

Ree 9/15

Sept. 9. 1942.

Dear Oji-San,

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It's been exactly eight days since we left camp Harmony. You probably have heard of the frequent dust storms that are so common here in Minidoka, but I just couldn't believe that it was as bad as all that until we reached here. I'll never forget that long trip from Puyallup, wa. to Minidoka, Idaho.

Before our departure every one was singing the popular song, "I Idaho," which

starts out "away beyond the hills of Idaho -" and I didn't realize how true those words are for in Idaho there are no white-capped mountain ranges such as the Cascades and the Olympia, but instead there are hills, low, rolling hills.

The part of the trip from Puyallup down to The Dalles, Oregon was beautiful for we viewed the scenic lands around and near the Columbia River - it was lovely, the color and gorgeous ^{丰饒} of nature - but soon after we left The Dalles we saw only barren hills and flat, prairie land. Then there was the smell of sage brush and miles and miles of the uninteresting, dirty green shrub. Finally the train stopped in what we thought was the middle of this hot desert and from there we were taken in buses marked 'Sun Valley' to our home for the duration.

As you might already know, this is a huge camp built in the form of a crescent. There are 12 barracks, a dining hall, a recreation hall, and a laundry room in each block. Altogether there will be about 44 blocks when completed. We are told that there will also be movie ^{houses, department stores, etc}, everything that makes up a little community.

The most imposing structure in here is the hospital - a huge place - which is almost

onto ~~the~~, ^{is to}

onto = on to, or being

as good as a real city hospital.

I shall try to work in there if I can as I used to work in the Puyallup Hospital and I would enjoy doing office work very much in such clean, roomy surroundings. But the only thing is that it is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles away and the road is dusty at all times. The first time I walked down there I got a bloody nose on the way and my throat & lips were clogged with dust that I had inhaled. Oji-san, ^君 you've no idea how awful dust can be!

Everyone is fine and we are just about settled in our room which fortunately has 4 windows. Nissan & Neisan lives next door and we two families use the same outside door which opens onto a few steps - something like a little porch.

When everything is completed, it should be very nice, indeed.

Take care of yourself & don't work too hard. I will write again

Lovingly

Miyoko