

Jone Endow

753
WRS

18 Sept. 1973

Professor Edward Spicer
Dept. of Anthropology
University of Arizona
Tucson, Arizona

Dear Professor Spicer:

A member of the Anthropology Department at Idaho State University mentioned that you have researched the detention camps and the effect of them on the Japanese Americans involved in them in great depth.

I would appreciate it very much if you could send me a bibliography of readings on the Japanese internment camps during WW II or any other relevant material. I am not only interested in it for a research paper but also because of my Japanese American background.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely yours,

Jone Endow

Jone Endow
826 s. 9th
Pocatello, Idaho 83201

WRA
John F. Kubushina

Dec. 23rd 1942
2721 Curtis St.
Denver, Colo.

Dear Dr. Spicer: —

You'll probably say 'It's about time I heard from that Kubushina fellow', and you're quite right. Procrastination is the term, but please forgive me for I was in no mood to write at length while topping sugar beets. However, now that the sugar beet nightmare is a thing of the past, and now that I am in Denver, (my reason for venturing forth out of Boston), I guess it is only right & the fair thing for me to get in touch with you.

A great many of the boys have returned to camp, & no doubt you have gathered much valuable tips relative to the handling of the 1943 Spring work furloughs. Some of the fellows returned directly to camp after the termination of their beet contracts, while a few of the boys tried their hands at a few jobs in and around Denver before deciding to take that last train back to Boston. You have undoubtedly heard reports from both groups, but how about news from those who have found jobs here & have applied for permanent leaves? Please let me know if your department is still on that particular survey.

2. If I can be of any help please do not hesitate to ask me. I kept a log from the day of departure from Boston up until close to the end of the harvest, but I regret to say I have not kept up the log for the past 3 weeks. Our group also kept an expense account for the group as a whole, while I kept a personal expense account at the same time. If these will be of aid to you, please let me know.

Now, as for myself, I found myself a job on the 2nd day — with very little trouble at all. I'm back in the familiar flower business again, only in the retail end of the deal this time. Am employed as a designer at the "Blossomy Shop" located at the Brown Palace Hotel. The pay is small to begin with, but there is plenty of opportunity for advancement. Toby has found himself a temporary job in a private hospital. Both he & his brother are staying with me — in a hotel for the time being —

Dr. Spicer, I wonder if I would be imposing too much upon you in asking you to speak personally with Miss Finley

3. and with Mr. Head with regard to the earliest possible release of my wife & baby? I have written to both already but have not had any replies. I am particularly anxious for them to join me here in Denver as soon as possible. As for my own extension, I shall have to deal with the Denver regional W.R.A. office. Dr. Ficer, I shall be truly indebted to you for this personal favor -

Having found work immediately, & having been here in Denver but a week, I have not had the chance to visit your friend, Dr. Fredrick Douglas, at the Art Museum, but I shall give him your regards when I do have the opportunity to go to the museum.

My best regards to Drs. Lighton and Tsuchiyama, and a merry Xmas to all in the department —

Sincerely yours
John Tsuchiyama

Minidoka Relocation Center
Hunt, Idaho
March 26, 1943

Mr. John Fukushima
2721 Curtis St.
Denver, Colo.

Dear John,

To paraphrase the opening words of your letter of December 23, you are probably saying "It's about time I heard from that Spicer fellow." I have been intending to write you for a long time. Mrs. Fukushima came to me shortly after I received your letter and I tried to do what I could in getting her leave through the leave office, but I never heard the outcome and did not see her before I left for Window Rock, Arizona at the end of January. I hope you are together and that everything is going well.

A great many different things have been happening to me. I imagine that you have met Tosh Yatsushiro by this time and know something of the doings of Bureau of Soc. Research. We spent a month at Window Rock, analyzing our data and preparing reports on Poston's first months of existence. These are being prepared for general distribution to the residents and I hope they will be helpful on the project. During the few days that I was in Poston during March it seemed to me that our relations with the community were very good and that perhaps we were at last proving to have a real function on the project.

This month WRA has borrowed me to help set up a group similar to the Bureau here in Minidoka and to make a study of self-government here. As you may know this is the only project on which no effort has been made to establish a community council, yet it is probably the smoothest running of all the projects. I think that the issei-nisei issue has never sharpened here largely as a result of the absence of political organization in terms of the WRA regulations. Older people have been much more prominent in the whole project set-up from the very beginning and that has probably resulted in less conflict.

I shall return to Poston about the 10th of April and fit back into my old niche there in the Bureau.

With best wishes to you and Mrs. Fukushima,
And regards to Tak,
As ever,

Ned Spicer
Ned Spicer

Seido Hashima WRA

Colorado River War
Relocation Project
Poston, Arizona
October 2, 1942

University of Maryland

Gentlemen:

It has been my pleasure to know Mr. Seido Hashima for the past two months in the War Relocation Authority Center of Poston, Arizona. In connection with my work in sociological research in Poston, I have found need for learning the Japanese language, and Mr. Hashima has served as instructor to me and some of my associates. I have found him to be a capable and efficient teacher. He has been conscientious in preparing himself for classes and has handled our group with skill. He has been patient and helpful with each of us individually and has shown an ability to adjust himself to a situation necessarily not of the best for systematic teaching.

I believe Mr. Hashima to be not only gifted as a teacher, but also able to get along well with and adjust himself to many different kinds of people. He is affable, modest, and quiet. His manner with students is understanding and sympathetic. I believe that he would do well with college students and would win their confidence and respect.

Mr. Hashima's record in Poston is excellent. He worked ably and satisfactorily with the census bureau here before taking up his teaching with us. I would recommend him highly in regard to teaching ability, character, and personality.

Sincerely,

Edward H. Spicer
Assistant Social Science Analyst

Amoo

Copy to Mr
Hashima

Colorado River War Relocation Project
Poston, Arizona

October 2, 1942

To Whom It May Concern:

Mr. Suedo A. Hashima, Block 12-11-B, Poston, Arizona, the site of the Colorado River War Relocation Project, has been known to me for almost two months. During that period I have known him as a student of Japanese for about one hour for over twenty evenings, and also have met him socially several times. I have walked with him and talked with him.

In my opinion, he is courteous, gentlemanly, and scholarly. His personality is very nice. As a teacher, he was patient and able, in the face of the difficulty of having one pupil, myself, who did practically no studying, and who came to class very tired. He apparently knows considerable about pedagogy.

It is my opinion, based upon my observation during the last few weeks, that Mr. Hashima is not only intelligent and of fine character, but is also a good and conscientious teacher.

T. H. Haas
Attorney

THH JJ

R. Hatchimonji

WPS

Valley Farm Supply Co.

P. O. Box 577

GLENDALE, ARIZONA

January 4, 1946

Dear Mr. Spicer, -

I have received your letter and am glad to tell you that I will set aside the Sunday, January the 26th for you^{visit}. Bring your graduate student you mentioned in your letter, as he will be welcomed.

As to Mr. Firtani, I think he is not living now in Mesa. I think he has gone to California. To make sure, however, I will look him up when I go to mesa for business.

Yours Sincerely

R. Hatchimonji

Come rather early. Food will be provided by my wife.

Ketchikan, Alaska

Valley Farm Supply Co.

P. O. Box 577
GLENDALE, ARIZONA

Dec. 25, 1944

Dear Mr. Spicer, -

Thank you for your Christmas greeting. Merry Christmas and a happy, successful New Year we would wish you, too.

In accordance with the old Japanese custom, a Japanese business man operating among his nationals does not work first few days in a New Year. I, as one, shall be at home from January 1st to January 4th or 5th and if you want to call here to interview me, you are welcome. Perhaps you have some questions ~~was~~ about the Evacuation and the Relocation unsolved which you ^{wish to} could discuss with me (freely.)

WRA ?

January 3, 1947

Dear Mr. Hatchimonji:

Thank you very much for the invitation to visit and talk with you during your beginning-of-the-new-year vacation. I should like dearly to have done so. However, like most other people we are having housing trouble, and I have found necessary to use my vacation from classes to fill up an old well, paint a room, make a bookcase, etc. on a little place that we have got hold of at the edge of Tucson. These and other things have kept me in Tucson somewhat against my will.

I am wondering whether you may be home and not too busy on the week-end of January 25-26. Our first semester ends January 24, and we have a few days of freedom before the second semester begins. If it would be convenient for you, I should like to come up on the 25th or 26th, probably accompanied by a graduate student who has become interested in the problems of Japanese in the United States. He and I are both very much interested in what effect the evacuation has had on the economic situation of both Issei and Nisei in the Salt River Valley area --- and neither of us knows anything about it. I am sure that you could help us. However, if the 25th or 26th is inconvenient for you, do not hesitate to say so. We could then arrange some other week-end that might suit us all better.

We had a Christmas message from Hans and Miriam, who seem to be well and happy.

Do you happen to know whether Rev. M. Mitani is living somewhere in the vicinity of Phoenix? He left the Gila Center, I understand, rather ill and planning to convalesce with relatives near Mesa. I am anxious to talk with Rev. Mitani, whom I knew at Poston.

I am keeping your very handy and explicit diagram of how to find your house. Thank you.

Happy New Year to you and Mrs. Hatchimonji and the boys.

Sincerely,

Ed Spicer
Edward H. Spicer

SMO

P O Box 577
Glendale, Arizona
Jan. 18, 1947

Dear Mr. Spicer, -

I have received your letter of Jan 14 and would say that it is perfectly all right for Mr. and Mrs. Bohannon to come with you.

It has been a long time since I had a bulls session with Hans and vacuums at Heart Mountain and I was longing for one. A car or two would not bother us. My wife would have joined in, anyway.

Besides, if Mrs. Bohannon is doing research work on Legal Discrimination, we have something special for her to hear.

Come on, on Jan. 26th. We shall be waiting.
Yours sincerely
K. Hatanmouji

Valley Farm Supply Co.

P. O. Box 577

GLENDAL, ARIZONA

Jan. 21, 1947

Dear Mr. Spicer, -

It is with a great regret that I have to write and ask you to postpone our meeting, scheduled on January 26 to another day, to perhaps February 2nd. A business friend of mine is coming from Los Angeles with whom I am to travel to New Mexico for business. He is a busy man and wants to use the week end for the purpose. I can not ask him to change his plan.

So please forgive me for this. I hope, however, ^{that} this would not diminish the pleasure of seeing one another.

Yours sincerely
R. Hatchimori

January 23, 1947

Dear Mr. Hatchimonji,

We were quite regretful that the trip and visit had to be called off. We, too, had been looking forward to a bull session. However, we still have it to look forward to, but the question is when. The Bohannans had made some sort of engagement for this coming week-end (Feb. 1 and 2) and long ago I had got myself tied up for the following week-end (Feb. 8 and 9). We don't seem to be able to get away during the week, my classes keeping me with my nose to the grindstone almost every day. Possibly we could get together for Feb. 16, if you are going to have a free Sunday then.

Mrs. Bohannan, by the way, is interested in getting at who and what interests were responsible for the Arizona law passed during the war which restricted business dealings with evacuees.

