

Copied

Tanforan Assembly Center
Barrack 10 Apt 9
San Bruno, California
May 19, 1942

(Mrs.) Virginia Galbraith
Geannini Hall
University of California
Berkeley, California

Dear Virginia,

Many, many thanks for your kindness in bringing me the package of books and bulletins which I had requested in my last letter. Really it wasn't necessary for you to return the two dollars; in fact, you make me feel somewhat embarrassed because of that. Anyway you've certainly an Educated Heart - if you don't mind my saying so.

Please drop me a line if you plan to visit this camp again. I would like to see you very much.

Thanks a million for everything.

Sincerely yours,
Nobu Takahashi

Tanforan Assembly Center
Barrack 10 Apt 9
San Bruno, California
May 15, 1942

Copied

(Mrs.) Virginia Galbraith
c/o Dr. Dorothy Thomas
Giannini Hall
University of California
Berkeley, California

Dear Virginia,

After two weeks of helping the new arrivals in this camp, I've at last found enough time to do some writing. Fatigueness from manual labor still prevents me from doing any mental work, such as writing letters and reading books. But all in all, I'm enjoying this life in spite of the many inconveniences.

It is certainly surprising how quickly most of us can adapt ourselves to the new conditions. Everything is simple and wholesome even the meals. The very simplicity of this camp life provides us the incentive for creative activities. For the first time, some of us are beginning to see that most of the luxuries, and many of the so-called comforts of life, are not only unnecessary for comfortable living, but are positive hindrances for elevation of our group. In the past we have been so concerned with dollars and cents that we never had time to appreciate the simple things.

If it isn't asking too much, I'll appreciate very much if you can send me Box 1A containing books, bulletins, etc. In the box are numerous informational notes which I wish to use in this camp. You will find attached to this letter two dollars which I hope will cover the expense incurred in sending the package to me.

Should you find time, I certainly hope you and Dr. Thomas can visit this camp. You'll find it very interesting and worth while.

Yours sincerely,
Nobi Fataheski

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HAMME
MILL

Junioran Assembly Center
Barrack 10 Apt 9
San Bruno, California
June 5, 1942

Dear Virginia,

It has already been well over five weeks since my ~~first~~ arrival to this Center, and I still don't know whether I've accomplished any thing worth while. One thing, however — I'm still unemployed, that is, in the sense that I'm ^{not} on the official WCCA payroll. Actually I have no definite job — but volunteer to do almost anything where my service can be helpful to the residents of this Center.

Early this week I submitted to the Recreation Dept. a design of miniature golf course for this Center. I spent several days on the design and the general lay-out of the course — even calculating the exact amount of lumber, nails, and other materials needed for the construction. But I discovered yesterday that because of shortage of lumber in this Center, the project can not be undertaken. Anyway it was fun while I was working on it.

At present I have on hand two or three tasks. One is to prepare a series of quizzes as a part of the recreational program for children and young people. And boy, what brain twisters I have for them. If you care to get some idea of what I mean, I shall be only too happy to send a copy of these quizzes.

I'm also working hard on a community-wide Treasure Hunt which is expected to last approximately two weeks. Handling the messages to be used in the Hunt is my task. I really believe that I have the most interesting phase of the planning end.

Planning Victory Garden projects is also my task — but exactly what can you do with only 7 packages of seeds (beans, peas, carrots, radishes, squashes, chicokory, lettuce)? After careful calculation as to the amount of space that would be required for planting of these seeds, I found that the garden plot would be no larger than 30'x10' — which is indeed very, very small. But strangest part of it all is that I'm suppose to distribute the seed packages equally among seven Recreational Centers. This means that each Recreational Center will only receive enough seeds to occupy a space of 5'x6'! Now what in the name of Heaven can you do with that!

You mention Sam Nakano of Fresno. Yes, I do know him and I might add here that he has been of tremendous help to me during the three or four months when I was working as an agricultural coordinator of JACL.

