

August 21, 1944

Dearest Hiro,

I haven't heard from you since August 2nd, and am wondering where you are and if all is well with you. This past week was the first one that I didn't get any letters from you, so I am worried. However, I suppose you're busy, and no doubt by now your rest period is a thing of the past, and you're back in the old grind again.

We are all well; Jane weighed 20 lbs 1 oz on Friday; she is such a darling baby, and is starting to crawl a little. Peter just adores her and can hardly keep away from her. Peter had a cold last week, but I can't tell sometimes whether it's hay fever or a cold. Anyways he's all right today, and is over at the Kang's playing.

I last wrote you on Thursday the 17th, and sent it by clipper mail. Please let me know if the mail is faster to you that way. I received an \$80.00 check from the War Dept. that day, it was the special allotment you made; also a V-mail letter from you dated 7/21. You mentioned the men and you getting the Infantry Combat medal— that is swell, and am glad that the boys will get their pay boost from it. Undoubtedly the price was high for the boost; but still it is nice the boys get some compensation for their efforts. I also got a post card from Mrs. Warden; she's now in San Jose, Calif. and sends her regards to you. In the evening Peter and I went to Grace's; Sam, Al Young, Eddie, Shinso and Nora were over there; Eddie brought inch-thick steaks for all of us and we barbecued them in the back yard; he even had chef hats and coats for himself and Shinso, and we had so much fun; Doc was home and were all in their best— we laughed, ate and had a grand time, and wished so much you were there. Doc had just finished writing a letter to you, so you should be getting it soon. I guess you and Dollar are about the only ones he writes too, oh yes, Ben too. Anyways he stays up into the wee small hours after his lab work is done to do his correspondence. All of them were feeling good, and it was funny. They were kidding about Doc working so late; he said, "What do you think I work for, for the money?" They said, "If not, for what?" He answers, "It's my duty to the community"— whereupon, Sam says, "You've been listening to my brother too much— the spiritual side is getting hold of you"— whereupon everyone howled. I wish you could have been there with us dear. Grace made ice cream— I took tsukemono— and we gorged.

On Friday I went shopping in Waipahu with Grace; had my headlights adjusted to pre-war kinds, and had the hood removed. Tonight is the deadline, after this evening, if you haven't had them fixed, they will arrest you at night. What a racket; pay to have them put on, pay to have them taken off, etc. I mailed some pottery hibiscus pins to Doris Glick, Mrs. Husted, and Mrs. Miller and thanked them for entertaining you. Also sent a renewal to the Current Religious Thought magazine at Oberlin— and had a book ordered to be sent you from them. Received a V-mail from Mitsu Tsugawa that day, in which he said you were working very hard— please thank him for it, I will answer it soon. Also a letter from Chaplain Huggins from Saipah; to thank me for the newspapers, etc I had sent him. Got a very nice letter from your friend Charlie Miller, dated Aug. 13. I am enclosing it; he must be a very nice person. So will you write him too? Funny how all in one week I hear from Lad Husted and Charlie Miller too, and how I happen to send their wives the pottery pins— isn't it. Jane also got a lovely pianoforte sent her from the Soapy Izumo's— a nice red one. In the evening I went to the stunt night at Church and our Pilgrim group presented the minstrel show— they did beautifully, and all in all, I think we will win the prize. Three clubs presented their skits; Shigemi's Cosmopolitan Y's had a skit, but it got kind of raw at the end! Anyways Shigemi was good in his Japanese wig, and pantomining— everyone just roared. Next Friday two more groups are to go on— then the judges will decide the winner. The winner will get the jack pot— hope our group gets it, as they worked so hard. Saburo was the interlocutor, and had Mr. Yasuda's top coat, high silk hat, etc— he was so funny. Peter got the biggest kick out of it; the Ikeda's, Suzuki's and we went.

On Saturday, we had a hectic date. I drove Grace's car for her, and she, Mrs. Suzuki and Nora Iguchi and I went to help with the reception for Kat's wedding at the Crossroads.

