

July 15, 1945

Dearest Hiro,

How are you dear? We are wondering where you are by now, and if you are closeto coming home. Your letter telling us that you cannot come home soon came this week; I was so disappointed, for as I wrote you before, I've been dreaming almost nightly of your homecoming, I even went out and bought me a new outfit, so I would look like something not too ancient when you arrived home; however, I know that there are many other women in the same position, so I shouldn't feel that I'm being singled out; furthermore, I know that the boys will need you just as much— so waiting won't be too hard. Only please take care of yourself; I thank God that you came out of combat safely, so pray that you will come home safely.

Peter was terribly disappointed too; you know how he's been looking forward to that trip around the island, camping with you, hiking, fishing, etc; he really is the most active and inquisitive boy for his age I've ever seen; I can imagine already the million and one questions he'll have on his mind when you come home, so you might as well be prepared now to be a walking encyclopedia on Europe!

I last wrote you on Tuesday, July 10; that was when Bill Port called me up to say hello. Shigemitsu brought me some akule fish that day; he is so nice, everytime he gets something unusual he shares it with us.

On Wednesday I had my regular field day out here; I worked rather late that day, as I had to make a call in the afternoon, and didn't get home till about 6. Imagine my surprise to find Lester Stone here! He stayed for supper, and we talked till about 12:30 a.m. With no curfew now, people don't have to rush home. Peter was all questions as you can imagine. He looked fine— I took some snapshots of him and Peter so will send them to you when they're printed. He went his aloha to you. Peg and the children are still in Frisco.

On Thursday, I had a field day again. I took Peter and Kozo Yoneda to see "National Velvet" at Waipahu in the afternoon. Peter didn't feel well, and didn't eat any supper/ he had another cold, a temperature and a sore throat; however he's alright now. I guess he really hasn't shaken off the flu yet. I was so glad to get your letter dated 6/17 and 6/20 and 7/1 mailed on the 8d; how I would like to see your Hawaiian show. You can always come back and work for the Tourist Bureau I should think with the spiel you must have for the men there on Hawaii.

On Friday I went to the office; in the afternoon I got a permanent wave— and didn't get home till about 5. I received your letter dated 7/2 and 7/4 which was mailed on 7/5, so you can see the mail is coming through quickly now. I only hope my letters reach you as fast. Enclosed were your snapshots of the children, the Major and Lt. Masamitsu; I guess I'll send it to my aunt. You said you were enclosing the family of the General, but I didn't find it— did you forget it. Also enclosed were your two money orders for \$100 each. I hope you're keeping enough for yourself, dear, for undoubtedly you will be needing some spending money.

I also heard from Hank; he is working as hard as ever, and hopes to get his first vacation since the blitz; only he's in charge of his office so can't take much time off. He says Sho is making out well in the new produce business which Ryo manages; also that Mrs. Abe is leaving Cincy on 7/24 for Calif. to join George and Babe; she will get there just in time for the baby to come. He wondered about you as he hadn't heard from you for some time.

After supper the Suzuki's brought dessert and we chatted. They are moving the end of this month to town. We certainly shall miss them. This Saturday Jiro (who is going to summer school at the Univ) has invited Peter and I to go along on a botany hike up Tantalus; it is really a walk— with Prof. St. Denis and the class to identify

various Hawaiian flora; I think we will enjoy it; Peter is all excited over it; I think I will take Dickie along too; the idea is I must take some students up in my car too I will be able to get some leaves to send to Bobbie Masted in return for his collection for Peter.

Saturday Grace and I went shopping in Waipahu; it is so hard to get things now, you have to stand in line for nearly everything; we actually stood in line for an hour to get vegetables! I had the money orders cashed and plan to put them in our savings tomorrow when I go to town. After supper Mae and Noboru dropped in and brought us prints of the pictures they took of us; she is sending you some. I think they came out so well. Noboru had to take his physical this week, and will know in two weeks whether he can be deferred or not.

Today I took Peter and the two Kang boys, Tai Gay and ~~ai~~ Yon to the YMCA beach club; we took our lunch along, the kids had a swell time. Lorne Bell and his wife were there; he is very much interested in what you would like to do after you come back, for he says he could use you in the Y if you want to. I told him I didn't know what your plans are. He is getting Fred Hoshimiya of San Francisco over here to work for the Y, and is still working on Mas Satow to come too. I understand Paul Osumi may be coming back one of these days; this past week 10 internees came back; all of them are fathers of boys in the service, among them were Mr. Miura and Mr. Maehara.

We also went to the new Kuhio theater in Waikiki to see "30 seconds over Tokyo" which is a story of the Coolidge fliers. Very good picture. We got home about 6. Then Martin dropped in and is staying over tonight. He brought Peter some candy. Jane certainly takes to him. So ends another week. I just had my bath; Peter and Jane are asleep, Obachan is taking her bath.

Tomorrow I got to town; have lunch with Miss Shaw at the Y; Wednesday I have to go to court on one of my cases; Friday the Komuro's are coming out for the afternoon and supper; Saturday we go on the botany hike, and so on it goes.

I'm so glad you got the glasses and soap; I am wondering what happened to the rice and tsukemono I sent you as it left here even before the other package which I mailed on May 15, so I see it takes a month and a half for a package to reach you.

I'm wondering about your clothes that you lost; do you want another raincoat, if so please send me your size, and anything else you may want.

Martin had a five day leave in Hilo; he said your mom and the family are fine. Kamejiu is working very hard, and Kenji has to limit her in her pupils so she won't overwork herself.

You remember that Filipino grass rug Lester gave us; it got so full of holes we had to throw it away, so now we haven't anything under the dining room table. So if you ever come across a grass rug or any other kind that would be suitable which is at least 6 ft wide (or 6 ft square I should say and preferably more) will you send it to me—I don't suppose you could though as it might be too big a parcel.

Jane can now say mama and dada; she is so cute—and kisses your picture every night.

Last evening about 5:30 right in front of his house, Dr. Tatekawa and Kenneth Kito were struck down by a speaking drunk sailor—Doc is in the Aiea hospital with a right leg broken in two places and a brain concussion—we are really worried over him; Kenneth escaped luckily with superficial cuts and bruises, as the force was against Doc who was hit first. Lehu Ave. is such a dangerous highway now—and with so many drunks on the road, even your front yard is hardly safe enough. So if you have time, please write to Kito and to the Tatekawa's. Kito is still not well himself; has to drag his leg around—

Good night dear, sweet dreams. We miss you so much—and are counting the day till we're together again.

Love, *Shirako*

P.S. The papers announced recently that the 41st and would be leaving Italy in Feb 1946 to be held as part of the "strategic reserve"