On the matter of where and when we are going, Mr. Fyer of the W.R.A. informed me three letters that the W.R.A. is unable to say, at this time, just when we will be moved from Tanforan. And the place to which we will be moved depends to a large extent on which Centers are completed first and their proximity to Tanforan. Most of the residents of this Center hope that they can be moved to the Tulare Project - but I ~~don't~~ doubt this very much in light of what is taking place at present.

I believe that you will be very interested to know that some articles on Japanese agriculture have been appearing in various magazines. For example:

1. "Up to their Neck" - by Frank J. Taylor
Country Gentleman - April, 1942
2. "The People Nobody Wants" by Frank J. Taylor
The Saturday Evening Post - May 9, 1942
3. "Gov't Asks Dealers to Dispose of Jap Owned Equipment"
Implement Record - May, 1942

It is almost time for me to leave for the Talent Show - so I must abruptly close this letter. Please let me know when you're coming here.

Sincerely,
Nobi Takahashi

Japanese Evacuaction Study
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

207 Giannini Hall
June 10, 1942

Mr. Nobi Takahashi
Barrack 10, Apt. 9
Tanforan Assembly Center
San Bruno, California

Dear Nobi:

It was certainly good to see you again this Tuesday and hereafter I hope to see you almost every Tuesday since we are planning to make that a standing arrangement. We shall arrive at Tanforan about ten o'clock on Tuesday and if you want to see me, be in the recreation hall.

Concerning our conversation about the Tanforan Totalizer, I have received a letter from Taro Katayama about it. He told me of the necessity for sending postage. I am doing that now so it will be unnecessary for you to send the copies as we had arranged. Thanks anyway. I shall see Dr. Weeks this week and send you the bibliography you wanted. Is there anything else?

Sincerely yours,

Virginai Galbraith
Research Assistant

VG:AE

Tanforan Assembly Center
Barack 10 Apt 9
San Bruno, California
June 13, 1942

Dear Virginia,

Thank you again for writing me - and also for the bag of cherries which you gave me last week. As stated in your last letter, I shall be at the Social Hall next Tuesday morning to meet you.

The last two days in the Center have been almost ideal - the food exceptionally fine, weather perfect - no wind & blue skies, and everybody happy. At present, politics is the talk of the Center. Next ^{week} we go to poll to elect the five Councilmen who are to act in the advisory capacity for the residents of this Center. Strong campaigning is being carried on by many of the candidates, some of whom are not very competent to assume the responsibility as Councilmen. But everything will be up ^{to} the residents of this Center.

It's now almost nine o'clock - and so must be off to work (?). Anyway, I'm expecting to see you next Tuesday morning - so until then, so-long.

Sincerely yours,
Nobu Takahashi

July 18, 1942

Mr. Nobu Takahashi
Barrack 10, Apartment 9
Tanforan, Assembly Center
San Bruno, California

Dear Nobu:

I have just returned from a brief trip to Tule Lake Relocation Center. I realize that I have missed seeing you for several weeks, but it has not been intentional. I hope to be able to come down either this next Tuesday or a following Tuesday. I shall let you know more definitely later.

I have been looking for data collected on property losses and agricultural evacuation that was supposed to have been collected by the southern branch of the J.A.C.L. Do you know anything about this, or any person who might.

I hope that you are well and are carrying on your work as I know you will be.

Sincerely yours,

Virginia Galbraith

VG:rj

copies

Barrack 10 Apartment 9
Tanforan Assembly Center
San Bruno, California
July 24, 1942

Dear Virginia,

Thanks a lot for your letter of July 18. I'm sorry I could not have answered it sooner. Lately we have been having so many social activities that most of us have very little time to do any writing. Every night in the week there are approximately five or six social events going on simultaneously at various recreational centers in this camp. Just to mention some of the events taking place each night, we have such community-wide events as folk dance (Mon), musicale (Tues), Town Hall (Wed), variety show (Thurs), jitterbug session (Fri), social dance and Saturday concert (Sat), church programs (Sun). Beside these, we have the following events at recreational centers: Boy Scouts, bridge classes, movie nites, young adult nites, dance classes, knitting classes, mix social nites, bingo nites, family nites, chess and checker nites, appreciation nites, etc. You can readily see that we have a wide variety of activities which should help to fill the leisure hours of those in this center.

