

21 February 1944

Dear Mom:

Your letter of the 11th of this month came a couple of days ago and thanks. Also received a letter from Doc Ikeda which I enjoyed very much. Since last writing to you nothing much has elapsed - received an invitation to eat at Bert Nishimuras which Toshi Anzai and Joe Itagaki and I were invited. Food - spare ribs, chicken hekka, tuskemono and a nice salad. We really went to town. The following day we were invited by Joe to a dinner in Jackson - a hundred miles away - we drove up and on the way stopped at the Sanatorium and picked up the telephone operator there whom we owed a dinner to and had a scrumptious steak dinner. Joe Toshi, the operator, Nishimura and wife and myself. I also visited the hospital there and saw a couple of our boys.

I sent you a copy of the annual - hope you got it! I have a couple of more but don't know just where to send it.

Am enclosing a clipping that came in the Reveille Magazine - the Camp Shelby News, and also enclosed an article found in the Mindinoka Irrigator. It gives you two sides of a picture - and an idea of what California as a whole think about the whole question. It is interesting -

The work here is getting along fine. George Aki is coming along pretty soon and hope it will lighten our load a little. As it is the hardest problems are the boys from the mainland. You can get an idea of what their problems are - mostly mental due to pressure as denoted on the article enclosed. If it was something that could be worked out by our physical efforts - it would be easy - but when these fellers come with mental problems, a sour attitude on the whole war effort. It is very difficult. The mainland boys really give us the biggest problem in that respect and in a way one cannot blame them for their attitude but it is not doing the outfit any good.

I am asking for my four day leave beginning on the 20th of this month march. My itinerary is pretty much set - I am visiting Lad H., stayed for a few days and then to Akron to visit Chuck Miller and then back to Cincinnati - and by that time I hope I am rested enough to come back with new spirit.

Mel Harter's wife is coming to Hattiesburg soon with the two kids. They are planning to live in a trailer of all things - but perhaps it is better than some of the accommodations given out around here. Tis tough on them - but Mel always had crazy ideas.

Yaso is going to be with us although he is about the only mislaid officer remaining. Things are moving at a pretty fast pace now that maneuvers are over - and one never knows from day to day what is going to happen but am sure that it will be quite a while before we are ready. However, that's only my opinion which don't count at all in the army.

The Lion's Club dinner sounded pretty good. I hope they are keeping on with the work. We have a few lions here in our outfit - I was quite pleased to know that Wynn Morrell was at the dinner. He is a fine feller although quite headstrong at times.

Am planning to visit the hospital today as quite a few of our boys are in. However, we haven't had so many cases of flu lately - the last part of last year was quite bad with flu cases all over the lot. I am really surprised that I haven't come down with it - in spite of the rain and cold. Constitutionally, this life has made me stronger.

Will you tell Jiss that his friend Takemoto is not with us anymore. I am so grateful to him and the others who are helping out with the family in my absence. If you have any more trouble with the ice boxes or any electrical appliances, will you call Fujitani. He knows the right parties to call.

Haven't got much more to say - will write soon. Take care of Peter and a big hug and a kiss for them - (it sounds so funny to say them when referring to the kids, I can't get used to the idea that I have a flock now and not just one child). Send us a picture of Jane taken indoors as I am anxious to see what she really looks like. I think from one picture, she looks quite like me - it would be a handicap.

Hank sent me a cake the other day - he is so nice to do little things for me and makes me feel as if I have a family in this country too. Best regards to Obachan.

Enclosed a few snaps of me.

love

Dad.