A long letter from the Hansens the other day. They seem to be happy enough, but Hans is quite anxious to move out here. I am scouting around the University trying to find a berth for him here that he might like. So far no luck, but I should like nothing better than to have the Hansens as neighbors.

With best wishes to you and your family,

sincerely,

Edwar H. Spicer
Edwar H. Spicer

K. Hatchermonji (WRA)

PO Box 574

Glen Dale, Arizona

Jan. 30, 1946

Dear Mr. Spicer, -

Let us, then, decide on February 16, tentatively. I hope nothing happens in the meantime to derange our schedule.

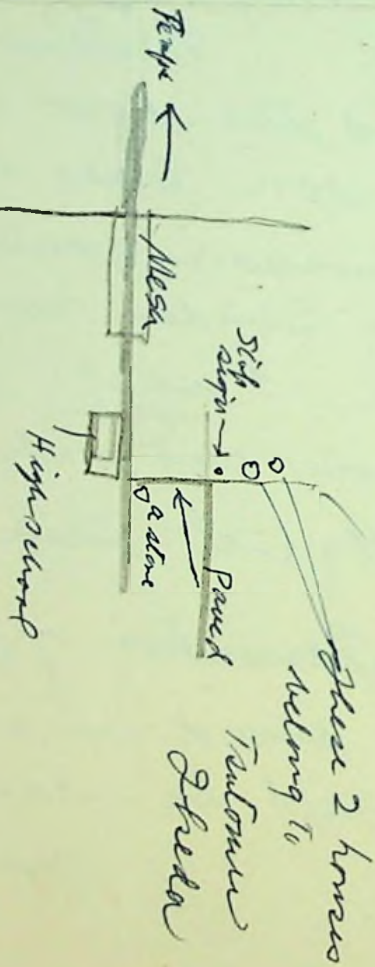
As to Mrs. Bohannan's subject of ~~that~~ study, I will try to get a few facts. Tsutomu Ikeda who ~~had~~ ~~is~~ started the law in the Supreme Court and won lives in Mesa. If Mr. Bohannan wants to interview him early Sunday morning on your way here, I shall be glad to make an appointment ^{for her} with him, or you ^{can} make one directly (Tel: Mesa 339-M).

Persecution of Japanese or their descent was based on economic ground - which I shall be glad to discuss with you.

Yours sincerely,

K. Hatchermonji

North
↑



~~These 2 houses~~

These 2 houses
belong to

Tadomus
Zheba

stand up and say things even though somebody was wait
with a two-by-four in the dark somewhere. He said that
him in good stead now in working with the Japanese in
dale area. He evidently likes to talk about it. Mt. and
the whole business with a good deal of pleasure, more p
perhaps than he has in talking about Glendale affairs no
he is not making enough, he says, to keep the family dec
Mrs. however doesn't like to talk about the center.

Feb 17, 1947

They are living in a fir sized country house, pretty co
able, but nothing fancy. Mike is an assistant scoutmaster and
to some sort of trade school. Hatchi says he doesn't know ju
what Mike is doing, because Mike doesn't open up for him. Glc
and Ike have been doing well in school. The whole family seeme
couple of graduate students at Glendale High. Hatchi, Jim
happy. Hatchi, wife and kids, has many dealings with Natu, Jim a
is becoming well known among the Hatchis as a charming as th
ever and I'll be up twice with excellent Japanese food, in-
cluding sashimi which Jim Bohannon (One of the grdautes) had
learned to eat in Japan. I believe Hatchi liked Jim and both
the Hatchis enjoyed talking with him about Japan, where he spent
or Americans. I first, as he said in his first letter, then he spent
some time after his period in an army Japanese Language School
the morning talking about the war times. Jim is in Japan, saying
the morning and Jim talked at length about Shikoku, where Jim
over and over that he wasn't sure but he thought that history
would show that the U.S. was wrong. Mrs. Bohannon is working
on the various Arizona laws which he or have restricted Japanese
for the war. He is following the trials, prosecution, the book
and Hatchi was well primed to give her information. The book
times and is reading memoirs of Nomura, published in Japanese,
as always, is talking and he indulged it fully all day. We
all came away wishing that the Hatchis lived closer to Tucson so
that we could get together more often.

Reoz is coming to take me home and hence so long.

Hatchi said he wondered what you had been doing with his
diary. I think ~~repeatedly~~ he said that you had taken it a long
time ago and he had heard nothing about it since and supposed he
wouldn't see it again. I imagine he would like to have some word
about what you think of it and what you are doing with it.
with them. They're nice people.

Both Mr. and Mrs. kept saying they wished the Hausens would
come to Arizona. We talked a great deal about you and there is
no question that you have a high place in their hearts, or should
I say "deep place." (I by the way do not find anything opening up
here. Sociology is still a one-man department and the one man has
been here so long that he is unquestionably going to stay until re-
tirement or death. There is no avenue of expansion. But I am still
working on it.)

I got your letter about Bob Cullum, but Bob was forced to can-
cel his trip through here in early Feb. He may get here the first
part of March. Tom Sasaki writes that he (Tom) will not get to the
coast again, but that Bob may. Tom also says that they have prom-
ised the final report for May 1 and that he and Bob are spending
all their time on the first draft now. If Bob comes thru in March
he may have the report whipped and may be feeling differently
from what he did when you saw him.

I asked Hatchi what he felt about the HT. Mt. experience by now.
He started to say something, then checked himself, then said that it
had cost him \$3000 to live there, despite the fact that ~~xxxxxx~~ his
family was getting an unusually large amount from WFA. Then (I guess)
he went back to what he had started to say first: "It was a valuable
experience, an ~~xxxxxx~~ unusual experience, that I couldn't get in
y other way." He went on then to talk about having learned how to

Feb. 24, 1947

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Hatchimonji,

Thank you very much for the pleasant day which you gave the Bohannons and myself a week ago Sunday. We appreciated the time and trouble that you took to make us comfortable, and we enjoyed immensely the good food that you served. Mrs. Spicer and I hope that you can come and stay with us in Tucson some time soon.

I believe that the Bohannons learned a great deal in the course of the talk during the day. I was pleased with the way in which you proceeded to make them aware of the Issei point of view and its background. If they do not fully appreciate it yet, they are at least much closer to an understanding of it than they were before. They have both indicated to me that they learned a lot in those few hours.

Hans writes me that he is being considered for a job in the department of anthropology at the University of Utah. He is very anxious to come west. I feel that Salt Lake City would be better than nothing, although of course we would prefer to have him and Miriam in Tucson. I wrote Hans, by the way, that you were wondering what he was doing with your diary.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Edward H. Spicer

Hatchemongji

WPA

PO Box 577

Glendale, Arizona

March 1, 1947

Dear Mr. Spicer, -

I am sending under a separate cover printed matter that came too late for our meeting of Feb. 16.

Give them to Mrs. Bohanan and let her use the material for her purpose. Then, when she is through with them, will you send them to Hansen? I think he does not know yet about the Proposition #15 and its defeat at the hands of ^{a few} Nisei - a remarkable feat in the long anti-J. history of California. ("J" stands for Japs; not Jews)

We, Issins, are proud of our sons and daughters. They are fighters. We are the smallest minority in the U.S. but who knows ~~we~~ our sons shall ^{not} some day lead other minorities to fight the oppression of the majority? I think we have raised our children right.

I have not heard from Bohannans. I

Think they are too busy. Or was I too radical? ~~perhaps~~ perhaps I shocked them, especially on War guilt problem? Even Hans who insisted on the "I am a scholar first" attitude did not seem very happy when our talk wandered to this subject.

When Mrs. Clardy asked "How many Issei's would apply for citizenship (if citizenship becomes obtainable)?", I answered "We are progressive people and therefore, many, many will apply." In the envelope in which printed matters are being sent, I have placed a paper clipping showing that a society is already born which members are pledged to apply for citizenship.

(When you send the printed matter to Hans, please send him this letter to you, too.)

Yours Sincerely
K Hatsumonji

May 9, 1947

Dear Mrs. and Mr. Hatchimonji,

My wife and children and I (and some friends invited in for the purpose) have been enjoying the strawberries you sent. They are very good, and we appreciate your thoughtfulness in sending them.

Mrs. Bohannon and I have also been reading with interest the copies of the Northwest Times and other reading matter that you have sent from time to time. Mrs. Bohannon has been busier than any woman should be writing her Master's thesis in addition to a heavy load of graduate work. I don't know whether she has written you, but I know she was disappointed not to be able to get up to Glendale at Easter time. For my own part, I found it necessary to go southward into Sonora at Easter time. I took my family and we drove down into the Yaqui country to lay some foundations for work this summer --- work that was interrupted by the war. We shall leave for a hot summer of it at the end of this month.

I am pleased to hear that the Supreme Court will consider the California Alien Land Law cases. It is a step in the right direction and may yield some results.

Hans writes me that you intend to move to California. I had hoped to see you again this summer, sometime after the middle of July. When do you plan to leave?

When Mrs. Bohannon completes her study of discriminatory laws and the Japanese, I shall send you a copy, providing it is good. It may be of interest to you.

With best wishes,

Ed Spicer
Edward H. Spicer

ENCE

Hatchemongji (WRA)
PO Box 373

Calipatria, Calif.

Oct. 16, 1947

Dear Mr. Spicer. —

My family has moved to 5933
Gregory Ave., Los Angeles. 38, Calif.
and I have opened a seed store at
the above address. I think we have
reached the final stage of relocation
this time, although it is a mal-
adjustment ~~as~~ ^{as} I ^{have to} live and conduct a
business here, 200 miles away from
my family.

I come in contact with Philipino
people daily here and I have seen
a lot of things about them. I should
like to write about them "Philipinos
in the U.S." but I am too busy
to do so. Philipinos in the U.S. ~~are~~
a maladjustment.

When you ^{come this way} ~~happen to be here~~, call
on me and in L.A. call on my wife

I think
who is interesting to talk with, especially
for sociological students.

We are all O.K. and I hope you
and your family ~~the~~ health and
happiness.

Give my regard to friends that
who came to see us last summer.

Yours sincerely
K. Hatsumoto

Hatchmoye

593
W2A
P. O. Box 373

VALLEY SEED COMPANY

— SEEDS — INSECTICIDES —

CALIFORNIA, CALIFORNIA

1934 W. 22nd St.,
Los Angeles 7, Cal.

Dear Dr. Spicer -

you had been a WRA center analyst and I think you are still interested in anything pertaining to the great Evacuation of 1942^{and}. I think you want to know about the big PERIOD - or "the END" of the Volume^{the} "Evacuation" - the claim permitted by the U. S. Congress, or unless you learn about it, you cannot close the book.

The Congress^{has} permitted us to file claims for loss due to the Evacuation and the Attorney General is to handle the cases. Once the news was given out to the press, the interest of lawyers seems to have been aroused (I hope Caucasian lawyers have not taken interest); - maybe they have^{as}. I saw

several Caucasians in the office
of the Evacuation Claims Division in
the Federal Bldg in L.A.