I'm still with the Recreational Department and am thoroughly enjoying my work, however at present I'm having some difficulty in that I am running low in ideas for new recreational activities.

In regard to the data on property losses and agricultural evacuation that was supposed to have been collected by the southern branch of the JACL, I can say that I have definitely no information. I would, however, suggest that you write to the National JACL Headquarters in Salt Lake City (Beason Building). Perhaps they may be able to assist you on this matter.

I sincerely hope everything is well with you.

Sincerely,

Nobi Takahashi

August 4, 1942

Mr. N. Takahashi
Barrack 10, Apt. 9
Tanforan Assembly Center
San Bruno, Calif.

Dear Nobi:

I received your letter of the 25 but have been working at home so haven't been to the office to answer it. I did an analysis of property loss in southern California due to the evacuation. It is very interesting, but I just don't have enough material. I am writing Kido in the hope that he can give me some further information.

Tanforan seems to be booming with recreation. I haven't had a chance to come down for a long time but I hope to see a marked change when I do. You certainly sound busy. Are you working on your agricultural material. You know, that holds the most interest for me too.

I can't remember if I told you that I took a trip to Tule Lake. It was surprisingly nice. I think it has the possibilities of a thriving little city. It has a very nice climate and, of course, good soil for agriculture. The administration is very fine so I expect that this place will prosper.

All I can find out about Gila is that it is very hot, otherwise reports are as you'd expect---some good, some bad. It no doubt presents a lot of opportunity for agricultural work. You could be of great help, I believe.

I shall try to get down to Tanforan, perhaps next Tuesday. If so, I hope to be able to see you.

Sincerely yours,

answered Aug. 25

Barrack 10 Apartment 9
Tanforan Assembly Center
San Bruno, California
August 23, 1942

Virginia Galbraith
Japanese Evacuation Study
Giannini Hall
University of California
Berkeley, California

Dear Virginia,

Last week we received official words that we will be leaving Tanforan very shortly, probably between September 15-30. Although we have no information as to where we are moving, it is rumored that we'll be relocated on the Utah project, near Abraham, in Millard County. Most of the residents are dead sure we'll be moving there, but I've got my fingers crossed. My past experience has taught me never to be too sure of anything. Now that we know just about when we're leaving, there might be a let-down in various activities among the residents for the next few weeks. Chiefly, it would be up to the Recreation Dept. to keep the morale as high as possible to the last day.

Once relocated, I am not certain as to what I'm going to do. If conflicts should arise among certain groups, and I hope not, I may not get the opportunity to work in the agricultural field. Besides, anyday the Army may get me. When? I don't know; but it seems as if the Army is really anxious to get me. But whatever job I get, whether it be in the Relocation Center or in the Army, I'll do my best.

Since we'll be moving out here very shortly, I would like you to send me my second box of books, pamphlets, bulletins, and notes....BOX 1B. I am enclosing one dollar to defray the cost of forwarding the box to me. Thanks.

Sincerely,

Nobumitsu Takahashi

Barrack 10 Apartment 9
Tantoran Assembly Center
San Bruno, California
September 14, 1942

Dear Virginia,

This may be my last letter to you from Tantoran for within a week I shall be moving to the Abraham project in Utah. Once relocated, I shall write to you and shall let you know what I'm doing. Perhaps I may even find time to send you the agricultural material which you have been requesting during the last few weeks.

I am enclosing a sum of twenty-five cents for which please send me the latest available issue of Reader's Digest on the news stand. Thank.

I really regret leaving this State since it has meant ~~so~~ so much to me in the past. I'm sure that wherever I go, it won't be anything like California. In all probability, most of us may never be able to return to this State, and we're certainly going to miss many things.

With best of luck to you in your work and thanks again for every thing.

Sincerely,
Nobumitsu Takahashi