

Evacuation and Resettlement Study,
June 3, 1943. DST.

SCHEDULE FOR INDIVIDUAL RESETTLERS

Date of interview July 7, 1943 Interviewer Kikuchi

1. Name Toshie Ikeda (Mrs.) 2. Sex, M (F) 3. Married stat (M) S D W O
4. Present address 238 E. Erie Date July 27
5. Later addresses 607 N. St. Clair Date July 6
" "
" "
6. Birthplace Hyland Park, Mich. 7. Birthdate April 5, 1918
8. Alien or citizen Citizen 9. Nisei, Kibei or Issei _____
10. Addresses between Dec. 1, 1941 and evacuation
(a) 105 Rosalind Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. Date Dec. - Mar., 1942
(b) 433 Kensington Place, Pasadena, Calif. " Mar. - May, 1942
(c) _____ " _____
(d) _____ " _____
(e) _____ " _____
11. Assembly Center Tulare Date May 12, 1942
" " _____
12. Relocation Center Gila Date Sept. 4, 1942
" " _____
13. Addresses between time of leaving Relocation Center and present
(a) Junjiro Sato Date Father
(b) Hisako " Mother
(c) Jack " Brother
14. Persons living in household on Dec. 1, 1941. Relationship to Re-settler
(a) Junjiro Sato Father
(b) Hisako Mother
(c) Jack Brother
(d) Toshi self
(e) _____
(f) _____
(g) _____
(h) _____
(i) _____
(j) _____
(k) _____
(l) _____
(m) _____
15. Persons living in household on evac. day
(If same as 14, enter symbol, e.g. 14(a).) Relationship to Re-settler
(a) _____
(b) _____
(c) _____
(d) _____
(e) Albert Ikeda Husband
(f) Dorothy Ikeda Sister-in-law
(g) Donald Ikeda Brother-in-law
(h) Otto Ikeda "
(i) Teddy Ikeda "
(j) _____
(k) _____
(l) _____
(m) _____

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15. continued	Age	Sex	M.S.	Birthplace	Grade compl. Amer. school	Educ. in Japan	Occupation Dec. 1, 1941	Relig. Affil.
(a)	73	M		Japan	Hillsborough	College	Hotel Mgr.	Baptist
(b)	57	F	M	Japan		H.S.	Housewife	"
(c)	19	M	S	Detroit	L.A. City Coll.		Warehouse	"
(d)	23	F	M	Detroit	Pasadena J.C.		Maid	S
(e)	27	M	M	Montana	Pasadena J.C.		Wise dist.	Methodist
(f)	21	F	S	Montana	Pasadena J.C.			"
(g)	19	M	S	"	"			"
(h)	17	M	S	"	High School			
(i)	13	M	S	S	" "			
(j)								
(k)								
(l)								
(m)								

16. If immediate family (parents, siblings, children or spouse) were not included in household group in 15, because of different residence or because deceased, give details regarding them)

	Name	Relationship to resettler	Residence (if deceased write "dec.")	Age (if dec. age at death)	Sex	Mar. Stat.
(a)	Shigetaka Ikeda	Father-in-law	Manzanar	58	M	M
(b)	Asa Ikeda	Mother-in-law	Interned	51	F	M
(c)	Mark Sato	Brother	Camp Grant	24	M	S
(d)	Tom Sato	"	Detroit	21	M	S
(e)						
(f)						

16, continued -

	Birthplace	Grade compl. Amer. school	Educ. in Japan	Occupation Dec. 1, 1941 (for dec. last occupation)	Religion
(a)	Japan		H.S.		?
(b)	Japan		Coll. grad	Teacher (Japanese)	?
(c)	Detroit	H.S.		Army	Christian
(d)	Detroit	1 yr. college		Ford Mechanic	"
(e)					
(f)					

17. What members of household and immediate family evacuated together to Assembly Center or Free Zone (give symbols used in 15 and 16).

all of No. 15

18. Composition of household in Assembly Center or Free Zone (Give symbols from 15 and 16; if others, give sex, age, relationship) Upon arrival:

all of No. 15

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18. continued -

Just before departure to Assembly Center or Free Zone _____

No. 15

19. Composition of household in Relocation Project (Give symbols; if others, give sex, age, relationship).

Upon arrival: All but Dorothy etc. who left for Manzanar to join her parents. Father, mother, Toshie, Albert, Jackie

Just before leaving Project: _____

Lucinda (baby) Ann

Jackie left Gila on June, 1943

20. Composition of household in Chicago at date of interview:
(Give symbols; if others, give details)

Name	Relationship to resettler	Residence (if deceased write "dec.")	Age (if dec. age at death)	Sex	Mar. Stat.
(a) <u>Albert</u>	<u>Husband</u>				
(b) <u>Toshie</u>					
(c) <u>Lucinda</u>	<u>Child</u>				
(d)					
(e)					
(f)					

20. continued -

Birthplace	Grade completed American school	Educ. in Japan	Occupation Dec. 1, 1941 (for dec. last occupation)	Religion
(a) <u>same as above</u>				
(b)				
(c)				
(d)				
(e)				
(f)				

21. Changes in composition of Household in Chicago: Note departures by symbol and dates. Give details for new households or entries:

Date	Name	Relation-ship to resettler	Residence (if deceased write "dec.")	Age (if dec. age at death)	Sex	Mar. Stat.
(a)						
(b)						
(c)						
(d)						
(e)						
(f)						

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21. continued -

Date	Name	Relation- ship to resettler	Residence (if deceased write "dec.")	Age (if dec. age at death)	Sex	Mar. Stat.
(g)						
(h)						
(i)						
(j)						
(k)						
(l)						
(m)						

21. continued -

Birthplace	Grade compl. Amer.school	Educ. in Japan	Occupation Dec. 1, 1941 (for dec. last occupation)	Religion
(a)				
(b)				
(c)				
(d)				
(e)				
(f)				
(g)				
(h)				
(i)				
(j)				
(k)				
(l)				
(m)				

22. Educational history of resettler

Elementary schools (name and location)	Dates	Grade completed
Giswold Parr Elm - Jackson Mich.	1923-29	8th
Grammar schools (name and location)	Dates	Grade completed
High schools (name and location)	Dates	Grade completed
Roosevelt High, Los Angeles	1930-35	12th
Colleges, universities and vocational schools (name and location)	Dates	Grade completed Degree
Los Angeles City College	1935-36	13th
Attendance at Japanese language school, location	Dates	
Japanese tutor in Los Angeles	1935 (irregular)	

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22. Occupational history (begin with first job). Note periods of unemployment by entering dates continuously and writing "unemp" in Job column to cover such periods. Include employment in Assembly Center and Relocation Project and continue with employment since resettling.

Dates		Nature of job	Type of industry	Location	Av. mo. wages	Reason
From	To					for termination
1936	39	Receptionist Clk	Am. Consulate in Kobe	Japan	100 yen	uncomfortable
1939	40	Lecturer	N.Y. World's Fair	N.Y.	180 mo.	Fair closed
Winter 1939		Clerk	Intern'l Silk Guild	N.Y.	40 wk.	appendectomy
Jan. '41-May						
May 1941		Salesgirl	L.A. Philharmonic Aud.	L.A.	20 mo.	summer ended
June 1941		Studying for Civil Service to be Jr. typist				
No. - Dec. 1941		Maid	Domestic	L.A.	60 mo.	temporary
Lived with family from Jan. 1941						
May '42-July		counter clerk	Tulare Canteen	Tulare	12 mo.	pregnant
Sep. '42-Dec.		switchboard op.	WRA, Gila		16 mo.	
After 1 year, mother came out. Toshi wants to be radio announcer						
"wishful thinking". Switchboard operating too monotonous						
CBS told her she had good voice, inspired me."						

23. Religious connections (begin with first, include assembly center and Relocation project and status after resettlement)

Dates	Attended what church	Where attended	What Sunday sch.
Baby	Christian	Detroit	
Tulare	Christian	Tulare	
Gila	Christian	irregular	

24. Political activities

Dates	Voted in what elections	For what party
		non-partisan

Never voted

2. Gila 9/4/42
3. Gulare 5/12/42
4. 453 Kensington Pl., Pasadena, Calif.
5. Sato, Junjiro, Miyagi, Japan
Masaki, Hisako, Hiroshima, Japan
5a. U.S. Inventor
7. Grammar school, Griswald Park, Jackson, Mich. 3/24 to 1930
Junior high, Stevenson, L.A., Calif. 1930 to 1932
High school, Roosevelt, L.A., Calif. 1932 to 1935
Jr. College, L.A.C.C., L.A. Calif. 1935 to 1936
7a. Major: Academic college prep.
8. Kobe, Japan, 1936 to 1939
12. 61 110 lbs.
13. Good, no major defects
18. Married
19. Wife
20. 4/5/18
23. No
24. Jr. Col. 1.
25. Speaks Japanese and French
27. Clerk, gen. office
27a. Knitter
28. 10-42 WRA PBX teletype. Operator--switch board and
operating teletype machine \$16 mo.
6/42 to 7/42 WCCA Canteen Clerk--wait on customers \$12 mo.
Tulare
1939 to 1940 International Silk Guild Typist clerk in
winter New York, N.Y. educational dept. \$40 wk.
1939 to 1940 N.Y. World's Fair Silk demonstrator \$200 mo.
summer N.Y. give lectures on silk
1936 to 1939 American Consulate Receptionist clerk. \$100 mo.
Kobe, Japan Operation of switch
board, typing, filing yen.
Student
29. Skills:
Hobbies: Golf, knit
O.P. None
30. Christian

Toshiko's father, Junjiro Sato

2. Gila, 8/26/42
3. Tulare 5/12/42
4. 719 So. Central Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.
5. Sato, Kennosuke (dec.) Miyagi, Japan
Sakurai, Chie (dec.) Miyagi, Japan
5a. Abroad Farmer
7. Grammar school, 6 yrs. Miyagi-ken, Japan
Middle Sch. 2 yrs. Sendai, Japan
Hi. Sch. 2 yrs. Tokyo, Japan
College 2 yrs. Tokyo, Japan
" Phillesburg, Calif. 1½ yrs.
7a. None

Toshiko's father, Junjiro Sato, continued

- 8. Miyagi, Japan 1870 to 1894
Kobe, Japan 1933 to 1935
- 12. 65 160 lbs.
- 13. Weak with age
- 18. Married
- 19. Head
- 20. 12/24/1870
- 23. No
- 24. Col. 1 U.S.A.; Col. 2 Japan
- 25. Speaks English
- 27. Mgr. Hotel
- 27a. 0--
- 28. 5/42 Ill-evacuation center
6/41 to 5/42 Hotel business Proprietor-run hotel
Los Angeles, Calif.

Retired

Toshiko's mother, Hisako Sato

- 2. Same
- 3. Same
- 4. Same
- 5. Masaki, Nobutaro (dec.) Hiroshima, Japan
Suzuki, Manyo (dec.) Hiroshima, Japan
- 5a. Abroad Manufacturer (silk)
- 7. Grammar school, Hiroshima, Japan 1891 to 1899
High school, Training School,
Hiroshima, Japan 1899 to 1901
3 yr. Nurse Training School 11/03 to 1906
- 7a. Teacher in grammar school
Honor from grammar and high school
Life saver metal
- 8. Hiroshima, Japan 1886 to 1916
- 12. 60 115 lbs.
- 13. No major defect
- 18. Married
- 19. Wife
- 20. 11/6/1886
- 23. No
- 24. H-2 Japan
- 25. Speaks English
- 27. Sewer, machine operator
- 27a. Nurses Aide
- 28. 10/42 WRA Gila River Waitress-serve and wait on table \$16 mo.
5/42 to 8/42 WCCA Tulare, Calif. (unemp.)
5/38 to 2/42 Century Metal Craft Corp. Saleswoman--sold waterless
Cooking utensils cooking utensils \$150 net, com.
1932 to 1938 Zoe Foard, Handwork, L.A. Rolling hem for hankerchief
sewed by machine \$20 wk. av.
- 29. Skills: Nurse (dietician)
Hobbies: Reading, music, sewing (hand)
O.P. Nursing or nuses aide
- 30. Christian

CASE HISTORY

Charles Kikuchi
University of California

July 22, 1943

Tamie Ihara (pseud.)

This is a case history of a married Nisei girl who was temporarily employed as a maid at the time the war broke out. The case is characterized by the conflict of the girl's desires and ambitions which were brought to a forced decision by the evacuation. At the present time, Tamie is still thinking in terms of her personal ambitions which were interrupted by her marriage and the evacuation. She is making good adjustments to the situation. Tamie is another example of a very Americanized individual in spite of the fact that she lived in Japan for three years.

Tamie Ihara is a 25 year old Nisei girl. She arrived in Chicago on June 24, 1943, with her husband and ^atwo and one-half months old child. Prior to evacuation she was temporarily employed as a maid. At the present time, she is a housewife, although she plans to enter the labor market once more when the proper care can be found for her child.

Tamie is an average size Nisei girl, slightly Chinese in looks. She has a very pleasing personality. At the time of the interviews she was a little emotionally disturbed due to the difficult time of finding housing accommodations, worry about her child, and her husband's initial difficulties in obtaining a suitable position.

Tamie's background has been extremely American. Her dislike of camp confinement probably was due to this factor. She has an extrovert personality and a great deal of ambition and initiative. She makes friends quite readily. Prior to her marriage, Tamie was much sought out socially by the eligible Nisei boys in Los Angeles. Tamie may best be described as a wholesome, friendly, and very interesting young matron. She was rather reluctant to tell about her

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background, "as people used to think I was snobbish if I ever discussed it. Therefore, I don't like to ever mention it much."

This is Tamie's story:

"Like most of the Niseis, I don't know much about my family history. Although I have always been proud of my family, I have never believed that a person should live in the reflected glory of his ancestry. Right now I would rather forget my ancestry and lose myself in the great American society."

"I come from a good family line so that it is not a matter of trying to conceal the dark past. My father's people were all Christian ministers in Sendai province. I don't know how they first came into contact with the Christian Church. I have several relatives who are still ministers in Japan and carrying on the family tradition on my father's side."

"My father came to this country in 1895. It was his intention to go to college. Like many of the Japanese students, he ran out of money very shortly so that he was only able to complete two years at the Hillsborough College near San Francisco. During this time, father worked as a schoolboy in a home. He was able to get this position through the influence of a Caucasian Baptist minister whom he knew in Japan."

"Father has had a considerable bit of education. He was a college graduate in Japan and for awhile he was training for the ministry. But like my uncle, father had an adventuresome spirit and he wanted to see what America was like. After he quit the college in this country, father in some way got a job as President McKinley's valet. He was paid a good salary so that he saved quite a bit of it. Father wanted to go into some sort of business."