To catch ⁱⁿ on our own experiences as
evacuees, we have been assisting
~~was~~ fellow evacuees to prepare their
claims. One of the Japanese newspapers
in L.A., however, has said that
only lawyers will be permitted to
represent claimants.

I ^{had} been a ^{Talkative man} ~~fighter~~ in the H.M.
Camp and now, again, I have taken up
a feeble weapon (my 3rd class
brain) to fight for evacuees. Most of
them do not want to go to lawyers
for assistance. They want their old-
time leaders to help them.

So I have made a protest to the
Attorney General, a copy of which I
sent to you. When you are
there with it, send it on
to my friend Hans + ~~the~~ his wife.

a ~~It~~ funny thing about Hansens is that ^{they} ~~he~~ has not written to any of his old time friends for about 2 years. my wife has ceased to talk about ~~the Hansens~~ ^{them} now. She was, however, wondering what had become of them and asked Mrs Nagata etc whether they sent ~~her~~ even a Xmas greeting. (they did not).

I wrote to them 2 or 3 times after he ceased to write but none was answered. I thought perhaps my letter about "The people behind the Iron Curtain U.S.A. - Philipinos - had offended him because I said rather than spend too much time on dead peoples, why not give it to a ^{living} people, Philipinos, and dig up their background in Luzon, Mindano etc etc. The Philipinos in U.S. are dying ^{out} as a race. ~~but~~

well, I admit I made a mistake
in presenting ^{the} Philippine problem to
an anthropologist. In my school days,
I think we did not ^{have} a separate
branch of science Anthropology. The
problem should perhaps ^{have been} presented as
a study to sociologists.

When you are in Los Angeles
please come and see us. If I
am not there, my wife and
perhaps IKE (who majors in
Sociology) will be there and they
will be tickled to see you.
(I have my store in Imperial Valley
while my family live in L.A. -
a case of maladjustment arising
out of the evacuation).

Please give my regard to
Mrs. Spicer.
Yours sincerely
K. Hachisuji

P.O. Box 373
Calipatria, California
August 3, 1949

Mr. Mangum Weeks
The Evacuation Claims Division
Department of Justice
Federal Building
Los Angeles, California

My Dear Mr. Weeks:

I called at your office last Monday, August 1st. to ask if only attorneys at law are permitted to represent claimants under the Public Law #886. You were not in and I met Mr. Jacobs who said that this point has not been decided yet and that, if I have an opinion that persons other than lawyers should also be permitted to represent claimants to write and present it to you. I am very busy at present and also I do not write English very well, being an Issei. On that ground, I was rather reluctant to undertake the job. However, on calling on several people (non-lawyers) who have helped claimants to prepare their claim cases, I have found out that they have not done anything but sit still, waiting for a decision from Washington. I am not an attorney at law but have assisted many claimants; and I am afraid that this apathetic attitude on the part of the non-lawyer assistants would seriously affect my interests. Besides, I sort ^{of} have promised Mr. Jacobs that I would write. So here is my opinion, sir. If the following is poorly written, please excuse me. Mr. Jacobs said anything in the line of a memorandum would do.

1. At the time the Public Law #886 was announced by the office of the Attorney General, we interpreted the word "Attorney" to mean "one who is legally appointed by another to transact any business for him" (Webster). I was not alone to interpret the word "attorney" that way and as a consequence, probably twenty or more accountants, legal and business advisors, real estate dealers were soon engaged in this business of assisting claimants, and I think, about 50% of the claims now filed with your office have gone through the hands of these people.

Therefore, if you decide now that only attorneys at law are entitled to ~~and~~ represent claim cases, such a decision would deprive those non-lawyers of their due remuneration provided in the law.

(a) You did not specify what kind of people might or might not assist in the filing of claims; (b) you have been accepting claims to prepare which non-lawyers have assisted in ~~filing~~; (3) non-lawyers have spent money in order to advertise, in renting offices, and in hiring office help and some of them have traveled to reach their clients and to interview witnesses for their clients.

2. (a) Some claimants have preferred accountants, business advisors, and etcetra to assist them in their claim cases; (b) Most Nisei lawyers had been too busy to handle all claim cases. It is said that 3000 claim cases have been filed from Southern California alone and there are only ten Nisei attorneys in our district; (c) many claimants were farmers prior to the evacuation of 1942 and some of these people have sought the aid of those who, they think, know the farming business; ex-hotel men might have gone to the present or former secretaries of the Hotel Association of the Los Angeles/Japanese section because they thought these men know more about "losses" arising out of the hotel business; (d) Some Japanese do not speak English well enough to present their loss problems, some of which are quite complicated, to Nisei or Caucasian

lawyers and hired their own men to help them.

Therefore, if you decide now that only attorneys at law can represent claimants, it would tend to deprive them of their freedom to choose their assistants.

3. I mentioned to Mr. Jacobs that almost any qualified, intelligent person does help in preparing Income Tax returns. The Federal Government does not require that only attorneys at law shall assist tax-payers. In income tax returns, one assists his client to determine the amount of his income while in claim cases, one assists his client to find out his evacuation or exclusion loss under the Public Law #336. Also those who assist in preparing Income Tax returns are not subject to a license tax either of the state of California or of the Federal Government. Accountants employed in the day time in an office may engage in the business in the night time, or a real estate dealer in his spare time, or even an intelligent typist to earn an extra income.

I see that persons who are not attorneys at law help their clients to secure pass-ports ^{or} "return permits" from the Secretary of State. The same persons may appear before the Collector of Internal Revenue with their clients to obtain "Clearance Certificates" (certificates that all taxes due the government have been paid and the bearers may depart to foreign countries).

It seems to me that in all the above cases, the Government means to do "good" to the people. The government does not intend to regulate too minutely that which will naturally inconvenience the people. In our claim cases may we ask that you give us the same kind of treatment, lenient and broad-spirited, so that claimants can choose any assistants

they wish to choose and any capable men if asked, can assist.

4. In the W.R.A. camps only Niseis (citizens) were permitted to hold administrative positions at first. Later, however, Issai (alien Japanese) were permitted to participate.

In the Center Court, which had the power to sentence a field evacuee to a three or four months' imprisonment, I saw persons other than regular lawyers acting as prosecuting attorneys, defense attorneys, and sometimes, as a presiding justice. Jurors were mostly chosen from among the Issai on the ground that they had more leisure time and because they were experienced, so they would render a more fair judgment. I do not know whether the regulations under the W.R.A. permitted non-lawyers to act as the judge of the center court, its prosecuting attorney and a defense attorney for defendants. What I wish to emphasize is that before the big issue, (the W.R.A.), smaller technicalities yielded and in claim cases even non-lawyers, provided they are capable, be permitted to participate so that the intent of the Public Law #386 shall be carried out as speedily as possible.

5. The Court of Claims under Public Law #386 seems to be a special kind of court. "The amount of the award will be announced by the Attorney General in Washington." "The claimant has no recourse of appeal to civil courts from the decision of the Attorney General." "Mr. Weeks emphasized that the field office is not a trial court." (all above quotations are from the Green Roads, a Nisei publication, July 29th, issue). The Court of Claims, it seems to me, is a hearing conducted by the government (at least in one phase of it) to find out the loss of each claimant, and to assist the Attorney General to decide on the amount of the award.

In this court, I think, there will not be legal battles fought as in criminal courts or in civil cases. In the Court of Claims, officials from the office of the Attorney General and claimants and their attorneys (in the sense Webster meant them) would work together to determine the amount of the loss *if* there was a loss, and "the court" will be such that an accountant will fit in just as well as a lawyer.

The bill to compensate evacuees for their evacuation losses was originally introduced by the Secretary of Interior. If the Congress of the United States had given the duty of awarding the claimants to the Secretary of Interior, would he have established "courts" to find out losses of claimants in which only attorneys at law were permitted to represent claimants? The W.R.A. which was a branch of the Interior Department, seemed to like "Hearing Boards", "Discussion Groups", or even "Bull Sessions" in which informalities prevailed but through which the W.R.A. got what it wanted. Now the office of the Attorney General is going to handle the claim business. Would the procedure to award claims be very much different from that which the Department of Interior would most likely have adopted, that is, so much legality that only attorneys at law be able to represent claimants?

After the conclusion of the Civil War, claims were paid by the Federal Government to those who suffered damages as a direct result of the war. In those war damage cases, were lawyers the only people permitted to represent claimants? In a hurry to write this memorandum, I have not gone into the details of those Reconstruction Days' claims but as far as I can gather, the procedure seemed to have been quite informal.

In conclusion, I cite my own claim case and the claim case of my friend's. Knowing something of bookkeeping and accounting, I thought I could handle my own case, so I picked up old documents from where they lay for years to back up my claim and on this evidence, I built up my claim. My friend, who was an exporter and importer before the war, did his own case and filed it. Being a college man, he thought he knew

the fundamentals of accounting and did his own case, unassisted by neither accountants or lawyers. If now the Attorney General decides that lawyers alone can handle claim cases before the Court of Claims, it would have the effect of making us people think the procedure before the court may be very difficult. It would scare us to lay in mass our cases on the laps of attorneys at law.

The J.A.C.L. has helped hundreds of people to make their claims, provided the claims are for \$2500.00 or less. Although the amount is comparatively small, some of these cases are quite complicated, as for instance, a hotel man who bought the lease for his hotel at \$5000.00 and after he ran the business for five years, sold it for \$10000.00 at the time of the evacuation. Right now, he does not worry much because he thinks that the judge or judges at the Court of Claims will adjust his claim and give him a right amount as award. But if you decide that attorneys at law alone shall represent the claimants, that decision suggests a difficult court procedure and the hotel man will hurry to a lawyer for assistance.

I wish also to state that the Attorney General could put the assistants under oath, give them several days' training to make them understand what does and does not constitute a loss under Public Law 706 or have discussion meetings for these assistants so that when they come to court, the cases they represent will be adjudicated as speedily as possible. If the Attorney General himself cannot legally undertake such meetings or lectures, the J.A.C.L. would at your suggestion. This settlement of evacuation claims numbering perhaps 6000 cases will take much time and cost the government a great deal of money, if every attorney

and accountant goes to the Court of Claims with all different kinds of ideas on what constitutes "loss" ^{and} with their "legal strategy". We want big lawyers and big accountants to help us understand more fully all the phases of the Public Law 886 and we are ready to give many days to study, as compensation for our services are sufficient enough and we want to give "extra consideration" in form of the time spent and study put in this matter.

You can make present "assistants" legally qualified if you wish, or perhaps they can make themselves more qualified if you suggest how, but I reiterate that the present set-up may not be too radically altered by a decision that "lawyers alone shall represent claimants."

Very respectfully submitted,

K. Hatchingaji

My residence in Los Angeles:
1934 West 22nd. Street
Los Angeles 7, California

Dr. T. G. Ishimaru

1332 Eye Street, N.W.
Franklin Park Hotel-325
Washington, D.C.
September 13, 1944

Dear Ned:-

Hope you are back from Denver and thanks a lot for the treat when we got together about a week ago. It was good to talk with you.

