven't heard from them yet nor have I received the books but I'm going to tell them to either send the books (whatever they have) or send the money back so I can get it from Chicago. Aside from Sumner's Folkways and one of Cooley's works, I think I can get along without the rest.

As for Chicago, I think that I shall be satisfied with either arrangements. If we can go, swell. If we can't go, I'll stick it out here a while longer to make a more ~~complete~~ thorough job of this study. I'm working like a fiend now because I realize that I have to get all I'm going to get by February if I do get out to Chicago. I know I haven't enough and I'm greedy. So far, even though much has been forgotten, I've learned a hell of a lot of new things from Frank. As long as he stays here, I think I'll continue to learn. When he goes, I'll just have to bear down and read. Anyway, I think I'll be satisfied with either arrangement.

Seems that I'm always apolo~~g~~gizing for my lousy work. Maybe someday I might be able to do what should be done.

Will write again soon. Please say hello to Virginia, Morton, Bob, W.I., from Tomi and me.

Tom

November 16, 1942

Mr. Tomatsu Shibutami
413-A, Tule Lake Relocation Project
Newell, California

Dear Tom:

It was nice to get your two letters and also to receive the two introductions. I have not yet received the report on family disorganization but have given instructions to have it filed unopened in the locked file when it arrives so I will attend to it immediately upon my return from Arizona.

It is a little difficult to criticize the introductions because an introduction is significant only in terms of what it actually introduces, so I am just suspending judgement until I see what follows. I must say, however, that the social disorganization introduction intrigues me very much and I look forward to getting the report even though it includes what you modestly call "some horrible mistakes". I hope you did not get worried, although you seem to be, about my reference to the hard work to come after the structural report is finished. What I meant was that the study is just beginning and I was perfectly serious about that. However, we must simplify our procedure in the future so that you will not be so over burdened that you have no time to devote to your own interests.

I am enclosing a copy of a brief memorandum to the Topaz people. I wish you would talk it over with Frank and if you have any suggestions, let me have them. I am writing to Frank at the same time and enclosing some correspondence with Provinse. I assure you that I intend to push the Chicago matter to the limit. I am glad that you are taking a philosophical attitude about the whole thing. In case some of you have to stay around longer than you want I decided that I would push the matter of credit at Cal. for graduate work and have written a strong letter to Sproul about the situation. I expect to have some information about what can or cannot be done by the time I return from Arizona. I gave Frank my address in Arizona in case you want to write to me.

Everyone here sends greetings to you and Tomi.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas
Professor of Rural Sociology

DST/vp
Encl.

November 18 1942

Mr Tamotsu Shibusaki
Bldg 413, Apartment A
Tule Lake Relocation Center
Newell California

My dear Mr Shibusaki:

I have your letter of November 2 and we are happy to send you an application form for admission to the University of Chicago in the Spring Quarter. May we ask you to fill this out and return it to us? Will you also request the University of California to send a complete transcript of your undergraduate record?

The Committee on Admissions will be happy to give favorable consideration to your application if circumstances permit. For your information I am enclosing a copy of a letter which it has been necessary for us to send to all members of the evacuee group. If circumstances permit a change in this procedure, we shall be happy to admit you on the recommendation of Mr. Ogburn and Mr. Redfield, Dean of the Division of the Social Sciences.

Sincerely yours,

Valerie C Wickham
Director of Admissions

VCW:rs

The University of Chicago
Office of Admissions

November 18 1942

Mr William Fielding Ogburn
Social Science Research Building
Faculty Exchange

My dear Mr Ogburn:

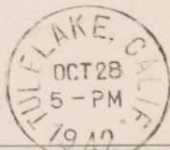
Thank you for your letter with regard to Tamotsu Shibutani.
I have written to Mr Shibutani, sending him an application for
admission and requesting that he file his transcript with us.
As you undoubtedly know, the present procedure of the University
is that should circumstances permit a change in our present
policy, we shall be happy to admit Mr Shibutani on recommendations
from you and Dean Redfield.

Sincerely yours,

Valerie C Wickhem
Director of Admissions

VCW:rs

Building 413, Apartment A
Tule Lake Relocation Center
Newell, California



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas

338 Giannini Hall

University of California

Berkeley,

california

October 27, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Thanks ever so much for sending the blank from the Chicago Book Plan. I ordered Durkheim (which I have always wanted), Johnson and the book by the Chicago Commission on Race Relations. Frank looked over the list and found some that he wanted too, but he said that he was going to subscribe himself. I don't recall just now but I think I owe you between \$4.50 and \$5.

Now that I'm in welfare I get plenty of time to study. Working on documents at night. Speaking of books, none have arrived from Campus yet.

We sit around the office all day writing notes and looking at magazines or books. Now and then we make observations.

Regards to W.I., Virginia, Morton, Spencer.

Tom

The University of Chicago

Department of Sociology

November 25 1942

Prof Dorothy Thomas
Evacuation and Resettlement Study
207 Giannini Hall
University of California
Berkeley California

Dear Dorothy:

I enclose letters from our Director of
Admissions regarding Dr Shibutani.

May I say that I greatly enjoyed your last
letter which was a little more informal and
more enthusiastic than the business letters
you often write me. I was particularly happy
to know of your enthusiasm for your new research?

Every good wish.

Sincerely,

W. O.

William F Ogburn

encs

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Have just reread this report before mailing & fear that I'm in for another apology. It seems that my insight is very superficial & I can detect several flaws. May I have more time to think some of these through? In the meantime, please pour forth with your criticisms. I want some guidance when I go over the more complete records more carefully.

I shall submit a summary of this report as a part of the Structural report later.