Ww had to stop on the way to pick up several things. Also stoppd at Sam's a minute and left someone I had made for them. We got to the church about 3:30, then started in with making the punch, etc. Boy, did we work— Molly and Betty Katano and Shigeo helped also. It was certainly a job getting refreshments for 200 people— someone else made and brought fancy sandwiches; we had punch, cookies, sandwiches and ice-cream. Then we had to wrap the wedding cake for the guests to take home— the wedding was very simple and lovely. Ruth Anne Dames, is the girls name— a brunette, a little taller than Kats, but very attractive, dignified and charming girl. I think she will get along well with the young people. She was very beautiful in her gown and veil; had two attendants. Dr. Oscar Maurer of Central Union officiated; he had known Kats at Yale. Everyone and his brother were there— Dunmy (who said he had received a very nice letter from you which he is going to show me); met the new Central Union minister and wife, Rev. and Mrs. Alan Hackett from Connecticut; the Shigeo Soga's, Katagiri's; Dr. Lind, Capt. Mizuha, Louise Sasai Maehara's sister, Nobu, (said that the American Red Cross here had offered her a job too, but didn't know if she wanted to return); Rev. and Mrs. Tamura, the whole Haw'n Board, and several Army and Navy chaplains, most of them were Kat's classmates at Yale, very nice fellows. Also met Chaplain Weaver. He was at Tani's memorial service, but I didn't get to meet him that day; was very nice— and said that Mr. Thomason is still at the main office— Chaplain Sliney has gone to the mainland retired due to age and ill health, and some one else is the head man here. It was a very nice wedding all in all— and we certainly worked hard— all the kids were almost dead on their feet afterwards; we were there till almost 7, cleaning up, and didn't get finished, so left. Grace and Nora left early to come home, as Dickie has been ill all week with a peculiar fever. I then went with the Suzuki's and went to Sam's to wash up. Sam had an Oberlin classmate, Ensign Morrisson, I think his name was, also a Congregational minister's son, for dinner; and Maudie was there too. Maudie's sister, Minnie, died at Leahi this past Thursday, so she came from Kauai Saturday morning to arrange for the funeral. She looked kind of thin— poor thing— with all her own worried too. They have a school girl living with them, so she is looking after the children; said Etsu was well. She planned to have a funeral yesterday in Honolulu at the Reformed Church; then is leaving for Hilo tomorrow with the ashes; and will try to get back as soon as she can this week. She brought us a glass of lilikoe jelly, which is delicious. As we couldn't stay, we just dashed in and out. Sam had bought me two boxes of Cervim, baby cereal for Jane, as I can't get it out here; he is always doing so many nice things for us. Then we went to Haw'n Town for the bridal supper. That's a night club on Kapiolani Blvd. just beyond KGBM. It is a lovely place, very dignified and cool, and really tropical. The Miho party had the "hut", which is for private parties in the rear— it is a huge Samoan-like grass hut with circular tables— they must have had about 60 guest for the dinner. We arrived late, and sat at the bridal table; I sat next to the bride— she is a lovely girl. Also at our table besides the bridal couple, were Mrs. Miho the mother, a Navy lt. Rev. Hoerrman's daughter, Jiro and his wife. They even had the Governor and his wife as guests at the party. The dinner was delicious, steak, well served and tasty. Then the dance music started and the floor show— so I had one dance with Maj. Hiram Fong, who says he knows you from Lion's Club. He used to be City and County Attorney or something— remember him? He is part owner of the Haw'n Town— also is running for Supervisor or House or Representatives or something again this year— it was all in all a very pleasant evening— and I wish you could have been there— when you come back, there are so many places we can go to. We got home a little before 10, then I was so tired, couldn't sleep, so read till past midnight.

I received letters that day from Fred Fukasawa from the Amache camp. He is the son of our old family friend in L.A. Poor kid, he is in high school, and will no doubt be drafted soon. His older brother Harry is now at Camp Blanding, Fla. and will go to Shelby soon, so you may be seeing him one of these days. He says camp life is "dull"— nothing to do, it must be awful on a young fellow's morale. His mother works in the hospital there; his dad died there about two years ago from a heart attack one day when he was carrying lumber. Also got a nice letter from Sgt. Hikawa, one of the mainland boys who was here; he said he was also in Saipan — Bud Mukaye was with him too. Guess these boys certainly went through hell too— and are doing a fine job down there.

Yesterday was Sunday; we slept late— Margaret came over and had lunch with us. I cooked up some luau leaves and pork and we had poi with it. Margaret is working as hard as ever. I plan to take her parents up to the Univ. maybe tomorrow for Mrs. I. to sign the Gold Star mother's book. Margaret said she had written you about a few things regarding Tani's things— so you should be getting it soon. After supper Peter and I went with the Kito's to the Army show and saw Errol Flynn and Ann Sheridan in "Edge of Darkness" a very good picture about occupied Norway, and the underground movement there.

And here it is Monday— another week. I am hopeful that before the end of the month the mess in Europe will be over — it is certainly going fast isn't it. Today's radio says there is hand-to hand-fighting in Paris already, and that it is possible Germany may withdraw all her forces into Germany proper for the last stand— hope that includes Italy too. The Pacific situation is good too— the radio says that yesterday American B -29's attacked Yawata and other important spots in Japan—

I am sending you today some recent Star-Bullitnes— hope you get them soon-- if there are a few clipping missing from them, its because I'm keeping a scrap book of the Italian front for you when you return.

Obachan is doing the laundry now, and Jane is sleeping-- it is almost noon, so she will be awake soon for her lunch.

Please take care of yourself, dear— don't worry about us— we are all well. About your post-war plans— don't worry about them— just get home first— then we can think about it. Maybe we will want to get away and find some little attoll or something to live on so we won't have any more wars in the future.

Best regards to Dollar, Abe, Mitsu, Ben, Pete, and the rest.

Love,

Asahe