

Nov. 8, 1943

Dearest Hiro,

How was your trip? Yesterday we thought about your arrival at the camp, and wondered about the reception you had. The boys must be tickled pink you're there now. Did you get to stop off in Cinn. How were the folks, and Fuzzie and Chas?

We are all well; I'm getting heavier every day; the baby has dropped down a lot, and I feel that it won't be long before I'll be going to the hospital. I was in to see the doctor on Saturday (he wants me to come every week now) and he thought it would be another boy. So the chances are it will be a girl, as usually it turns out to be the opposite, doesn't it? I now weigh 128 1/2 lbs, which is about a 20 lb. gain over my normal weight. I look clumsy as the dickens, but feel fine.

I last wrote you on Nov. 1st. I think I told you Ayako Yanaga sent me a letter with a picture of you from the Chicago Sunday Times of 9/16. You were reading the Yank. I got some phi, and gave some to Grace and Mito. In the evening Sam and Kazuko called up; she had just arrived in town. She is here awaiting the first transportation out, and will go to Portland, Oregon for about 6 months with the Federal Communications dept. She is to return after that and help set up a similar branch here, it seems. I was surprised to learn that there are several nissei in Portland who are with the dept. now, among them being Jun Okazaki, do you remember him, a nice kid.

On Tuesday, the 2nd, I went to the commissary with Thelma; she drove me in her car. Later I went shopping in Waiipahu; saw Shigem. said he hadn't heard any further about the invitation to Mr. Miho; with passenger space limited now from the Coast, we wonder if he'll be able to get back. Peter and I also visited Mae; her baby is crawling all over now, and is so cute. I asked her about Peter's baby clothes; she thought I had given most of the girls things to Maudie when Marcia came. I took the Shigeo Arakawa's a baby blanket as a gift; they had a baby boy about a month ago you know. The baby's name is Geoffrey. That evening your friend, Ray, who lives down the block, brought me your picture out the the Chicago Times; he had seen it too. He said he had heard from Hank Bajoreck; Ray sends his best wishes to you.

I got an announcement from my old college chum, Lois Shattuck Parsons (William) of the birth of their second child, Richard in Sept. You remember her, used to live in Pasadena. Her dad was a former minister in Honolulu; she went to Pomona with me, but graduated from SC. Anyways I had written her about you; she said if you're in Washington, D.C. be sure to look them up. Bill can be reached at the Federal Bureau of the Budget, telephone number, Executive 3300. Their home address is 708 Woodside Parkway, Silver Springs, Md. which is a suburb just outside Wash. I also got a letter from my college pal, Kitty Rigby in Portland; she also had her second boy recently; I will ask Kazuko to look her up when she goes to Portland.

On the 3d, I sent a check for \$8.43 to Punahou; that was all we have to pay for the whole year, as the scholarship takes care of the rest. The scholarship was for \$137.57. It certainly is a lifesaver. Then Mabel Chong came for lunch. I made some haka and miso soup for her, which she appreciated a lot. We had a grand gab fest; the department is going to ruin with everyone resigning, etc. Mabel is getting fed up with it too. She sends her best regards. For supper I had my Sunday School teachers over. I made a meat loaf, scalloped potatoes, salad, butterscotch rolls, and fruit jello. I am not going to teach from this coming Sunday, Michiko will take over for me. I got a letter from you from Cambridge dated 10/25. Was glad to hear you had dinner with Mrs. Greenough; Peter was tickled over the leaves, and took them to school on Friday. I mounted them so they wouldn't break. Incidentally, you mentioned you were enclosing ten leaves; the censor put in a note that he or she found only eight, they certainly are exact. Did you also get to meet Mrs. Tozzer after all? Anyways I called up Mrs. Ross and told her that you had met Mrs. Greenough.

Charlotte Shimidzu Ikehara wrote me and sent me the snapshots we took at Kiyo's some time ago. She said her family were still at the Pohwere camp, so hoped you might meet them sometime.

On Tuesday, the 4th, Honolulu had a test airraid drill for two hours. It had been announced it would be forthcoming, but the time and date were a surprise. The idea was to see how quickly the downtown area could be evacuated, and it was quite a feat. The military authorities felt it was very successful, as everyone cooperated at the same time, they were able to discover where some of the weaknesses lie. It didn't affect the rural districts. The busses were naturally all off schedule, so Peter and Bonnie were stranded in Waipahu with the other kids, so Mrs. Suzuki went after them. It is grand having her help out in such emergencies. I got a letter from you dated 10/28 from Cambridge; also one from Hank dated the 28th. Also a letter from Mrs. Millsapps (I haven't seen her husband for several weeks now.) Also a card from Mr. and Mrs. Porter from Berkeley; remember we went to their home in Santa Monica for a weekend? They were going to Mexico for a vacation.

On Friday, I baked a chocolate cake, which wasn't so hot; anyways Peter liked the frosting. I called up Lei, as she was wondering if I could come up for lunch on Saturday. She and Ed send their love to you too.

