

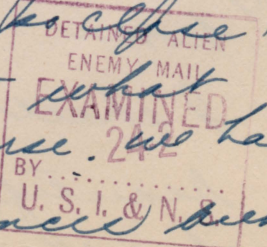
July 23rd, 1942

Dearest Dad -

Your gift to us was a most pleasant surprise. I really is wonderful to receive unexpected gifts especially in a place such as this. We're both so proud of the vase and have shown it to all your friends with pride. I shall cherish it always as a memory of those times when we have been separated. I hope upon hope that we shall all be reunited at least once before you leave us for the place of your choice.

We were terribly surprised and shocked to hear that you might repatriate but of course we can understand your point of view. No one can say what is best so it is really a personal matter to decide what one feels. My only desire is, as is that of all your loved ones, to see you once again. We all miss you terribly as you must know and I believe that you miss each one of us too. May God see fit to reunite us once again in this country where we have all been so happy as a family.

Now that I am married, I can truly say how much I realize that mama & you have made a success of your family. Our family is so united and close to each other that I know now what happiness can mean. Of course we had our difficulties and differences but



they were small and soon forgotten in the countless joys and good times that we shared. I thank you now, Dad, for all the happiness I have shared as a member of your family. I love my brothers and sisters deeply and I shall always be close to them — I hope I shall be able to show you how much you mean to me, too.

When I married Hen, I married him because I love him and he needs me. I am not sorry — but this life in Santa Anita has revealed all the discrepancies in the Ito family. Unlike ours, they have no unity whatsoever. There is constant bickering and true antagonism between the members — I have come to accept this as ~~an~~ inevitable but it makes me so sad to think that any family can lose so much by acting that way — therefore, I cherish more than ever the memory of our happy home. I hope that I shall be able to raise a family patterned after my own childhood home. I am truly an idealist but I shall try my utmost to make a beautiful home & family for Hen — he deserves it and it is my duty.

✓ I have not told this to anyone yet -
but I feel it so deeply in my heart
that I had to tell you. Somehow it
makes me feel closer to you and I
need your encouragement. Perhaps if
you never went away I could never
have had the mystery to confide in
you but as you are not here, I feel
so close and get your guidance.
Please hear me, dad! I haven't talked
to moma about it because I don't
want to worry her.

I have been attending the art
classes taught by Mr. Kiyama and
Bro. Tawahara and a Mr. Plate. It's
been most fun. I've always wanted
to draw but never had the chance
before. I have my drawings all over
my room and I delight in seeing my-
self improve from lesson to lesson.
Yesterday, we had an outdoor class
for the first time and I managed pretty
well. Anyway, Bob told me it was
good and said to preserve it. We sketched
with charcoal and do still life -
I really like it.

It's been rather hot lately and we
can hardly do a thing - However, see



only consolation is that this is the saddest
of all camps. We do not anticipate
moving from here but it seems inevitable
that we shall be moved. We've been
here almost 3 months now. I don't
know where we're going but I hope it
isn't too far.

We received our free coupon books
of 4 a month for a couple. These coupons
are good at the canteen for anything.
We also received a pair of shoes. At
last had to receive all of this - it
seems we shall get free clothing, too.

Well, dad, thanks again for your
gift. Mom would write, too, but
he has so little time. He works
strenuously at the canteen from
9 am. to 7 pm. with 2 hours off
for lunch & dinner. With the hot
weather his soda dept. is kept
constantly busy.

He sends his best regards and
love. Regards to you from the
Japs, too.

Please write to me again if
you can spare one letter.

Lovingly yours,
Emmy.