

Tomi Domoto
28-4-D
Denson, Ark.



Miss Yuri Domoto
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November 28th

Dear Kari:

Here we are in far-off Arkansas - just miles away from everyone it seems. It's taken us all of a month to become half way accustomed to this new life - and believe me, things in the South are quite different from what we are accustomed to - their mode of living, customs and even speech. The Arkansans talk so strangely and I guess they think we're just as strange to them. This place isn't badly located though; there is a huge, wooded area in the rear where there's an abundance of lumber that we are using for heating purposes. We have a huge, wood stove in our rooms, and the freight line passes right in front of the place. The nearest town is Jerome which has only about 50 people though. The Administration isn't very liberal about issuing passes to go outside due to the recent shooting of a Japanese soldier near here in Dermont. The facilities here are a great improvement over those in the Assembly Centers - housing is much nicer, the wash rooms and toilets are really nice but they weren't completed when we arrived and it's only recently that we've been able to take showers and baths in our section and I understand our mess hall will be opened within a day or two. The food is quite good - has been from the beginning and we were more than amazed at the grand Thanksgiving feast they gave us., had plenty of turkey and all the trimmings even. The people down here are very slow and easy going in nature - they never hurry., and that's so with the Administration too - things are just beginning to be organized. Although there are quite a number of Caucasian teachers here already, the schools haven't started as yet. No equipment, supplies or sufficient housing.

Met a friend of yours from the Army Intelligence in Minne sota, Shibata boy from Mt. Eden. He was here with several others recruiting volunteers for the Intelligence unit and said he knew you and Kahn quite well. Shiro was one of them who left from here and his wife, Patsy will follow quite soon. Seems like there is quite a demand for fellows able to speak Japanese and many of the regular Army recruits are being taken in. This place is full of Japanese soldiers visiting from the neighboring camps.

Camp Rohwer is near here - about 25 miles - includes all of Stockton and quite a number from Santa Anita. Did you hear that Alice Ohashi was recently married to Stewart Nakano? Heard there were quite a number of people we know over there. Mo was able to get a pass to visit there recently and ran into many friends.

How is everyone in your family? All well, I hope. My dad's ~~being~~ quite well - although he as well as most of us suffered the ill effects of the water here and the new environment in general but that lasted only a day or two and he's still busy carpentering away. Didn't know he could make so many things. Have you come across Eva Suzuki and her sister, Mary Tashima? She wrote while I was still in Fresno and said she might come here to Jerome but I think she changed her plans and joined her family in Colorado. Some friends dropped in who have been visiting the various Centers and they find this place quite good although other Centers are much more liberal about issuing passes to go outside. I can't say I really like this place; if we weren't so deep in the Southern area, I think the people on the outside might be a bit more tolerant. It was really amazing to see the way the colored folks are treated here - they are a lower class than those in California but really, they are openly kicked around.

Ran into Eiko Fujii who came with the Santa Anita group - her sister's family, the Ishii's are from Long Beach area aren't they. I think they know Toichi don't they. By the way, how is the new baby? Did you know that Aki and Saku had a baby girl way back in September? Probably I told you the news before.

Well, guess this will be all now. Hoping everything is okay with all of you and please say hello to everyone for me.

Love,

Toichi