Sorry it's not better.

Tom

November 26, 1942

Dear Tom,

I am just back from Arizona--about which I will say more later in the letter. But first, as to your section on Family Disorganization.

You quite evidently detect the weaknesses in the paper yourself. You ask for "more time", and I concur heartily. You are just beginning something here which will take you a long time to do adequately. In fact, something that might very well develop into a thesis. For the report, I suggest that you simply develop your questions, state your hypotheses, and let it go at that. The documentation, up to the present, is poor. You will have to work hard to get accurate, factual documents, and that will obviously take time. Now for specific criticisms:

On your introductory page, you admit that the "cases were selected" from an undefined universe of cases. Some analysis must be made of this universe, to see to what extent the selected cases confirm, negate, or throw no light whatsoever upon your hypotheses. It is all very well to admit a "bias": that is honest scientific procedure. But it is not enough: if you have selected your cases, and know what the others were, then scientific procedure demands that you tell how the specific cases fit into or deviate from the general pattern.

Very early in the paper, a clearcut definition of family disorganization is called for.

On P.3, you state that one of your two major concerns is with "the breakdown of the rules that governed the relationship between members of the family in Tule Lake for the first time". You therefore assume that there was a correlation between behavior and conditions in Tule Lake. I cannot see that you have demonstrated this in your documents. Let us consider the documents in order:

Doc. 1. Infidelity was a definitely established pattern before evacuation. The breakup of the triangle in Tule Lake is scarcely evidence of "disorganization", unless it can be shown that such triangular relationships were a Japanese norm. In the write-up of the case, I want to know who gave the information. Who was the "complainant"? Quite a different story as to Mr. Nakajiro's role would undoubtedly have been obtained depending on who was the informant. Much more detail in regard to the case is necessary to put meat on the bones.

Doc. 2. More background data ^{is} needed. What was the respective social position of the two families? What sort of job did Jack hold? The baby suddenly appears in the story without any previous reference. Can any details be obtained about the matters talked about when the minister tried to intervene? The part that the doctor-lawyer situation played is quite obscure.

Doc. 3. The relevance of this case to the "change" hypothesis is not clear to me. If the case is used, more details regarding the "heated" nature of the matter are called for.

Doc. 4. Again, who was the informant or complaintant? Again, more details are needed.

~~xxxx~~ Now as to your comments on these four cases. Whether adultery was or was not approved before evacuation, it certainly occurred. It was approved by the husband in Doc. 1. It occurred in Doc. 3. It occurred in the Assembly center in Doc. 4. It was absent in Doc. 2. In other words, in the three cases in which adultery was a factor, the act had taken place before Tule Lake. A point that you make which should certainly be developed is the fact that the conditions in Tule Lake are "conducive to the exchange of gossip", and the role that gossip and rumor play is worthy of very close investigation.

Doc. 5. Conflict was nothing new in the life of this family. One open break had already occurred. This new break continued the pattern. Again, more detail about background.

Doc. 6. Without family background, little can be demonstrated about this case.

Doc. 8. This case is more satisfactory as to detail. The climax in Tule Lake needs further development.

Doc. 9. The child was obviously conceived before evacuation. Relevance to this section?

Doc. 10. Too sketchy to show anything.

Doc. 11. You have an important clue in the "escapist" attitudes of the best workers. This might be developed by an intensive study. The same applies to Doc. 12 and Doc. 13.

Doc. 14 is suggestive, but very incomplete.

Doc. 15 is more complete, but still leaves many open questions. By the way, are Chinese considered "Caucasians"?

On pages 13 and 14, your discussion of attitudes is very good indeed. But I think you realize the necessity of better documentation.

In summary, your ideas are, as always, good. But I think you are letting your preconceptions hamper you. One starts with a hypothesis, of course, but new hypotheses develop in the course of the investigation. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary not to "select" cases which merely "prove" the hypothesis (and I don't think your selection does anyway). You have a good beginning, but you have a long way to go. I know that you are intellectually honest, and that, if you follow this thing through slowly and carefully and with due regard to ALL the evidence, you will come out with something definitely worth while, as has been true of all your past performance.

Now, what about the report in general? The end of November as a deadline is obviously going to be impossible to meet. Suppose we achieve greater realism and say the end of December? In my opinion, that still means you will all be under great pressure, and I want you to send me section after section as you finish them. On the whole, I prefer not to send in criticism piecemeal. But you wanted me to criticize this section immediately, and I tried to conform with your wishes.

What about my coming to Tule Lake? Will you please discuss this with the others---Frank, Jimmy, Maj, and Bob---as soon as you can conveniently get them together. I want to come just as soon as my coming will be useful, and I do not like to stay away too long. On the other hand, I do not want to come if you, collectively, feel that nothing can be accomplished by a visit at this time. So let me have the word, one way or the other.

Now as to a brief news report on the Arizona trip. We arrived at Poston the day the strike began, and left the next morning when it seemed martial law might be declared as we wished to avoid internment. The strike has had most unfortunate publicity. The C all Bulletin had five inch headlines "8500 Interned Japs Strike against U.S." and the LA papers were even worse. As far as we could size up the situation it is as follows (documentation will be obtained from Tamie and Mitch and Anne): A person suspected of being an informer prior to evacuation was beaten up seriously. The FBI came in and arrested two people and were planning to send them to Phoenix without trial. The Council(?) declared this was "unAmerican" and said they were innocent anyway. Their immediate release was demanded, but not granted. A general strike ensued. Underlying causes seem to be general discontent over lack of wage-payments, lack of clothing, etc. possible contributory cause: suspicion that Dr. Leighton is Naval Intelligence officer. (It is claimed, not verified, that Tamie is near the top of a list of people whom they are out to "get" as informers via Dr. Leighton) Tamie wants to go to Utah immediately and we are trying to arrange it. Mich and Anne are disillusioned and unhappy at Poston.

