



January 4, 1945

Dear Tommie,

Just received your air mail letter which was forwarded to me from St. Louis. I will write to papa immediately and send him my pay checks. I really need the money now as it's the beginning of the quarter but anything that will bring peace to our family will be well worth pinching pennies for.

I found out today that I may be able to graduate ^{just temporarily until} ~~in March.~~ ^{Get some out of Bank} That will be the latter part of the month. I got a couple of petitions through today and if everything else is approved, there is no reason why not because I've been here for three quarters to fulfill residence requirements. That will help to solve a lot of the problem, won't it? I can join all of you in California and take care of you and papa. If there is any extra time, I can see what work will be available at the med-center. Deep down, I want to get married, and the career is only a defense. I'll try my darndest to get out by March. Maybe papa can come out and see my graduation and we can go back to San Francisco together. Do you think you can arrange to get out there that soon? I can't visit you in camp as the new regulations are that no one can visit camps.

The news you write disturbs me terribly. How anyone claiming to be a friend can be so low and cheap, I don't know. I can take a trip to Chicago one of these weekends and visit the Aizawas, and I'll write a letter to Ojisan right away. I never knew that papa had so large an income. He never told me that it was that much, and I hardly think it is correct, and if so, is only temporary due to the war. At any rate, he can live comfortably enough, and if I go back and take care of him, there's no reason why he has to get involved with this woman.

To be more specific in my answers:

- 1) I will calculate to the best of my ability and send papa the money.
- 2) I've been writing regularly, more so that you have. I have been writing long letters and most of the time have received no answers, and my questions were often ignored completely. I feel I'm justified in this answer because unless the mail is lost, I have been writing at least once if not oftener per week. I usually address them to papa at his address. He, on the other hand writes about three times a year.
- 3) Will address all future mail to him unless it is of this nature.
- 4) The Hagiwaras are not the kind of people I would choose for friends. To call them notorious is a mild way of putting it.

4A) I can only see trouble ahead. Why can't you or someone you know reason with Masashi san and tell him that you can see through the whole racket. Perhaps ojisan or Aizawa san can.

4B) I feel very bad and think that all this may not have happened if I had stayed in camp. I would never have let him encourage the match if I were there. Not that I want all of his money. I'm convinced now that money is the root of all evil, and I'll be satisfied if I can get along.

5B) After what Yoshinori san did, I can't see any reason why he should get such a fortune out of papa.

6) You are right about papa, he is the kind that will be putty in the hands of those people. He can't seem to see through it all. How can such a woman have any other motive anyway.

7. I will write to ojisan right away. I may take a trip to Chicago sometime before I graduate and see what the Aizawas feel. They can be trusted, can't they?

8. Please send tsukemono. I'll try not to smell up the place. If you send some around the first week of February, I would like to give some to Ken. He writes pretty often. Basic sounds terrible, and this time of the year is especially bad. He's coming back in another month, but don't know how long he'll stay. Sometimes they go right over. Do you think it unwise to get involved with a service man? Give me some advice.

9. It was nice of Warren to send you gifts. What shall we get? Please be more specific.

10) I don't think I could use any katsuobushi at the moment. Save it and we can use it later.

11. Nice of Aya and Ben. Also Helen.

12. No, no card from Yoshinori san. I sent him one.

13. Good idea, this numbering and itemizing questions. Please answer my questions completely too. And let me know the letters you get from me by dates. I'm afraid some of them were lost if you haven't heard from me often. I sometimes write several times a week.

As for Henri's comment, it may be true all that about men not wanting career girls, but if I go back to California, I most certainly won't be going out like I do here. So I guess I'd better work pretty fast the next two months, huh? If I can do that and still pass my five tough courses, I'll be doing alright.

Please write and tell me the progress.

Love,
Marta

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