

Monday 7:45 PM
11-12-45

Dear Family,

I'm on the train from Portland to Seattle and will get this off to you before I get behind.

I'm having a wonderful time in the Northwest! I guess I wrote you on Tuesday after our visit to the U of Wash - campus.

That night Father Joe came to Matsushitas for dinner. We had a regular feast. I think I've had just about every Japanese dish now. The only one I really didn't care for is a delicacy which I won't be offered often I think it's crab brains. They serve the crab shell with a dirty looking greenish brown soup made with whiskey or something and the special part of the crab. It must be eaten when it's piping hot.

After dinner Elmer came over and we drew up our proposed plan for presentation to the Y's. We worked till 2 AM. We were impressed whether the Y's or not!

Wednesday Elmer had a morning meeting so I visited the WPA office. There I found four Hunt girls who had been secretaries

in the project schools. I took them
to lunch.

It was a dirty day - more so
than usual. It had snowed and
then turned into rain. We had
planned to visit housing projects
but that fell through so I shopped
in the afternoon and got two
dresses.

Wednesday night Mrs Okawa
had us come to dinner where she
lives. We discovered that we knew
one of the sons of the couple.

Afterwards Tak came to take us
to Ishihara's where we had a farewell
visit before George went back to
the army and his sister to Chicago.
We had a good time and stayed
late.

Thursday Elmer and I had
an appointment with Floyd
Schmoe of American Friends
Service Committee. It turned
out to be a lunch and informal
discussion group at the Friends
Center which is like a small inter-
national house except it's inter-
racial. We had a very good time
and met an exceptional
negro girl. We have a date to
visit with her and her husband

3/ who is an actor and engineer
(he has lived in Japan, & all places!).

Thursday night the WPK
girls gave me a dinner. We
sat and talked afterwards. I
felt I had really begun to attack
the main problem after I got their
views and we planned another
get together. At noon I had met
the chairman of the campus
of social action committee and
she had asked us to speak. I got her
to put in a plug with us on our
job deal.

Thursday evening Umar came
over and we composed notes and
intend "early" in preparation for
the 8:20 train.

We arrived in Portland about
2. We stayed with Ted Hachiya who
is the wealthiest Japanese in Portland.
But his hotels in the poor section
of town. Although everyone was
showering, the environment was
depressing.

Ted had us for dinner. In the
evening a Reed College student
called. He had interesting accounts
of his experiences at Eoham College

4/ in Indiana. He had run out
a very involved and illogical
interracial policy when he dated
a caucasian girl.

Late Kimi Jambara came in.

Saturday we called on Mrs.

Friedman of WRA and Isabelle
Gates of the Baptist Church. The
latter is a very wonderful person.
We took her to lunch.

In the evening a couple of
Umer's special youngsters came
to take him to Vangport Kousing
project as he ditched me (by
mutual agreement) for the evening.

Kimi took me to a wonderful
fish restaurant where I had the first
scallops in ages. Then I took her
to the show State Fair and Hollywood
and Vine.

Sunday Kimi and I went
to the Methodist Church where three
Kuntles met us — then I took
them all to dinner. In the afternoon
Kimi and I went to a meeting
of Issai who have been unable
to get municipal business
licenses. The mayor has refused

9 to approve any although there's
no laws to forbid them. It was an
interesting session even if it was
all Japanese.

We got out about 6 and then
Ted gave us a wonderful Chinese
dinner. That night Elmer went
to bed exhausted and Kimi and
I chatted till 10:30.

Today we went out to Reed
College in the morning. We
visited a professor interested in
music. Then we met two girls
from Hunt and had lunch.
We also met a boy from Tule
who worked for the analyst there.

They came down to put me
on the 1:30 train, but I couldn't
get on. So we 3 and 2 Vanport boys
who had met us went to a
show until I should catch
the 4:00 clock.

I made it!

Tonight Father & I will
bring me up to date on develop-
ments. The Y boards are
meeting today and the

6/ national boards on the 15th.
That should decide something.
We are quite optimistic.

Tomorrow I have meetings
with the school guidance people.
Wednesday we go to the Friends
Centre at 4 for tea and discussion.
In the evening we meet the
negro couple.

I am sure other things will
shape up from there on.

Some time Elmer and I
must get his article for the Pacific
Citizen ready, write some
recommendations for Larry
Tajiri and a report for the Y's.

About my stuff - you
might as well have it boxed
- nothing will suffer. If there is
anything you want out of them
you're welcome - don't think of
anything unless it would be
books or bedding.

I'm delighted to hear the Pooch
is getting along well - hope she is
worth the nuisance.

71 I wish you would feel free
to repay yourselves for the
express from my bonds. That's
what I intended. I knew it
would be expensive.

I guess that's all for now.

Love,

Helen

present to the Y's. He left
at 2 AM!

This morning he has
just brought me Pook's
letter. I was at breakfast.
I laughed till I cried & he
enjoyed it too! He says he bets
Mother spoils the dog more
than we did in spite of what
she says! (Pook spent lots of
time in Elmer's office in
preference to mine. She ^(she does)
obeys him, too! - better than ^(me) me.)

Now he is off to address the
Council of Social Agencies and
I must go to town to pay respects
at WPA and get my pay check
from WPA cashed and converted
to travelers cheques.

In the afternoon we hope
to meet Tak Hor and visit
hostels and housing projects.
Dinner with Mrs. Okawa (she used
to cook for Joe) who is visiting
her on way from Hunt to Chicago
(getting her goods moved). Evening
at Ishiharas.

Tomorrow appointments
with Am. Friends and schools.

Friday to Monday in Portland.

I'll write again when I can.

Love

Helen