Leighton is a nice fellow, but his naval uniform is very much against him, as you can well imagine. They have very little research material, mostly block analyses of population data from housing census, pasted clippings from Poston paper, etc. Leighton and I had very little chance to talk, however, so there may be more to it than I was able to discover.

Physically, Poston is what you would call a "dump", by all odds the most depressing center I have seen. Of-course, the depressing atmosphere was accentuated by the discontented people milling around.

Charlie Kikuchi and Bob Spencer joined us at Poston and we all went back by car together. Gila seemed to be heaven by contrast. Believe it or not, it is an attractive community. The white barracks with their red roofs really are morale-building, and the efforts at beautification are astounding: ponds and elaborate gardens and lawns. Quite different from anything I had seen elsewhere.

We spent two busy days at Gila. Things are really humming and Bob S. has done a wonderful organizational job. I only hope not drafted. Give my best (also W's to all) Yours,
PS Travel in Arizona is hell We waited in a station till 5:30 am

November 29, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Thank you for your long letter with the dope on the Poston mess and the criticisms of my chapter. I had been thinking about both for the past week--during which I have been laid up with a nasty cold. I was up but couldn't do much, so I had plenty of time to think.

We are all looking forward to seeing you again. In regard to your question as to when, I have talked to Naj, Frank and Bob, but have not yet asked Jim. However, I did talk to Jim a couple of weeks ago and he was very much of the same opinions as the others--~~we can't finish the report for some time~~. However, we felt that we ought to clear up as much as possible and send it in for retyping. We'll try to get as much as possible in within the next two weeks to allow about ten days for typing. Then we thought that it might be best if you and W.I. could come for the conferences on the structural report on about the 20th. Bob and Hanny are planning to drive down just before Christmas and you could go down with them. So, here is the plan again (subject to your approval): we will try to get all the crucial chapters done by the 10th of December or thereabouts and will send them in for retyping. The steno there can make enough copies for all of us and then send them back to Bob (since his mail is not opened). If you could come on about the 20th, Jacoby said that he could have the guest room or some other room open for you. We could have conferences on each section--Elberson and Jacoby say they would like to sit in and we feel that it would be very good to have them (what do you think?). You could go back with The Billig-millers to Berkeley just before Christmas. How does it sound to you? I'm sure Jim will approve. I'll see him as soon as I get out and will let you know. Incidentally, could you wire Jacoby as soon as you get your reservation so that he could reserve the guest room for you? He has already made some arrangement with Shirrell and wants to know the exact date of your arrival.

I concur with most of the criticisms of my paper. I am planning to get background material on all my cases as soon as possible. There is one bottleneck now: the new Caucasian supervisor of the social welfare. She seems to feel very insecure and insists on going through "the proper channels" for everything. I've been trying to get clearance to get at the census forms for weeks, but she stalled me off. I finally got mad and went directly to Mr. Smith (the division chief) and he gave me permission to go through the stuff. I caught cold the next day. Will fill in some gaps next week (deo volente).

In regard to your questions on who told the story, the material that I sent in was a composite of the stories from all sides. One reason why it might have been very sketchy (other reasons: laziness) was that I didn't put in the controversial items. It will be changed before long when I assemble all the stuff that I want. I doubt very much whether I can meet your standard; in fact, I doubt if any document can prove a hypothesis. Well, we'll argue that later.

There is one point I should like to stress. When I selected cases I did not select them to "prove a hypothesis." I selected the cases that I thought were relevant to the problem that I stated. I didn't succeed in doing what I wanted to do, but that was the basis for the selection. I'll discuss the matter of sampling with you when you come.

Have an appointment with Jacoby. Will write again in a few days. Thanks ever so much for the criticisms. That's what we need.

Tom

"HERE FOLKS ARE SWELL"



"ALWAYS WILLING TO TAKE YOU IN"

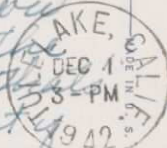
C72

Dear Dr. Thomas,

11/30/42

18644

May tells me you
want to come out the
week of the 7th. That's
early for us but if
you think we can
accomplish anything,
we'll look forward
to seeing you. What-
ever you decide,
please write Jacoby
of your decision.
Bill make arrangements,
even if the reverse is
necessary. Tom



U.S.A. BY E. C. KROPP CO., MILWAUKEE, WIS. (DAY)

POST CARD



Dr. Dorothy Thomas
338 Giannini
Univ. of California
Berkeley,
Calif.

We Sure Can "Shoot The Bull"



COPYRIGHT BY
E. C. KROPP CO.
MILWAUKEE, WIS.

C71

Dear Morton,

Please send
typewriter ribbons
(Remington portable
no. 5 not
noiseless) & some
carbon paper
at once. We
need them badly.
Have written to D.S.
& Virginia. Hope
she gets well soon.
Will send stuff
soon.

Tom.



M. E. C. KROPP CO. MILWAUKEE, WIS. (CLZ)

9336

Post CARD



Mr. Morton Godzisz
Evacuation & Resettle-
ment Study
339 Giannini Hall
University of
California
Berkeley,
California

December 3, 1942

Mr. Tom Shibutani
Building 413, Apt. A.
Tule Lake Relocation Center
Newell, California

Dear Tom:

Dorothy is home with a sore throat today and she has asked me to reply to your letter of the 29th and your post card of the 30th.

