

June 27, 1945

Dearest Hiro,

How are you, dear? I hope you're getting a good rest now after your trip to France. Here at home we're all right now; it has been a hectic month with each one of us coming down with the flu. I think I'm pretty well back to normal now; Peter had a relapse on Monday (too much excitement over the weekend and I guess with Kenbo around) and came down with a fever again, so I kept him in bed Monday and Tuesday, but today he's been up and around, although I kept him indoors. Jane is all through with her cold thank goodness, and Obachan is ok. too. The flu has reached epidemic proportions here already as you probably have heard—they estimate over 2,000 reported cases already, but many people are just doctoring themselves at home, so it is really more. They have placed all civilian theaters and gathering places off limits for service personnel here in order to keep their personnel protected, although they have some down with it too. It is a Virus B type, which means that it's in the air, so people are getting it even with precautions. So many people here are down with it now; today I went to Waipahu and found the Oshiro's down with it; now Grace has it, Bunny Suzuki has it, Margaret has it, Katsumi Kito has it, and on it goes. Most cases though can be treated at home, so I guess I must have had it pretty bad to be hospitalized, but I'm glad that I went, as I guess I couldn't have fought it off at home.

So far there haven't been any fatalities from this type so the medical authorities are glad at least for that.

I wrote you last on Sunday night; on Monday I went to the office. I stopped at Aiea on the way back and got Mr. Liljestrand to sign by sick leave blanks for the job; then called on Margaret as she was laid up. I got home and found Peter with a temperature of 100, so put him to bed. However, he ate a hearty supper.

On Tuesday I had my field visits to make out here; visited Margaret again. I saw the pictures of Tani's grave sent by Lyn Crost and the letter she sent with it, describing his grave and location. It did a lot of good for the family, as now they know that he is in a well-kept cemetery. Many people here I think had the idea that our boys are buried wherever they happen to die, in some lonely spot; but Tani's grave picture and letter about it, changed their ideas. Riley Allen of the Star Bulletin sent a very nice letter to the family about it too; he is a nice person.

I think that if it is possible for you, it would be nice if you could write to the Star Bulletin or the Hawaii Times to tell them that our boys are well taken care of even in death—for it would put many parents at ease.

Muskrat Nonaka and his wife came to call on me yesterday and brought me some beautiful flowers. They heard I had been ill, and so brought them. Her brother was killed the same day Tani was—and she is wondering if he is buried in the same cemetery with Tani.

Could you write to Margaret's family as on July 11 it will be a year since Tani died, and I know they would appreciate hearing some words of comfort from you.

Today I had my field day out here again; then I went to Waipahu and visited the summer program that the Y is putting on. Betty Vellom has about 60 intermediate age girls up in one of the buildings of the former language school set up—it has been turned over to the Y, and she has three U girls assisting her; they seem to have a nice set up. Then went to Maruyasu and found Mr. Oshiro laid up with the flu; then called on Molly's mother. She was hospitalized for two weeks too; with flu, plus typhus fever of all things, so is still rather weak. Molly's brother who was in the 100th, is back in the states and has received his discharge and is working already. Did you ever know him? He is a kibe.

I understand that Mitsu Tsugawa is due to return to the States soon— he certainly keeps up a wide correspondence. Horace said that Tsugio heard from you the other day in which you stated our plans to go to the mainland. Horace was worried that you weren't coming back to Waipahu—

I called on Grace again; she is still laid up; however, Doc is taking a vacation this week, so he is able to help her out. I think today he went into town though to meet Sam to look over some houses for sale, as they are planning to buy in town and move out this summer if possible, since the Navy has taken over their place.

Will you write to Sam and ask him to try to find us a place in town. I've already asked him to. Also please ask Shinso and Shigeo Yoshida too, maybe among them we will have some luck. As it is now, there are many homes empty in Honolulu which could be rented, but people want to sell them for profit, and are not renting, as there is so much trouble in ousting tenants once you've rented it. Mrs. Chung has a house on Keeaunui Street, a two bedroom place, but she bought it for \$14,000, and put in a lot of improvements so wants to sell it for a profit soon. The real estate market seems to be dropping now— so Sam personally thinks she should rent it, but she still wants to sell it out. I only wish she would rent to us, but Sam thinks she wants about \$75.00 a month for it, which I don't think I could afford. It is really a problem, and I am getting kind of worried, as I would like to be close to Punahou for Peter's sake, since the Suzuki's and Ikeda's are moving out. ~~Vlad~~ was over the other day and said that the Navy is taking over this house and the rest of Mrs. Arden's property in another month; what will happen then, I don't know; I don't think the Navy will oust us, as I understand they will in most cases allow the present tenants to remain and rent from them, but then, if they decide to move this house, I don't know what will happen. They are building some Federal Housing projects in Palolo and Manoa valleys, but I don't relish the idea of living in a community like that, and I don't think you'd like it either when you return.

I received your May allotment check today; it came rather late this month. I had hoped to put in our savings my last month's pay check, but my doctor's bills and the hospital upset the apple cart. By the way, I haven't heard from that boy in Honolulu, that you said you loaned some money to— the Ihara's sent me their check a long time ago though. Also when you arrive in N.Y.C. will you look up that Ben Richardson and give him a piece of your mind, as I haven't heard a peep from him, and although Chaplain Doakes (Negro) said that some group in Ny was going to send me the money, they never did, so I've lost faith in that bunch already.

Herbert Kaneko's father died Monday night; they had the funeral today, but as I didn't know about it until I read the papers, I didn't go; Tom Yoshina flew from Hilo for the funeral and just called up to say hello, he has to hurry back tomorrow; he sent you his best regards however.

The papers announced today that July 4th will be a Territorial holiday, so I'll have a day of rest. It will be the first official holiday for many months.

We keep imagining that one of these days you'll phone us from the mainland then you get back. Peter and I were just imagining what we'd say to you, we'd be so excited I guess I would just break down and cry like a baby.

Does it look as if you'll be able to come home sometime in the next few months, dear? We keep praying that you will— it will seem like a lifetime that we've been apart, it's been so long—

Jane keeps throwing kisses at your picture— I think she knows that daddy is someone very dear to us— as we keep asking her about "daddy" all the time. It is now past 10 p.m. I just managed to put her to bed, she's fussy tonight, must be her teething. Peter is already in bed; he said he would write you this week. Obachan is working on a letter to you too. Please take care of yourself, dear, and hurry back.

P.S. The 5/25 Pacific Citizen has a story about you & the cave incident! Horse, (Hawaii)