"Around 1915, my father and uncle were in New York. Father got a job with a Mr. F. Thomson who was an extremely rich man. He made his money from

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University of California

operating a number of concessions on Coney Island, which was getting very popular as a beach for the people. It was through Mr. Thomson's influence, that father and uncle bought the Japanese Tea Garden concession. It was quite a profitable business. After a few years, my uncle moved on to Detroit as he was restless. Father continued to operate the concession by himself, but he was very lonesome since there were only a handful of Japanese in New York at that time. He got to know a number of Americans, but he was not entirely happy since he wanted to get married. It was during this time that he gained some recognition for saving an Army officer's life. He was out on a yacht when Major Ackerman fell in. Father rescued him but he suffered a severe injury on his leg. It still bothers him."

"In the meantime, my uncle got a position as a gardener in Henry Ford's home in Detroit. He decided that he liked it very much so that after he saved up a lot of money, he went back to Sendai province in Northern Japan where his parents arranged a marriage with one of the local families. Incidentally, my uncle is still working for Henry Ford as a caretaker, although he did other work in between."

"Uncle wrote to my father and he told him that his wife had a younger sister who he thought would make a good wife for my father. Father jumped at this chance so that he sold out his tea garden concession and went back to Japan to get married. Father was well over 40 when he got married. My mother was only in her late twenties. Father had been in America for about 20 years so that he did not like Japan when he went back. He decided that he would return there, but his wife was left behind until he could send for her."

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University of California

"My father considered staying on the Pacific Coast, but he did not like it very well so that he wrote ^{to} my uncle in Detroit for a job. Uncle was able to get him a position through Henry Ford as a foreman in the Ford plant. Father had a lot of engineering talent and he had picked up some experience during his early years in America."

"By 1916 he was well enough established to send for my mother. She came all alone and it was quite a trip for her. Mother was spellbound at the immensity of America. She had come from a small county which measured distances in portions of miles, while in America distances were measured by hundreds of miles. She went to Detroit by train and it was the first time that she had ever ridden one. It was a marvellous adventure for her, although she was pretty scared. She came across the country in her Japanese clothes so that I guess she caused a lot of curiosity. The people were very kind to her because Japan was fighting for Democracy in the last war and this country looked favorably on the Island Empire, except for the Pacific Coast."

"Mother had a hard time of it at first, but she soon made her adjustments and she began to like this country very much. Father was very successful in business so that we had a high standard of living when we were children. I am the oldest child and the only girl. My brother is in the Army now stationed at Camp Grant. He was in before the war broke out. Recently he got married here in Chicago to one of the girls whom he met at a Nisei dance. She was from a camp. My younger brother is working as a mechanic for the Ford plants in Detroit. He was doing this at the outbreak of the war, and he was never evacuated."

CASE HISTORY

Charles Kikuchi
University of California

"When I was a child, my father invented some sort of battery box. He was always sort of inventive and he used to putter around with acids a lot. One time he almost killed the whole family when his experiment room caught fire. He got a patent for this invention. Later father invented a couple of other minor things for which he got patents."

"With the invention of the battery box, our family income increased considerably. Father decided to go into business for himself manufacturing the battery box which he had invented. My uncle went into business with him. Ford did not want them to quit because he had a very paternal interest in his workers and he wanted all of them to work for him for life. But father thought that he could get further if he expanded by himself. He went to Jackson, Michigan near Detroit and started a small factory."

"The whole family moved down there and I spent a very happy childhood in this small city. Ford continued his interest in my father and uncle and he visited us three times in an effort to get them to go work for him again. He told them that he would rehire them at any time if they changed their minds. Ford has always been nice to our family."

"The business was very successful and father made a lot of money. He paid \$13,000 down for a house and we were never in want. Then some smart aleck of a Japanese from San Francisco came to visit one time and he told father that he could make millions if he opened up a plant in Los Angeles. So father sold out his Detroit business to make his millions in a small factory which he purchased on 7th Street. My uncle went along and they invested all of their money. Since they could not buy the land or property in California, they hired a Caucasian as a partner to handle the financial end of the

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Charles Kikuchi
University of California

business. This fellow embezzled a large sum so that father had to borrow to keep going. Then the depression came along and my father and uncle went broke. We didn't have a thing left, and my father lost everything. Uncle went back to Detroit to work for Ford, but my father has been puttering around since 1932."

"It was quite a change in our family fortunes. The fall of the mighty. I suppose mother took it the worst. She had some idea of living in great style among the Japanese in Los Angeles, but she never got to realize this dream. She thought that the fall of the family fortunes was partly her fault because she was the one who had urged father the most to make the move to California."

"After the depression got started, mother had to go to work to help support the family. She did domestic work and also made fine linens at home to sell. Later my brother started to work and he helped out. We were not prosperous during this time, but it wasn't as bad as my mother thought. We were by no means in poverty. We had a lot of furniture and a big rented house. Mother never did get over the fact that she considered we were poor people. At the time of evacuation, my father was a hotel manager in Los Angeles."

["My childhood in Jackson, Michigan, was the most wonderful time of my life and I have very pleasant memories of it. There were not any other Japanese in the city of about 50,000 population. I can vividly remember the big house we used to live in; the church and school we used to attend.] I still correspond with the principal of the Griswald Port Elementary School from which I graduated, and I also correspond with some of my playmates during my grammar school days."

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University of California

"It was a story-book childhood. We played all the time. In the summer we would go to a YMCA camp and have lots of fun with the other children. It would be way out in the Michigan woods near the lake. At that time, I thought it was the end of civilization. It was there that I got my first appreciation of the wonders of nature; there was something majestic about the green forests of Michigan. I got a similar feeling years later when I visited some of the mountains of Japan.

"My father had a lot of Caucasian friends which he had made from his business contacts and he used to take the family out to their summer homes on the Lake to visit them. I suppose we knew the better-off people so that the world was pretty grand to me. In the winter, we would go for long sleigh rides through the pure white snow. The air was so clear that it made us feel so alive. Then we would also go sled riding. Mother played with us a lot and we had many wonderful times together."

"When I was still a young girl, I would get invited to some of my friends' homes. I had made many friends in school and they came from all kinds of families. Sometimes I would go to parties and my girl friend would have a big house with servants all over the place. They were very wealthy, these friends, and they had the best of everything. At the other extreme was the little girl whose mother would take in washing. When I visited her, though, I did not notice any difference. We still managed to have a lot of fun together."

"I remember my first boy friend. I was about 11 or 12 years old. His name was Alexander Hamilton and he used to carry my books home

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University of California

from school for me. During school, he would write me short love notes and put them in my desk. It was quite thrilling, but my brothers were disgusted. They were only interested in boys and if any of their gang talked to a girl they were considered sissies. The only reason why they did not kick Alexander Hamilton out of the gang was because he was the leader and one of the best fighters.

"Our whole family went to church on Sundays. It was through the church that mother got to know the other women in town. As she picked up a little English, they would ask her to give short talks on Japanese culture. Once a month, the church would hold a "pot luck" lunch in the basement and everybody would come and have a good time. There was such a good spirit of friendship during these occasions. I guess it is these memories that makes me want to go to a small town where I can talk over the back fence with all of the neighbors."

"On other days, a whole gang of kids would go on hiking trips. The little boys would never let us come along. I used to try and get my brothers to take me along, but they were too loyal to their gang to let a little girl break into their inner circle. I used to go out with the other girls, but I always felt that I was missing out on something when the boys would go off alone."

"When spring came, our family would go to the country every Sunday. We would have picnics. Mother would fix up a delicious lunch basket and we could hardly wait to open it. Father liked to fish so that he would go off alone to the lake to try his luck. The rest of us would play in the woods or go pick flowers."

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"At home mother never cooked Japanese food. We had few Japanese customs in the house. I never did use chop sticks until I got to California. Japanese food was a rarity and we would get it on rare occasions as a treat. We did not eat much rice. At that time, we did not eat over a one-hundred pound sack of rice in a whole year. The women in the town were very curious about Oriental food so that mother would go to the PTA meetings in the grammar school once in a while and make chop suey for them."

"Uncle had a Ford, I don't think that he ever had anything else but a Ford, and he used to take us for a ride in his car once in a while. This was always a great occasion. It was almost as exciting as to listen to the earphone radio that my father bought. He was one of the first ones in the town to have a radio set, and the neighbors would come over to inspect and listen to it when he first got it. My uncle was married, but he had sent his wife and children to Japan. They are still there, but I don't think that he will see them again unless he goes back to Japan to die. His children were born in Rhode Island, but they went to Japan when they were very young so that they are real Japanese. I don't think that they will ever come back here as they are pretty well off, at least they were when I saw them in Japan."

"As a child, I was never conscious that I was different from the other children, although I could not understand why I had black hair and all the other children were blond.] Once in a while some of the fresh young boys would yell "chink, chink, chinaman" at us, but it did not make me mad. I would call them Fatty Arbuckle or some other name. Sometimes my brother would chase them and make them cry."

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"The Christian Church was good for my mother. It gave her a chance to make a lot of friends. As the years went by, the town people used to call on her more and more to give cultural talks about Japan. Then mother would tell them about her own childhood and the way of life she was brought up in. [In many cases, the white children actually became envious of me because my mother had come from such a far^{away} and strange country. There was one Chinese family in town. We never did play with them because they lived on the other side of town.] One Sunday some of the women in the church thought it would be a good idea to have the Chinese children sing ~~a~~ song at the church program with my brothers and me. We got together and practiced for a week. The church wanted us to dress up in Oriental clothes, but we did not have any. The Chinese children were dressed up in Chinese clothes the night of the program. We sang 'Jesus Loves Me' in both Japanese and Chinese and then wound it up by singing it in English. We had just as hard a time learning the Japanese words as the Chinese.

"Mother thought that we should know more Japanese, but we were not very interested. She was continually trying to teach the language to us. Father would only speak English in the house because he had been in this country for a long time and he never had occasion to speak Japanese. Mother would scold him for this and tell him to speak Japanese to us so that we could learn. She started to give us Japanese lessons, but we did not study very hard. We were more interested in going out to play. After seven years, we were still on book 1. I never did have much interest in learning Japanese and I only picked it up after I went to Japan.

["When I was 13 years old, ~~my life was disrupted.~~ My parents decided to move to Los Angeles.] I had to leave all of my pleasant memories of child-

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hood behind. The thing that I missed most next to my friends was the long rides my uncle used to take me on during the July 4th celebrations. He would come around in his new Ford, he always seemed to have a new Ford, and we would ride all over with his three American flags flapping in front. Uncle was lonely for a long time after his wife took the children back to Japan. I don't think he will ever see his children again. His wife died over there. In later years, he would joke and tell us that his wife left him because he had too many girl friends."

"When we were getting ready to move, we had the hardest time trying to decide what to take. I wanted to take all of my toys along, but father said that I should give them away. So I gave them to all of my little friends at a grand farewell party that we had. My brothers had a worse time than I did as they had a lot of junk. The hardest thing for them to do was to part with all of their tools which they had in the basement. They would never let me play with their tools and I used to have to sneak down to the basement to use even a hammer. They had a big tree house which they built with their gang so that they left some of the tools with their friends so that they could have use of the treehouse when they came back. My brothers were certainly fond of their workshop."

"When I went to Los Angeles, it was my first contact with the Niseis. I felt out of place for a long time. I didn't know anybody and all the Niseis would look at me funny because I had such white skin. I used to envy them because they went to a Japanese school after the regular school. They looked like they were having such fun. I wanted them to accept me so that I could be one of them. I don't think I ever did get over the feeling of

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always being on the fringe. I definitely felt inferior until I got started in high school. My mother did not send us to a Japanese school because we were about six books behind the rest of the children our age. We had irregular lessons from a private tutor for a year or so."

"At that time we were living on Boyle Heights with a lot of other Japanese. I did not like the other Nisei children because they laughed at me when I spoke Japanese and I never could understand what they were saying. But I soon began to make friends among them. I remember that all of the Nisei girls had to wear those funny pigtails then. Their mothers made them wear it this way. My mother let me wear my hair straight and so the other girls wanted to do the same. We would all go off to school together and then all of the girls would let their hair hang as soon as they got to school. I told them that all the little girls in Detroit wore their hair this way. A lot of the Isseis made their daughters wear pigtails because that was the way little girls in Japan went to school."

"Mother liked Los Angeles immediately. I suppose she liked to be among the Japanese. When we first arrived in Los Angeles we had a large Japanese dinner, and tears came to my mother's eyes. She told us that it made her a little homesick because this was the kind of food she ate in Japan before she came to America. Mother had introduced a little Japanese food in the town of Jackson, Michigan, but it was a great delicacy there."

"In high school I mixed more and more with the Caucasian children. There were a lot of Mexican, Jewish, and Negro students in the school so that there was no prejudice. The Niseis in the school always held some sort of student body office, but the Negroes had the hardest time and they did not get elected unless they were real good in sports. I went out a few

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times with a Jewish boy and I thought that he was wonderful. Another of my good friends was a colored boy, Robert Parrish. He is now a singer on the radio. But my first boy friend was Sammy, a cute Jewish boy. He used to thrill me when he called me his honey. I almost swooned the first time he kissed me. The other Nisei girls thought kissing was so daring and I became a sort of heroine among them for awhile, because I was daring enough to go out with a Caucasian boy. Mother was very tolerant about such things, but she preferred me to go out with a Nisei boy. The first Nisei boy friend I had was so bashful that he sent me a scarf for a Christmas present and he did not put his name on it. I met him at church but I did not find him as interesting as my Jewish boy friend."

"In a short time, I even began to like Los Agneles, but I thought a lot about my friends in Jackson. I had rebelled so much against going to Los Angeles. I had been told that it was a big bad city where nobody was safe. We went there just after the Hickman Murder Case so that the city was getting a lot of bad publicity. And there used to be some pretty wild stories going around about Hollywood. It was the first time that I have ever seen the ocean, and I was so scared that I cried. To this day I am afraid of water because I was told that the Ocean was full of whirlpools which would pull a person right under."

"I took an academic course in high school as it was my plan to go on to college. In high school, I did not engage in too many of the student body activities. I belonged to the Girl Reserves, the Sewing Club and some other minor student clubs. The thing that I liked best in high school was the public speaking and radio appreciation classes. None of the other Niseis took these courses. They were almost in fear of the public speaking class

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because the Niseis don't like to get up and face the public. It should have been a required course. I went to the Los Angeles City for a year after high school and I changed my major to a business course. Mother would not let me go out too much with the Caucasian boys then because she worried too much for me. She said that Nisei girls should not go out too much with other races as we had to be cautious since all of the Japanese would be judged by the individual's actions. I did not quite agree with her and I told her that there was no difference if I went out with a Caucasian or a Nisei boy. Mother was very Americanized, but in some respects she was a little conservative. We had to teach her a lot of new things and I don't think that any of us went wild."

