

Tatsuko Nishimura
7 & 8 Core
December 28, 1942

December 7, 1941, will be a day remembered by all of us. It is a day of memory clung to our hearts. It is a day of memory which all of us should remember. It will be put down in history so all of us should remember it. I, too, will always remember December 7, 1941.

Then in early March a curfew struck us all who were living on the West Coast. The curfew was from 8:00 to 6:00 in the morning. We all stayed at home to obey the rules.

Then in the middle of May evacuation started. It struck us all including me to which I used to live on the West Coast east of Portland out in the country home which I used to live for 15 yrs. I now miss my place so badly which I always think back of beautiful Oregon. My home place which I'll never forget. It was the time just before evacuation I said to my best friends "farewell" and said "I'd meet again when the time came". Then on Sept. 2 or 3 the people who were going to Wyoming had had to be departed from Oregon I was very sad then. My best friends especially when to Wyoming "which I said "a dull farewell til we meet again." I still think of them which I'll never forget. Such nice friends.

We went into the Portland Assembly Center the 18th of May. We nearly spent 4 months in the North Portland Assembly Center and I sure did enjoy it there. I think N. Port Ass. Center is the best on the West Coast. We had good food and a good place to eat and sleep. We had movies once a week and clothing from the welfare dept. Nearly 2,000 sat in the mess hall in Portland. 1,000 ate on the first shift that was between the hours of 5:00 to 6:00. Then at 6:00 to 7:00 the second shift began to eat. They had two shifts because there was so many. Altogether I think Portland was the best center than any other assembly center.

We left the North Portland Center on Sept 7, 1942 to be relocated. So it was on Tuesday which we started out for a new home which was to be in Idaho. We went through Multnomah Falls, Columbia River Snake River and many others. Then we finally came to our destination which was in Hunt, Idaho.

In the afternoon of 3:20 we came finally into the Relocation Center. At first I didn't like Idaho because it was so dusty, but now I began to like it just like Oregon. I was so surprised to see miles and miles of barracks I was kind of discouraged then to see miles of barracks, but now I'm well used to it and I think I'll like it more better.

On the 20th of October we had to register for school to get more education so we all registered 2 weeks ahead of time. Then finally the 20th came and 100,000 marched off for school. At first I didn't like it very well because I didn't know very many of kids but I think school is very nice because the kids could get more educated, so that includes me too.

At first the thing got me puzzled was "I wish we all could have all the freedom we wanted to. If we didn't have freedom we couldn't do this and that. But since we have it people could go to churches and do anything they wanted. Everybody in the world wants all the freedom they could, get, Since we are all in relocation center we could have all the freedom we want.