

Sept. 21, 1944

Dearest Hiro,

I was so glad to get your letters of the 4th and 8th, and hope that wherever you are by now you are well and safe. I suppose you are in a new place by now, but hope that you had a good rest before setting out. I think that this business of military censorship about revealing places is good, as if we knew where you were, we at home would probably worry all the more, as the old saying goes, "ignorance is sometimes bliss". Of course my imagination is going full speed now, wondering where you might be— but I have a few hunches. I only hope that before you get to be too good a linguist, you'll come back to good old pidgen—

We are all well— Jane is fussy though because of her teething, and last night wouldn't go to sleep till 12:30 a.m! Consequently I have dark rings around my eyes this morning. Peter leaves hereabout 7:45 when Doc comes by for him, so I usually get up about 6:30 to feed Jane, get Peter's lunch and make breakfast— I wish I could get back into the habit of taking an afternoon nap, but find myself busy and out of the habit.

I dream about you too— and the funny part of it is you usually are in civilian clothes and you are home again. We will have so much to make up for when you come back, dear— and I'm sure your hunch that I'll cry will probably be right— but this time it will be because I'll be so happy. Maybe even Peter will have a few— cause he is older now and understands those things more.

Today Peter was so cute— he didn't want to wear his short pants to school. Since I got him his long ones, he wears them all the time. He says "Roger (Wyllie) wears long pants too, and size ten too"— and was so proud that he had them too. He looks quite handsome in them— and is growing all the time. Yesterday brother came over to play again. Yesterday they rose to Col and 1st Lt. You see, every day they play all kinds of battles, and after each one, each one gets a promotion. Peter being the Col. left the room for a while, and told the Lt. to stand guard. I wish you could see Brother stand erect with the helmet on, a wooden gun in his hand waiting for Peter to come back. Then when Peter appeared, what should he have around his neck but a paper lei— I asked him how come— he said he had just come back from a furlough! Whereupon the Lt. says, "Do I have to stand here longer?". Peter says, "No, come in", so they jump on the pum (their room) and continue. We have so much fun watching those two. Brother hates to go home when Jiro comes after him about supper time!

Please don't go to a lot of trouble about the watch, dear. If you can't get one, I'll try to get one here through the P.X— can get it cheaper then. Besides I was thinking I will probaby have to pay duty if its a foreign watch won't I?

I hope someday I can meet your Italian friends— they must be nice people. But as for your fame as a troubadour— be careful, they may sign you up for some operatic company yet! Too bad you didn't take your fiddle with you too— or I suppose they have lots there. Be careful, look what happened to Jack Benney. Incidentally he was here recently entertaining the men. Spencer Tracy is here now.

I hope Chaplain Yamada is better, and also the men with him have recovered. Those mines must be fiendish contraptions— and your account about retrieving the body gave me the creeps! And here I thought Chaplains more or less stayed behind the lines— guess this war is different.

I will tell Michiko what you said about Tani. His six-months pay came through already to his mother. Kats Miho's brother the lawyer is taking care of the legal angle of settling Tani's estate— and is doing so gratis— he is doing lots of things like that for service families—

Mrs. Iguchi wants me to send my heavy laundry again to her, but since she won't charge me, I don't feel like it, and besides Obachan says she can just stick it in the washing machine easily. They are always doing so many nice things for us anyways-- I don't want to take advantage of her. Tani's good friend, Gordon Shimizu of Aiea was killed too-- and they just had memorial services for him last week-- he was married. That leaves Mae's cousin, Roku Imaoka-- as the three were buddies at Shelby. But Mae says Roku is a "nonki-bozu"-- so will probably outlive everyone!

Incidentally Mae is expecting another baby about Jan or Feb. Isn't that grand-- most likely Noboru won't have to be drafted, if so, will be in the reserve, as they are doing to many who have essential jobs now.

Is there anything we can send you, dear? Please let me know. Everyone here is racking their brains now trying to figure out what to send you for Xmas-- we are so limited so you will probably get lots of miscellaneous things, but mostly practical things.

I got your letters of the 4th and 8th yesterday-- and am hoping to find more this week. How long do my letters take with clipper stamps on them? I will tell Shinso about your getting the glasses-- he sent them by airmail didn't he-- they certainly took time. Next time if you want any lens, can you send the outline drawing of your rims or something like that, then we can probably match them better.

I just make some butterscotch rolls and am going to take some to the Oshiro's as they are always giving us things. Then will pick up Peter and Bunny at school. Until Oct. I will be busy every day except Wed. and Thurs, Sat. with some club. At first things are always hectic like this I suppose, but once I get things established it will be easier.

Tomorrow night we are going to the Ikeda's for a picnic supper. How we wish you could be with us-- but some day soon that will be possible I know. Then you and Doc in your trunks, chewing the fat, ribbing each other-- just like old times.

When you come back you'll have to teach me all those endearing expressions in Italian-- I understand the Italians are a romantic race of people, so you should be quite a Don Juan! Please take care of yourself, dear-- we miss you so much-- and pray that it will be over soon, so you can come back. I know you will want to stay with your boys until they all come together-- so we will wait till then-- then what a reunion we will have!

Jane will be so glad to get the dolls-- I haven't received the first one yet-- but most likely Peter will be just as thrilled. Since yesterday when I say "where's your pretty dress?", the little vain thing holds her dress and is so happy! Am afraid she's going to be a real vain creature-- but what woman isn't!

Must close now, as Jane is crying-- she is just awakening from her morning nap.

Obachan sends her love.

All my love,

Annie

P.S. Charlie Miller's address is:

9309 Walden Rd.
Silver Spring, Md.

He works with the Knight Newspapers, Inc. Washington Bureau, 1286 Nat'l Press Bld.
Wash. D.C.