"I had another great change in life when I was 17. ~~In 1936~~ my father decided to go to Japan to see if he could sell his patents there. He took me along. My father did not have any success there, but we did a lot of traveling. When we first went there, I had an idea that it was a very primitive country. In order to supply our minimum needs, we took along soap, iron, and everything else which we thought could not be purchased there. I was greatly surprised to find that my Aunt's house in Kobe was very modern. They were wealthy people and had all of the western comforts. Their children had graduated from Greensboro in North Carolina. The whole family was well educated. My aunt's husband was a University of North Carolina graduate also. One of his close college friends was Thomas Wolfe. One of his prize possessions was an autographed copy of 'Look Homeward Angel.' Uncle had been very successful in business so that he lived in luxury. He had an importing-exporting company which dealt in

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Oriental furs. There was a branch office in New York on 5th Avenue."

"However, when I began to see the rest of Japan, I thought that it was very uncivilized. I hardly knew Japanese so that it was most embarrassing. Father was not much better. He had been away for so long that he did not even know how to change money. One of the things I could not get over was the fact that so many of the people rode bicycles."

"I did not wear Japanese clothes while I was there so that the Japanese knew that I was a Nisei from America. And my hair was fixed different from most of the girls. I was pretty lonesome and it always made me glad to see a Caucasian person or anybody dressed in western clothes. I had a warm feeling towards these people. Once I went up to speak to what I thought was an American and it embarrassed me no end to find out that he was a German and did not know any English. My aunt thought it would be nice if I wore kimonos occasionally, but I could never get used to it. My father went back to America but he wanted me to stay a year with my aunt so that I could learn about Japanese culture and visit all my relatives. I wanted so badly to go back to America with him, but they talked me out of it."

"For the next few months, I visited a lot of other relatives. Most of them were pretty well off so that I did not suffer any hardships. All of them lived in large cities. The richest one was my father's cousin. This man was married to a daughter of the mayor of Tokyo, and very rich. He used to go to Europe for his vacation every year." Mr. Junmonji was the president of the electric meter company in Tokyo and his plant hired over 2000 men. His mother was the president of a Girl's School. My mother did

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not like this branch of the family because she felt that the money they had should have gone to my father. After father went away to America, his family left him out of the division of the family money and property. I liked my father's cousin because he was so cosmopolitan and he had been to America a number of times on visits. We had common things to talk about. I stayed with his family for quite a while. For a while I was happy in exploring Tokyo, but I soon got lonesome. I heard that there were a number of Niseis in Tokyo who had organized a Nisei Club so I inquired around for it. The Japanese did not like the Niseis so well and my relatives thought it would ^{be} better if I did not associate with the Nisei Club, but I did not agree with them. I was so homesick to see somebody who could speak English naturally.

"I met a girl who knew most of the Niseis around so that she took me all over and gave me introductions. The Nisei Club held weekly meetings and most of that time would be spent in talking about America and people we knew there. We spoke in English. My girl friend thought that I would feel much better if I went to work. She told me that there was an opening at the American Consulate in Kobe so that she took me down there to put in an application. I did not think I would get the job since about 15 other better qualified people had put in applications. I didn't know Japanese very well and little business training."

note "However, when I talked to the consul, he found out that I was from Michigan also. We had a lot to talk about and we became friends immediately. He gave me a break and I got the appointment for the job. I liked the work so that I did it for the next three years. I lived with my aunt there

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during this time, and I soon found out that there was also a Nisei Club there. It was not long before I came to know them."

"The whole time I was there, I stuck with the Niseis and American consulate circle. I still correspond with some of the girls who worked there with me. One of the girls is working in London now. Most of the embassy circle was nice and we used to have some good times. I was classified as a receptionist-cleak, but in a short time they made me the switch-board operator. I was getting 100 yen a month which was a pretty big salary for Japan. This was only about \$30.00 in our money, but it had \$100.00 purchasing power. However, I couldn't save much since I would only get one-third if I decided to bring my savings back to America."

"I had one romance in Kobe but it was short lived. I would get a phone call every morning from an unknown person who spoke the most cultivated English. This went on for quite awhile. Finally the voice asked me if I would go on a blind date. He told me to meet him on a certain street corner and he would be in a Terraplane. I was very curious since I had visions that the person was probably some rich American millionaire."

"I dragged along another Nisei boy and went to the corner. To my great surprise, I discovered that the man with the voice was a Chinese. He was equally surprised because he thought I was an American working in the American embassy. He turned out to be a wealthy Chinese and he insisted on taking us to dinner. I had to refuse him because I was too young and it was not the proper etiquette."

"During the summers, I visited relatives in Kiyot^o and Tokyo. I saw quite a bit of Japan, but I always felt foreign for the whole time I

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I was there. I picked up quite a bit of Japanese during this time. By the time I was there I was bored with the country and ^{After three years} I wanted to go back to America. The American consul did not want me to quit, but I told him that I could not stand the country any more. Fortunately, my uncle had a lot of pull and he got me a good job at the New York World's Fair. My uncle knew the President of a large silk company which was putting a big exhibit in the Fair. They wanted a Nisei who could give lectures in English to the visitors at the Fair. My uncle knew how badly I wanted to go back to America so that he got the man to give me the job. I went up to Tokyo and took a short course in silk culture so that I could give the lectures. The company paid my fare to New York so that it was a great saving for me.

"We stopped for a couple of days in Los Angeles, and it was so thrilling to see America again. Los Angeles may be a big overgrown cow town, but it was the most exciting sight I saw in three years. My family was at the boat to meet me and we had a joyous reunion. The first thing I did was to go to a restaurant and eat a hot dog. My family thought I was silly because they wanted to feed me a big chicken dinner. It was strange seeing so many Caucasian faces and so few Oriental faces, but I got used to it right away."

"After a brief visit with my family and an automobile ride all around Los Angeles and its suburbs, I got on the boat again. It took us through the Panama Canal and then up the Atlantic Coast to New York. I got another big thrill when I saw the statue of Liberty. I really felt like an American coming home. I got into an apartment ^{as soon as I got there} with two other Nisei girls who were also working at the Fair.

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"We had the most wonderful times in New York and I sort of look on it as my home town and compare everything with it. I think I like it even better than Detroit. The girls I went around with only knew Caucasians so that I got to meet all of them. There were only a handful of Niseis in New York so that I did not see much of them. One of my roommates is now going to Vassar and she is engaged to a Caucasian. The other one later married a Caucasian. He was an artist and a Harvard graduate. The man was from a very good Boston family and he is now an officer in the Army."

"We went to all of the big night clubs without any trouble. One of the girls had heard a rumor that Japanese were not allowed, but we did not find this to be true. We worked in the evenings a lot of the time at the Fair so that we hardly had any time for ourselves. We felt quite sophisticated and worldly then. On weekends we would go play golf with some of our friends. I visited a professor at Columbia University a lot. He had gone to school with my uncle so that he felt a little responsible for me."

"I enjoyed my work at the Fair very much. It was a fine opportunity to see all kinds of Americans. I gave lectures on the silk exhibits at the Japanese Pavilion. It was a good job because I made \$180.00 a month. During the winter months, I had a job as a clerk at the International Silk Guild in New York and I received a salary of \$160.00 a month. I had intended to stay in New York and get a steady job, but I had an appendectomy during the winter of 1940. Early in 1941 I decided to go back to my parents in Los Angeles to recuperate. I took a plane from New York to Washington as I had it figured out that it would only cost about \$10.00 or \$15.00 more than the train after all eating and other expenses were paid."

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"I did not work from January until May of 1941. My father had bought the hotel in the spring, but I stayed at our home which was near Whittier. During that time, I decided that I would like to get into Civil Service so that I studied for the tests and got a rating as a Junior Clerk, but I did not get a call until after I was in camp. In May of 1941 I worked for a month as a salesgirl for the Los Angeles Philharmonic Company. This was only a part time job and I only made about \$20.00 a month."

"I had been gone from Los Angeles for about five years so that I had to make social contacts all over again. [A lot of Nisei boys used to come to visit me, but I was not very interested in them. I did not think that I was more sophisticated, but these Niseis were rather limited. The group I got on the best with was the Artist and Writers group. They were considered to be radicals among most of the Niseis, but I found them the most interesting of the Nisei society.] In the few months before the war, I began to lead quite a social life and I would have a houseful of visitors every weekend. I had never voted because I was in Japan and I did not have much idea of the Japanese problem in this country. I never dreamed of anything like evacuation. My greatest problem was to find a group that had the same interests as I did. The Niseis were a little disappointing in this respect. They resented it when I spoke of my travels so that I did not speak of it much."

["I met Allen in the late spring of 1941. We were attracted immediately to each other. Allen was born in Montana and he had similar views as I did. His father was a world war veteran and very Americanized. His father volunteered in the recent registration in camp in spite of the fact that he is too old. I think that he got his citizenship because of service in the last war."

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"Allen was an ambitious Nisei and he was helping his family out a lot even before the war. He did not run around like a lot of the other Niseis. He was a buyer for a Japanese wholesale company. We started to go all over together. He would take me to dances at the Palladium, shows, golfing, and the beach. We only went once to a Nisei dance. The rest of the time, we went mostly to public dances and we did not associate too much with the bulk of the Niseis, although we had our circle of friends. I used to visit my Caucasian friends that I had first met in New York and sometimes Allen and I would go out with them. By early winter we were sort of engaged although we had not made any announcements. We just didn't think of marriage for the immediate future. Evacuation sort of rushed things.

"Just before the war, I was working as a maid temporarily for a wealthy English woman. There was another Nisei girl working there and we became great friends. I was making \$15.00 a month, but I enjoyed the work because I got to do a lot of driving for Mrs. Hillman. She was a divorcee and was living alone. Mrs. Hillman used to be quite a big stage star in her native England, but she only played bit parts in Hollywood. She was around 40, but could pass for 30. Mrs. Hillman was very jealous of stars like Merle Oberon who used to be her understudy in England and she made a lot of catty remarks about them. She was always trying to bring Hollywood movie stars out to her house for dinner. It was a good thing she was wealthy or she would have starved with the small parts she had. She had no political interest at all except that her sympathies were for England. She had another rich woman staying at her house as a guest. This woman had come out from New York to get her face lifted and she did not want to meet anybody until the job was done. She looked hideous.

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I made about \$15.00 a week extra from her by acting as her personal maid and companion. She wanted to take me to New York with her to be her maid after the war broke out. I wanted to get back to New York since all of my friends were there, but I wanted to go as a white collar worker. I had listed New York as the place of first preference in the civil service tests. I did not have any real close friends in Los Angeles so that I did not feel it would be difficult to tear myself away from the Japanese community. I did not think that the Nisei society was that important, although it was a lot of fun.

"Then I was also thinking about marriage. Allen had proposed in October, but I kept putting him off as I was indefinite myself. He was anxious to get all settled down, but I was not ready for that yet. I could not picture myself all settled down, member of a church in good standing, book of the month club member and so forth. I was thinking more about working. Life at that time was pretty routine; at the same time, it was so indefinite. I was ambitious and I suppose I still am. All in all, I did not have any serious problems before the war. I did not worry about marriage as I felt I could get married anytime. I had a number of proposals to consider, but I had decided on Allen eventually.

"Then came Pearl Harbor. This is what I wrote in my diary for that day (reading): 'Japan declares war on U.S. It is terrible. It is unbelievable. Stayed home most of the day. Japan started hostilities by bombing Pearl Harbor!!! Those damn Japs!!! I am so glad that I got out of Japan in time. I could not have stood it there if they were in a war with America and I was in that treacherous country. Many Isseis seized to guard against sabotage. Kept worrying about mom and pop, but what have they ever done for Japan? They have

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lived here for over 30 years and they have many American friends. Somehow I'm happy that my parents have never followed Japanese customs in our home. Allen took me to the Civilian Defense office so that I could volunteer. Came home worried about pop. How could the Japs have nerve enough to bomb us? President declares war and it was heartbreaking. I hope that it is not a long war.'

"Pearl Harbor was a great shock to me. While I was in Japan I had heard a lot of times that war was inevitable, but I never thought much of it because I did not think that Japan would ever be strong enough to attack us. I was sitting in the house darnning things for Christmas gifts that morning of December 7. I jumped a mile when I heard the radio news. I was pretty excited. I ran into the other room to tell Miyo who was also working at Mrs. Hillmans, but she only laughed at me. She was washing her hair and she told me to quit trying to scare her. But when she found out that it was true she got even more excited than I did.

"I phoned my mother right away in order to comfort her. I was scared and angry at the Japs, to think that they would ever do a thing like that. I thought of my brother who had been inducted into the Army a short time before, and I hoped that nothing unpleasant would happen to him. In the afternoon, Allen came over. In order to defy the public and to show that we were Americans, we decided to go out and eat. We walked down the street to a Chinese restaurant. I kept thinking that people were looking at us, but this was not true.

"It was an awful feeling. I felt that everything was shattered. After we ate, Allen and I walked up to the police station to ask if we could help out in anything. Then we went to register with the Civilian Defense. The people were very nice and they said that they would call me if I was needed.

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At that time, I was knitting for the Red Cross and I was determined to do a lot more. Then we went home and I made a phone call to the FBI to find out if I could act as an interpreter. A lot of the Isseis were being picked up and I thought I could help out this way. They put me on file, but I never did get a call for anything.

"The days following were very exciting and scaring. I got worried about my folks since they lived quite a distance from where I was working. I was working on the west side so that I did not see all the excitement in the Japanese section. But I heard plenty of rumors. I kept driving for Mrs. Hillman. She was nice to me for the rest of the time that I was there. She said that she knew war would come. She took the news very calmly. She was English and I think that she was relieved when America went into the war. She had been waiting for it for quite a while. In fact, she was a little jubilant about it. She invited some of her English friends in and they had drinks as a sort of celebration. They all felt that the war would be over soon. She was more concerned about beating Hitler since Germany was so close to England, and she did not think that Japan had much of a chance. I remember her first comment when she heard that war had come: 'Now America is in with us.'

"Just before Christmas I decided to quit the job. I wanted to be home with my parents. My father's money had all been frozen and a lot of regulations for aliens had been coming out so that they were quite worried. We also heard rumors about Filipinos killing Japanese so that we stayed in the house most of the time. Since all of our money was frozen, I felt that I should go out and work. A woman had phoned me several times to ask me if I would take a domestic job and she said that she would pay me \$15.00 a week if

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I would come so I took the job. This woman was very good to me. I stayed with her until March. At that time a lot of the Nisei girls were getting fired from their jobs, and yet Mrs. Waverly wanted to hire me. I thought that was pretty decent of her. When news of the evacuation began to come up, she wanted to find some way to keep me from being evacuated. She said that she would be my guardian.

