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February 28, 1947

The Rev. Sumio Koga
2734 N. Hampden Court
Chicago 14, Illinois

Dear Sumio:

The local Immigration authorities are not able to give a satisfactory solution of Ai Chih Tsai's case. Apparently the fact that he transferred from Army Service to that of UNRRA makes it impossible to consider him as one who went abroad with the Military Service. While I do not have the details, I assume that Tsai came to the United States as a student. This being the case, it is probably impossible to re-enter the States unless he can secure a call to some church as a minister. For example, the Rev. Masao Hirata came to this country before the war as a student. After completing his studies, he was ordained to the Gospel ministry and has served several churches. However, his status was still that of a student until the permit for this had expired. It will now be necessary for him to go to Vancouver, B. C., armed with proof that he is the installed pastor of a church in the United States and secure from the American Consulate General a 4-D nonquota classification as a minister. If it is necessary for Mr. Hirata to go out of the country and come in again in order to secure this status, then it is also probably necessary for Tsai to secure the 4-D nonquota status through the American Consulate.

This all raises the question as to whether Tsai's future work is to be in this country, and if so, is there any congregation that might desire to extend him a call as the minister? I only knew him very slightly and the one time I heard him preach he spoke in such a gentle voice that it was difficult to size him up. If you and Dr. Anderson are, in effect, proposing to our Board of National Missions that it secure a call for Mr. Tsai, we would have to have abundant assurance that he is well qualified and likely to be successful as a bilingual minister in the United States. At present writing I do not think that we could consider him unless we are fully assured that he is well qualified for the American scene.

It should be clearly understood that we cannot get ourselves involved in a call which is solely arranged to get him back to this country without any serious intentions as to his rendering permanent service in this connection. In other words, we do not want to get ourselves involved in what might be regarded as a subterfuge. I mention this because I note that he desires a letter from your church which should be in the nature of an invitation to become its pastor.

I enclose herewith Tsai's letter to Dr. Anderson which you so kindly loaned me.

The Rev. Sumio Koga

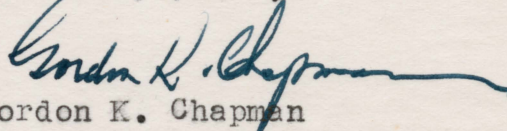
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I have been told that there is a desperate need for workers in the Island of Formosa, and wonder, therefore, whether Mr. Tsai does not plan to return to his native land eventually, in any case.

With warm personal regards,

Cordially yours,



Gordon K. Chapman

GKC:mih

P. S. I am also writing to Tsai direct.