I am enclosing a copy of a letter written to Dr. Provinse and tell me what you think? If there is a possibility push it for me and I would be glad to help, which in all probability comes under your section.

My mother is sick and since my only sister relocated the burden is on me to go back and help. After, I make the arrangements I would be free to do as I please.

I can cover some of the cities on my way back to Colorado and I guess you know me better than anyone in W.R.A. due to our acquaintance in Poston.

Well, just these few lines for now and lets get together again one of these days before I leave.

Sincerely,

T.G.
Dr. T. G. Ishimaru

I think I can do the work Ned
on the basis of my experiences &
since most of these centers have people
from Southern California where I am
best known - altho San Francisco is
my birth place a resident during
my college days. Should I write
to Mr. Nelson Meyer?

NA 3408

1332 Eye Street, N.W.
Franklin Park Hotel-325
Washington, D.C.
September 13, 1944

Dr. John H. Provinse
Director Community Management
War Relocation Authority
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Provinse:-

Hope this letter finds you in the best of health and your recent meeting in Denver has been successful.

I write this letter to you for your advise and counsel. I am leaving Washington sometime next month due to illness in my family--in all probability I shall resign from my position around the middle of October.

In leaving Washington, I have nothing in sight at the present time, and wonder if there is an opening in the War Relocation Authority, in my professional line, which has been practiced at the Minidoka Project, whereby an Optometrist visits that Project from the outside periodically to render his professional services. I have heard of this practice when I talked with Dr. C. Thompson when he was in Boston in April of this year.

Or, be put on some "special assignment" of the W.R.A. to do some public relation work in surveying the field of already relocated areas as Philadelphia, New York, Chicago, Denver etc., to sound out the feelings and actual happenings as well as to visit some of the Projects to obtain factual information which the appointed personnel are not able to fully acquire due to psychological and personal feelings of the residents. I do not think it is necessary to cover every center, unless it is so wished, but a cross-section from Granada, Gila, Boston and Heart Mountain would suffice.

I believe you know in a general way my activities while I was in Boston and I can say that I know many people, who will listen to what I would have to say. This, I venture to say is something new in the W.R.A. setup to be a go-between the projects' residents and the administration.

The War Relocation Authority, will not have to put me on an annual basis, but just during this assignment of three or four months, to complete the survey and make a report. I shall be glad to return

to Washington and make my report verbally or otherwise.

The expenses involved probably will be traveling expenses and my salary for that period. If 'gas tickets' are available I could drive my car to save time and be convenient.

I have written to Mr. John J. McCloy, Ass't Secretary of War; offering my services in helping to co-ordinate and rehabilitate the evacuee program, but he has turned over that correspondence to the War Relocation Authority, to what department or individual I do not know. The relocation program in many respects is more difficult than evacuation itself.

Hoping you will give this matter your friendly counsel and I would like to hear from you or if you would prefer a discussion on the possibilities of the subject kindly phone me at NA 3408 and we can arrange some form of meeting together.

Thank you for your attention, I am

Sincerely yours,

Dr. T. G. Ishimaru

WRH - P. Amoschou

Tets Iwaski [Iwasaki?]

785

COPY

WESTERN UNION

Wade Head

42 NL
Denver, Colo. 22

Informed by wife that Shig and I next
in line for bodily harm WRA Denver
willing to extend Permit under circum-
stances looking into employment
possibilities here Please advise what protection
will be afforded us
our contact with San Francisco based
on your answer

Tets Iwaski
751 P

Foned
8PM.

(Probably November 22, 1942)

Smoot Katow 4251 W. Irving Pk ¹⁹⁴³
Chicago, Ill

Dear Dr. Spier:

It's four weeks now
that I've been in Chicago.
Yesterday was the first time
I had a chance to walk
around the U. of Chicago.

I looked for the address
you gave me; but, I must
have mislaid it because
I couldn't find it.

The campus ~~is~~ beautiful
and immense in size. It
must have taken millions

of dollars.

I met Dr. Tachiro, a Japanese American dentist, who has been practicing in Chicago for the last 17 years. He is certainly doing a lot to further the understanding of the Japanese Problem among the University of Chicago people and others of Chicago. His practice is mostly among the "Hakujins". It must have been, or he would have starved by now.

He is a bachelor; but, he is noted for the Sukiyaki dinner he serves. He claims it is the best weapon he has. He works among the the influential people and also finds jobs for many who come out here. Helps to bring understanding of the problem. Maybe you know him.

I find Chicago's weather just, if not more so, as uncomfortable as Boston. It suddenly changed from winter to summer. The

Humidity is something
one doesn't find in Boston.

The people of Chicago
are still afraid of us.

The Japanese-Americans here
claim that more stores
have been directed at them
after the execution publicity,
and also after the publicity
about the camps came
out in a serial in the
Tribune. Maybe no
publicity is better now.

The people in the
place where I work treat

me okay. The work is simple; but not in the line with what I had been doing. I have been debating with myself whether to try to change or not. Considering of course, the possibilities of Post-War period. This plant isn't a war plant yet, its essential. It makes sewage plant equipment. Have made many installations for

the army.

The housing is tight.

Becoming more so every day.

I still haven't found one.

Its because I haven't gone
about it right I think.

I know I missed several
times because of my own fault.

I need a 6 room place,
which is scarce. Hoping
to bring out my parents.

I hear things are
running pretty smooth
in camp. Lets hope they
remains so. I think
Poston is established
to a point ~~where~~ where
the administrator should
have no worries.

Please give my regards
to the friends I didn't
have a chance to say goodbye
like Ted Haas and Vernon,
if he is there.

Sincerely
Smoot

Poston, Arizona
June 19, 1943

Dear Smoot,

Thanks very much for your letter. I'm glad things have been going well with you and I hope you find some decent housing. I don't know Dr. Tashinro, but I was talking to Dr. Shimizu about your meeting him, and he says that he knows Dr. Tashinro. Dr. Shimizu, by the way, has just been admitted to the Yale School of Public Health and is leaving for the east next week. Ted Haas just came back yesterday and I have passed your regards on to him. Vern Kennedy is not here, but seems to be permanently placed as WRA employment representative in Kansas City.

The University of Chicago man whose name I gave you is Dr. Robert Redfield. He is professor of anthropology. You can get in touch with him through Mrs. Ernestine Bingham, Secretary, Department of Anthropology, Social Science Building, University of Chicago. Be sure to mention my name when you go to see him. He knows about our research here and has been much interested in Poston, so he will have some background in common with you. He is a swell guy, although he sometimes strikes people as a little brusque at first.

Things haven't exactly been quiet here. The new permanent council has already had a bit of a fight, I believe. Okamoto and Nakamura of the old CEB are on it and they seem to feel that EB and LRB are unnecessary institutions, want to abolish them. Mr. Kawasaki teams up with them. Nomura, Nakai, and Fukuda are fighting for the LRB and EB. Joe Nakai told me yesterday that he thinks his point of view is going to win out..... Yesterday the Dies Committee visited the project and, in my estimation, put on a cheap political performance, having their pictures taken in Block 21 with babies in their arms, etc. Representative Eberhard of Penna. got roaring drunk in Parker afterwards and had to be literally poured on to the train. Fellows like that, of course, can do untold damage and they have done it already. But I think the Dies Committee is on the way out. I'm hoping that the Washington hearings next week put it on the skids. We have sent stacks of stuff refuting the testimony they got in L.A. to Myer to use. We'll see.

With best wishes, write again,

Room 1004
Merchandise Mart
Chicago, Ill.
October 6, 1943

Mr. Snoot Katow
3548 N. Halstead St.
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Katow,

When Ned was here in Chicago early in September on his way to Washington he heard that you were here and wanted to lock you up. However, he did not have time and we did not have your phone number. He said that he hoped that I would try to see you in his stead. I wonder if it would be possible to get together some time. Dr. Leighton is here too and we might have dinner together. I can be reached at the above address or you could call here. I will be looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Rosalind B. Spicer
(Mrs. E. H. Spicer)

Phone: Whitenall 5920
Extension 20

Smoot Katow WKA

CLASS OF SERVICE
This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

1201

SYMBOLS
DL = Day Letter
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LC = Deferred Cable
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The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

CARO NL=CHICAGO ILL 28

1943 OCT 29 AM 1 57

NED SPICER=

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY BARR BLDG WASHDC=

IF YOU CAN PLEASE OBTAIN HOTEL RESERVATION FOR SUNDAY NITE

31 WILL PICK UP MESSAGE AT TRAVELERS AID ARRIVING TRAIN

26 B AND O ALONE=

SMOOT KATOW.

D. Linsc

31 26 B O.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

~~① *[unclear]*~~

~~① *[unclear]*~~

② Africa

You may be
interested in this
letter from a former
Boston Missions Councilman.
LH

H. Smoot Katow
3548 N. Halsted St.
Chicago, 13, Ill
Jan. 7, 1945

Dear Ned:

Many thanks for your unique Christmas card. One does not receive cards with the personal touch these days anymore.

We have gone into a rut and am continuing, from where we left of before evacuation, to live the common ordinary life in the average community. It is work six days a week and rest on the seventh. Sometimes we go out to see friends, other times to places of entertainments but as outlined nothing exciting like life in the relocation center.

Looking back, hindsight says that we Niseis were very provincial. I shall always look back to the Poston days as the college of human relations as far as I am concerned. Tossed in was an education in democracy. At the least, I shall always believe that I tried to help work up a democratic body to govern Poston as taught by the book and proven at least to myself from practice, in Poston.

Tep, on his way back to Colorado, mentioned that he had lunch with you at Washington. I think he is too much of a family man to be living and working alone so far from his family. Vernon Kennedy is supposed to be in Washington. I haven't heard from him but I guess he is still there.

I can see that, much water has passed under the bridge, as far as your work with the WRA is concerned. Now that the restriction is lifted, I see that WRA has come out with the policy of returning everyone from the center to either California or other places. The policy is not unlike that which I once expressed to you as a possibility some time ago. I hope WRA has figured out all the headaches it is going to run into. It is certainly going to be hard on a lot of families. My regret is that there is no financial help (compensation for losses) being handed out. A little money in cash form is going to, I believe, help the exit from the center. There is one important point that I am wondering about. And that is, I hope WRA in any of its actions in depopulating the centers, ^{NEVER} put the residents in a position of deciding for themselves that they are enemy aliens instead of loyal residents. If WRA ever does, WRA will end up with a dozen Tules instead of one.

Hashima is leaving Chicago to work for Doctor Leighton sometime next week. We will look you up I'm sure.

Please give my regards to your wife and boy.

Sincerely
Smoot

Sumner Kato
WRA

3548 N. Halsted
Chicago, Ill

July 2 (?)

Dear Ed

Your letter with all the latest news on the Poston Political front was appreciated. I certainly miss the fun I used to have. It was playing with fire though under the circumstances.