"In our family affairs we were pretty calm once the shock of the war wore off. My father stayed all alone in the hotel as the rest of us were in our home. The hotel was out of the Japanese district so that there were no Japanese living in it. The residents were mostly Mexican and Caucasian workers. A couple to times the FBI came to investigate, but father showed them letters from Ford and President McKinley so that they treated him with respect. They would pat him on the shoulder and tell him not to worry. At first he thought that he would not be evacuated so that he did not worry much about the business. He had only been operating the hotel for about a year and he had been thinking of retiring again even before the war broke out.

"In the meantime, talk about the evacuation began to get louder and the newspaper had a lot of bad publicity. It made me angry to think how quickly people's minds could be turned against you. I did not see many Niseis during this time. Allen would come over almost every night from Pasadena. He wanted to get married right away so that I could go with him to Pasadena. He said that he would not be able to come over soon because of the five mile travel limit. I did not think that it was a good time to get married because things were so upset. I wanted to wait, but then I got afraid that we would get separated and I would not be able to see him for a long time. Allen made up my mind for me because he had half of my baggage over in his house in Pasadena before I said

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yes. I just had to follow along. We were married on April 2, 1942, at the Wedding Chapel. It was a quiet affair and only relatives and close friends were present. We ignored the restrictions on aliens traveling over five miles and we just brought our parents over to the chapel without a permit. Some of our relatives did not come because they thought it was too much of a risk to break the law and they did not want to get interned.

"Father gave me \$200 as a wedding present to buy a wedding outfit, but I decided to save the money because times were so uncertain. I bought a simple suit instead. The wedding was the most nervous day in my life. We had a large dinner of chicken and champagne afterwards. A week later, mother gave me a reception. Then I moved over to Los Angeles to get ready for the evacuation. My parents came over later after father sold the hotel. We wanted to make sure that we would not all be separated.

"I guess evacuation did rush my marriage plans along. I did not expect to take ~~that~~ step for at least another six months. In fact, I had some plans of going to New York again. When evacuation was first announced, I made a long distance phone call to my girl friend in New York and told her that I was coming out. Allen was willing to go along, but then we decided that we should try to get our families settled first. All this time, right up to evacuation, I wanted to get in and help the war effort, but I was never called. The closest thing that came near to it was to entertain Nisei soldiers at our home. We did not live in the Japanese section so that it gave them a chance to get away from the unsettled feeling for a while."

Tamie interrupted the conversation to get her diary. She read a few entries to show her attitudes in the period just before evacuation.

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March 1, 1942: "Went to Nihonmachi today. Town bristling with police yet. Not much business going on. Many Japanese from San Pedro fill the streets. Most of them have no money and no place to go. One good thing about the Japanese is that they help each other out. All of the families contributed food so that they would not go hungry. I don't think that they will be able to get jobs. Soon they will have to go on relief. That is a terrible thought. The Japanese are so proud. But beggars cannot be choosers."

March 2, 1942: "The papers are saying that we will be evacuated. It may be in two hours or two months. Nobody knows. Only the Army knows. There is talk of concentration camps in Colorado. In a way it may be good for the Niseis. It is a new life for them. They never had much chance before anyway. It still doesn't seem possible."

March 4, 1942: "It seems strange leaving my home. Talked to my friend from New York and I wished I was there instead of out here. Maybe I should not have come back. I wish I could take our big radio with us, but we can't have any short wave sets. Allen proposed again. I will have to give him a definite answer soon. Bought some defense stamps today."

March 6, 1942: "Isamu Noguchi, the famous sculptor, came over with Larry Tajiri and he asked me out. He had his sculpture tools in the back of the car. We went to dinner and were joking about the evacuation. A police car stopped us and they asked a lot of questions. When they saw the tools in the back, they got suspicious and took us to the police station. It was all cleared up in an hour and we went to the Ballet Russe after that. Everybody seems to know Isamu. It was a pleasant evening, but I was frightened for a while."

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March 16, 1942: "Allen's mother is taken by the FBI because she taught in the Japanese school. My heart is full of sadness as she is innocent. We can't leave the old folks now because they are in such trouble."

Tamie kept her diary infrequently after that. She stated that evacuation took up her time and she never did get back to keeping it up. She then continued on with her story.

"We had no idea where we were going. Allen's father volunteered to go with the first group to Manzanar so that we assumed that we were all going there. After Allen's mother was taken, we decided to stick together and our two families moved together so that we would not get separated. Then it was announced that we were going to Tulare. This was awful because my father-in-law was already in Manzanar and the rest of Allen's brothers and sisters were with us. We went to the Provost Marshal, we even shed tears there, but it was no use. He told us that we could transfer later, but that was not very comforting. We decided to make the best of it. They were transferred later, but we stayed on with the Tulare bunch.

"We all got busy to pack everything away before we left for camp. It seemed to me that someday we would be back so that we did not take everything with us. One evening we went to a JACL meeting in Pasadena. It was the first time that I had ever attended one of their meetings. Nobu Kawai dictated to us and he told us what to take. He thought that he knew about everything just because the Army was giving him advance notices. I wasn't frightened because I did not think I would have to listen to what he had to say. I was determined to take anything that I wanted to take. Some of those other people took in everything that Kawai said and they went to camp with only one grip. They were sure mad at Kawai afterwards. His family had rugs and everything.

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I did not have much respect for the JACL after that and the only reason I joined in Gila was because my friend was one of the team captains. I did not take any interest in it after that and I still don't. Allen was very angry at Kawaii and he got up in the meeting and he told him that it was wrong to scare the people like that.

"I had some funny ideas about the assembly center. I did not realize that conditions were going to be so primitive. I expected it to be glamorous there, and I even had some idea of opening up a dress shop. On the day of evacuation, I wore my best clothes. We were the first to leave Pasadena so the newspapers took a picture of Allen and me waving goodbye out of the bus window. Many of the Isseis were crying and they looked so sad because they did not feel that they would see Pasadena again for a long, long time.

"I didn't feel anything about moving. To me it was just another trip. I had traveled around quite a bit so that I did not get any feeling of being uprooted. It was something new and I was curious. At that time I did not stop to consider that I would be behind barbed wires for a year. If I had realized that, I am sure that I would have been much more depressed. Allen and I thought of it more in terms of a honeymoon. We had been rushing around and packing ever since we got married so that this was a sort of let down from all of the excitement.

"It was a lovely trip up to Tulare. I enjoyed the trip up because of the beautiful scenery. It gave me my first appreciation of the wonders of California. The people in our bus were very quiet so that we had a restful trip. We all had some sort of a feeling in common and everybody was kind and on their best behavior. We got excited when Tulare came into view. Allen and

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I were the first ones from Pasadena to arrive in camp. There were hundreds of serious people in the grandstands staring at us. It made me think of a ball game audience in Japan to see all of those strange yellow faces. Then I realized that we were now all locked up. That's when I felt sad. I thought that it was all so unjust.

"The people that arrived before us were not as sober as our bus load. The young Nisei boys were all having a lot of fun. They would yell, 'go back to where you came from; you won't like it here.' It was a hopeless feeling. I felt overwhelmed by emotions and I began to cry. We were all herded into the horse stables right away. I was numb by then with the realization that I was a different kind of American now. I just sat and my heart was sick. I didn't know anybody in the camp as I had only recently moved to Pasadena and most of my Los Angeles friends went to Santa Anita and Manzanar. Everything was so strange and I was disillusioned by the primitive conditions of the camp.

"We got a room for the nine of us in our combined two families and I thought that this was terrible. I had always had privacy and it was the longest time before I could get used to the idea of living in such a crowded space. It was so inconvenient, uncomfortable. I didn't think that it was right to crowd us all together like pigs. Fortunately, we all got along well or else there would have been all sorts of squabbles. We all pitched in and worked together. We had brought along curtains, a rug, folding chairs, table, and a lamp with us. Allen knew some of the people that had come before so that he was prepared. Later he sent for some of the stored stuff which he had in his home in Pasadena. When the hot weather came, he bought a cooler.

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"I wanted to get a job right away so that I went to the employment office. There were hundreds there with the same idea. The Pasadena group was the last to get to Tulare so that all of the good jobs were taken. This caused a lot of dissatisfaction. We did not think it was fair. A lot of the Pasadena people felt that they were from the city and therefore better qualified than the country Niseis who were holding the best jobs just because they got there first. There was nothing that could be done about it so that we had to take what we could. I got a job as a clerk and I felt that I had accomplished something. A job kept us occupied so that we did not have too much time to feel sorry for ourselves. I don't think the full realization of the life we had entered dawned on us until much later. We had to live through some of the hard experiences first.

"I have never been overly religious although I used to go to church fairly regularly. In Tulare, I started to go to church on Sundays, partly to see new people and partly for the religious solace which the church offered. I did not get much religion. I began to take part in the other church activities because there was a great need to have some sort of organization. I became the advisor to a junior girls club and the president of the older girls club. It was my work to plan the meetings.

"As soon as I got there I noticed that the mess hall system was creating bad table manners among the young people, so I gave a series of lectures to my girl's club on proper table etiquette. I got to know some of the Niseis in the recreational program so that I began to take a lot of interest in it. I helped out with the talent shows which were put on for the benefit of the camp. There were a lot of Japanese things in the programs, but I did not object to

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that because I felt that it was good for the old folks. A lot of the Niseis did not care for this so that we made programs to suit the Niseis one time and the Isseis the next. We always got complaints from the Isseis that they could not understand the English; and the Niseis griped because they did not understand Japanese enough. We could not satisfy everybody. Our July 4th celebration was the biggest event that we had. I taught my little girls a tap dancing routine for the talent show and we all dressed up for the parade. I dressed up as a Negro zoot suiter and I had a lot of fun strutting around.

"I made many new friends in camp and I found out that they were agreeable people. I was not much interested in the camp politics so that to me everything was running along smoothly. Now and then I heard some of the Niseis making bitter comments but I did not think much of it. I just assumed that all of the Niseis were loyal, and I also thought that most of the Isseis were something like my parents who intended to stay in this country. I never did get to know the Japanese community very well before the war. Most of my contacts were with the Niseis anyway.

"In Tulare I had a good time. We were there only a few months so that we tried to forget about everything and enjoy ourselves as much as possible. This was better than to just sit around and be sad. I kept up my outside contacts with Caucasian friends through letters and explained things to them as best as I could. There were not too many Caucasian visitors to our camp. Sometimes I would just go up to look at them. There was one Nisei girl who lived near me and she was married to a Filipino. Her parents had objected violently to the marriage, but she went ahead anyway. Afterwards, this Filipino man would come up everyweek from Los Angeles to see his Nisei wife.

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He really loved her and he was most considerate. He bought Japanese foods to her mother so that they accepted him more. Now the couple are resettled. The Filipino man quit his job and came out to the midwest just to be near his wife.

"The comments that I overheard about this Filipino made me realize how narrow the Japanese were towards other races. I did not think that this was right. The Japanese had the most distorted ideas about the Filipinos. They said that the girl must have had a bad character to marry the Filipino, or else they said that the girl had disgraced her family by marrying a Filipino who was of a lower social order. The Japanese think that all Filipinos are sexy and that they are always ready to do bad things and stab the innocent. A lot of these rumors had been created after the war broke out.

"After we got married, Allen and I had talked about having children. I liked children and so did he. We did not think that evacuation should make any difference. I wanted one right away. I didn't care if mine was born in a camp or not. I didn't even think about the primitive conditions. People have had babies in places which were more primitive than camp ever was. At least we had some hospital service. I did not worry about the future because Allen had his own home in Pasadena and I figured that we could always go back to that.

"I did not have any clear plans about leaving then. My brother in law left for school while we were still in Tulare and I knew that we would leave some day so I did not worry too much about it. Allen did not even consider going then as I was pregnant and he wanted to wait until after the baby was

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born. I didn't think too much about the future in Tulare. I became like the next Nisei -- we all had lots of fun and didn't bother our heads about these things.

"In the meantime, we tried to get a transfer to go to Manzanar where Allen's parents were. Since we were a separate family, the WCCA would not grant this request. Finally, Allen's three brothers and a sister left to go join their parents there. We had received news that the rest of us had to go to Gila. I dreaded going there. I heard rumors about the rattlesnakes and the terrific heat. It was roasting hot in Tulare so that the heat did not bother me as much as the visions of having a rattlesnake and scorpion in my bed some night. My mother took it much worse. She didn't want to leave Tulare because she was just getting settled. In order to cheer her up, I had to be more cheerful about Gila myself. I told her that she was lucky to travel and see the country. I told her all about the Grand Canyon and other scenic views which she could see free. Little did I know that the Grand Canyon was hundreds of miles away from Gila and that the scenery consisted of only desert and cactus plants. We didn't even get to see that because all of the shades had to be kept down at night. Allen and I had tentative plans to leave after we got the folks settled, but it was all very vague. A lot of the Niseis were saying that they wanted to get out, but many of them have not done anything about it yet.

"There is not much I can say about Gila. It was the same old thing all over. The only thing that was different was that it was big and roomy and we felt a certain freedom even if we were way out in the desert. The white barracks were much more cheerful. It was the hottest summer that they have ever had in Gila, but we only got in on the tail end of it. September and October were plenty hot though. We managed to get things in order though. Allen soon

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got a job as a teacher, and mother also went to work. This made her happier about Gila because she was not able to work in Tulare.

"Some of my Los Angeles friends came in from Santa Anita, but it was not like old times. I began to avoid the Niseis more and more except for my close friends. We made mostly Caucasian contacts through Allen who was working in the school. I did not associate at all with the Niseis that I met at Tulare, except for a limited few. I just broke away from them as I got tired of them. We didn't have the same interests at all. They never did think and I did not want to get like them. I found that I enjoyed myself more with the more matured Caucasians with which I came in contact. The Niseis were not ready to grow up yet and I had to start thinking in terms of a family as my child was on the way.

"I had not intended to work at all when I got there. I had planned to take it easy and knit for the child and to catch up on my reading. Allen subscribed to Time Magazine and I started on that. However, I got a notice to come to the employment office. They were looking for a switchboard operator and Mr. Huso told me that I was the only one in camp. The switchboard was in camp one and I told him that in my condition I could not ride back and forth on the truck. Mr. Huso said that he would arrange special transportation in a private car and he asked me to take the job until some other Nisei girls could be trained.

"I decided to take the job for a while. There were four ~~other~~ Caucasian women in the office so that I liked it immediately. We became good friends. The work reminded me a little of what I had done in the American Consulate in Kobe. It was exciting to get the teletyped news from the outside world. The

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other girls in the office did not live in camp so that they would bring me things from town. A couple of Nisei girls were sent to the office and I trained them in the work. By November (1942) I thought that they knew enough about the work to take over so I quit. Shortly afterwards the Army kicked them out of the office because it did not want any Japanese near the telegraph and teletype facilities. I wish I had been in there when they came. I would have told them a thing or two. As if we would send any spy messages!

