

Friday May 25, 1945

Dear Tommie,

Thanks for sending Henri's letter, your card and my dress. The dress fits nicely. The sleeves are about $\frac{1}{2}$ " too long, but otherwise everything is fine. When I go to the bank to get my check cashed, I'll send the money (\$6.90).

Since receiving your letter and deliberating for weeks, changing my mind dozens of times and looking at the question from all angles and talking to people, I decided I'll have to compromise. My plan is:

June 9th - Saturday - Final exam in Cereal Chem.

June 11 - 15 work

June 15 - 19 visit a Minnesota farm - the girl in the next room invited me to her home & I think it's a rare opportunity.

I'll leave for Topaz sometime between the 19th and 25th and will reach there around the 30th or so; which will leave enough time before July 20th so that we can prepare for the new baby and you can tell me what to do, etc.

I phoned the railway station this morning and they said that the one-way tickets are good only for 30 days. That means I can't get a ticket all the way to San Francisco anyway because I'll probably stay in Topaz longer than that - more like $2\frac{1}{2}$ - 3 months if they'll let me because I know you can use me that long.

I had Asako Sakai over here for dinner last night and she said her whole family is back in San Francisco except the sons who are in the Army. She is intending to go back the latter part of July. She's been here for two years now & had a good job at the YWCA & has met lots of soldiers & other Nisei but says she doesn't feel ^{she gives it to} ~~like~~ home because she hasn't her own place & feels restless. I'm so afraid that I'll feel that way

too. If I take a job I feel I must stick to it for a couple of years at least and I don't know if I'd like it well enough here. Also, there's no reason why I can't come back to the mid-west sometime. There are some young nice widows here & mothers of young babies. They aren't very happy. So I've found out there are worse things than being unmarried now while the war is going on. There will be lots of girls like that and it's best to try and see the better side of it. There's no use worrying over it, is there? I've been having a pretty good time lately. The dance last Saturday night was pretty nice. This Saturday the secretary of the dorm and another Caucasian girl who lives below me and I are going to a dance. I'm not too enthusiastic about it, but I hope it turns out alright.

Nobuo Kitagaki wrote from Camp Ritchie again. He says he may be shipped to California in three weeks & may be stationed there for awhile. He's certainly crazy but has talent in his line and quite a character.

It's getting warm here. Up until now, it hasn't been very warm & we needed our coats. I guess by next month it will really be hot.

I'll go down to the W.R.A. and ask them what I ought to do about arranging for my baggage and the ticket. They'll pay all the way to D.F. won't they? But they'll have to give me two separate grants because, as I said before, a one way ticket is good only for 30 days.

Must go to school now so I'll write again. My first pay check for + which was \$55.41 after taxes were withheld - isn't that good?

Please let me know if you like my plans as outlined above.

Love,
Martha

P.S. I hope you'll understand that it's my idea and I hope you don't think I want to be with you when the baby comes & I'm sorry as much for me as I'm sorry to do for you. We need each other, don't you think? I'd write to paper thoughts too.

Dear Nani -

Sat aft.

Kantas got back here last night & came over this afternoon. They caught 11:30 PM Wed & arriv. SL C 4:30 AM Friday, stayed & shopped today & caught noon train to get in last night.

Papa eat cookies of any kind - no crackers, only cheese.

They were happy over their stay here, & said you were nice to them, that you were working hard that you said you'd come when I needed you, that food was good at Pamstar Lon etc. I guess they'd get a house soon. They gave us 1 box ^{Delish} cookies like Helen once did. (954)

Mosquitos are really thick & they respect no hours or sunshine or shade, indoors or out. I'm a sorry victim of their attacks to add to my misery. I put on repellent, use stuff on our screens, spray the room, etc but to no avail - after all I do have to go to the mess hall & laundry.

Papa made Pa chair because Thomas has 2 outside his house in the shade & won't let P sit there.

The Kantas said the house was very neat & nice & that a nice low green vase was used in the living room. Well that is part of a set of centerpiece & 2 candle holders of green pottery I got as wedding gift from Rudge & John Shing of Berk. which has never been used.

I had a very high protein diet last night of eggs, pork chop & 1/2 browned potatoes, lettuce salad. We have tomatoes often now tho not in quantity & have had broccoli twice the last week. If I get a pyrex dish I can have my own ice in my own receptacle any time I wish & every day if I want at Koj maratas ~~ice box~~ refrigerator in Blk A. Guess I'll do that - get one in Delta via Block Shopper, or go personally.

I'm referring back to the Kantas every other thought but they brought me 2 sports black crochet thread & 6 pkg cheese tidbits & 1 carton cigarettes. Thanks ever so

much. Dr. Goto hasn't come back from his vacation, yet
but he's expected next week - so I'll give it to him then.
I sent one of the T-shirts to Frank Jhuda of Detroit.
I'll sort of reserve this last one for a while as Dr.
Sugiyama will think I come by them too easily.
There is no way of getting it by the carton unless
you pay for it so I will take care not to pass
it out too lightly. When Dr. Goto comes back, Collier
goes on vacation - then Sugiyama will go on his
and I don't know whether it will be my ill luck to
need assistance with my baby just when Sugiyama is gone.
Then Collier will deliver it, ya see, & I may use the cigarettes on
Dr. Collier - so I'll keep it a while & see. Meantime I'll
see when Dr. S. goes & when he comes back, if it can be
found out ahead of time.

