June 27, 1942

Dear George:

Harry Fuller called me yesterday and told me to be sure and take care of the insurance, as per enclosed card, on all the buildings I had charge of. He explained that the policies now in force would be null and void in case of any kind of fire started by in a manner that had a trace of war attached to it. He also said they were advising all their clients to file applications immediately as July 1st was the deadline. I am going in to see Butler this morning and will see Fuller about the HCC policies at the same time. They didn't have forms yesterday when I was in but expected them today. As you can see, the rate is $1.00 per $1,000.00 coverage and it won't amount to very much extra, of course, the $3.00 minimum premium on dwelling and contents will apply to the home up there as the total there is only $900.00. The grader has $500.00, equipment has $600.00 and the dryer $2500.00 so if the minimum does not apply on these they won't amount to much - that is, the grader and equipment will not. Frank's house has only $600.00 on it, but it will have to carry the $3.00 minimum. I will find out about the dryer - no reason why it should be higher than the others on this additional coverage. I believe I am right on these figures, but as soon as I talk with Butler and find out exactly how they stand I will let you know. At any rate, I am more or less forced to take care of them - Harry said that Roger Thomas told him he was taking care of all he had charge of and wanted Harry to be sure and see that any he had charge of were taken care of, also. So much for that, I will let you know what the outcome of my trip to town is.

Last night we went up to the ranch and Joe and I and the kids walked over every inch of it. Just where is your line anyway? There is a back fence but that is all and we just went by the looks of the trees on either side to determine the line. On the south side it looked as though the row of trees that end where the prop pile is would be your last one, but the fence line from the prop pile to the road is farther south than that. We had a good time looking around, anyway, and the crop looks fine up there. There aren't a great many apples, but they are evenly distributed and of nice size. We did notice one thing and that is that they have a lot of pock marks on them, may be from that hail storm, outside of that and a number of worms, they are smooth and large. Ours haven't got the pock marks, but they have worms galore and are odd shaped and ridged. Your trees look fairly good throughout, with exception of south of the trail that leads to the dryer and a few rows in from the dryer roadway. There are a lot of trees in these spots that are looking pale and small leaved - the crop on these is thin. Looks as though they need fertilizer and the fact they didn't have any this year probably accounts for it.

The ground has been well pulverized and the apples are well coated with spray so I think they are taking good care of everything. So far they had no props out and I will mention it to Harry when I go in this morning. There are no immediate danger signs, however, some limbs are hanging quite low and I think they should be pushed up. I havent seen anything of the Winklers since Walt was here that evening about the equipment. Speaking of the equipment reminds me that in a letter from your Grandpa he stated that he didn't want to sell the stuff and I was sure glad that it turned out the way it did. I had another letter from him last week when he returned the papers, but he didn't talk any business in that. The papers are in Hauser's hands now and I imagine he will put them on through right away.

We wanted to see Sammy badly last night but from the looks of things he hasn't been there for a while. The truck was gone from where he kept it. Tony told us the other night that Sammy had seen him about
getting some Filipino boys for his dryer crew, but that he hadn't signed anything with Winklers as yet. It looks as though we will all have plenty difficulty in getting help this year. We are up against it right now if Tony doesn't come to terms with the bunch at Watsonville that he has gone down to see. He tells us that they are getting 65¢ per hour thinning apples there and if that is the case we aren't going to get them here any cheaper. He is letting us know this coming week whether or not they will accept our offer and if they refuse I think we will haul our stuff to the Kobukle dryer that is to be operated on a co-operative basis by a few Union members. After all, it would save Joe and I a lot of grief and give us more time to take care of the many other affairs this summer.

Well, this is Sunday afternoon and since starting this yesterday morning I have done a lot of things. I went to town as I expected to and talked with Fuller and Stance, but they did not have the proper blanks yet and I need all the policies so tomorrow morning I am going in to the safe boxes to get all the policies for you, the ranch here and Joe and I. They already have Taigie's so I don't have to worry about that one. I am going to let the bank take care of all of ours and will let Butler write the one on your property. Anyone can write the war risk policies regardless of who has written the others, as this is something sponsored by the government and not connected with the companies. Stance explained that on the ranch here, for instance, even though Joe and I have one policy covering our furniture, another on the Buick, another on the Ford, and still another covering the buildings, they can write one blanket policy covering the whole smarm and it will carry a 10% per hundred rate on the total amount which cuts the premiums down considerably. As for your policies, those under $1000.00 will not count separately - they will all be together, unless it is something that carries a different rate. I think, also, that you can cover the property differently than on the policies you now hold if you so desire, for instance, if you wanted to cover that grader for twice the amount it is insured for now it can be done on the war risk policy. Of course, the amount would be paid only in the event the destruction becomes due on account of war - in any other case the other policy prevails.

Today when we came through town we saw the first truck load of C Grade Leos. Grosstein's leaving for the city. They were out of Hart's place. My brother-in-law told me Friday that Mr. Holle had hauled a big load into the packing house that day. Well, they have nothing on us. Bob Merrick picked a lug for a friend of his to send to Prisco and they look pretty good already. After the first load gets out it seems they come on fast every year. A lot of big ones are on the ground here and at your place, but where they have aphids the ground is covered with gum stuff. Every day we have someone coming in to see if we can handle their apples - all small growers. When Tony comes back we are hoping against hope that he will tell us something encouraging, but last night Harry Silva was here and he said that if Tony can't find anyone he is pretty sure that his man can get us a dryer man and crew so I think we will make another try before deciding to take them out. By the way, he intended to pay me for that trailer last night and then forgot it, but they are coming here tomorrow afternoon and I am sure he will think of it. I will deposit it to your personal account when I get it as long as you can draw and cash checks there then it becomes a record.

We had a site on your Automatic Hitman battery at $5.00 but the darned fools never showed up to look at it. Joe hasn't seen the parties since because he is working in a different place now.

Well, I want to write a line or two to Taigie and Chips so will end this for this time. Sincerely,