"After I retired from work I had much more time to do the things I wanted to do. I did not have an excessive social life. We entertained friends at home mostly. Occasionally I would go to the teachers' parties with Allen. By this time camp was getting monotonous and so Allen and I started to talk about leaving. Allen jokingly remarked that we would leave three months after the baby was born. That is exactly what happened.

"We did not have much money so Allen decided to quit teaching around January and he went into the camouflage net project. I began to get more and more restless. Gosh, I don't see how the people can stand camp life now. Even for a wife, it would make you lazy. I missed living a normal life and I was anxious to get back to it. I wanted to get out and start a home with a child and family.

["When the registration came along, that settled things. I was indignant to think of so many ^{"noes"} ~~noes~~ in Gila. I thought that our camp would send out the most volunteers of any camp.] Even the Niseis were like the pro-Japan groups. I realized that many of the Niseis were from rural homes and that they had closer ties with their parents, but I did not dream that it would affect

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their loyalty. They were just influenced too much. [One of the biggest agitators in camp was in my block. I think he was one of the men who put the Japanese flag on the hill on February 11, the day Japan was supposed to have been founded. I am pretty sure that he put the Japanese flag in our mess hall. Some of the old men even went to our mess hall early in the morning to sing Japanese songs. I was so mad that I got a big American flag and put it on our barracks. Allen went to the block meetings and he told them off. We had some outspoken Niseis in our block so that they were able to talk to some of the younger Niseis and tell them not to be so foolish as to answer "no."]

"Allen wanted to volunteer very badly and I told him that I would not stand in his way. His father was a war veteran and he had volunteered down in Manzanar. I asked Allen to wait until the baby was born because I believed that the volunteers would leave camp as soon as they signed up. Our baby was born on February 27. Allen still wanted to volunteer when he found out that he had some stomach trouble. Then he changed his mind, and he began to make plans to get out of camp. We were fed up with camp life, and the registration had left a bad taste in our mouths.

"We wrote a number of letters for employment possibilities. I knew I could get a job if I went to New York, but I had to think of Allen first. He wanted to get a defense job. Allen did not have much success in trying to get a job through the WRA. The jobs were always taken by the time his application was sent in. Since my uncle and brother were working in Detroit, we wrote to them. They said that they would look around for a job for Allen.

"When the baby was 100 days old we definitely decided to leave. Allen felt that he would have a better chance at a job if he were on the scene. The

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net factory work was finished so that there was no use of wasting any more time in camp. Many Niseis were leaving camp by then and I felt more anxious than ever. We did not want to take a chance of the leaves being cancelled. The project director had stopped leaves for a few days in April on account of the execution of the American aviators who bombed Tokyo. There was talk that the leaves would all be stopped permanently and we did not want to take a chance of getting stuck in camp. Allen was most anxious to get a job first because of his responsibilities, but we decided to go without the job. I was pretty sure that he could get defense work at high wages in Detroit. The camp papers announced that people could leave as long as we had a place to stay so that we wrote to my brother in Detroit and he went to the WRA office and told them that he could put us up until we got settled.

"The thing that determined matters was that my brother wrote back and said that workers were frozen to their jobs once they started. Allen did not want to take a poor job and then find out that he could not change. At first, he thought of coming out alone and then send for the baby and me after he got settled, but I would hear none of that. Finally on June 24 we left Gila.

"I did not regret leaving one bit. I felt that we had to get out of there for our own good. I just felt that I should get away and have a chance for happiness and I knew that I would never find this in camp. When we arrived for a stopover in Chicago, we decided to accept Allen's sister's invitation to stay at her apartment for a few days to rest up. I wanted to see my relatives anyway. My brother, Milton, had recently gotten married so that I had a lot of new in-laws to see. I knew them all before anyway. Milton was in the Army and when he came up the first weekend, he wanted me to stay in

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Chicago. He thought that it would be better for the baby to be near relatives. Allen agreed that I should not have to go through all the discomforts of getting an apartment up there so he went on alone to Detroit to look for an apartment. There was no difficulty in getting a job as the USES gave him several good offers. But when he started to look for an apartment, it was an impossible task. He tramped around day and night for the two days he was up there, but he could not find a single vacant apartment. Detroit is 125% overcrowded. When he came back, he was very discouraged. He did not think that the WRA office there helped him enough. We talked it over and Allen decided that perhaps he should get a job in Chicago since the living costs were not as high and a house would be easier to find. I did not want to live in a large city so we decided to look for a place in one of the suburbs.

"Since we have been in Chicago, we have hunted high and low for an apartment. Allen thought of buying a house in the suburbs and then having some relatives come and live with us and help make the payments. We talked it over for quite a while, but had to give the plan up because we don't have enough money to make the down payments.

"I want to get into a small city and make a lot of friends. That's the main reason why we came out. Otherwise we could have stayed in Gila. I got tired of all those Japanese. [We were known as the dogs of our block because we had too many Caucasians coming to visit us. The Isseis were always asking why so many 'keto' were coming over.] That aggravated me. Why should I have to explain all of my friends? The Isseis are so impolite and they ask personal questions that are none of their business. [They thought that we had turned ~~X~~ into the FBI for his agitating activities.] All I want now is to get into a small town where I can talk over the back fence with my neighbors.

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I can get along without the Niseis and I would only want to see my relatives and close friends.

"We could not find an apartment in the few weeks that we have hunted. My sister-in-law's landlord acted funny so that we wanted to get out as soon as possible. Finally the landlord told her that there were too many Japanese in the building. There was an empty apartment in the building, but we decided not to take it after he said that. The landlord is a naturalized German and he said that the Army had sent a man out to tell him that there were too many Japanese there and that he could not rent out any more rooms to them. I think that this was only an excuse.

"We had to get out in a hurry so we moved into this dump temporarily. It is not such a good place, but we only have to pay \$20.00 a month for rent. Camp life has made me more adaptable and I can get used to any place. Our standard of living probably is not as good as before the war, but I am enjoying things. It is fun to cook and wash the dishes and prepare the meals for the man of the family. I never lived in a single small room before. We are still looking for a better place further out and we will move as soon as we can. Allen thinks that he will be able to get one of those defense workers houses built by the government when he gets a defense job."

(The apartment which Tamie and her child and husband occupy is in the basement of an old house located in the cheap rooming house district of the near north side. The entire neighborhood is very dirty. Most of the residents of the area are single transient men, although there are an increasing number of defense worker's families who have moved into the area. There are a few factories in the immediate vicinity. To the east, the area shades off into the exclusive Gold Coast district, the home of extremely wealthy. A

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heavy smoke hangs over the district most of the time. The apartment is located near the back of the building so that a certain amount of sunshine is available in the room. In one corner there is the large double bed. Off to the side there is a small closet with an icebox in it. A large table is in the center of the room. On the upper end there is a sink and stove. The door into the room has no top partition so that anybody could climb in. There is an old chimney stuck through this space with an uncovered end which is full of black soot. A hard slamming of the door would make some of this soot fall down. There are a number of other Japanese in this area. Tamie is determined to assimilate out more into the greater American society, but due to the housing shortage and other reasons, she may be forced back into an exclusive Nisei society. The very presence of a large number of Niseis in the area makes this development almost inevitable unless she moves out into the suburbs as she plans. The interviewer got the impression that they are still uncertain about their future plans.)

Tamie continued with her account of initial adjustments in this city. "Allen found that even defense workers do not make such huge salaries as he had hoped. They have to have training. In the meantime, he has taken a position as a shipping clerk at McClurgs. He got the job through the Friends. In the evenings he goes to a defense school sponsored by the government so that he can get a skill in some technical defense work. We haven't decided what we will do after we get the training for him. It will be from three to six months. We may go to Detroit after that, but we are not sure. If we can get a place in the suburbs and Allen gets a defense job here, we may stay here. Eventually, Allen wants to go into business for himself. He would like to have some kind of a small shop in some quiet little city.

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"I'd rather not live in a large city. It is too hard to assimilate myself into a large community because people are not so friendly. I stay home most of the time now, except for visits to a few friends. All of my relatives know a number of Niseis so that I could meet all kinds of them if I wanted to. Right now I don't care to particularly. I am beginning to entertain a few friends now. I would like to go to a radio school and become some sort of an announcer, but that is sort of a dream. Eventually, we will bring our parents out and then I can go to work.

"Right now I am too busy getting settled and keeping house. We have no definite plans of going back to California even if Allen owns a house there. I am not too worried about the future. I think that eventually I will have three or four children, but I don't think I will have another one until we are more settled.

"I don't have much of an impression of Chicago one way or the other. All I know is that it is big and dirty. And it is smelly. Even the large cities in Japan are not this dirty. I have a tendency to compare cities with New York as I think of it as sort of my home town. I have many pleasant memories of New York. At that time, I didn't see the poorer districts there, but I suppose it is about the same as here. Allen and I went prowling around in the Polish district the other day to shop for a baby buggy. It was a very poor district, but I thought to myself that this was a part of America. Being a housewife, the thing that impressed me was that living costs were cheaper on the west side. I saw a lot of American flags and service flags out there, and it made me feel that I wanted to show them that I was an American too.

"My landlord does not know that we are staying in this apartment temporarily. When we first moved in, we told her that we were Americans of

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Japanese ancestry and she said that she did not give a darn what nationality we were. She said that she knew we have been kicked around, but she felt that most of us born here were as loyal as she was. I think that she is a naturalized American. She has given us several jars of preserves and pickles and once in a while she comes down to look at the baby. I borrow things that I need from her. She likes the baby so much that she is making a dress for her. She asks a lot of questions about camp life and I tell her all that she wants to know. She is very surprised that we are not bitter. 'Why you are just like the rest of us,' she says.

"The landlady is not very much interested in the war. She says that she is just interested in living like a human being. She is clean and orderly and I don't think that she has racial prejudice. There is a Chinese man living in the house. I am making friends with most of the wives in the building. We all go out together to buy vegetables from the Italian man who comes around in a wagon. Lately we have sort of visited around to inspect each other's babies.

"Allen's sister brought out her younger brother from Manzanar and she is going to send him to high school. She is a secretary at the Y. I think that she plans to move to Wisconsin soon. In the meantime, Allen and I are helping out by feeding the brother at our apartment. We share this expense with his sister. I keep busy all the time and I haven't gotten lonesome for camp yet. I think that it is the most stupid thing for a Nisei to even think of going back to camp. They can't be that lonesome.

"Since I have been in Chicago, I have not gone to church. No time. I have a list of Caucasian friends who are living here now. I used to know them in New York. I haven't had time to look them up and I don't want to

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invite them over until we move to a better place.

"Allen buys all of the newspapers so that I can keep up with the news. The only magazine I have read since coming here was last months Readers Digest. I haven't had time to read any books. Allen's sister has a nice library and some day I plan to go over and start reading some more. You know the only time that I think about camp is when I think of my parents. I would like to get them out as soon as I can but we are not able to right now.

"I think that the Niseis should all try to spread out more. Congregation is very bad for them. You don't see the Germans and Negroes going out in droves like the Niseis want to do. I think that the girls can assimilate easily if they wanted to. They could join the Y's and go out with office friends. There is no reason why a lot of them can't intermarry. Nisei girls aren't so bad looking. They should intermarry whenever possible. It seems natural to me and I've seen them make a go of it. There is no reason why the Niseis cannot associate more with the Caucasians. However I wouldn't advise the girls who come from country homes in Central California to intermarry right away. They have not met the best type of Caucasians and they may be taken advantage of. You have to develop your friendships slowly and not accept every Caucasian that comes along because some of them are not good for you.

"I see my own future in a small town, with only a few Japanese in it. If I have to stay in a large city, I would like to go to work and establish myself in something of interest to me. I never thought of what will be the future of all the Japanese in the camps. I think that the evacuation has started to make the Niseis think more of these things. They were too

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interested in the social life before and everyone did the same thing and stuck to the Japanese clubs. Now it is time for more important things.

"If Allen is drafted, I'll move in with one of my sister-in-laws and keep house on the dependent's allowance. You can't plan much for the future then. But the war is something that we have to get over with as fast as we can. I still think highly of my American citizenship and everybody has to do his duty. I think that America will win the war in about three more years and after that we can plan for the future better.

"I have a feeling that the future will take care of itself, so that I haven't worried too much about it. I'll never go back to camp to live. That is about the only thing I can say with certainty right now. If I say I do, it will only be because I don't want to do the dishes at that moment, but I won't really mean it. Now there are too few Niseis in camp with the same ideas as I have so that I would not be able to get along with them."

Add to Toshie (CH-4)

I left the office about 5:00 this evening to go over and have dinner with Toshie and interview her. She said that she was having a hard time buying meat but she managed to get enough together to cook a delicious chop suey dinner. Toshie is looking fine and she has regained her youthful appearances. She is continually surprising me because she is such an adjustable person. Lucy certainly has grown. She is only about 2 years old now but she talks like a machine gun. I tried to apply some of my Child Psychology concepts which I had learned in my class to Lucy and the experiment was fairly successful because Toshie remarked that Lucy had certainly taken me in. Lucy talked about her trip to Washington. She said that she saw the Capitol. "What else did you see?" I asked. Lucy answered, "George Lincoln's statue." Then she told me about Grant's Tomb and going to New York. Lucy's vocabulary has picked up amazingly. When I last saw her 3 or 4 months ago, she was only able to say only one syllable words but she now uses simple sentences. She is much better behaved now so I think that Toshie has been a success as a mother. Toshie is very patient with her two children and she never gets irritated when they ask a lot of questions. A child is naturally curious and that is the only way that they learn. Toshie was surprised that I knew so much about babies but I didn't tell her that I had learned it out of a book at school! She said that she thumbs through those child books that I gave her last year and that she has learned many useful things from them. She relies upon the child psychologists at the Baby Clinic quite a bit too.

Toshie and I gossiped like a couple of old ladies for several hours and she told me a great deal about her present life, worries, fears, and hopes. These things do not burden her mind excessively, but she is thinking of the future. Her greatest concern is about

Albert's safe return from overseas. He left on April 15. Toshie has only been back from the East Coast for about a week. She lived in Washington and New York most of the time, and she had a very enjoyable trip even if it was rather expensive for her to take the children along. However, she wanted to make Albert's remaining days in the U.S. as pleasant as possible so that she didn't consider money at all. During dinner she told me all about her trip, and afterwards she ironed while telling me her present life adjustments.