Regards the political situation though, I don't think there should be any worry for the administrators. Those two, Nakamura and Okamoto are pretty tough; yet, Okamoto especially is well informed on the world situation, both regards the political and the economic standing and situations. I mean, they are, at least, logical and can be reasoned into certain line of action. Nakamura though is a little too tough on occasion. But, as far as action is concerned, I found them to act more pro-american than any of the other issues. They are realists according to my understanding.

of their actions and thinking. Those 2
having lived under the democratic system
for 30 years, find it hard to act
otherwise. I've heard Mr. Chamoto
remark that the kibei's were too radical
for him.

I heard through a reliable source
that a report on the Block 12 history is
on file at the Sociological Research
office. From what I heard, the history
is about 100% off. It claims that
Seido Hashimura was the trouble maker
and leader of the group. When (I lived
in Block 12) all the time, he held down
the boys. The situation was as follows,
I was more or less active in the community
affairs, was the councilman of the block, and
took a leading part in quieting the big kitchen
trouble 12 had when Mrs. Ito started
the ball rolling. As a consequence, I
more or less had some power in the
block. This I was able to do by

the help of Seido. He interpreted for me in the block meetings. And, due to his deference to me as a brother-in-law he governed himself accordingly. I didn't mean to write all of the foregoing, but, if what I heard is right, I wanted to see Seido get the right break and not the untruth. I got all the news through ~~his~~ him. He finally moved out of the block because he was getting blamed for everything.

I finally found a place and Mary and Ronnie should be here in a week or two. The place is unfurnished. I think I'm going to squat here forever if the cold winter doesn't drive me south. The place is only 3 blocks from Lincoln Park. Ronnie should be able to enjoy himself there. They seem to be having trouble in reserving a Pullman.

The housing is tight. I don't think some of the kids are going to be brought up in the So. Calif fashion.

Some of the skilled boys are making good money. Auto mechanics draw as high as \$98 a week check. (works hard and fast) (work in piecework for yellow cab)

Others are doing all right because of the overtime payments. 70 cents per hour with over time brings a monthly pay to about 180 or so.

There is a lot of sociological change going on. Even I can see it through my engineering eyes. ~~Girls~~ Girls and Boys live in same apartments (groups of them) because of housing situation. This never happened in So. Calif.

Thanks again for your letter.

Regards

Smart Katon

Smoot Katow - WRA

3548 N. Halsted St

Chicago 13 Ill

Nov 19 (?)

Dear Ned:

First I want to thank you for hospitality during my stay in Washington. I enjoyed and learned more about a little in social science in the little bull session we had. I wish I've had more time to discuss more about Poston. I guess you have your hands full with the Tule affair that's hot now and the news of internment camps in Japan from the exchange ship.

I finally heard from the Army. They said in short: "Removal was with sufficient cause (what-ever they were) accordingly not entitled to compensation for pay loss, ~~no~~ further find in present condition and further information that employment will not be inimicable to the interests of the U. S." This was the finding of the Board in Washington. So I guess I'm cleared.

There's just one thing, I'm taking up your offer to write a letter about my life in Poston. If you remember, there was a letter, I showed you, written for my benefit which had something written about bad influence in Poston on me. I wonder if you could write to this friend of mine.

Name is J. H. Grayson

P. O. Box 88

Monrovia, Calif.

He wrote, I think, the most influential letter for me. I think he has heard from others about my Poston life..

My furniture arrived from Calif. I don't know why I'm settling down under today's conditions; but, I thought I could at least liquidate, if necessary. Since I've got furniture, I figured I might as well start a home. ~~Also~~

~~If~~ If even my brother and I should be called in the service, I think, my wife and his will be able to hold out without my sending them back to the Center. I think this one thought, about the draft, is keeping, ~~my~~ many, married ones with childrens, in the centers. It is the matter or

question of the wife supporting the children by herself. As far as I'm concerned, the furniture will keep the rent expense down.

I returned to my old company, into a better, more responsible position. There was a little reorganization during my absence and a mechanical designer quit so I'm more or less taking his place. At least, the job is going to be more interesting.

It too bad about Tule, hindsight is always good; but, now I think the fundamental mistake was in WRA denying the so-called "self-government," as in other centers, to Tule. If the center was not going to be a prison, there's no other way or method of running a center other than an organized community. That's just my thoughts anyway. I don't think Bert ~~was~~ was just the type either judging from his news releases in the Tule's paper.

Some of the news release about the internment camps in Japan was interesting. I guess they didn't get much to eat; but, it seems they ran their own centers.

New York was a exciting. It
is a big city. I think I could
like to live there. It's a little
cleaner than Chicago.

I havn't had a chance to go
out yet. It's been too cold. Maybe
tomorrow, I may go down and
see Dr. Leighton tomorrow.

Thanks again for the drinks

Regards
M. Smart Katow

Kunitani

WRA

Jan. 4, 1944

Dear Ned:

I'm very sorry that I timed my visit to D.C. a few days too late to see you. I understand that you flew to Tule just two days before I came. Well, maybe we can get together some other time but soon.

This is sorta of a hasty note Ned, to ask of you a favor. At the present time among other things I am being investigated by the Civil Service Commission for a position with the Cleveland office of the WRA and it seems that they have some misgivings about certifying me to the position. I believe there is some question about my loyalty.

Although you haven't known me over a long period of time I am sure that you have some definite opinions about my attitudes towards various social and political issues and particularly the war. I should appreciate it therefore if you would send a statement to Mr. L.A. Moyer Executive Director & Chief Examiner of the U.S. Civil Service Commission in Washington D.C. reassuring him that Kunitani is a pretty safe bet as far as loyalty is concerned. I understand that statements in my behalf must be in Washington by the 12th of Jan.

We've met a quite a few people since we left the project and have had many interesting experiences which we would like to talk to you about. Can't you come out here and make a study of how the evacuees have adjusted themselves in this area which is really the guts of America? I should think it would be a very interesting study and a very valuable one as well.

With best regards.

Sincerely,
Mab.

WRA - Correspondence

re: Michio Kunitani

January 14, 1944

Mr. L. A. Moyer
Executive Director and
Chief Examiner
U. S. Civil Service Commission
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Moyer:

I have been informed that Mr. Michio Kunitani has applied to the Civil Service Commission for a position with the Cleveland office of the War Relocation Authority.

I have known Mr. Kunitani since August 1942. I met him at that time in the Colorado River War Relocation Project, Poston, Arizona. I knew him fairly intimately during the succeeding seven or eight months. I had frequent contacts with him in the course of my work as Social Science Analyst at Poston. I also had contacts with him socially and had numerous informal conversations and visits with him and his wife. I was especially interested in Mr. Kunitani's point of view toward the war and the issues at stake in the war; consequently I talked with him on numerous occasions in regard to these subjects.

As a result of these contacts I have no hesitation in saying that I believe Mr. Kunitani to be a loyal citizen of the United States. I believe that he has a sincere and well-reasoned feeling of opposition toward the governments of the nations with which we are at war, and that he believes whole-heartedly in the cause of the Government of the United States. I never found anything in his statements or past history to cause me to doubt his loyalty to this country.

I hope that this opinion will be of some use to you in estimating his suitability for the job for which he has applied.

Sincerely yours,

Edward H. Spicer
Head Community Analysis Section



WJH - Correspondence



Jonathan last spring, 2½

GREETINGS

from the Howdens

December 1957

For several seasons we've been wanting to communicate a bit more adequately with old friends in distant places and with some nearby whom we too rarely see. This time we'll take a try at a year-end letter (with warm acknowledgment to Ed's fellow-intergrouper, Marshall Bragdon of Cincinnati).

A year is so little a piece of time when you look back. Faster fleeing, too, from a fortyish perspective, and when, as with us, there is a young one and the mother holds down a job. Ed's civil rights work is always a seam-straining thing, but it has been altogether crazy as to schedule the past two years. There was, for one thing, that weekly half-hour television series in the first half of 1956 under a Fund for the Republic grant. Documentary reports -- live and filmed -- and other handling of current minority and civil liberties issues in the Bay Area. Every Sunday afternoon. Called it "Barrier." Ed originated, co-edited, and moderated. Apparently successful by most standards. Regular Council for Civic Unity duties of a dozen sorts, including the weekly radio program, had to go on at the same time, so it was a period of unbroken seven-day weeks until that first "Barrier" series closed for the summer. (Under the pressure of other Major Projects, resumption was postponed till 1958.)

Meanwhile Anne was functioning full-time as office manager for the Western States Meat Packers Ass'n, raising Jonathan (then under two), and running the household. "Rat-race" is understatement. Acid test of health, marital stamina, etcetera.

Came the summer (still back in '56) and we had our first try at a High Sierra outing not as a small private party but with a large group of members of the Sierra Club. Jonathan being only 21 months, we wanted neither the risk nor quite hard work of hitting the trail entirely on our own, with all the menu-arranging, cooking, burro-tending, wilderness child care, and other tasks involved. The Club's "base camp" was the answer. Location that year (always a day's hike from road-end): just off the John Muir trail at 9500 feet in the vicinity of Thousand Island Lake. Commissary provided, price reasonable. . . Magnificent country! Clean granite, tamaracks and rugged junipers pressing timber line, great peaks and ragged ridges still heavy in August with snow. Biting cold blue lakes, green meadows sprinkled with myriad flowers of infinite delicacy, quiet snow- and spring-fed brooks, becoming larger streams coursing loudly through canyons, then sliding over smooth, rounded rock into deep, noiseless pools and running passages. Air of a freshness and subtlety of scent that brings your senses sharply alive -- air which is chilling in the early morning, then warm-bathed as the sun clears the ridge to the east, hot and dry through the day except by a shaded stretch of stream -- perhaps lightened by an afternoon breeze, finally turning cold as the glossy black night sky envelops this seeming top of the world which is our camp site. . . We hike, sweat, slosh the live water over head and arms, loll on the grass bordering a tiny beach at a remote, unpeopled lake; eat our lunch, nap, bathe, flip out a dry fly to rising rainbows or goldens. Jonathan -- who rides Dad's back in an Everest-type rig designed for this, facing back at Mommie following on the trail -- is happy the whole time. No need for toys: the varying scenes and objects of camp and trail and picnic place constantly hold the small boy's attention, and when the time comes, if we are on the move, the rhythmic trail motion and warm sun nod him to sleep sitting there in the pack rig, or the day's end fatigue overtakes him and he nestles down into the mummy sleeping bag. He is the youngest among 180, easily walks off with mascot status; berry-brown, dirty, surprisingly sure-footed in the loose granite. . . And the fellow-campers are fine people. No radios, no outboard motors, no powersaws. No imposed program, and the whole vast out-of-doors for total solitude when you want it.

