

FORWARD

May 22, 1944.

Dear Jim, Jack, and George;

Well well well!, how are you trio coming along? In tip-top condition, I hope. Guess you're all surprised to receive a letter from Manzanar, huh? Well, I'll tell you. You all know Leo Uchida don't you? Especially Jim, because we used to take first period General Science, when we were freshmen. How's Elk Grove Union High coming along? I guess the attendance seems to be decreasing from jobs, drafts, volunteers and all sorts of things. I'm now in a study hall, 6<sup>th</sup> period. You see, the Manzanar Senior High School has seven periods each day with 45 mins. of each class. We haven't got any 6<sup>th</sup> period of activities in which you take dancing, science, sports, etc. Right now, I'm taking 1<sup>st</sup> = Geometry; 2<sup>nd</sup> = U.S. History (American Life & Institutions); 3<sup>rd</sup> = Chemistry; 4<sup>th</sup> = Chemistry Lab. (Monday, ~~Tuesday~~ <sup>Wed.</sup> Study Hall instead of Chemistry Laboratory, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday); 5<sup>th</sup> = English II; 6<sup>th</sup> = Study Hall; and 7<sup>th</sup> = Physical Education. You see, here you could take 6 subjects if you have C average which is different from E. G. U. H. S. in which the subjects is limited. Last year, when I was a Sophomore, the composition of the

was terrible! We didn't have any chairs so, we had to sit on the cold linoleum floor. Then after few ~~hours~~<sup>minutes</sup>, we began to get chairs and not desks. We began to get desks about a month ago. We haven't any gym or auditorium, so everytime, we have any assembly, it is held outside. But now, a gym-auditorium is slowly going up. The Boys League, which was formed late this year, held a movie for boys in one of the Miss Hall (2), which is set aside for school use and dances for any club in the Center. The G.A.H. held a Play Day, for girls only, last Saturday here. They invited outsiders from Big Pine and Independence High School. The girls had a grand day with sports, entertainments, and Barn Dances. The American people <sup>(girls)</sup> got along very well with the Japanese-American girls in the Center, after one and a half year of stay here. I guess you know where Mangum is, well it is near Lone Pine which you can find <sup>it</sup> in the map. We're ~~located~~ in a valley between two mountains. The weather is very dry, hot in summer time and we have wind which picks up the sand and dust, anytime. Now it is a good clear day, and within half, the ~~camp~~ would be covered with sand, caused by the wind. So the sandstorm breaks up lots of sports events and other activities.

What are you guys doing after school and week-ends? Work in your pop's farm. You planning to go to college after you finish high school? Maybe the Army might get you boys huh? Two of my brothers ~~has~~ took their physicals but they both were physically rejected. I'll have to sign this coming June 15, ~~to~~ ~~the~~ cause that's when I'll be 18. How about you boys?

Well, I guess I'll have to close now so so long and my regards to you all.

P.S. Excuse my writing. And write soon.

ADDRESS

Your friend,

Leo Uchida

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Manzanar, Calif.

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