Toshie said that she saw Ken Morioka's wife yesterday and that Midori was having a rather difficult time making ends meet. "Midori has to pay \$12.50 a week rent and it's a terrible financial drain on her because she only gets \$100 a month allotment from the Army. Ken was drafted on March 1. He doesn't like Army life at all because it is too hard. He is training down at Fort Bragg. Ken was rather a weakling about facing the draft because he went to pieces during the time he was in 1-A and he certainly neglected his family. I guess he just isn't mature enough yet, but the Army should give him a greater sense of responsibility. He has never been able to achieve his goals out here, and that's why he changed from one job to another. He didn't have the gumption to go out and look for decent housing for his family so that's the reason why he even had to borrow money to find his present apartment. Midori certainly won't be able to stay there with the income she is getting now so she will have to make other arrangements. Ken just left things drift by until it was too late. He has plenty of ambition, but he just thinks about things and never takes action. He was working as a houseman at the Stevens Hotel after he quit his plumbing business, but for a time before he was drafted he worked in an ice plant. I've heard rumors that he went out and got drunk quite often and he wasn't a man about getting drafted. I certainly lost some respect for him because he should have

considered his family first instead of feeling so sorry for himself. But I don't really dislike him because I think that there is some good in everyone. At least he tried to be a good father to his children. Midori should have been more firm in ~~his~~ her treatment of him instead of babying him along so much. After all, when a man has 2 children, he should grow up. I feel more sorry for Midori than I do for Ken. She had further worries on her mind because Janie spilled some hot sauce on Tommy and he had to go to the hospital for 9 days to get treated for burns all over the face and chest. I don't know if he is going to have any scars on him or not.

"Don't forget now, everything I tell you is confidential because I don't want you to think that I go around gossiping about everyone. Cherie (CH-16) and I are pretty close now because we have a lot in common. She comes over every week and we talk about our husbands. Cherie was the one who told me about what train to take to Washington and she gave me a lot of instructions about it because she had just returned from there herself after seeing Joe go overseas. Cherie is so happy now that she is married that she is a changed personality. She wanted to get married so desperately. We talked a lot about real personal things to each other, but Cherie is a reserved person and it's taken a long time for us to get to the point where we talk so freely. Cherie is going to continue working in her domestic job and after Joe comes back from overseas, she will start her own home. For a while she never came over to see me, because she was the last one of our group at Gila to get married. (This group includes Cherie, Toshie, Alice, Beverly, Sachi, and a few others.) Cheri's only thought now is about the future.

"I certainly enjoy my trip to Washington. We went all around and took in the sights and I visited all of my friends. It was a

nice way for Albert to spend his last furlough and we had a honeymoon all over again, even if I had two children with me. I enjoyed seeing all of my Caucasian friends out there and they have urged me to come out and join them. Since coming back, I've been so busy getting this apartment fixed up. My landlord certainly has been nice to me. He sold me a very good oil stove for only \$30 and he put some water pipes in the kitchen stove in the coal compartment so that I could heat water up without running my gas bill up high. He comes over and helps me move all the heavy stuff and everything. The rent here is only \$20 a month for I feel fortunate. We only pay \$2.50 more for the upstairs place. I have plenty of room now so I can bring in another boarder. I was thinking of charging \$50 a month, but I think that \$40 a month would be fair. In that way a boarder wouldn't begin to resent me and think that I am gypping her. I think that even on \$40 a month I think I will be able to make money for myself. If I can bring in 2 girls, that would be good for me because it would keep me busy and I could make some extra money. That is what Yuri Ekinaka (CH-36) is doing. I'm thinking of converting my front living room into a bedroom and using the dining room for a living room. I already have a girl who wants to move in with me. I met her out in Washington. ~~She~~ May went out there from Heart Mt. to see her husband off and she doesn't want to go back to camp to live with her in-laws because they are old-fashioned. They thought that it was silly for her to go see him off as they don't believe in those things. May is working as a clerk in some department store in Washington but the cost of living out there is too high. She wrote and asked me if she can come and stay with me so I invited her. Housing out in Washington is terrible. It cost me \$10 a week for one single room, but other girls out there pay as much as \$17 a week for an

apartment.

"The living costs in New York are not quite as high. I was very surprised to notice a regular Japanese section in New York. It's much more developed than out here. Saye and Joe Oyama are running a Japanese store right in the middle of this section and they really are making money. Wesley supplies all of the Japanese food from Denver. After a month after Saye went in, the business doubled, the second month it tripled and the third month it quadrupled. That is the reason why Saye can afford to run around in her \$75 suits. If I go to New York though, I don't think I would live in that Japanese section because I would want to get away from that sort of thing. Most of my friends out there are not Japanese and they live in other sections."

The following is a verbatim account of Toshie's comments during the formal interview which we had:

"One of the things that I have been worry about since coming back is the rumors I hear about the camps closing up at the end of this year. My mother and father are still in Gila and my mother doesn't want to come out here because she says it will be too cold for them. My parents lived in Detroit before so that they know what it's like. But it is hard for old people to live in such a cold place so that I can see my mother's point of view. She is talking about going back to California, but I don't know what there is in California for her. I wrote to her all the time and tell her that we have to start thinking definitely about resettlement but she says that she will stay in Gila until the end. She works in the hospital so that those people will be the last ones out. My mother gets a small Army allotment from my brother and she wants to save as much of that as possible before she leaves.

"I have an uncle in Detroit and he has offered to set my par-

ents up in business if they go out there. I don't think my father can do anything because he is sick and too old. He's 75. I don't know why the WRA decided to close the camps up at this time. It seems to me that it is going to be much harder for the Issei to come out here now when Germany is defeated and everyone will be busy hating the Japs. They won't be able to stand up for themselves like us Nisei can do because they don't have the protection of citizenship. Naturally I resent the closing of camps because it is going to be a great hardship on my parents. I suppose that this is the way that almost all of the Nisei who have families in camp feel. I am a little better off because there aren't any younger children to worry about and I have a large enough place for them to come into if that became absolutely necessary. But most of the Nisei are living in cramped apartments with their friends and they can't find housing to bring a family into. I don't know what they are going to do. It seems that most of them aren't going to do anything as their families in camp have told them that they are going to wait and see if the WRA really means to kick them out first.

"The WRA is thinking too much about its money and I suppose that it can't help that since it is supported by the people's taxes. But it certainly makes things so hard for those of us who have parents. If my parents were young and able to work, it would be a much easier problem. My dad is so old that he has to have somebody take care of him. I don't think he is ever going to work again. Dad had a small business and an income before the evacuation so that the WRA should provide some kind of a rest home for him and other aged people.

"I don't think that any of my family ~~xxx~~ or Albert's will ever go back to California to live. Albert thinks our future is in the Midwest or in the East. He feels that it would be much easier for a Nisei to find work in an industrial center if a depression does come

around. We haven't made any specific plans for the future because Albert has to come back from the Army first. He and his family sold their home in California so there is nothing to go back to. Albert figured that since his dad is in Washington, there wasn't much chance that any of the family would be going back to California after the war. There isn't a single thing they can go back to. When I saw Albert's dad in Washington recently, he told me that he would never revert to gardening or domestic work again and he definitely plans to remain in the east. He never was a farmer so it's no use for him to seek the soil. Albert's folks are better off than mine because they are out of camp now and they are independent of the children.

"I got alarmed when the WRA first announced that the camp was closing and I wrote a very excited letter to my mother. She was very calm about it and she said that if things came to the worst, dad would be sent to a sanatorium in California and she would go with him. My father has been in the hospital for 2 years now. It started out with valley fever and then he had a touch of T.B. altho it is in the inactive stage now. He's mostly suffering from old age. I feel so sorry for my father because his life is almost finished. He wants to see his grandchildren so badly, but I have never been able to make that trip back to camp yet. It breaks my heart that I can't have my parents out here, but I certainly won't go to Gila to ever live again because my camp days are in the forgotten past and I don't ever want to live through an experience like that again. It's really heart-breaking and I feel so sorry for my parents but I don't know what I can do. Maybe I'll try to go see them this fall. My dad may not live much longer and I want to see him at least once more before that time comes. If we weren't evacuated, our family group would still be together, but it's not use being bitter about

that because it would only make me unhappy and there is nothing gained. It's just life.

"My mother is welcomed to come and live with me any time but she doesn't want to be a burden and she feels that her first duty is to stick with dad. I don't think he can stand the trip out here now in his present health condition. It worries my but I can't worry about all these things because I will get sick. I can't afford to have ill-health now with the 2 children to look after. I just have a feeling that things will turn out for the best in the long run. It is always tragic to break up a family group but those things do happen even without an evacuation.

"From now on, I will have to make a further readjustment in my life. I don't think that I will get lonely in this house because I have enough friends who come and visit me. I don't plan to live in this apartment for the rest of my life because I want to buy a home of my own some day. That has been Albert's and my ambition ever since we got married. While I was in Washington, Albert and I decided that we would try to own our own home after the war. We want to settle down in Maryland or Connecticut or one of those small eastern states, but we will have to go where Albert has a job.

"It is possible that I will take the children to Washington as Albert's mother is planning to go there with Otto, Donald and Teddy to join her husband soon. Mr. Ikeda has been telling them to come out there all the time and he is getting a little sore about it. I'm the in-between for them and I've been doing all the negotiations. Mr. Ikeda told me to tell Albert's mother that he could get a government house in Washington so that the family did not have to worry about housing. Mr. Ikeda is pretty confident that his job will last for a long time. He plans to remain in government work permanently if possible. He says that the family should come where the head of

the family is and he is very insistent about it. This is the first chance that he really has had an opportunity to exert his role as the head of the family a number of years because he was dependent on the children in California. He was never able to get a white collar job in California even if he was a college graduate and that used to rankle him and he was very unhappy. Yuri and Albert understood him but Dorothy was younger and she thought he deserted the family so she has a deep resentment of him yet. If the family goes to Washington Dorothy will probably remain here because she is in training at the hospital.

"Albert wants me to go wherever the family is so that he will not have to worry about me and the children so much. I told Mr. Ikeda that I was willing to go out to Washington with the rest of the family but I told him that he shouldn't be so impatient about it. Mrs. Ikeda doesn't want to leave Chicago until Donald finishes his watch-making school in the fall. Teddy and Otto want to finish out their school year too. Albert really doesn't care if I went to Washington permanently or not because in a way he would rather have the family stay in Chicago. He thinks that Chicago might be the least hit by a big depression after the war and he would have more job opportunities here. But he is leaving his mind open to the whole thing and he feels that his father does have a right to ask the family to go out to Washington to join him.

"Mrs. Ikeda is willing to go to Washington now but she worries that the cost of living will be much higher out there. I wouldn't mind going east at all because I have a lot of hakuji friends out there. It really doesn't matter as I would get my allotment regardless of where I live and one city is like another. After 2 years of living here, I don't feel that I have too deep a root in this city. I think that I can feel even more secure in Washington or New York

as I have closer friends in the east than I do have here. I would prefer living in the East if I had adequate housing. A friend of mine is looking for housing for me in New Jersey right now. That friend is an ainoko (half Caucasian, half-Japanese) and he is the president of the JACL chapter in New York City. This chapter is not like any other chapter of the JACL as it has Negro and white members and he claims it is more progressive than the regular JACL chapters.

"I feel that I have been pretty fortunate in housing here in Chicato after hearing about housing problems of the other Nisei. It's much more convenient to have a flat of my own. I moved down here to the second floor last January as it was crowded upstairs when all the Ikeda family moved in. The landlord used to live in this flat but he moved next door. The Ikeda family has all of the upstairs flat now and this is a much better living arrangement.

"Living with Mrs. Ikeda and her family was much better than I expected. We all knew that it was only a temporary affair so that we got along fairly well and I didn't have all of those mother-in-law conflicts that I expected. Of course, there were minor resentments built up at times on both sides, but it wasn't bad at all. Mrs. Ikeda certainly did help me out a lot because she took care of me during the time Albert Jr. was born at the end of last year. She helped me financially because it was very cheap for me to live upstairs and I even saved a little of my allotment during that period. Since I am able to get along agreeably with them, I might follow them to Washington later on because this is what Albert wants.

"I don't have much money now as I took a two months' trip to go to Washington to see Albert when I only expected to be gone for about 2 weeks. I saw Yuri (CH-25) out there because she is stationed at Camp Richmond and she does secretarial work for the Intelligence unit. In a way it might be better for all of the family to go out

there and be together instead of being split up like we are now. Mrs. Ikeda isn't buying anything for her flat upstairs as it will all have to be sold when they leave. She thinks they might leave about September but it isn't positive yet. I won't grieve if I leave Chicago if I leave later on.

"I did feel much more secure here during the time before Albert got drafted last August (1944). Even though the draft status was indefinite, we felt more secure because we were building up a real home. I knew that he had to go eventually but I never tried to think of it. Mrs. Ikeda and her family helped during my readjustment period because I was with a family group all the time up and until I moved down here. Now I plan to take in a boarder so I should be able to get along fine. I'm pretty sure that May is going to come out here from Washington unless she suddenly changes her mind. She hasn't any friends in Chicago at all so that's the reason why I decided to help her out. You know, one thing I don't like about Chicago is that nobody seems to be doing too much about the war effort. In Washington everyone is conscious of the war. I have been thinking that I will start a service men's wives club out here to bake cookies to send to our husbands overseas. There are a number of nisei wives out here I know and quite a few hakujin wives in the neighborhood who can join us. In Washington the Nisei seem to be more keen about the war effort. While I was there, I went to roll bandages at the Red Cross every Wednesday night. In Chicago the Nisei don't even consider those things. They just talk about money and how much they are going to earn and things like that. I've always felt rather keenly about the war, and I have been much stronger in this feeling every since Albert went in.

"My social life has been very small, but I have made a number

friends among Caucasian girls in this neighborhood. Ruth is my best friend in this group and she was the one who introduced me to a lot of her girl friends. Most of them have husband overseas and they are working in offices, but some of them have children like I have. They are all German and Polish nisei themselves, so we have a lot in common. These girls gave me a shower last December after I have Albert Jr. arrive.

"I also have a number of old Caucasian friends in Washington that I knew ever since 1938 when I came back from Japan and I want to keep them. The friends I have out here are not such deep friends ~~as~~ those as they tend to be more on the acquaintanceship side except a few. It's so hard to really get settled down in a neighborhood, but I think I've done fairly well in the 2 years that I've lived out here. Those social adjustments developed through a natural process and I just don't go out of my way to make friends if I don't feel the need for it. Some of these girls come over on Sundays and we have real bull sessions about our husbands overseas. The other girls feel that I am lucky because Albert is a sergeant while their husband are only privates. We talk about what we hope to do in the future, but we all know that this is unpredictable so we keep our fingers crossed.