So these are the elements of our two-week summer re-creations each year. Pardon, please, the rhapsodic bent. As we write, this December night in San Francisco, a heavy, blustery rain (most unusual!) beats away at our old roof and windows, the civil rights work backlog looks over our shoulders, and, as you see, we do get carried away with thoughts of the High Sierra's "eternal springtime.". . . We did it again this year. The camp was at Iron Mountain, near the Sierra crest in an area west of Mammoth Lakes. Might do it again in '58 -- Jonathan will probably be too heavy to carry -- unless we work up the energy for a small family party on our own, assisted by burro.

Back in the city, between those two summers, there was an oversize Council research volume on employment discrimination to be edited and reworked, and a little matter of San Francisco's third massive effort to bring about enactment of a municipal fair employment ordinance over the determined opposition of all major employer groups. This campaign, happily, ended in victory -- California's first such law -- last July after seven hectic months of hearings, public controversy, negotiations, and related activities. (Bakersfield followed suit, and it is likely that State FEPC will come sooner as a result of these local enactments.) Then there were the Willie Mays housing incident and a few hundred other less celebrated doings.

On the family side (as though the family were not really involved more or less in, or felt the impact of, these Council affairs) a year of old-house-hunting suddenly paid off, and in mid-November we moved into our first non-rental abode. (Note new address below.) It's old and rather beat, but we'll get it in shape in five years -- and then stay put the rest of our lives! Pleasant neighborhood in the city's geographic center, up a hill south of the Park Panhandle. Had to compromise our hope for a decent yard for the sake of adequate interior space. But now there's a long-needed study-sewing room and a proper room for Michael (Ed's 14-year-old son by his former marriage) when he can be with us. We're still pinching ourselves.

In recent months Anne has successfully adjusted her job to a mostly three-day week, and this has brought a slightly more civilized pace; though the civil rights side of our life seems destined to dominate us completely, running along something like an overloaded truck compelling the driver's utmost attention and strength. Chronically understaffed, it has never seemed possible to hold the program down to sensible size. Time is often of the essence in striking the effective educational blow or pushing the particular community action. The tasks are of course intrinsically urgent, and the inevitable temptation is to take on too much, to try to cover too many bases, to exert that extra effort which might make the difference between victory and defeat. So the pressure, partly self-imposed, is rather relentless. Naturally we'd like to think it's worthwhile.

Jonathan still spends the days of Anne's working with the wonderful Lundie family, where he has been strictly one of the gang since he was just over a year old. It has been a fine and beneficial arrangement for the young one. His social adjustment and general development seem quite good (on objective authority, you understand). We are blessed beyond measure with this joyful little man.

We celebrate our fourth wedding anniversary this Christmas Eve, deeply thankful for our rugged small one, for Mike's promising development, for health, for the good friends to whom this is addressed, for having work in which we believe. Let us hope that elementary sanity among the chiefs of state may yet obviate nuclear holocaust.

Just as we were finishing this letter, the following prayer -- Black Elk Indian, 19th century -- came into our hands:

Great Spirit, all over the earth the faces of living things are alike. With tenderness have these come up out of the ground. Look upon the faces of children without number, and those with children in their arms, that they may face the winds and walk the good road to the day of quiet.

191 Upper Terrace
San Francisco 17

Yours,

Anne & Ed

Frank Mayamets - WRA

File

Ned,
Personal?

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

EVACUATION AND RESETTLEMENT STUDY
207 GIANNINI HALL
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

Rm 12, Social Science Res. Bldg.
University of Chicago
Chicago, Ill.
March 8, 1944

Dear Ned;

I hope you have the Chicago report, which we promised you, by now. I sent it to Jacoby about a couple of weeks ago, and he said he would mail it to you as soon as he'd glanced at it. I'm sorry we couldn't get it out sooner, but there was some delay in getting a part of the necessary data, although several of the chapters were completed very early.

I'm afraid the report isn't as comprehensive as it might be, and that some of the questions which you raised haven't been discussed at all. We weren't able to put in as much time as we should like to have on the report, for ever since the possibility arose that some of the staff might be affected by the draft, the pressure has been on to get as much of our work cleaned up as possible immediately. The data we've used in the report then refer largely to the most obvious features of Chicago resettler life, things we could pin down with relative ease, and the more detailed or subtle aspects have been left out.

When we were discussing the proposed report last December, I was aware that there was some difference of approach to the problem between you and Emree and ourselves. More specifically, I think Emree felt that we should make a number of detailed group studies leading to generalizations concerning forms of social relationships, etc. From a knowledge of his training and the type of work he's been interested in in the past, I felt that he was possibly viewing the Chicago problem as essentially a problem of acculturation, with the culture of the Chicago resettlers as at a farther pole from Guye Mura than Kona. In any case, this was the kind of inference I drew for myself.

Our discussion is weakest in regards to the matter of cultural forms or patterns of behavior among the resettlers. I wish to explain that we have some material along this line, but our finding at present is that there is considerable variation in patterns of behavior and social relationships. What we therefore have to do is to break down the total population into a series of sub-groups before we can say very much about types of adjustments, but this involves a longer program than we were able to undertake for the report.

Moreover, as we pointed out in the report, the community, so far as it exists, is yet quite loose and generalized patterns of behavior are difficult to define. Indeed, because of the situation of evacuees and the limitations that so far exist in the channels of communication, it is the problems of behavior that loom large in the pre-occupation of resettlers. I mention these points because, as an anthropologist, I thought you might be disappointed by our failure to discuss the problems of culture more carefully.

In looking over the report, I find that there are numerous typographical errors and awkward grammatical constructions. If you are making copies of the report, please feel free to edit it in any way you think desirable. In fact, I wish you would go over it rather carefully. I should have proof read it before sending it to you, but I thought you would like to see the report as soon as possible. There is one error which I wish you would correct. In a footnote near the beginning of Chapter IV entitled "Relocation to Chicago", there is an acknowledgment made to Jacoby. His middle initial is "I" and not "J" as indicated in the copy. As for the title sheet, Charlie made it up as a kind of joke, and some revision is in order.

If you are making copies of the report, I wonder if you could send us one, two or three, or whatever you can spare. I don't imagine you'll mimeograph the report, and I know you're short on typists, but I'd like to put in our request in case you make extra copies.

Personally, I'd be interested in your comments on the paper. Of course, the report was slanted for administrative purposes, and it was a hurried job, so you may find difficulty in saying anything about it. Incidentally, the report should properly have gone to Dorothy for her comments before being sent to you. We sent her a copy, and you may hear from her regarding it.

If you're around Chicago again, please drop around. With best wishes to our friends there.

Sincerely yours,

Frank Miyamoto

Frank Miyamoto

Rec. 3/11/44

Hiroschi Nakamura (WRA)

3515-C

Nakamura

Zulu Lake,

Jan. 29.

date?

Dear Dr. Spicer,

I wish I could be writing better news but it looks like my novel isn't getting very far. Farrar & Rinehart returned it saying it had considerable merit but was too bitter, the characters felt too sorry for themselves, and it had some anti-American feeling expressed. Meanwhile, Harcourt, Brace & Company had asked to see it so I sent it to them next, but their rejection just came. They said, "frankly" they were unable to visualize a sufficiently large audience.

I am sending it to Mary Issajima in Brooklyn who will ~~try~~ do what she can from here in. Mary is a former C.A. staff member whom you may remember.

For while I was quite hopeful; but I always felt the manuscript had too many shortcomings as a novel, since I wrote mainly for the record. I'm almost tempted to rewrite the whole thing, only I don't have enough hope.

I want to thank you here for everything.

If, something turns up, I'll let you know.

My plans are to go to Los Angeles as soon as they please me. If you ever move out there and have some lawns to mow, call on me.

Sincerely,

Hiroshi Nakamura.

Spicer - 717

This was somewhat
curiously hooked
inside my Ickesion
History - just returned
by the War Records Com.
I read it & sympathize
with the poor novelist.
R.E.M.

Hiroshi Nakamura

November 22, 1945

Mr. Hiroshi Nakamura
3501 D
Tule Lake, California

Dear Mr. Nakamura:

I was much interested in the news concerning the manuscript of your novel in your letter of October 30. I did not know that Farrar and Rinehart had decided to consider it. I did mention to John Embree when he was here last month the fact that you had completed a novel and suggested that he ask his publisher in New York about possibilities. John did not indicate to me when he came back what the nature of his conversations pertaining to the manuscript were.

John is now in Honolulu where he has gone to take up teaching duties in the Department of Anthropology in the University of Hawaii.

I shall be interested in learning about any further adventures of your manuscript. I have read it, enjoyed it, think it is a very good piece of writing, and believe it should be published. If it is accepted by Farrar and Rinehart or some other publisher, I should be glad to consider writing some sort of foreword. I have a hunch, however, that John Embree could do a better job than I. A foreword from him might also result in a wider audience for the book.

Please let me know what happens as soon as it does happen. I am hoping hard.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,

Ned Spicer

EHSpicer:hr

E. Spicer

3501 D
Tule Lake, California

October 30, 1945

Dr. Edward Spicer
Community Analysis Section
War Relocation Authority
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Spicer:

I have just sent my manuscript to Farrar & Rinehart. Their letter to Dr. Opler mentioned the fact that Dr. Embree had brought the novel to their attention; however, behind it all, I know there was the good hand of Ned Spicer.

I am most grateful and now full of vague hopes. At least a publisher will read the manuscript.

It is rather early for this, but in the event that publication should be arranged, I wonder if you or Dr. Embree might be interested in writing a foreword. I know that my writing fails to point out much of the significance of the material and I feel that some foreword is necessary.

Since this is premature, I shall write you again at a later date--if necessary.

Thanks again.

Most sincerely,

Hiroshi Nakamura

Hiroshi Nakamura

HN/m

P. S. I have not written to Dr. Embree because I don't have his address. When next you meet him, will you tell him I appreciate his help no end.

WRHA - Correspondence

Toshio Oishi

539

1236 Summerfield Drive
Herndon, Va. 22070
5/26/81

University of Arizona
University of Arizona Press
Tucson, Arizona

Gentlemen:

My parents, Hitomi and Tatsuye Oishi, and their children (including myself) were confined in the Gila, Arizona "relocation camp" during World War II. Members of my family are trying to gather information regarding ourselves for purposes of establishing and maintaining our family history/records. I am interested in the following as well as any other reports, records, articles, letters, etc concerning my family - especially when named/identified. Also of interest is any information on the Gila camp in general.

- Notification to report for "internment"
- Notification of release from "internment"
- Records of reporting into & out of "internment"
- Pictures of family members, housing, camp life & activities
- Type of work performed & pay
- Family history/background information including on relatives
- Records on occupation/assets prior to internment,

I would appreciate any help in obtaining such information. If the cost to provide a copy of whatever information you have is high, please provide me an estimate of the cost along with a list of the materials you do have, otherwise, any suggestions as to sources for the above

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information would be helpful. There is limited information available from my parents as they speak very little of the camp. Also contributing to the difficulty are my parents age and the time span since internment. Regardless, hard copies of information such as I described is personally important to understand and maintain knowledge of our family history.

