

June 3, 1985

Dear Loni,

Congratulations! and thanks for sending me the good news. Hope you had a wonderful time in France. Your presentation of the Nisei Soldier all over the country is doing wonders for us. Some of my co-workers didn't even know I was a Nisei till they've watched your documentary on PBS! Like most "white America", they thought I was a foreigner! Yeah! they get my goat at times thinking they (Caucasians) are the only Americans. But documentary such as yours is really educating our masses. I hope you'll keep on endeavoring to come up with more stories about us minorities.

By the way, has any Chinese Nisei or Issei ever write a history of their forefathers who came here before the turn of the century? My father used to talk about them since they all worked together, opening up the West by building the Santa Fe Railway. The Chinese workers being the vanguard of the Oriental workers must have gone through terrible discrimination. The earliest pioneers from my father's village (220 strong) came to California way back in 1880. The Chinese workers must have been here 10-12 years prior to this date. My wife, Keiko is from this dinky village where my parents came from in Central Japan. It's unfortunate that the Chinese & Japanese workers

couldn't communicate with each other due to their language barrier. My father being a lover of his fellowman, he would have enjoyed talking with them. I'm sorry he never had the chance to become a citizen since he was so interested in our American politics! It took over 70 years \pm W.W. II for them to become our citizen. But on the other hand, if we didn't serve in the Armed Forces, maybe it would have taken another 70 years for the Orientals (Alvins) to become a citizen.

Keep up your good work and hope your family is weathering your busy schedule alright. I know how your kids feel cuz we Nissis too were in the same boat. My only regret is that I was able to live with them for a mere 14 years.

Thank you for keeping me informed.

Most sincerely,

Jim