"I want Albert to take advantage of the GI Bill of Rights and get more schooling after the war so that he won't have to be a worker all of his life. There's nothing shameful about being a worker but I think that with some training, he could become more skilled. That's why I am going to try and save as much money as possible so that he won't have to sorry about the care of the children when he comes back and he will be able to take vocational school courses. I don't think that I will be able to go to work now, now that I have 2 children. I guess I could do a little typing at home if I could

find a job like that. I am going to phone one of the universities around here to see if I could get some thesis typing to do at home. I don't know whether I really will have time to do anything like that because there is plenty of work for me to do at home as it is. I'm no longer so enthusiastic about having a career because I get much more joy out of being a mother. It really is a creative job to bring up children and I think that it gives me a lot more satisfaction than a job ever could. I feel ~~xxx~~ happier the way I am now because I feel that life has a great deal of meaning for me. I was hoping for at least one more child, but I guess that will have to be postponed until after Albert returns from overseas. I wouldn't mind having another baby at government expense, but Albert won't be getting back for many months now and the war may be over before then. I hope that the war is over soon because that means we will be able to get settled once more.

"Mrs. Ikeda worries quite a bit about her sons in the Army. Two of them are overseas now. I'm grateful to her for the way she looked after me and the little scraps that we had in the past are nothing at all. Now, whenever they make any plans upstairs for a social evening, they always include me in. It's good to have relatives around as they help out in a pinch. It's easier to face the future when you are united with a family group. I never think about the possibility that Albert may not come back but it would be terrible if I didn't have a family group to fall back upon.

"I really don't think that I am worried excessively about the future because my biggest worry is that Albert will come back safely and we will be able to handle all of our problems as they come up after that. This is a temporary life right now and I am making the best of it. I don't manage to save any money because I have been

spending all of my allotment up to now, but I expect to get ahead after this month. From now on, Albert will be sending me \$25 extra a month from his Army pay because he gets a sergeant's pay now and he will have an additional overseas pay to go with that. He will also take care of the payments for the 3 life insurances he is keeping up. If it weren't for that he would send me \$50 extra every month. I expect to save that \$25 he sends and a little more also. I guess \$100 a month allotment so I should be able to save some more if I bring in a boarder. That trip to Washington was rather costly to us and we had to dig into our reserve fund. I figure that I will be saving at least \$40 a month after I get my boarder in here. But I am not counting any pennies until I actually start putting it into the bank.

"Albert worked hard during the time before he was drafted in order to build up a fund for me, but our reserve took quite a beating when we took a trip to New York last summer. We spent \$200 that time and we spent another \$200 during his furlough up here last Xmas. I spent over \$200 on this last trip to Washington. I took a compartment on the train when I went because of the children but don't tell any of my relatives as the Issei think that this is such a waste of money. Mrs. Ikeda almost went with me to Washington but she had to stay behind after Otto was in that automobile accident. Mrs. Ikeda wanted to go to Washington first to look it over before she brought the family out there. She doesn't have too many financial worries because she is getting the money for the sale of the house that they had in California and Albert only gets a small part of it. Mrs. Ikeda manages to get by on the allotment from her son and her husband sends her extra money so that she can live fairly comfortably. Donald and Otto are self-supporting now so that Teddy

is the only dependent but he even manages to make \$10 or \$15 a week on his part time job at the bakery. Both Otto and Teddy are saving their money for their college education as they don't want to depend on their parents. Don't ever let on to Mrs. Ikeda that I discuss her financial affairs with you because she is very funny that way. You know how proud Issei are and they never want anyone to know their family secrets. Mrs. Ikeda is a graduate of the University of Tokyo so that she is much more liberal than most Issei women, but she still has many of those Japanese cultural ideas and she is also sympathetic to the Japanese people. She recognizes that the Nisei are loyal to America and she never objects to her sons and daughter serving in the U.S. armed forces. She never mentioned that she was for the political system of Japan, but she would like to have her children be more understanding of the Japanese people. I never got into an argument with her on that because that would create an ill-feeling and I really don't disagree with her too much except that I am strong for America and I don't appreciate the Japanese people as much as she does. I don't like the Japanese system of government but we never discuss Japanese politics much upstairs.

"I think that Mrs. Ikeda's main point for judging a person is his sense of responsibility towards the family. She believes that the family unit must stick together by all means. That is why she admires you so much for taking care of your sisters and she is always pointing it out to her sons. That family upstairs gets along very well together, but I think that Dorothy was quite maladjusted before she went into Cadet Nursing. She has a love for the under-dog, but sometimes it sounds like she is pro-Japan in her sentiments because she can't explain it the way she really feels. She is a little different from Yuri and Albert and I don't know if that is because

she went to live in a Japanese community in Los Angeles at a younger age than Albert and Yuri did. Dorothy is really a very good American but she is very bitter about some things that have happened in the past and that's what makes her more maladjusted than other members of the family. I guess I don't have to tell you that the real basis for this fact is that she is worried about getting married. She is in Cadet Nursing school now because she doesn't want to waste her time. But I don't think she should worry too much about getting married and change her attitude toward other things and be bitter and gloomy. Usually Dorothy is carefree but all of her group is married but she is about the last one so I guess she feels is keenly like during the time Cherles was before she was married.

"I have a great deal of respect and admiration for Yuri (CH-25) and I think she is a very human person and I get along the best with her of any of Albert's relatives. I certainly was glad to see her in Washington. Yuri has had some tough breaks and I certainly hope that she gets the happiness that she deserves. She seems to be happy right now in the WACs but she should have a good husband and a family. I don't think that her husband will reconcile with her for a long time, if ever. The split seemed to be pretty definite and that's one reason why Yuri finally decided to go ahead and join the WACs. Recently I heard a rumor that Yuji is going to volunteer into the Army himself. He is a chemist here in some plant here in Chicago and he has a very high paying job. I don't know why he went to pieces and started to chase around with trash girls after he got out here. He had everything to work for after he married Yuri but something happened to him and it looks like it's all over now. Yuri is going around with a lieutenant in Washington, but I don't think that she will marry him. She still wants to get Yuji back because

he's a man's ~~and~~ man and she doesn't mind getting kicked around a bit as long as they get together. They might come back together some day as Yuji doesn't seem to be able to get along without Yuri and I think that's the main reason why he's all twisted up.

"Yuji never comes over here but I guess that's because he has some sort of guilty conscience. He runs around exclusively with Caucasians and he doesn't mingle with Nisei at all. I don't know what Yuri expects to do in the future but she was talking about joining UNRA to go over to Europe after she gets out of the WACs. What's the use of her running around from one thing to another. What is she trying to escape from? She'll never be happy that way. It's too bad because she's such a nice girl. Mrs. Ikeda is so proud that she would practically die if she knew that I have been telling about family secrets outside of the family group. I don't think that Albert or Yuri would have told anyone else about their lives except you but they understood that you were trying to help all Nisei out with your research work and they don't care as long as you change the identify. Yuri was going to tell about herself, more than she ever told you, but she went into the WACs before the chance came around.

"I guess it's okay because we talk about you and your family too. Mrs. Ikeda has nothing against you because you took care of the family and you went through college by yourself, but she says that Mariko talks too much and she never does anything about it as far as she can see. She thinks that Mariko is too nervous. That's what some of my hakujin friends told me. We talk about other things like that about your family so I just figure that it's all in one family group anyway since we are related in one way or another.

"I don't have much of a social life anymore, but I don't seem to miss it too much. When Albert was here on his last furlough, we

joined the Methodist Church in the neighborhood. But when he left, it felt like some of our roots were suddenly pulled out and now I'm not seeking to make any deep roots here. I figure that some day we will be going east so I haven't attempted to cultivate too many friends. I don't have any time to be joining clubs as I am too busy with my home. The only club I would really be interested in joining would be Red Cross work but I can't spare the time for it at the present. I don't think that I would ever be interested in joining the YWCA because that is for younger girls. I wouldn't join the JACL out here at all because I don't agree with it. The only time I ever was a member of it was in camp when I put out 50¢. I wouldn't mind seeing the Pacific Citizen once in a while though as they have a lot of news of service men in it even though it overplays it at times. There isn't any other organization in Chicago that I would be interested in.

"The Methodist Church here wants me to be more active but I don't seem to have the time even if I am a member. But I think that it is a nice place because I met a lot of hakujins there. They are mostly German Americans and I enjoy meeting them. I don't care particularly to mingle with the few Nisei going to that church because they should take advantage of meeting the hakujins themselves and I can meet them in plenty of other ways. I know enough Nisei already and I don't have any particular urge to expand my circle because I wouldn't have time to keep up these contacts.

"I went to one Nisei dance in Washington, D.C. and that was the first time I saw so many Nisei together at one time since I left camp. I did go to a couple of Nisei dances out here, but the crowds weren't that big. My interest has gone beyond exclusively social activities now that I am a mother so I don't feel that I am missing out on anything. These affairs are okay when you are young~~g~~ and

single, but the Nisei out here can't seem to get enough of social life. I gather that is true because that's all they talk about in their conversations. I guess it's because they don't want to worry about all their other problems and they are trying to escape from it just like Yuri. The only difference is that she went into the WACs while most of the Nisei try to escape by having big dances and affairs like that. It isn't anything constructive though so that it may harm them in the future. I feel sorry for most of the Nisei, especially the single ones, as they don't seem to be settling down at all. I sympathize with them because it is hard and they don't know what to do about getting their families out here because there is no housing. I think that they have even less roots in Chicago than I have, but there are many of them who are mingling quite well in the community and they seem well adjusted so that there is hope for all.

"One of the things I do regularly is to attend the Baby Clinic. The nurse there tells me a lot about child psychology and I'm trying to bring up my baby in a modern way. The Issei would think that I were crazy for trying to follow these scientific methods, but I feel a greater security in the advice that the nurse gives me than I would in any Issei advice about motherhood being a natural process which just comes to a person. The Baby Clinic has saved me a lot of doctor bills through its good advice on Baby care and Lucy is certainly a lot more healthy as a result of it. I read many books on infant and child care when I have the time, but I don't rely upon them exclusively. I'm afraid my mother wouldn't understand all of these things as she is of the old school which believes that a good mother is a natural process which comes automatically.

"My circle of friends out here now is about the same as it was when Albert left for the Army. I know 5 or 6 Nisei couples real

well and I see them at least once a week and they keep me from getting lonesome. I know most of the Caucasian people who lived in our block and they all sent me a card when the baby was born. All of the hakujin ~~xxx~~ in the block call me by my American name, Jean. Some of them said that when they first read about the Pacific Coast Japanese being placed in concentration camps, they thought it was justice but they said that their blood boiled when they found out that the Nisei were included too. Now they think that it was a great mistake that any Japanese were evacuated after talking to us and seeing what we are like. It's easy to make these contacts with other groups if you have common interests. It doesn't take too much of an effort. In New York my girl friend is married to a Caucasian person and she certainly has an interesting circle. She has friends from all racial groups and she doesn't hang around the Nisei group at all even though she doesn't dislike them. This girl was the one who performed for Mrs. Roosevelt with the Chinese actors troupe. I was in New York when FDR died. It was so sad. Everyone was looking at the large bulletin board on Times Square for the latest news. It was one of the saddest moment of my life and I felt a deep personal loss. I felt almost the same as I did the time we were being evacuated. It was that same feeling of being bewildered and losing something close to you that you had always taken for granted.

"It's so easy to slip back into the routine life and I'd been very busy fixing up my house ever since coming back. I have to take care of the children and teach Lucy how to talk and I write a daily letter to Albert. I'm not teaching Lucy any Japanese, but she picked up a few words from Mrs. Ikeda. I don't care if she learns it or not, but I am not going to take time out to force it down her throat. My parents forced me to learn it and I didn't like it at all. I don't think any of the Nisei liked Japanese school. I just feel

that my children will be in this country all their lives anyway. I suppose that this is a narrow way of looking at it, but my children will have a little basis for Japanese and they can take it up later for cultural purposes later. I don't want to force it on them just for the sake of the language itself. I don't feel that it is an absolute necessity for them to know Japanese and there's no use to cling to racial identity all the time. It's good to know other languages for cultural purposes, but if a child is forced to learn too much Japanese during their growing years, it might make them race conscious. Some of my Nisei friends get angry about it when I say that I am not making any efforts to teach Japanese to Lucy. There's one girl who gets violent about it and she even disapproves of some of my Caucasian friends because they are not so well educated as she is. She never allows anyone to express an opinion of their own so I don't argue with her. I don't see any sense in making any issue out of it. It seems to me that these Nisei who feel so keenly about knowing the language do so because they feel insecure about themselves and there is the unspoken thought that they might eventually be forced to go to Japan where they will be forced to know the language. I don't feel that pessimistic about the future so that's why I don't feel it necessary for my children to know Japanese to use as a reserve, just 'in case'. I'm not violent either one way or the other on it. I know Japanese myself well enough to teach it I suppose because I was in Japan for 3 years. I think that my children will pick up the elementary basis of it and then it will be up to them to decide whether they want to know it more fully or not. I would take the same attitude about teaching religion or anything else. There's no sense in being fanatic about one point of view on anything.

"I can't complain too much about Chicago and I haven't felt

any discrimination at all. I know that it exists in jobs and housing to some extent, but I haven't come into contact with it myself. There are Nisei living in this neighborhood who tell me that the hakujin are prejudiced against them here but I know definitely that this isn't true. Maybe I'm not as sensitive about these things. There are several ways of looking at this problem of discrimination. One can be sensitive and feel it all the time, but that only makes him miserable, or one can ignore it completely and say that it does not exist, but that wouldn't be true. My way of looking at it is that a certain amount of discrimination does exist out here but not as much as on the Pacific Coast and is only carried on by the more ignorant groups. I don't think they represent the majority of the hakujin as I have more faith and trust in them. I think if Nisei became less sensitive about these things, they would soon feel the same as I do. It's always a good excuse to say that discrimination and prejudice is the fault for all of their troubles out here, but that isn't the whole story. There are some Nisei out here who have gone through some serious cases of discrimination, but that doesn't make them lose faith in everything. On the other hand, there are some Nisei who have only heard rumors about discrimination without actually going through it themselves and yet they become even more bitter and pessimistic. I don't think that's the right way of looking at it at all.

"I had one unpleasant experience out here. It was just before I went to Washington but I didn't let this experience twist my mind because I knew that it was only one person being nasty and not all hakujin. It happened that I always joked around with the sales girl at the National Tea Company. One morning I went in there early and we were joking around and discussing neighborhood gossip when a foreign looking lady came in and she pointed to my girl friend and

said in a heavy accent, 'You! Why taking the time to laughing with a Japanese girl. The idea! And here my boy killed by the Japs.' Without thinking, I got furious and I told her right in front of everybody that my husband was just about ready to go overseas and I had four other relatives in the service so how dare she say that. The lady went out of the store raving as soon as I said that. I really felt sorry for her afterwards as she was going through a mental strain. The manager of the store came out and apologized and said that the lady was ignorant and she had no business insulting any of the customers. I told him that the lady probably just lost her son and she didn't realize that I was an American because she just looked at my face and drew conclusions right away. Later I felt that it was so funny because she was a foreigner saying those things to me. I didn't have enough nerve to tell her that I was born and reared in this country while she came from Europe. I felt she had just as much right as I did but she shouldn't question my right at all because of my ancestry.