She says that she is perfectly willing to postpone coming until after the week of the 7th. She is not sure, however, that she wants to wait until Christmas week and "I'll be damned if I want to drive back from Tule Lake at this time of the year." In any case she will not come next week, and she will write you well in advance of her arrival.

The big news around here is the abolishment of the regional offices in San Francisco and the centralization of the whole program in Washington. I guess that the reason for this is the WRA's assumption that the larger part of the population within the relocation centers will be disbursed throughout the middle west during the next year. I am not at all certain that this large scale individual relocation will actually be possible, and therefore I am not convinced of the wisdom of the move. In any case, it does seem foolish to me to impose Washington living conditions on WRA personnel to say nothing of (1) removing the administration so far from ~~the~~ present scene of activity, and (2) adding further to the burdens of over-taxed transportation and communications. But these are only my first impressions and by no means "official comments", ~~of the kind~~.

I hope I have been able to clarify the problem of Dorothy's visit. I am sure you will hear from her next week. My best regards to you, Tomi, Frank, Michi, Naj, Jim and all the rest.

Sincerely,

Morton Grodzins
Research Assistant

MG:vp

December 4, 1942

Mr. Tom Shibutani
413-A
Tule Lake Relocation Project
Newell, California

Dear Tom:

Dorothy's cold of yesterday has developed into a good case of the flu and she is home in bed. The doctor says that she may have to remain there for several days. As a result, I doubt very much if she will be able to get to Tule Lake even for the week of the 13th and perhaps not until after Christmas. Things are indefinite, however, and I will keep you posted on any new developments.

I think it might be a good idea to adhere to your schedule of getting in the main body of the structural report. The size of it may mean that the typing will take longer than the ten days you allowed.

Please pass the word among the rest of the group.

Best wishes to all.

Hastily,

Morton

MG:vp

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

In reply, please refer to:

December 7, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

I just got the disheartening news from Morton a few hours ago-- that you had been confined in bed because of ~~flu~~ flu. I am very sorry to hear that. I suspect that you have been working like hell for the past half year. You really ought to take it easy for a while.

Please don't worry about the study here. It'll get along as usual. As you said in your last letter, we probably won't finish the structural report until the end of this month. I think you are right. I've been working like hell during the past couple of weeks and have almost completed the section on social change. It isn't much. I'm more ashamed of this than I am of anything I've sent in so far. However, it'll probably be in Berkeley by the end of this week. Frank has finished his section on the "social structure" and has begun on "political institutions." Bob is working like mad on a couple of reports. Jim has been strangely absent lately; I suspect he's working like hell too.

We thought that you might come here before Christmas, but I guess that's out of the question. Bob and Hanny will probably drop in to see you on Christmas Eve. We'll probably send down some things with him. Please don't worry about our morale up here; it's surprisingly high. Since we won't have our stuff in shape anyway, maybe it's just as well that you took it easy for a while and got back your usual energy. We'll miss you, but it seems that it will have to be.

Things out here are worse and better. The colonists seem to be getting along better than ever and things are going pretty well. Only a few people are kicking, and it seems that the major crisis in this camp is passed. However, there is a mess in the administration. They've brought in a couple of new Caucasians who don't know anything. Mr. Eastman was fired (they claim he resigned but we know better); Mr. Shirrell is going to resign at the end of the month to go to Washington. (rumor: Coverly to take over temporarily) Dr. Carson and Jacoby seem to be on the outs and one of them might go. Teachers planning to quit. The administration is a mess. The F.B.I. came in to talk to Naj and Jim (please keep it on the q.t.--we don't want to find them in a ditch some morning) about the farm strike. The administration is in a mess, but the people apparently are oblivious of the difficulties (fortunately).

Please take good care of yourself. Our best regards to W.I. We're all pulling for your recovery.

Tom

P.S. Don't worry about the letterhead. It's the only thing I could find that was clean in this office. Will write again.



| CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED | |
|--|-----------------|
| DOMESTIC | CABLE |
| TELEGRAM | FULL RATE |
| DAY LETTER <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | DEFERRED |
| NIGHT MESSAGE | CABLE LETTER |
| NIGHT LETTER | WEEK END LETTER |

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

WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| NO. | CASH OR CHG. |
| CHECK | |
| TIME FILED | |

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

December 12, 1942

19

To Tom Shibutani

Street and No. 413-A, Tule Lake Relocation Center

Place Newell, California

Wired Jacoby we had obtained reservations leaving here twenty
fifth. Have had no reply. If more convenient for you can
postpone visit until January seventh. Must know as soon as
possible. Wire reply collect.

Dorothy Thomas

SENDER'S ADDRESS
FOR REFERENCE

SENDER'S TELEPHONE
NUMBER

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

INCORPORATED

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

CLASSES OF SERVICE

TELEGRAMS

A full-rate expedited service.

NIGHT MESSAGES

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

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

DAY LETTERS

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

SPECIAL TERMS APPLYING TO DAY LETTERS:

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

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

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

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

NIGHT LETTERS

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

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

SPECIAL TERMS APPLYING TO NIGHT LETTERS:

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

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

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

FULL RATE CABLES

An expedited service throughout. Code language permitted.

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

CABLE LETTERS

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

WEEK-END LETTERS

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

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

In reply, please refer to:

December 12, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Your letter arrived this morningⁱⁿ, and I was very happy to hear that all is well with you now. Maybe it's a good thing that you did fool the doctor--105 is pretty hard to stand. Anyway, it was swell to hear that it was all over.