Members of my parents family that were in the Gila camp are:

Hiroshi + Tatsuge Oishi (Parents)

Hitoshi Oishi - Son

Kazuo Oishi - Son

Toshio Oishi - Son

Isao Oishi - Son

A. Emiko Oishi - Daughter

} Born in Camp

I would also like to get a copy of:

• Brown, G. Gordon. "WRA, Gila River Project, Rivers, Arizona, Community Analysis Section, May 12 to July 7, 1945 - Final Report." Applied Anthropology 4 (1945): 1-49

• Camp publication "Gila News Courier"

• Myer, Dillon S. "Uprooted Americans: The Japanese Americans and the War Relocation Authority During World War II." Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1970

• Spicer, E.H., Hanson, A.T., Luomala, K., and Opler, M.K. "Impounded People: Japanese Americans in the Relocation Centers." Tucson, Arizona: University of Arizona Press, 1969.

I am sending a similar letter to UCLA.

Sincerely,
Toshio Oishi
(TOSHIO OISHI)

 University
of Arizona
Press

June 19, 1981

Mr. Toshio Oishi
1236 Summerfield Drive
Herndon, Virginia 22070

Re: Gila, Arizona "Relocation Camp"

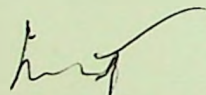
Dear Mr. Oishi:

We are forwarding to Dr. Edward H. Spicer, senior editor of our University of Arizona Press book IMPOUNDED PEOPLE: JAPANESE AMERICANS IN THE RELOCATION CENTERS, your inquiry of May 26, 1981, for various bits of information available on individuals who were confined in the Gila Camp during World War II. We do not retain resource files at the Press itself, and we believe Dr. Spicer is the one who could give you the best guidance on the various points about which you asked. He is Professor Emeritus of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Arizona.

IMPOUNDED PEOPLE as a book now is out-of-print, so we suggest that you obtain access to its information through one of the good libraries in your vicinity. We can provide a copy of the book UPROOTED AMERICANS: The Japanese Americans and the War Relocation Authority During World War II, by Dillion Myer, if you fill out the enclosed order envelope and return it to the Press with your remittance.

We wish you well in trying to run down the various bits of information you seek.

Sincerely,



Marshall Townsend
Director

MT:dc

Enclosures: Order blank

cc: Edward H. Spicer ✓

Mr. Toshio Oishi
Herndon, Va.

Dear Mr. Oishi:

Mr. Marshall Townsend of the University of Arizona Press passed your letter of May 26 on to me in which you inquire about information regarding your family which was in the Gila (Rivers) War Relocation Center during WW II.

There is a special file drawer on the Rivers Relocation Center in the University of Arizona Library in the Special Collections Department of the library. I have no time or opportunity to comb those files for the information in which you are interested, but I have passed your letter on to Dr. David Laird, Head Librarian of the University of Arizona Library. It is possible he may have some student help or other means of digging out the information which you need. I presume that he will answer me shortly.

Meanwhile I should think that you might begin to look for what you need in the National Archives in Washington. There is a very extensive file of materials on all War Relocation Authority activities there. I am sure that there are separate files on the different relocation centers, including Rivers. You might inquire there since it is close to your home and begin the search.

Very probably the National Archives contains a copy of G. Gordon Brown's "Gila River Project Report." You might be able to make a copy from that. Failing that, I suggest that you write to Dr. Meredith Belleberg, Production Editor
Society for Applied Anthropology
1701 New Hampshire Ave. N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20009.

Although that issue is long out of print, it is possible that the Society's editor may be able to suggest some means for making a copy of it which they should have in their file of all issues of the journal.

I note that Mr. Townsend has informed you as to how to obtain or consult copies of the books in which you are interested.

I hope that these comments may be helpful.

Sincerely,

Edward H. Spicer
Professor Emeritus

we made our beds Army style and whoever did not make it right was put on extra duty. Dressed in fatigues and leggings, we marched to the mess hall. All was brand new to me, a gandydancer. I liked breakfast very much as did the others. Back at the barracks, a sergeant gave the necessary instructions. We learned the general and special rules and the orders were given. We were of the Sixth Squadron, and we were informed who the squadron commander was and base commander and the location of our orderly room. This much we learned the second day. The third day at six-- "Fall out for roll-call!" We marched to the mess hall first and then to the training field for calisthenics. Then the sergeants took charge of their trainees and made platoon formations of their men to teach them steps. Standing in formation, we were taught to right face, left face, and about face. These were performed by the sergeant for us to see.

Oh, the sergeants, some were tough, some considerate. But anyway, the training was done with good results. I liked them tough because I wanted results for myself. I desired to learn to gain advanced rating, but it was as fussy as flagging trains. Here I had no responsibility but was the same as a hired man, subject to orders and getting them, plenty. After we learned the foot-work formation, we were given guns to learn to handle without killing each other. We learned to shoulder arms, right and left, to present arms, and to trail arms. After learning these, we learned sighting. Then we were taken to the range to learn firing. On the rifle range I did not aim well and my shooting report was average in standing, sitting and prone positions. Lunch was brought to us on the range. Service club girls were there selling cokes,

17 August 1981

Mr. Toshio Oishi
1236 Summerfield Drive
Herndon, VA 22070

Dear Mr. Oishi:

A copy of your letter from last spring to the University of Arizona Press has reached me via Dr. Edward H. Spicer. Dr. Spicer was, I believe, head of the community analysis section of the Gila Japanese Relocation Center near Yuma. Your letter had been referred to him by Marshall Townsend, Director of our University Press.

In response to your request, I am afraid that I cannot provide you with the kind of information you would like. Dr. Spicer gave to us, in 1961, his file from the years he worked at the Relocation Center. Those files have been processed and are available in our Department of Special Collections, but we simply do not have the manpower to do the kind of searching that would have to be done to find the specific information in which you are interested. We have in our collection some twenty file boxes of material donated by Dr. Spicer. This probably amounted to two or three file drawers full of information when it was in a working state. You would be welcomed to use this material if you come to Tucson.

You will also find in the University of Arizona collection a large number of books concerning the Relocation Center at Yuma as well as other relocation centers. In Special Collections, we have a dozen or so titles of published books on this subject, and I am sure that a person doing research here would find numerous leads to articles and other information. Unfortunately, we cannot provide the photocopies of these books as all of them are covered by copyright laws.

Mr. Toshio Oishi
Page 2

As you probably will have heard by now from Dr. Spicer it would be best to start a search such as you are involved in, with a visit to the National Archives.

Sincerely yours,

W. David Laird
University Librarian

WDL/jl
cc: Dr. Edward H. Spicer

WRA

539
WRA
GC

August 29, 1981

Dear Dave, (Haird)

Thank you for the copy of your letter to Mr. Teishi Gishi. I'm sure it will be helpful to him.

I feel bound to correct a couple of unimportant errors in your letter --- for the record. I was not head of the Community Analysis Section at the Gila River Relocation Center. I was a Community Analyst at the Boston Center and later head of the Community Analysis Section of the whole War Relocation Authority in Washington. The Gila River Relocation Center was not near Yuma, but rather near Sacaton on the Gila River Indian Reservation; the Post Office established there during the war was called Rivers, and so that is often the designation for the center used in WRA records.

Thank you again for responding to Mr. Gishi's letter. He has probably by this time gone to the National Archives, although I have not heard from him to that effect.

Edward H. Spicer

primary concern so that over one's lifetime one plays a variety of family roles. As a result, one gradually declines from a position of being the donor of all forms of respect to being the recipient.

Outside these persons are 'n goⁱ yɛn, Chinese people who were not your relatives. In China there were five geographical areas in which people reside. Individuals were classified according to these areas. In turn each area used to be represented by a color on the Chinese flag. People of the south were called h^wan yɛn and their color insignia was red. People of the north were called moⁱn yɛn and their color insignia was yellow. People of the northwest were called mon yɛn and their color insignia was blue. People of the west were called h^woⁱ yɛn and their color insignia was white. People of the central area were called ton yɛn and their color insignia was black. Each area represents a dynasty of the empire because each group was once in power. The people of Kwangtung are of the, h^wan yɛn, people of the south area.

On the periphery of China are the 'n goⁱ k^o' yɛn, foreign people who were divided according to skin color. Again there were five colors: 1) hak yɛn, "black people," 2) bak yɛn, "white people," 3) won yɛn, "yellow people," 4) hon yɛn, "red people," and 5) dun duk yɛn, "people who are the color between yellow and black." In the language

re: Gary Okihiro (WRX) 753

August 31, 1973

Dear Mr. Hundley:

I recommend with enthusiasm that Gary Okihiro's article "Japanese Resistance...." be published. It is a good scholarly job. Okihiro has made use of the source materials and the interpretations that exist in a very careful manner. He has called attention to points that need to be cleared up by further research in the available documents in Washington and Berkely and has clearly stated why and how the further work should be done. I believe that he has been very fair in his analyses and citations. I have noted only one error: on page 16 he refers to "project director Haas" of the Poston relocation center. Theodore Haas was not project director; he was project attorney and liaison officer with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. (It occurs to me as I write that Haas may have been at the time cited acting project director in a very temporary capacity. At any rate this minor point ought to be checked.)

I do not agree with Okihiro's interpretations. It would, however, take a good deal of space to explain why. And my personal reaction is irrelevant. Okihiro has done just what all of us who were directly involved in evacuation problems hoped would be done: he has examined the situation as a scholar with reference to how analysis of it might add to general knowledge of human behavior. He has made exactly the kind of use of the materials which we recorded and put into archives which it was hoped good social scientists would carry out. I am enthusiastic about the way in which he has opened up theoretical issues which are important.

Two of his choices of words bother me. He speaks of the persons in the relocation centers as "internees" and he labels the relocation centers "concentration camps." It may seem quibbling to emphasize that a sharp distinction was made between internees in internment camps run by the Department of Justice and evacuees in the relocation centers run by a newly created and special agency set up to solve special problems consequent on the evacuation order--- the War Relocation Authority. The fact is, however, that these words reflected important policy of the U. S. government. To call the centers "concentration camps" is to confuse them with places from which no egress is allowed; the relocation centers were open and in a different category from prison type camps. This distinction has important consequences for Okihiro's theoretical interpretations.

Mitsuo Sanbonmatsu

WRA

1310 E. 2nd. South
Salt Lake City, Utah
April 8, 1943

Dr. Spicer
Sociological Research Bureau
Minidoka Relocation Center
Hunt, Idaho

Dear Dr. Spicer:

Well, I finally was able to enroll in Spring Quarter here at University of Utah. Though I was far from finishing my assignments in Boston, I hope that I can make it up in other ways here. There are approximately 125 Japanese students at the present time and though nothing drastic has happened as yet, there are certainly lots of materials that can be covered here -

Dr. Elmer R. Smith, asst. prof. of sociology & anthropology here at The University is making an extensive study of the Japanese & their problems around this region and has been doing a great deal in helping the Japanese students here in their readjustment. In relating some of the works that you & Dr. Highton are carrying on, he has expressed great desire in meeting you especially since knowing some of your works. I told him that you ~~may~~ might be leaving for Boston soon & since you would be returning by the way of this city, he has requested me to ask you if it is possible for you to drop by. In this regard, I wonder if it is possible to hear from you - very soon?

