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Miss Yvri Donato
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March 9, 1943

Dear Yusi,

Thanks a million for the nice long letter. That's just the way I like them, but oftener, too.

Let me start by answering some of your questions on Page 1 of your letter. Yes, we wear regulation uniforms as usual — mine are getting so threadbare, I'm beginning to look like a gauzer. There are 14 staff dietitians and 22 student dietitians.

There are 6 hospitals in this town, most of whose patients are assigned by the clinic. The patients have their examinations + possible diagnosis done at the May Clinic + then are sent to one or another of the hospitals. St. Mary's is the largest, + I believe, the best. At least, it caters to the very well-to-do, and has a bed-capacity of 854 which is more than twice as big as Stanford. We have every kind of

care from ordinary obstetrics to brain surgery. I work on surgical side which means that all patients on our side of the house have had some sort of surgery done - gall bladder, cancer, ulcer, brain, appendix, tumor, leg amputation, etc, etc. All medical patients are on the other side of the hospital - the newer side, & that part really is beautiful. St. Mary's is the only hospital run by nuns, I believe. And by golly, they sure run it, too! But they are an efficient lot & I must say they do a pretty good job of it. But oh! If ever you get on the wrong side of them, it's certain for you. I've kinda got used to them now and do enjoy some of them very much. They are especially nice to us Japanese, because we are sort of different, I guess.

I appreciate your having a feeling of awe about Mayo Clinic, because I did, too. In medical circles it is the place. And even more so do I realize it now when I find how little I really know. Even the students here are so well trained that they know a lot more than I ever learned. Stanford was considered good, but compared to this place it really was mediocre as far as dietary standards were concerned. I've still a lot to learn, before I can say that I enjoy my work. Even now, after 5 weeks I'm very hazy about the various types of diets used & today when my superior went off duty sick, I was in a tantrum, 'cause I wasn't sure of myself at all. She's going to be off tomorrow, too. Oh, was it me! The library

you mention is in the Clinic building downtown. It is supposed to be quite a huge one, but I'm ashamed to say that I haven't been in it yet.

Oh, my! I get so engrossed about telling you all these things that I forget to tell you about my very exciting weekend. Last Thurs. night I was surprised by a male voice over the phone & it was Babe, calling from Minneapolis. He wanted to come down to see me over the weekend & fortunately it was my Sunday off; so he came down on Sat. night & ~~he~~ went back Sunday night. We had quite a time talking over old times. He has changed considerably since I last saw him. He's learned to smoke & drink — which makes him a bit more interesting as far

so I'm concerned. He seems to be shorter — but maybe I'm the one who's grown more. He's still the same polite gentleman, though, and I certainly enjoyed spending the day with him. We had dinner together Sat. night, then went to his hotel (he stayed at the Toller, the swankiest hotel in town) and sat in the mezzanine lobby & talked till 11:30. Then went for a drink at the Palm Gardens. Sunday, we went to church in the morning, had dinner at Morey's (famous for steaks), and then went to Kim & Mijo's apartment. I made some of his favorite toasted cheese rolls for him & then he was supposed to take the 5:00 P.M. bus, but we persuaded him to stay for dinner & take the 9:15. We made chow mein & egg foo young for him. I think he rather enjoyed it. He

had just returned from a ^{2 wks.} furlough in
Tule Lake + had a lot to tell about
his experiences. His folks want to
get out to Colorado, if possible.
He is expecting to be shipped
overseas any day now, but
of course he doesn't know when. He
gets only 24 hrs. notice + can
notify only his immediate family +
his fiancee; so I guess I won't know
when he goes until a long while
afterwards.

Heard from Ceys in Minneapolis.
Next month is their anniversary; so
I'm hoping to be able to go to
visit them over a weekend.

By the way, just heard from
Keech yesterday + she had such
good news. — Gyo is married to
a fellow named Shin Tamaki, formerly
of S.F. — a fellow several years
younger than she is, but apparently
very, very nice. Isn't that wonderful?

She met him in camp & they decided to get married in two weeks; so it must have been love at first sight.

Isn't it romantic? How about you?

Everyone seems to be finding their mates in camp these days. Haven't you picked yourself a nice young man yet? It seems that with so many people congregated in one place, there ought to be at least one girl for every boy or vice versa.

As far as I'm concerned, the situation is hopeless. There are no males at all in this town & there are about 15 or 20 Japanese girls, most of them young, cute, & full of fun. So you see, even if there were men around, I wouldn't have a chance. My only consolation is my Chinese friend who is thousands of miles away. Yes, his

the one who bought our place for
someone else — his sort of a buyer
or promoter, I guess. Of course, I've
known him only a short time in
person, but we've been corresponding
for almost a year. He sent me
2 orchids & 4 gardenias last week by
airmail special delivery, just for no
reason at all. He's always doing
stuff like that — boxes of candy,
flowers, etc. just to show he's
thinking about me. Guess I'm
crazy to keep up this nonsense,
but somehow it's very exciting
and I hope it won't hurt
either of us. He's been married
and divorced and has three
children, & is a Catholic, & is
Chinese on top of that; so you
see how crazy I really am.
Maybe I'll straighten out & maybe
I won't, but it remains to
be seen. With the world in

such a "mell of a mess" it really
doesn't seem to matter what
individuals do, does it? I'm inclined
to believe that if two people can
get along regardless of differences in
race, religion, etc., it's that much
to the good, and to the devil
with the rest of the world. But
that's just my narrow opinion
at this particular time. Maybe
next month I might think
differently — who knows.

Oh, I almost forgot. Today
I was talking to the head nurse on
1st floor & she has a very dear
doctor friend, whose wife is very
anxious to find a Japanese girl to
cook & do housework for her. She
asked me where she could write
to try to get one; so I gave
her your name & address &
told her that you could

probably tell her" of some possibilities. Haven't any idea what they pay around here, but I do know that there are quite a few from various camps doing housework here. Personally, I don't like to see too much of it, cause then the people will begin to think that's all wire good for. They still can't get used to the idea that Din's a staff member. So many think Din's still a student. But the people here are very, very nice and really welcome me with open arms. Kinni's younger sister came from Heart Mts. & is going to high school here — works in a doctor's home & likes it very, very much. They treat her just like one of the family.

Do write again soon. How's your Daddy? Sure hope he's out of the hospital by now.
Love, Lark