

Letter from Tsuruno Meguro to Fumio Fred and Yoneko Takano, [August 17-20, 1942]

Fumio and Yoshiko,

How are you doing?

More than five hundred people, including us, spent a night together, and we all have been well. It got hot from the noon yesterday and I felt as if I were in boiling water. It was 3:00 PM when we had lunch. In the early evening, the trash wind started blowing. As it got dark, it became cooler a bit. Since the train climbs up the mountains, it moves slowly like at a walking speed. After the noon, as far as I see from the train, there are no houses but only fields. The town is very small. Yoneko, we are now going through Arizona. We will pass through Colorado.

Last night while I was sleeping, I was waken up by giggles of Yoshiko, Misako, and Yoshiko's friend, Miyoko. While they are sleeping, they heard someone snoring, and they started giggling. They woke me up by tapping me on the legs. When I woke up, I saw a man looking for his place. He must have been lost. I told him that here was not his place. Then, the girls started laughing again.

In the morning it is cold, but the steam is running in the train and I feel so good. The sun comes out and I see the green of the mountains and fields. Yoneko, we are running on the way extended from Colorado! I saw the endless green of pine trees and it is hard to describe how beautiful it is. We are still passing through Arizona. I am really grateful that we are being well fed and riding on a train for such a long trip. It is hard to write in the train because the train shakes.

Yesterday's lunch: a hamburger, roasted potatoes, corns, fruits and two oranges; dinner: turkey, peas, potatoes, spaghetti, rice and ice cream.

[August] 18 breakfast: fruit juice, ham and eggs, toasts, and coffee.

I will write to you again when I arrive.

Mama

(I don't know if we are passing through Colorado [where we used to live], but if I think about it, I'm excited!)

[In the train]