This is Saturday afternoon and I'm sitting in the social welfare office--as you might guess from the letterhead. The place is really a mess and it's hard to find a clean unused piece of paper anywhere. Supplies are so damned slow in coming that we are always running out. I managed to get the key again today and I came down to look over some of the records. There really isn't much here but I do get some swell leads. Incidentally, I'm now handling a case that might produce a swell document even though I think the problem of the family will end up in a mess regardless of what we may try to do. I managed to get the background on all principals concerned on the ground that I had to have it for welfare work. It's an interesting mixture of Issei and Nisei ideas and shows the influence of the Issei on the younger generation--too clearly.

One point that you raised in your p.s. that somewhat bothers me: re the section of family disorganization. You said something about typing the documents for the report. Please do not retype any of the documents for distribution. I am beginning work on the section on community disorganization now and will send in the entire section on disorganization and reorganization (including a new section on the family) when I've finished. I had so many misgivings when I finished that I decided to do some of it over. I also have some new dope. It seems to me that since one person is writing the entire section it ought to have at least some consistency. I shall send you another report on family disorganization. Please put away the one that I have sent you. That report doesn't have much in it (and more will come for each individual case as soon as this damn report is out of the way) but it was not for release in the structural report.

I have sent out the section on social change. It's not much; I hope you can bear it. Please don't hesitate to pound away at it. It's lousy with ~~criticisms~~ a generalizations and done very carelessly, but we don't learn anything unless we get holy hell.

Hope we can see you soon. Please give our regards to W.I., Virginia and Morton.



Tom
P.S. Please send 2 cheap notebooks to hold filler size (which I'm enclosing) & more paper.

December 14, 1942

Dear Tom,

Thanks for your wire. It suits me to postpone the visit, for I do want to have as much of the structural report in hand as possible. So please send things along just as quickly as you can manage, for it does take some time to get things typed. I will then send as much as is ready back by Bob, and bring the remainder. On advice of SP, have made reservations leaving here Monday January 11, leaving KF to return January 14. That ought to give us time for a real conference, seminar style, with sessions devoted to each part of the report, and time to cover general principles, such as they are. Will also bring Gila material (recent developments there are very important), and also the report which Morton is now preparing. We had thought of having Morton come along, but I want him to go to Manzanar just as soon as things clear up there. Had a letter from Mari, very disturbing in many respects.

OK, Tom, let us have the works. Everyone here sends regards, and we surely look forward to seeing you.

December 14, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

We received your telegram Saturday, and today I akked Bob ~~too~~ wire back to you. As you probably will know when this letter gets to you, we feel that it would be much better for you to come when something is ready. Since you are planning to stay a couple of days, it would be a waste of time for everyone concerned if you came here while there was nothing to wrangle over. We would merely degenerate into a pink tea party and not get anything done. It's very nice to see you and we're all looking forward to it, but our consciences are bothered if we feel that your trip was not worthwhile. We hope to be all set by January 7. Furthermore, Bob won't be here on the 26th. I think what you will miss if you come on the 7th is Shirrell.

Things are coming along rather smoothly (after a fashion). The camp is in an uproar about the proposed tent factory deal. Our block is having a meeting on it now (which I presume you want me to cover), but I'm now in the midst of the section on communicative institutions and after a day of listening to Issei gripes don't feel equal to listening some more. Naj is chairman of the meeting so I'll pump him later.

Another big issue now is clothing allowances, but there isn't too much fuss being made about it. People are asking politely for tips on how to gip the government, but no one's agitating about it.

Very little talk (comparatively little) on Mr. Shirrell's leaving. The caucasian staff is disturbed and Shirrell's friends are keeping under cover now, but the colonists don't seem to give a damn (on the whole).

It seems that I'm the only one who took seriously your instructions: lay off the perfectionist attitude. Boy, you stuck me up here with fast company, and it seems that Frank, Bob, Jim, and Naj are all agreed that they want to turn in good stuff. Not a bad idea, but it sure makes me feel sad. Either I have to polish off my stuff a hell of a lot or else get left behind. For the time being, I want to get this off my chest as fast as possible so that I can get to work on some documents on disorganization before March (if the impossible should happen).

I'm not counting on Chicago coming through, but if it should I don't want to be caught flat-footed and I don't want to leave the camp without 'paying debts' (as Naj would put it). We're just beginning to get the kind of stuff that I want (and I think you want too). I think I can get most of the dope (abbreviated life histories, case records, attitudes, rumors, etc) by the end of January, but it will take me a long time to type them up so that they will show some relationship to each other. If possible, I want to hand in all documents for social disorganization before the end of March--so I won't feel that coming here was completely a waste of time.

Am enclosing a note for Virginia. Could you please give it to her? Thanks. Will write if any real trouble comes up over tent factory deal.

Tom

December 18, 1942

Dear Tom,

I must acknowledge two letters, December 12 and 14, and also receipt of the social change section.

Re your letter of December 12, referring to mine, either I had a touch of fever and wrote the opposite of what I intended, or else you did not read it carefully. I have no carbon, but what I intended to say was that your section of family disorganization could be retyped, omitting the documents. Check and see whether that was actually what I said!

Re your little contribution to pedagogy, that "we don't learn anything unless we get holy hell", I can't say that I agree with you. Certainly, the professor should not pull his blows if he has anything to criticize, but it sometimes happens that the student knows the answers better than even the very competent professor! In which case, tearing to pieces is mere exhibitionism on the part of the professor. Sometimes you take the attitude that praise of anything you do is a priori evidence of one or more of several things (a) the person dealing out the praise has not read your horrible effort (b) the same person is weak in the head. The alternative, that you have actually done a superior job does not seem to have occurred to you.