With sincere regards,

Very sincerely yours,
Mitsuo Sanbonmatsu

Tak Tashima WFA

Tuesday -
Oct 15, 1942

Dear Dr. Speer -

Well, our second day here and Mochu Nature seems that we shall not work today. A deluge of H₂O makes it impossible to top better - and only our second day -- tek tek, won't be able to make expenses at this rate -

We left Parku around 11:30 Friday night and arrived in Denver around four Sunday evening. Due to the mass shipment of soldiers (oops, made a slip of the lip) we were eight hours late in arriving in Denver. During the trip we had four cold lunches. Of course sandwiches aren't the best food in this world but we certainly didn't go hungry for twenty fours like some fellows did. After arriving in

Denver we were promised a T-bone
steak dinner - but we finally settled
for a meat-loaf course. Man, what a
grand feeling to sit at the counter and
wait for our dishes - I thought of
the inmates of Boston and wondered
if they wouldn't like to trade places
with me. The manager of the restaurant
was a swell man - he treated us
very cordially.

With dinner disposed of and our
teeth cleaned with "Diamond" toothpicks,
we wandered back to the train
platform. There we met our boss -
gathered our bags piled on a flat-
rack beet truck - and waved goodbye
to our "trainmates". Our boss turned
out to be a frugal, hardworking German.

The trip from Denon to Milukin (about 45 miles) proved to be very uneventful - unless you consider a little rain an event. Oh yes, after those dry hot days in Boston, a little rain really is quite a novelty.

As we drove into a tree-lined driveway that led to J. P.'s farmhouse we could see some of the cuts that were to cause us many hours of back-breaking work. We stopped at the gate - and Mrs. J. P., a heavy set, but merry woman, dashed out to greet - in both a broken English and fluent German. Before we knew it, we were settled in their small, spic & span and I mean spick-and-span kitchen - and cleaning up ~~stuck~~ platters of homemade bread, homemade butter, homegrown and home^{cooked} ~~made~~

luck and home grown potatoes. Ah,
the homely atmosphere of eating in a
real home is worth the heap of love
that lies ahead of us. ⊕

This family is really friendly -
they accepted us immediately. There are
two sons still at home and ~~the~~
oldest of the two is to be inducted
in the Navy pretty soon. The family
is very religious - in fact they
wanted to say grace before dinner, but
refrained for fear of hurting our feelings.
At breakfast they asked if what church
we belonged to - Then Mrs. J.P. said,
"The boys thought it best not to say
grace until they found out how we stood
religiously." She seemed quite perturbed
because two meals went by without
saying grace.

Tell the folks back home that these work furloughs are just about what they are written up to be. Housing can't be too good because all the available houses that are any good are rented out. "Six room frame house" - man o man, we figured that at the worst this house would half way livable, Boston shacks seem like the City compared to this Boston Jr. Yup; 6 rooms - nothing more - unless you consider a couple of rats as extra furnishing. Six bare rooms plus two flimsy beds, two and a half mattresses (half due to the poor condition of the third chair, stove, and a table - might as well include the dirt, waste, rats, and flies as part of the house - there's enough of 'em.

My culinary talents were really insulted when I viewed the kitchen

set up. No sink no ~~hot~~ running water,
no electricity, no cupboards, no shelves—
no nothing. Oh yes, there is a cistern
in the back yard, but who wants the
crickets, grasshoppers, bugs of every des-
cribable nature, etc that have accumulated
in the hole for the past months. (Yes in
as lousy as the Boston water is, it isn't
quite as bad — although there really isn't
much difference in the aroma. Well,
we'll have to draw the water out and
refill it with fresh water. And
the stove — I can't air my wools
unless I inject a few rastry remarks
concerning the coal stove. Being
new and not used to the coal con-
suming monster, I had one heckwore
time encouraging the infernal contrap-
tion to operate. Finally I got the

blooming thing to working. I couldn't judge the heat - and consequently I burned the rice. Rice isn't the only thing I burned - my fingers got singed every time I opened the latch to see how the fire was progressing -

Yesterday we were in Johnstown - about a mile from here - to do our shopping. Labor must be scarce - so many people approached us to top hats - that it wasn't funny. Labor is definitely in the driver's seat now.

The people here are swell. Yes, there are some who dislike us, but they are the narrow-minded, ignorant ones. In Johnstown a great many of the people would greet us - the stores ~~at~~ were very cordial to us. I imagine the people are not too concerned about the war. In Greely (county seat) I

overheard a remark that got my goat. We were walking along with our boss when two "ba sans" were gabbing away. The first ba san said - "Look at the Japs - probably going to top hats!" The way the old ba san said it made me angry - I couldn't say any dirty words for that would be below my dignity, but I retaliated with one of my super-colossal, dirty looks. I felt better afterwards. In the grocery store the lady was sincere in saying that we should be complimented for coming out. The sentiment towards us is okay -

Funny thing - if we don't come out on one of the work furloughs, we are called saboteurs - and if we do, we are called Japs in a slurring manner - What a predicament we are in.

I was greatly surprised to find one of my classmates at college and a next door neighbor in Boston ~~city~~ working in an adjoining farm. This certainly is a small world. I was talking to the boss of these friends of mine - and she said that when she first heard some Japanese voluntary evacuees, sentiment was quite strong against her and her policy. She didn't mind because she feels that we are not to blame - so she shouldn't harbor any ill feelings against. Well, she is one of many who can look these things straight in

face - Now the sentiment seems to
have changed to the better - and
the people a more friendly -

Well, I've just about bored
you long enough -

Give my regards to the whole
staff -

A daily log seems pretty hard
After a long day of work, writing
by lamplight is quite hard - If
another rainy day comes along, I
shall attempt to do some more
scrubbing

Sincerely
D. D. D.

P.S. Had a F-Zone steak for lunch yesterday
mm mm um um - was it good!!!

Ronald Taoka

March 8, 1977

WRA

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Dear Dr. Spicer

My name is Ron Taoka and I am married to the former Betsy Dayton. I've had a desire for four or five years to do an oral history on the Issei in Colorado but this had to be postponed because of law school. Bets Giddings was in Denver and suggested that I should contact you since you may know of funding sources that would support such a proposal. Further, she felt that you may, if you feel the idea has any merit, assist us on the form and content of the proposal.

In Colorado during the 1960's the Sansei have become increasingly interested in their cultural and ethnic identity. This interest started with students at the University of Colorado and has continued up to the present time. For example, KIMOCHI, a non-profit organization, was formed by former students to develop needed programs within the Asian community. Among the programs sponsored by KIMOCHI were a hot lunch program for the elderly or impoverished Asian-Americans; art shows and workshops on Asian art; referral and counseling services for Asian Americans. A recent development was the forming of a Taiko group, a group that plays traditional Japanese drums, this group is only one of four in the entire country. However, many Sansei have expressed a great concern about having little or no idea of the lives led by the Issei, particularly in Colorado, prior to WWII. An informal attempt was made to do an oral history of the Issei but was not completed because of a lack of funds. Furthermore, no attempts were made to get grants because no one was familiar with the process of obtaining a grant to do such a project. I have had some experience with

grants having worked for a company which existed on various types of grants. However, at this time I have no knowledge of the types of foundations, governmental agencies, or universities which would fund such a project.

A large scale attempt was made in 1962 by the Japanese American Research Project Collection at UCLA to do among other things historical studies of Japanese immigrants and descendants. Although 1047 interviews with ISSEI were conducted very little of the results have been made available to the general public and what has been released is of a statistical nature. Although attempts were made to contact members of the Project this communication has been one sided and the current status of the Project is unknown.

In Colorado the Japanese-Americans have been totally ignored, very little has been published about any facet of the Japanese in Colorado. However, at this time it is imperative to do an oral history on the Issei if, in fact, it will ever be done. Most of the Isseis are in their 70's and 80's and it is conceivable that in a few years the Isseis and their stories will be gone. Thus, residence of Colorado are on the verge of losing, forever, the story of the Japanese immigrant in Colorado.

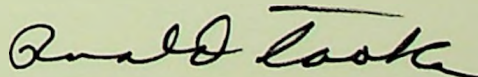
The study I envision will be in two parts. The first part will involve finding all the Issei presently living in the state and obtaining basic statistical data or information that can be readily transformed into statistical data. The first part would also give the opportunity to find those ISSEI willing to make an oral history tape and be a good subject for

such taping. The second phase will be an attempt to interview 50 Issei presently living in Colorado with an emphasis on those living in Colorado prior to WWII. This phase will focus on the subjective stories of the Isseis' lives prior to WWII. Concurrently, a documentation of various customs, ceremonies, and artifacts which were uniquely Japanese. This part of the project would focus on the artifacts used by the Issei, pictures of actual artifacts and hopefully, instructions on how to make some of the simpler artifacts such as the Japanese flute. The major costs would be salaries for those who work extensively on the project, travel, basic equipment, and transcription of the tapes from Japanese to English which has been estimated by an Oral Historian in Denver to cost up to \$400 for an hour of tape. The basic staff would consist of only two to three persons with extensive help supplied by the community.

It is hoped that the results of such a project would be a book of publishable quality using pictures and the Issei's own words as the basis for the book relying as little as possible on the author's narrative.

Thank you very much for reading this letter and I would greatly appreciate any assistance that you may be able to give us. If something significant occurs as the result of this letter I would be more than happy to fly to Tucson to meet with you in person.

Sincerely,



Ronald Taoka

MY Address:
1080 Holland st.
Lakewood, Colorado 80215

P.S.

My phone is 303-238-7091
please call collect if that would
be convenient for you. Thanks

June 8, 1977

Dear Mr. Taoka,

It has been a long time since you wrote me in March and I apologize for my slowness. I am now, after weeks of meeting a number of deadlines, getting to my desk and my correspondence. I have never been good at answering letters on the dot when they come in, and I seem to be getting a little worse these days because of many interests.

I think the proposal you make in your letter of March 8 is a very important one and should be carried out. We for a number of years had an Oral History Project at the University of Arizona and gathered a large amount of very interesting material, not however on Japanese Americans in Arizona. The project was supported by the Doris Duke Foundation, but Doris Duke is no longer interested and has turned to other things.

Probably the most likely place to go for support would be the National Endowment for the Humanities. I note in a recent news release from the Endowment that they have supported a "Women in Colorado: Hidden Faces" project. They say this focuses on "lifestyles and experiences of the average women in early Colorado." It involved oral history, collecting of letters, diaries, etc. There are similar projects which the Endowment has supported elsewhere in the country.

The person to contact is the following:

Joan Barrows
National Endowment for the Humanities
Washington, D. C. 20506

Telephone: (202) 382 - 7465

I should be very happy to serve as a reference, if that is needed, because I think what you propose is important.

Best wishes to you and Betsy,

Sincerely,

Edward H. Spicer