

Rec. 9/11/42

36-10-C
MINIDOKA W.R.A.
EDEN, IDAHO.

Sept. 5, 1942

Dear Oji-san,

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Three days of camp life here in the desert sands of Idaho have seemed years already. We can hardly imagine it's Sept. 5th last year, at this time; remember, Oji-san, the J. A. C. L. convention was held in Seattle. I can just see you rushing around trying to make everyone comfortable. To-day, one year later, we are separated each in a place we'd never dreamed of you, in the unmerciful heat of New Mexico and we, here in the dusty "Garden of Eden". As you've probably heard, this is a huge place set right in the middle of an endless expanse of sage brush.

We couldn't even see the camp from where the train stopped. But, getting back to the beginning. The last we saw of Puyallup and majestic Mt. Rainier was early the morning of Sept. 1st exactly 1 month since we arrived there. Early that morning, while the moon and stars were still out, we sent our last baggage to the trains and had breakfast. As dawn broke, we felt so sad to think of leaving the beautiful green N.W. Despite the soot and rumbling of the antique, gas-

Lighted trains we had an interesting trip.
 The mighty Columbia ^{swept by} ~~swept by~~ on the left
 of us and the scenery gradually changed
 from one of wooded land. Perhaps you've
 seen all this, too, ne, Oji-San. Didn't you
 think America as being a huge, huge place
 so often I felt. "What prosperous land the
 barren wastes would be, after the water
^{had} was brought to them.

We evacuee, dropped in this wind-swept
 flatland, will be contributing toward the
 future of America by making something
 worthwhile out of all this land. But then,
 what a life, it'll be! No outside contacts,
 no Caucasians except the worker, no
 stores, except the canteen ~~these~~ three
 miles away! The place is about 5
 sq miles consisting of 44 blocks, some yet
 to be built. Each block contains 12 barracks
 with 6 apts. each. We're in a room about
 20×20 : for 4 + 5 persons. At least the place
 is comfortable, even tho' a little cramped ~~374~~
 and still unfinished. Neesan uses our
 porch and lives right ^{across} ~~across~~ from us.

The view here, from the 36th block is
 lovely. This is about the only place from

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which green grass and trees are visible. We have
plenty of rattlesnakes and rabbits, too. ^{Ran} By the way,
catching those rabbits must have been fun, neh.

How happy, the mother rabbit must have been when you
let it go. But be careful, Oji-san, because some
of the rabbits may have "Tick" disease.

Will write again

Lovingly, Fumiko