Re your social change section, may I, however, cheer you up by saying that I have given it very close attention, and have some-eight pages in my bad handwriting of notes and criticisms. I'll have them typed up and send them along later. In spite of these criticisms, which verge on "holy hell" at points, may I say that it is a very interesting section, and you have packed a whale of a lot of important material and insights into those pages.

I am indeed glad that you take me seriously on my instructions to "lay off the perfectionist attitude". We actually will get now here unless we have a good deal of material to shoot at, and the only way we can get this material in hand is to risk some imperfections.

I'm counting on Chicago, and will push the thing in any way I can. I have also reopened the matter of credit here with President Sproul, on whose sympathetic attitude I know I can count, but whether Dean Lipman can continue to block our efforts or not, I simply do not know.

Tell Naj, I have definite evidence that Eastman was fired, on the grounds of incompetence. I need not point out that this statement is utterly confidential.

Well, we have our tickets now, and certainly look forward to

All send regards. Yours,

December 18, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

It's too bad that you aren't coming up here this week, but judging from how things are coming along, I'm afraid it was a decision for the best. There are all sorts of plans being made by all sorts of people on the project for this Christmas and we are finding it rather difficult to dodge some of them. Ergo, the report may be delayed a bit more.

I am sending this letter primarily because of the recent news concerning the Army move about colleges. I had known that it ^{was} ^{being} contemplated because of the work with Student Relocation, but had not realized that it would come so suddenly or that it would be so extensive. Furthermore, for the past couple of weeks I had been arguing with myself about going ^{out} because I realized that it would be rather difficult to send out all my stuff in the shape that I should like to see it in by the end of March (when Chicago begins). We talked constantly of how tough it was to make a go of it outside, but I resolved to go regardless since I had promised you that I wouldn't back down. I realize that that would be extremely embarrassing. In the event that the Army takes over Chicago (which seems very likely) and at the same time opens it to Nisei (which is unlikely in view of the reason they have given for closing other schools to Nisei), I shall go. If, however, arrangements can be made otherwise (I think they will be by the Army), I think it would be wiser to sit tight where I am. Frankly I would prefer not to go to an Army or Navy school. Please let me make my position clear: I don't want to embarrass all the people who have been so kind, so we'll all stick by the promises made. However, my heart won't be broken if the deal doesn't come through (as Province doesn't think it will).

Both on the outside and here the screws seem to be tightening on everyone and it seems that we're all in for some regimentation. The idea is repulsive to me in some ways but there doesn't seem to be any other alternative for the time being. I think (maybe this is a rationalization) I'm beginning to realize that I have been awfully hasty and flighty (as usually has been the case). Sometimes I say and write things in my dark moments that I regret later. So, I've thought about this matter for a long time and have picked a moment of least distress to write this letter. I have decided that I shall stay here and study social theory, languages, stat, and the camp either for the duration or until the Army draft or some similar catastrophe beckons. If the impossible happens in Chicago, O.K.; but if it doesn't, I think it will suit me.

Working on this structural report has done wonders. For one thing, I now know where some of the gaps are that I have been worrying about. I have also made up my mind as to the field and the general nature of the problem that I wish to tackle in this dump (subject to your approval, of course). Furthermore, after writing a few sections I got more into the mood and actually feel more excited about the study. After all this time, I think I'm beginning to see the dawn on some things that I should have seen long ago. Frank has me going through Cooley and Blumer now and I find it very fascinating. It's so different from the stuff I had to fight through at Cal that I enjoy it very much. In other words, staying here is getting obnoxious less and less (I'm getting mad less often nowadays.)

Relations with Jim are getting quite friendly and more pleasant. The people are not getting so upset. Several things that I want to see are going on, i.e., some sort of organized control different from anything these people had may be necessary here and I think I see it coming. I want to see it develop more.

It will probably seem odd to you that I've changed my views so drastically since the last time I saw you. I think that the report and seeing some results (no matter how lousy they may be) helps a lot. There are also selfish motives involved: I feel it wiser to stay in when the screws tighten more, even though there is some danger in staying here.

A couple of other items: could you ship up the typewriter ribbon ^{& notebook & paper} that we ordered as soon as possible? Both Jim and I are out (he just took the last one we had), and Frank's is for a different make. Also, Tomi has sent a package with something from mom and pop and something for Virginia. Could you please arrange to give it to Virginia sometime? We should appreciate it, since we don't know her address.

Sometimes I have a deep feeling of guilt and remorse. I am very sorry that I have repeatedly caused you so many unnecessary difficulties. You have probably had many regrets because of my unreasonable requests. I hope that I can someday make up for these shortcomings by turning out something that would be of use to you.

Please give our regards to W.I.

Tom

P.S. Finished rehashing "Family Disorg." last night. Plan to start "Comm. Disorg." Sunday - have it outlined. I'm banging these sections out now, but will send in a more carefully worked out report in 2-6 months after filling the gaps I discovered in working on this report. Please pour on the criticism on "Disorg. & Reorg." because I hope to concentrate on this field. Am using W.I. now (I think it's great), but hope to work more independently later on.

Merry Xmas! - T. & T.

December 22, 1942

Dear Tom,

Mails are certainly delayed; yours of December 18th just arrived, so I suppose you will not receive this before Christmas. Anyway, all good wishes for the holiday to all of you.

(put in the order to the U)

Re supplies: on the 18th, we sent to Jimmy the following, which was a combined order to cover needs mentioned in his and your letters: 1 ream white bond, 2 reams yellow, 1 box carbon, 50 large envelopes, 100 three cent stamps, 1 remington portable typewrite ribbon, 1 underwood standard typewriter ribbon. I hope that covers the needs. In addition, I sent you yesterday two small looseleaf notebooks and some fillers. These were the size and quality that you wanted, but you will note that they open at top instead of side. This is unavoidable, as the other kind is no longer obtainable. Shortages are certainly developing everywhere.