Saturday, I went to town with Mrs. Suzuki and the children. Had lunch with Sam and Shinso at the Blaisdell; Shinso really has a bad case of sinus, and thinks he might have to have an operation. Peter enjoyed it (obachan stayed home). He got the usual order, potato salad and cold meat, and only ate five rolls! Next time Sam is just going to order a plate full of rolls for him! Sam gave him some defense stamps too. He was going to take him to the Palace to see a cowboy movie, but instead took him and Mona shopping to Sears and Golden Rule. He bought Peter a jig saw puzzle. I did some shopping in the meanwhile, and took the bus out to Sam's. Ai Young is still feeling miserable, has cut down her teaching to two half-days a week only, and will quit from the end of the month. Mona is so cute, talks a blue streak now; she listens to Sam, who is firm with her. About 3:30 Mrs. Suzuki came by and picked us up; she also brought Kazuko back with us, and she spent the weekend with me. (She just left on the early bus for town.)

Peter is so anxious to send you something for Xmas; we looked all over, but couldn't find anything that you probably can't get there anyways. He was so cute, he bought me a photo album from Kress, and a 5 cent tablet for obachan-- these are going to be our Xmas gifts. He's especially pleased that he didn't have to spend very much, and still has money left over. Really, he's the most money conscious boy; and goes around saying "I'm money conscious". He saw a toy treasure chest at the Golden Rule store that had "millions of dollars of toy money" in it. He told Sam he wanted it, so I have a hunch they'll get it for him for Xmas. Sam is so good to Peter and is trying to be a father to him in your absence. I notice Peter just loves it when he has some boys around him. Chester and Fred are good to him too; Fred carved out an airplane for him out of a coconut, and let Peter whittle a little hut out with his knife, and was he thrilled. Peter wishes you would let him get a knife, he says, a small one. I don't think he wants to wait till he's ten years old. He said please tell daddy, I'll be very careful with it. You should see his work of art; he made the coconut hut and put it up on stilts made out of matchsticks, its really quite something!

I told him you were going to try to send him some thing for Xmas; he can hardly wait for Xmas to come, and just haunts the postoffice!

Kazuko has been staying with various friends around town: the Kai's, Restarkicks, etc. She stayed at Sam's for a couple of nights too; Sam said she was trying to teach him how to raise Mona! I noticed she had the same tendency about Peter too; was trying to teach him how to draw, do this and that. Peter was a good sport and took it all in, but he remarked, "Why does Auntie Kazuko want to tell me those things." She is just as active and energetic as ever; had lots of fun with mama telling anecdotes about

her visit in the Oreint. Kazuko said that when you came to Hilo she and you had an argument about something. Everyone at home is well; she said they have a virtual USO at their home with all kinds of people dropping in continuously.

She rummaged around Kito's shed and found her things, which she has repacked. However, she doesn't think she'll take them along as she'll be back so soon.

We got up early this morning to get her off on the first bus, but missed it, so I drove her up to the highway and she caught another bus there. Didn't even have time for breakfast.

I am planning to go to Waipahu this morning to do some shopping. Tomorrow am having Capt. Sanford over for lunch. He is the husband of my old college pal, "Dick" Stewart you remember her. I was certainly surprised when he called me up the other day, as I didn't know he was here. They have a baby who is only about 8 months old.

I'm going to the doctor's again this Saturday; Grace is driving me in. I understand the Dr. is partial to Kuakini or Queen's hospital, so I'll probably end up in one or the other. I feel that the baby will come earlier than expected, as I have some of the signs already. My breasts are awfully sensitive, and the watery stuff which turns into milk is already seeping out. I will ask Sam to send you a wire when it arrives.

Yesterday I had 56 children at Sunday School, which shows an increase.

After supper yesterday I took Kazuko over to meet Grace and Doc, and we had some ice cream with them. Dickie was over in the afternoon to play with Peter.

I think Doc wrote you a letter this week, as he asked for your new address. He also got the ruler you sent.

Am enclosing some clippings from the center papers. Robert Ochikubo is Mrs. Kito's brother; I found it in the Heart Mt. Banner. Biff Hosokawa is now out and is with the Des Moines Register, one of the leading newspapers there. I also read somewhere that Dr. Kahn Ueyama, formerly of San Francisco, an MD, is now at Shelby; I knew him during my college days, and he took me out on a blind date once. A very nice fellow, maybe you've met him; he's short like Joe Shinoda; a very brilliant fellow. Married some nurse up in S.F. Knows Wes, Coffee, and that bunch well. I also understand that Jimmie Hisatomi's brother in law, is Major Saibara. He's supposed to be there too.

I had the car insurance policy renewed; it was considerably less than last year, with the gas rationing on. Sam took care of it for me, and I will pay him in installments. Am wondering if you ever got the book "The Apostle" that I sent you over a month ago to Harvard; also the Xmas package with your razor in it? I hope they'll forward it to you down there.

Well, this is all for now. Please write us as soon as you're settled. I suppose you find things quite different from campus life. Say hello to Dollar and the other Church boys. We miss you so much, and pray that you'll be back soon. Don't worry about us, we're all well; Peter is quite a man, and can take care of himself. If he ever loses his busfare, he will go see Dr. Ikeda, so don't worry.

Love,

Hiroko

P.S. Will send you the snapshots as soon as I get some films. They are rationing films now; you have to take your camera to the store, & they load it for you there.