Do you remember the white stiff thin material skirt &
bonnet Mrs. Sato made for P long ago? She can wear it just
fine & looks pretty in it now. Green ones her dresses! It can be
worn just once before she sells it - but launders easy & irons
o.k. Since I started on this high protein diet it seems I have grown
larger in the last few days - I started a month ago to step
up protein intake. I sure feel it. Next Friday is my day to go to
gym as I'll mention it. Also periods of fast, hard, heart beat &
shortness of breath. I felt this way closer to the end of all
this last time! However, I believe my blood pressure hasn't gone
as high as last time a good sign - tho I have 1 1/2 mo. more to go.

Regards Maucha, I don't know whether she wants to take that job
or not - she's wavering between decisions. So I don't expect her til you hear
her, altho she says she'll come to help, she may decide differently again.
Mrs. Sato gave me several lengths of cheesecloth & if stiffly
starched, may make enough stiffening for mosquito net for
new baby. If not enough, she'll get me more from surgery where
she works. (Hoop) more later -

From Mrs Gillatt-Gatty, PAX Hotel,
246, Mason St, S.F. 2
Monday May 25 ~~1945~~

My very dear Mrs Takahashi, Thanks
for your p.c.; I am so glad to have re-
established contact with you again.
You poor dear! I am deeply angry &
sorry that your fellow-Americans
have adopted so cruel & stupid an
attitude towards loyal Japanese, who
have as much right to live lawfully
& peaceably in the land of their
birth as loyal Italians & Germans
or French or Swiss or Swedes or Irish
born in America, or emigrants who
are nationalized Americans. It
seems to me terrible that there should
be persecution against people because
their race-fellows (but not their
countrymen) are alien-enemies with
vastly different opinions & whose
conduct is wholly other. I am
deeply sorry at my powerlessness
to help in the fight against prejudice
& bitterness, so unjust & so foolish

as that which results in violence &
cruelty on account of race discrim-
-inations — which is what we are fighting
in the German Nazis in the case
of the Jews. Of course as a Socialist I
rejoice such conduct as another instance
of economic injustice. Perhaps not
the actual evil — does, in every case
but fundamentally, those who
cause the outbreaks against Japan-
-ese, Jews, Negroes, Mexicans (& former-
-ly Filipinos & earlier still Chinese)
are instigated by the desire to take
the property, or jobs, of Japanese &
who fear the expression of honor at
the conduct — since the war — of the
Japanese War Lords & the Japanese
population in Japan, specially educa-
-ted, kept by the Censorship & the Admin-
-istration from knowing how to "Think
Dangerously", sanely & humanely.

Perhaps you are wise in not making
a war. Possibly, as the war progresses
in Asia, race-hatred will get whipped
up still more horribly & you might be
dangerously injured & suffer destruction

of your property. Even if nothing actu-
-ally happened you would feel
feel safe & would always be in an
agony of fear for little Pinkie.

It is horrible that this should be so
& that nothing is, evidently, being
done to protect you, or to allay
this Anti-Japanese-Nisei fear... &
probably coming from the very Americans
who bought Japanese silks & approved
of sending scrap iron & oil to the Japane-
-se Government to carry on the war a-
-gainst China from July 1937, & which
was to be used against America since
Pearl Harbor, when so-doing was
(they thought) in their own wisest
or best
or best.

Please send me an occasional
line of your news. And when
I don't know about you, I am comfort-
-ed by hoping things are not going un-
-usually badly with you. And when
an incident of Anti-Japanese violence
occurs you may be sure I burn
with indignation. I am sure you care,

& do, sympathize with me in my
shame at de Valera's horrible conduct
in calling (quite unnecessarily) on
the German Ambassador in Dublin,
on Hitler's death - & that my Irish
compatriots should, not merely not un-
-ite with the Allies against Nazism's
barbarities, but should be actually
pro-Germans!

Kindest regards to your Husband from
me. Your very affectionate friend,
Katharine Gillett Gatty

P.S.

The Consul tells me it will be a
considerable time before I can be
given a Transport priority to
return to London. Also I have to
save the cost of the fare.

K.G.G.

May 21

Dear Tommie:

Thanks for the postcard and V mail, they both came today -. It's been some time since I've heard from Topaz, so I was more than happy to hear from you. Your father's trip to the east, and his resettling sounds grand, where is he to go when he leaves Topaz for good!?!? What about Pinkie when her playmate is due? Have you someone to look after her? You don't tell me much about the event to come, do you-? Can you tell me app. when that time will be? I should think you'd need lots of help with Henri away, tho' I know you're able to take care of more than you should.

We're living outdoors in a clover field, the Reg't is handling the processing of Jerry prisoners.

Except for the hot sun it's not a bad life, we've gone swimming to Lake Garda during our off hours, and now passes to Brescia will be issued, transportation on Jerry buses provided. Now if I can attend a G. O. school soon, the time over here won't pass so slowly, it's been a boring life after the push up the coast to Genoa, and V. O. day.

I'm of course anxious to return home to my wife, but my turn ~~if~~ will be a long ways off if I'm returned under the point system. Just have to make the best of it here and be thankful of victory in Europe, with a hope that Japan can be brought to a early defeat, so cease the terrible slaughter of valuable men -

How's Pinkie,
Ben

11-5-D
Topaz Utah



Mr. Henri H. Takahashi

1259 Arguello Blvd.

San Francisco 22
California

Kantas asked Papa + then me
before wiring you for ok to stay - then
called back again before they left to say
you said ok + any message or errands to
you they could carry. Very proper. ?# for 2h?