"I have found that the attitude around this neighborhood in general is very good and I think that the people are sympathetic because they are of German descent and their parents went through some unpleasant incidents during the last war because of their ancestry. There seems to be quite a few Nisei moving in here but they haven't grouped together in any one spot.

"It seems to me that the Nisei are a whole are congregating all over. Seabrook Farms in New Jersey has hundreds of Issei and Nisei. Whole family groups have signed up to go out there. When I went out to New Jersey on my trip East recently, the taxicab driver said that he took many of 'your people' out to the Seabrook Farms and he thought I was going there. In New York, the Nisei appear to be much more segregated than out here, but it isn't exactly forced

upon them. They have just drifted into that one area. But most of the Nisei I talk to out east told me that evacuation has done them good and they have been able to spread out and get many different kinds of jobs. The office girls were the ones to get the best breaks. Who would have thought that there would be so many Nisei government girls in Washington! Gee, that is something and it speaks well for democracy. We take it for granted but it's really surprising that so many Nisei have government jobs when we are fighting the country of their ancestry.

"It seems such a pity that the Nisei aren't spread out even more than they are now. There are many Japanese businesses developing here in Chicago and they seem to be centered on Clark St. The Issei all go to the Moody church and the Nisei have centered in several churches if they are religiously inclined. There's even a Gila River cafe opened up on Clark St. now. They also are some other restaurants with Japanese names which they brought from Los Angeles. I think that the Nisei still are too sensitive and they are afraid to meet the Caucasians on a common ground. I used to condemn them for that, but I think I understand their situation a little better now even though I don't approve of some of the things going on because I don't think it's healthy. There are not enough aggressive Nisei to take the lead in penetrating into new circles. So many of them feel sensitive about hakujins and they hold funny attitudes other minority groups. This is because they haven't really had an opportunity to mix real well. If that were done, they would be surprised how readily they would be accepted in most instances.

"Most of my New York Nisei friends are married to Caucasians and they had to mix with Caucasians more because there wasn't a Japanese community out there before the war. I grew up in Detroit and I really can't imagine why any of the Nisei should be racially

conscious because we are perfectly acceptable and we act just like them when we are with them. I never feel self conscious when I am with Caucasians. It must be a frame of mind and I don't know the Nisei psychology at all. There are plenty of Nisei who feel the same way I do, but I wish all Nisei could act more at ease.

"I don't think very much of those Japanese hangouts which are developing at the Playtime and other places that I've heard of. When I went to New York, a few of the Nisei I met out there were always telling me to come to a Nisei dance or a social, but I found that my Caucasian friends and my old Nisei friends in that group had so much more to offer me, and I enjoyed doing things with them more than just going to a Nisei group where I didn't know hardly any of them. Albert had a 3 day furlough during that time and we went to visit some of my Caucasian friends and he got along very well. I wish that more Nisei would think like Americans should. We wouldn't be regarded any differently once we got to be friends.

"The afternoon that FDR died, we were invited for dinner at a Caucasian's house in New Jersey. We all felt like crying together when the news came over the radio in the late afternoon. We just felt like Americans then and I'm sure that many Nisei felt just as bad as any Caucasians. They should realize that they do have so many American thoughts and they shouldn't be afraid to bring it out into the open and let the hakujins really see them as they are. Nobody is going to laugh at them. It feels strange to call ourselves Americans after living in a Japanese community, that that passes right away and we wonder why we didn't do it a long time ago.

"There may be a large Japanese community developing out here after the camps close and I'd rather not be here when that happens. Albert spent most of his life among hakujins and he wouldn't miss Japanese contacts very much if we went east. He was 18 years old before he went to California and he only lived in the Japanese com-

community for about 8 years. Even then, he didn't live in a real Japanese community in Pasadena. The only time he lived in an all-Japanese group was in camp and even then his friends were among the Caucasian teachers. He never thinks that he is superior to the other Nisei, but he has found out that he thinks more like the Caucasians of his similar background than he does the Nisei. Come to think of it, I guess that's one of the main reasons why I married him. Actually I have more of a taste for Japanese culture than he has because I spent 3 years in Japan and I was able to get a fairly good picture of the better side of Japanese life but I wouldn't want that kind of a life for myself again.

"Albert's parents have more of the Japanese sentiment and he used to hurt them with some of his attitudes. When Lucy was being born, he refused to name her with a Japanese name. I was more willing to compromise as I didn't want to hurt the old folks. I said that we could give the baby a Japanese name, but we didn't have to put it on the birth certificate. Albert didn't even want to do that. That's why I told Albert's parents that we named Lucy's middle name, Kazuko, meaning peace. Albert never uses it and I don't either. It wasn't necessary at all as my parents-in-law always uses the American name when talking to Lucy.

"Albert doesn't like Japanese food at all and he felt that it wasn't even complimentary when some of my Nisei friends in New York offered to take him to a suki-yaki dinner. He would have preferred to eat a steak dinner. He'd rather eat potatoes any day than rice. It's all these little things that sort of makes him feel apart from the usual way of Nisei thinking so that's why he didn't have too many Nisei friends out here and a lot of my Nisei friends thought that he was stuck up.

"I guess I'm more willing to compromise on these little things

than Albert is because it doesn't make any difference. On my main principles though I'm just as firm as Albert is. I've had some of these small difference of opinions with my mother-in-law myself when I was living upstairs. That time that Mr. Ikeda said for the whole family to come to Washington since he was head of the family, I just pointed out to him that it wasn't practical to drop everything as it would be too expensive. He was very obstinate about it and he thought it wasn't ~~any~~ place to voice an opinion since I was a woman. Usually these things don't come out in the Ikeda family because they're not as strict about it as many Japanese families, but it is these little things about Japanese culture that I don't like.

"For example, that girl who might come and board with me, May, comes from a very strict family. While we were in Washington, she told me that her parents told her not to come out there to see her husband go overseas as the neighbors would gossip and say that it was foolish and shameful to spend all that money to chase the husband for love. In the orient the Japanese are not supposed to show their love for their husbands and the Issei can't understand why the Nisei think differently about it. May's mother even protested when she wrote to her husband every day as she said once a week was enough and that airmail was a waste of money.

"It's all these little things which convinces me that I'll never go to Japan to live again. I like it too well here. The people in Japan won't change in my lifetime and I just wouldn't agree with their ideas. There's no future for Albert and me in Japan and I know that Lucy and Albert Jr. will be a lot happier to grow up in an American way of life and live like we do. My chief goal is to have a happy home and to bring up my children so that they will be good citizens and have an equal chance for the future.

I don't even want my children to be caught in a Japanese community here as it will be in the slums. That's another reason why I want to live in Connecticut or New Jersey.

"When Albert comes back we will decide these things. If I have to live in Chicago permanently for economic reasons, I will insist upon moving to a suburb. Albert was skeptical about the east before he went there, but now he thinks it offers even more opportunities after the war than Chicago. We will have plenty of friends out there and we will never get lonesome. Albert likes all of my preferred Caucasian friends and he ~~prefers~~ to see them more than Nisei whenever he got off from Army camps. My Caucasian friends in New York know a number of Nisei too and they accept all of them that they have common interest with. They all try to persuade me to go to New York as soon as Albert went overseas and they are looking around for a house right now. I don't think I'll go this year though. It's something to look forward to and I really believe that I will be able to establish deeper roots back east than if I stuck here in Chicago. It would be harder to keep from drifting more and more into Nisei groups because there are so many of them out here. If I did that, I think that I would be losing out on something and I'd rather not do that. I want my children to be able to expand out and not be faced with all of these racial questions all the time. I know that they won't ever be completely eliminated but it is important for my children to have healthy attitude towards such things so that they will not get sensitive and blame it for everything like so many of the Nisei are doing now."

I was supposed to go over and meet Eileen's brother at 9:30 but I didn't get over there until 10:30 because Toshi and I were so involved in our conversation and she was talking so freely that I didn't want to interrupt it until she finished.

Toshie notes.

rec'd. letter of clearance from Am. Gov. CH 34 - p140
family history - CH 4.

Intro.

The interview noted in Oct. 1943 that; quote CH 34
p140, '47.

In December Tamie told the interviewers (CH 34
p160) and the who was familiar with the group
notes (p164).

My childhood in Jackson, Michigan, was the most wonderful time of my life and I have very pleasant memories of it. There were not any other Japanese in the city of about 50,000 population. I can vividly remember the big house we used to live in; the church and school we used to attend.

My father had a lot of Caucasian friends which he made from his business contacts and he used to take the family out to their summer homes on the Lake to visit them. I suppose we knew the better-off people so that the world was pretty grand to me. In the winter, we would go for long sleigh rides through the pure white snow. The air was so clear that it made us feel so alive. Then we would also go sled riding. Mother played with us a lot and we had many wonderful times together.

When I was still a young girl, I would get invited to some of my friends' homes. I had made many friends in school and they came from all kinds of families. Sometimes I would go to parties and my girl friend would have a big house with servants all over the place. They were very wealthy, these friends, and they had the best of everything.

As a child, I was never conscious that I was different from the other children, although I could not understand why I had black hair and all the other children were blond. In many cases, the white children actually became envious of me because my mother had come from such a far away and strange country. There was one Chinese family in town. We never did play with them because they lived on the other side of town.

When I was 13 years old, my parents decided to move to Los Angeles. I felt out of place for a long time. I didn't know

anybody and all the Niseis would look at me funny because I had such white skin. I used to envy them because they went to a Japanese school after the regular school. They looked like they were having such fun. I wanted them to accept me so that I could be one of them. I don't think I ever did get over the feeling of always being on the fringe.

When I was 17, my father decided to go to Japan to see if he could sell his patents there. He took me along. My father did not have any success there, but we did a lot of traveling. I was greatly surprised to find that my Aunt's house in Kobe was very modern. They were wealthy people and had all of the western comforts. Their children had graduated from Greensboro in North Carolina. The whole family was well educated. My aunt's husband was a University of North Carolina graduate also. One of his close college friends was Thomas Wolfe. One of his prize possessions was an autographed copy of Look Homeward Angel. Uncle had been very successful in business so that he lived in luxury. He had an importing-exporting company which dealt in Oriental furs. There was a branch office in New York on 5th Avenue.

For the next few months, I visited a lot of other relatives. Most of them were pretty well off so that I did not suffer any hardships. All of them lived in large cities. The richest one was my father's cousin. This man was married to a daughter of the mayor of Tokyo. He used to go to Europe for his vacation every year.

There was an opening at the American Consulate in Kobe. When I talked to the consul, he found out that I was from Michigan also. We had a lot to talk about and we became friends immediately.

He gave me a break and I got the appointment for the job. I liked the work so that I did it for the next three years. After three years I wanted to go back to America. Fortunately, my uncle had a lot of pull and he got me a good job at the New York World's Fair. My uncle knew the President of a large silk company which was putting a big exhibit in the Fair. They wanted a Nisei who could give lectures in English to the visitors at the Fair. I went up to Tokyo and took a short course in silk culture so that I could give the lectures. The company paid my fare to New York.

After a brief visit with my family and an automobile ride all around Los Angeles and its suburbs, I got on the boat again. It took us through the Panama Canal and then up the Atlantic Coast to New York. I got another big thrill when I saw the statue of Liberty. I really felt like an American coming home. I got into an apartment as soon as I got there with two other Nisei girls who were also working at the Fair. We had the most wonderful times in New York and I sort of look on it as my home town and compare everything with it. I think I like it even better than Detroit. The girls I went around with only knew Caucasians so that I got to meet all of them. One of my roommates is now going to Vassar and she is engaged to a Caucasian. The other one later married a Caucasian. He was an artist and a Harvard graduate.

I enjoyed my work at the Fair very much. It was a fine opportunity to see all kinds of Americans. I had intended to stay in New York and get a steady job, but I had an appendectomy during the winter of 1940. Early in 1941 I decided to go back to my parents in Los Angeles to recuperate.

A lot of Nisei boys used to come to visit me, but I was not

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very interested in them. I did not think that I was more sophisticated, but these Niseis were rather limited. The group I got on the best with was the Artist and Writers group. They were considered to be radicals among most of the Niseis, but I found them the most interesting of the Nisei society.

I met Allen in the late spring of 1941. We were attracted immediately to each other. Allen was born in Montana and he had similar views as I did. His father was a world war veteran and very Americanized. His father volunteered in the recent registration in camp in spite of the fact that he is too old. I think that he got his citizenship because of service in the last war.

12c Allen was an ambitious Nisei and He was helping his family out a lot even before the war. He did not run around like a lot of the other Niseis. He was a buyer for a Japanese wholesale company. We started to go all over together. He would take me to dances at the Palladium, shows, golfing, and the beach. We went mostly to public dances and we did not associate too much with the bulk of the Niseis, although we had our circle of friends. I used to visit my Caucasian friends that I had first met in New York and sometimes Allen and I would go out with them. By early winter we were sort of engaged although we had not made any announcements.

There is not much I can say about Gila. It was the same old thing all over. The only thing that was different was that it was big and roomy and we felt a certain freedom even if we were way out in the desert.

Some of my Los Angeles friends came in from Santa Anita, but it was not like old times. I began to avoid the Niseis more and more except for my close friends. We made mostly Caucasian contacts through Allen who was working in the school. I did not associate at all with the Niseis that I met at Tulare, except for a limited few. I just broke away from them as I got tired of them. We didn't have the same interests at all. They never did think and I did not want to get like them. I found that I enjoyed myself more with the more matured Caucasians with which I came in contact.

When the registration came along, that settled things. I was indignant to think of so many "noes" in Gila. I thought that our camp would send out the most volunteers of any camp. One of the biggest agitators in camp was in my block. I think he was one of the men who put a Japanese flag on the hill on February 11, the day Japan was supposed to have been founded. I am pretty sure that he put the Japanese flag in our mess hall. Some of the old men even went to our mess hall early in the morning to sing Japanese songs. I was so mad that I got a big American flag and put it on our barracks. Allen went to the block meetings and he told them off. We had some outspoken Niseis in our block so that they were able to talk to some of the younger Niseis and tell them not to be so foolish as to answer "no."

We were known as the "dogs" of our block because we had too

many Caucasians coming to visit us. The Isseis were always asking why so many keto were coming over. They thought that we had turned x into the FBI for his agitating activities.

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