Re the Chicago business, I was actually being excessively altruistic in urging you to go, for I certainly need your help at Tule Lake. However, I think your career is more important than the job for me, and I do not want to stand in your way at all. So we shall just see how things turn out.

I am delighted that you are feeling so well. I have certainly noted the change in spirits, and I am deeply gratified at your enthusiasm for the work. It is a terribly difficult project to carry through because of our lack of guide posts, and I think you have done marvelously under the circumstances. Don't worry about my reaction to what you consider "your unreasonable requests". I am glad to do anything I can for you, and feel that I am getting splendid returns.

What worries me about the study is the amount of time I still have to spend on administration and manipulation, when I obviously should be working more intensively on the research materials. Yesterday and today were horrible examples: Georges Sabagh had just recently come on as a volunteer (you know he holds a swell fellowship, therefore cannot come on as a paid worker) and was throwing himself into the study on some of the economic phases with all his energy and intelligence when suddenly yesterday he gets classified LA. Then at midnight the phone rang, and Spencer informed me from Arizona that he is now LA. This is, of-course, a terrible blow. I spent all day "wangling", and finally Dr. Cheney of the University War Board agreed to ask officially for his deferment on the grounds that he was 4F up to the present and would therefore be given a desk job and is actually "indispensable". But

I can do nothing for Georges, and I am afraid the same is true of Bob Billigmeier, who is certainly due to be called this spring, since the crucial point is Spencer's obvious unfitness for combat service. Cheney cheered me up by telling me that Morton will probably not be drafted "in this war", due to the dependent wife plus child conceived well before Pearl Harbor. If we manage to get Spencer off, the day will have been well spent, for, if he is drafted, I have to do a heck of a lot of reorganizing. I don't see how I can manage his charming Issei, to say nothing of the Buddhist priest who speaks no English, by remote control. And since Earle is now on the basis of "verbal reports" (he has an allergy to writing), we will lose out there too if the object to whom the verbal reports are to be made is no longer at hand.

v We have been able to keep up with you on the typing of the structural report. You should see how it stacks up! We will send the copies, complete to the date he leaves, by Bob Billigmeier.

Fred was about to leave Topaz, but they froze all movements until after the soldiers' furloughs are over, on grounds of possible danger to the evacuees, and I guess there may be something to it.

Joe Omachi is covering some of the legal and economic aspects at Gila. He knows your father well, and I believe is acquainted with you. He seems to be doing a very good job.

Tamie and Leighton are at swords' points; he won't give her the administrative stuff on the Poston strike, and she won't give him the community angle. I look forward to getting her report, for she has taken a new lease on life since the strike and seems to have got herself well-established in the community as a result of her picketing activities. Mich and Anne have applied for permanent relocation.

Well, let's hear from you after the Christmas rush. I will surely give Virginia what you send.

Yours,

December 25, 1942

Dear Dr. Thomas,

Miracles do happen. I received your last letter yesterday--two days after the postmark!

Thank you ever so much for the swell presents. Bob brought them all over day before yesterday. All of us are tickled pink. There's something about the holiday spirit--it's taken over Tule Lake. Carolers are doing the rounds; Santa Claus is calling on all houses with kids and passing out presents. Everyone is greeting everyone else. Even the W.R.A. is cooperating! We got our clothing allowances for July through October! This afternoon we had turkey with everything expected with it. I'm afraid that we are a hell of a lot better off than a lot of people outside. The grumbling is at a minimum now.

Re supplies, I'm afraid that there has been a slight mix-up. We received your shipment of notebooks yesterday. They were super. It was much more than I had expected and Ray was delighted too. However, the one item that I need very badly now is typewriter ribbon. I wrote Morton a few weeks ago asking for some. I think Jim asked for some too. Jim and I both have the same kind of typewriter and since you sent him only one ribbon it doesn't help me at all. May I have some ribbon as soon as possible? (Remington portable no. 5)

I was very sorry to hear about the difficulty you are having in retaining your assistants. The whole idea of drafting people that would be very useful--if not indispensable--in some positions irritates me. It seems that the Americans still have not learned something the German Army seems to have known for a long time; i.e., trained social scientists (they have their own brand, of course) are often more useful than soldiers. I guess the whole thing ties in with my general feeling about this damn war, run by a bunch of hypocrites and boobs. Incidentally, I thought that Georges wasn't a citizen (wasn't he having a tough time when the curfew regulations or something like that was slapped down?). May be I have him mixed up with someone else, but I had thought he was exempt from the draft. He would be a great loss. I thought his article on the French-Canadians was swell. Bob's leaving would be a terrible blow to us. He has been making some swell contacts out here and his being around has done a lot to keep up our morale. God, what's T.L. going to be like when Bob and Frank leave? Naj might go this spring too.

What's happening down at Gila? I haven't heard a word from Charlie or Tally for months. What are they doing? Did something happen down there?

