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Dear Mrs. Takahashi -

Many deep apologies for not writing you sooner. As the weeks drew closer to Christmas we got so involved in our New York concert that I gave up on all my correspondence. Now things have simmered down again.

Toshi and the children are well; they loved the little paper balloons, which we put on the tree. I have read to them often from the book of Japanese fairy tales Pinky and Norman gave them (though I sometimes have to explain the grownup words).

I would be exceedingly grateful if you could get me any more Shakuhachi recordings - or other instrumental solo music such as the Koto or Samisen - though I don't know if they were played by themselves at all. Enclosed is \$5. for three records - the extra is for mailing and wrapping; it is so difficult to mail records, as you probably know. Takashi copied out the information on the labels of the one you gave me. I appreciate very much the trouble you have to go to get the records.

Tell the first grade teacher, Pat Freeman, that there is a chance that I will record "Way Down South In The Yankety Yank" for Decca, but that it has never been written down, even by me. However, when I come back next, if Decca hasn't released it, I'll put it on tape and someone can transcribe it from that.

I look forward to bringing my family out to meet yours some time, but we have no immediate plans for touring. I am teaching two days a week in New York, and there is a lot of work to be done in the country. There is a good chance, however, that next year....we hope!

Very best wishes for the new year,

Pete

and Coshi, and Sand

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(福田蘭童作時)

福田蘭童.

Tsuruno shu go mo ri in Shakuhachi. "Y'V 122" E ") (211)

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