

A-4-47

Camp Harmony

Puyallup, wa..

June 25. 42

Received July 21

Dearest Oji-san,

R3

Thank you very much for the nice letter you sent me. You can be sure that I enjoyed it greatly. Are you still in perfect health?

That's certainly fine. Everyone in our family is fine, but Kazumi has caught a little cold and is behaving pretty bad.

Quite recently, I believe it was Tami-chan, received a letter from you saying that you probably could not come out of the internment camp until after the war. Since the day you left from the immigration office, Dec. 27, 1941, Saturday, I missed you so much that I prayed and prayed so that you might come back in order that we could all be together when evacuating or when we had come to camp. But when I read your recent letter, my tears just couldn't be kept back. Really, Oji-san, I had hoped so much that you could be with us again.

Since things have to be that way, I shall always be thinking of you and be waiting for you, and please, don't worry about us.

Up to the time I wrote to you, I wasn't doing anything because I wasn't working, but shorthand and art, cartoon, knitting, crocheting and many other classes were started.

I enrolled in the shorthand and knitting classes so now I am quite busy. Shorthand is very interesting, but goodness, you have to yooz head. It took a long time to start my brains, if I have any, to work. When I was still going to school, I had taken Geometry, and that requires a lot of thinking, so my brains worked well.

But after I came to camp, it just stopped going.

Maybe, it needed some greasing, or Geometry, to get trains working. I certainly miss that Geom. though. Shorthand classes are held 2 times a week, in the evening, and so far, I skipped class, just once, now only once, Oji-san, to see an outdoor entertainment. As for my knitting, I am trying to knit a sweater, and I hope I can finish it well. I hope to become so good, that I may make something for you sometime. Just now your postcard reached us stating that you are headed for an unknown destination, so I shall wait for a letter from you.

From here, I am writing on July 10, 1942

Hello, Oji-san,

From your last letter, it seems as though the weather down there is quite unfavorable, so I was wondering how you were. Mama-san was saying that you are not used to great heat, so please be very careful about your health.

We are still quite fine. During our hot spell, we had to clean out our whole rooms by taking our beds out and airing them. Our avenue had to do this, and it was awfully hard work because the weather was so hot. This cleaning is all required of us!

Oji-san, I finally got to go to another area. It was the first time I went to another area from ours! It so happened that long before, when Broadway High School had their graduation exercises in area D, my friend and I tried to go, but they wouldn't let us. Finally in July, after 2 months since we came here,

we were able to go to area D. They were holding a ~~University~~ University of Washington graduation exercises there. It certainly was good to see some new faces instead of the same old ones you see everyday.

Perhaps Tumi-chau might have told you about this, but on July 3, Mr. Peck, the man who was managing the hotel came here and we talked about the hotel. The situation seems to be quite bad, since Mr. Peck has ~~quite~~ quit, and now we are not sure as to what is going to happen to our stored things.

On the fourth, we had a regular picnic with races and contests. It was a gala day with Bon-Odori climaxing the day. Gosh, I wish you were here then. What did you do on the 4th? Day before yesterday, I was supposed to get my coupon tickets for the canteen, so I woke up very early, so early that I had to wait for the mess hall to open. I hurried so as to be the first in line to get my coupons, but when I got to the place, I was about the ninth one, and I had to wait one hour and fifteen minutes just to get \$2.50 worth of coupons.

Oh, my, were my feet tired. Just before I close, I'd like to tell you about something which was very interesting to me and maybe you. On the day I got my coupons, I saw a bee-hive right inside our room over our clothes closet.

It must have been about $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter and since we didn't like to have it inside, Mama-san took it off from the ceiling after the Mama bee flew away. Inside the hive, we found a funny thing like honey combs, and one contained a tiny white egg. I am keeping this ~~later~~ the Mama bee came in and was flying around the spot where the bee-hive once was. She must have been quite worried to see no hive there. It's amazing though, how that bee knew which room to go in. I can't understand it. Mama-san said to give you her best regards

With lots of Love,

Yoshiko.