As I have said many times before, my background is so restricted that I have difficulty in picking out things that I need when I'm making observations. Many times I have had regrets because I had allowed some valuable material to go by without adequate recording. Since I am now resolved to stay here either for the duration or until either Chicago or Uncle Sam beckons, I think I may as well settle down and go to work. I'm revising my work schedule again and hope to get in a few hours of reading daily (unless some thing comes up, of course). Frank and I had a long talk on the matter and we decided that I ought to get a better perspective of sociology before biting into detailed studies. Therefore, unless you raise vociferous objections, I should like to do something that (as I recall) W.I. did not think too highly of. I should like to make a study of the various systems of social thought. If I ever work for a Ph.D., I am quite certain that one of my fields will be History of Sociological Theory, and I feel that I may as well dig in beginning now. The following is the plan of study that we have drawn up (subject to your criticisms and revisions):

I. Social Psychology

1. Herbert Blumer: Notes on lectures at Chicago (supplied by Frank-- he promises to send more when he gets out there); "Collective Behavior," in Outlines of the Principles of Sociology (ed. by Park).
2. Charles H. Cooley: Human Nature and the Social Order, Social Organization, Social Process, Sociological Theory and Social Research.
3. George H. Mead, Mind, Self, and Society.
4. John Dewey, Human Nature and Conduct; Experience and Nature.
5. W.I. Thomas, Polish Peasant; Blumer's Critique; and every other book he wrote that I can get my hands on. (I should like to know which work he considers the best source for his ideas--then I can study that very carefully).
6. Sumner; Folkways; glance through Science of Society
7. Emile Durkheim: Division of Labor; Elementary Forms of Religious Life; and Rules of Sociological Method; Allport, Durkheim and Sociology.
8. Floyd Allport: Social Psychology; Institutional Behavior.
9. Some reading in Gestalt, Freudian social psych. and Bernard, LL.
10. Max Weber: reading in Parson, Abel. (Is there any translation of Wirtschaft und Gemeinschaft?)

II. Social Organization (besides material covered above)

1. Walter Prescott Webb, The Great Plains.
2. MacIver; Society; Social Causation
3. Ninkoff: Family
4. Mannheim: Ideology and Utopia; Soc. in Age of Reconstruction.
5. G.H. Coyle: Social Process and Organized Groups.
6. G.D.N. Cole; Social Theory
7. Frazier, Negro Family
8. Veblen: Theory of Leisure Class.

III. Others

1. Stat: Hagood; Arkin and Colton; Mills; Ezekiel.
2. Th. of Hist.: Teggart, Prolegomena to History, Theory and Processes of History; Rome and China.
3. Things we don't like: George Lundberg, Dodd, etc.

I expect to go through these works rather carefully, whether I like the ideas presented or not. There are other I should like to work through eventually; such as, Sir Henry Maine, Hobhouse, Pareto, Giddings, Ross, Le Play, Park, Tarde, and even Sorokin! I realize that it's going to take me a long time, but it's something I'll be expected to know sometime and it's something that I'm itching to know. Perhaps these works won't help me directly in doing the research (I may get some screwy ideas), but if you don't mind I'd like to go through these at least once. There are a lot of good books I'm leaving out for the time being, but if there are any that you consider a crime to leave out, I should very much appreciate your letting me know. This list is tentative and I have just begun the reading; it can be changed. I am reading your Swedish study now and intend to go on reading it, although I must confess frankly that my interests are not in the statistical end of population study. I'm having a hell of a time understanding the book now, but I expect to study it more since if (later) anybody finds out that I was working under your supervision and didn't know something about population!

Many of these books I have on hand; others I can get from Frank, Jacoby, or Elberson or Maj. I should, however, like to ask for five books from the library. May I please have: (1) J. Dewey, "Experience and Nature," (2) E. Durkheim, "Division of Labor in Society" (translated to English), (3) H. Allport, "Emile Durkheim and his Sociology," (4) F. Allport, "Institutional Behavior," and (5) W.P. Webb,

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"The Great Plains." There is no great hurry for these books. Could you please ask for them at your convenience? I should certainly appreciate it.

I've worked through everything Frank brought up on Blumer. I can't say that I admire Blumer quite as much as Frank does, but I must confess that he does present a damn intelligent approach. There are a few things that I don't understand, and I hope to get Frank to explain the stuff to me. (He's always tickled to talk about Blumer) I've started going through Cooley--in many respects like Blumer--and expect to finish him by the time you get here. (Depends on how long "Community Disorganization" section takes). After Cooley, I think I'll read the five books I asked for.

My god, it seems that I've spent a lot of time ~~on~~ writing about books I hope to read some day. Please don't be alarmed. The field work comes first and the study second. Maybe if there's any time left over, I'll learn some Japanese, German and Russian (but I doubt if there will be time, unless I stay here a long while).

I almost forgot. The new supervisor in social welfare and I had a hell of a tiff, and believe it or not, I won! She's very nice, but dumb as hell. She has promised to let us have everything we want and furthermore she is going to make the other workers record in such a manner that the material may be of some value to sociology. It was over what was to be in the records that we had the argument. I get the key any time I want and can spend week ends in the office alone or with Mae (Frank's sister--who can type). The Records Office and Housing Headquarters (thanks to Evelyn Rose and one of Frank's friends) are coming through with all the census forms on the people we want. By March I may be able to send you some 30 to 40 page documents on the disorganization of one family. Some very intimate and detailed data are coming up--I'll show you some of the incomplete material when you come up in January. For the present, I am planning to write up the data in the same manner as I did with the case study in "The First Twenty Weeks"; i.e., life histories of all parties concerned first and then detailed description of what happened--chronologically. Finally, I hope to add a shallow analysis. Would that be satisfactory? Please let me know if you have some other outline in mind.

Will send out section on "Community Disorganization" within a few days. "Social Reorganization" will be a very brief and incomplete chapter. I'll put in what little I have and then fill in the outline later. Hope they prove reasonably satisfactory.

Please give our regards to W.I., Virginia, and Morton. Thank you for everything. Happy New Year! 1943--we conquer sociology--or will we?

Tom