

June 27, 1947

Dear Uncle Robert,

Thank you very much for your letter which I have just received. The situation has become complicated and I will try to explain as far as I know all the facts myself. I know how confusing all this is to you when Ai Chih and I write contradictory letters, and so I will try this time to present the whole picture to you. You are wonderful to help us to see us through this difficult time when you yourself are so busy with your own duties, and it is a deep comfort to know that you are with us in spirit and helping us with your letters.

First of all, since I last wrote to you, I have sent in the petition for Ai Chih's visa, accompanied by my birth certificate, financial statements from two banks of our personal savings and bonds-in-trust which are in my name, a list of our war savings bonds, and a letter which I wrote, summarizing Ai Chih's activities in this country and the conditions under which he left this country last year. I am enclosing a copy of my letter.

When I first went to the Immigration office here, the officer in charge told me that Ai Chih would have to do nothing if I petitioned, but later he suggested that we both do all that we can. After my first visit, I immediately wrote to Ai Chih that he would not have to apply at the consulate, and would not have to ask for affidavits of support. At the time Ai Chih wrote to you, I am sure he had not received my letter yet. But it now appears that I should not have written in such a way, and as of today, those affidavits of support are needed, to effect receipt of the visa. Ai Chih will continue his efforts through the consulate in Shanghai, and I will do my best to get his visa through the Immigration Commissioner in Philadelphia.

You may receive another letter from Ai Chih on the basis of what I wrote a few weeks ago about doing nothing, but now, we will both have to do all that we can, and hope for the best.

I have asked George to make out one affidavit of support. I have an uncle here but he is not an American citizen and cannot make one out for us, and Anna and Keimer are in Tokyo, so that we have no relatives here who are in a position to make out an affidavit for us, except George.

I am enclosing a mimeographed paper, giving in detail all the instructions by which to make out an affidavit of support. I know we all understand that such affidavits are simply guarantess to the government that the person under consideration will not become a public charge, and I know that for as long as we stay in this country we will be able to support ourselves and would not call upon anyone for any kind of financial assistance. Ai Chih's assets in Formosa are considerable but cannot be translated into dollars and therefore cannot be made to have any bearing on this case at this time.

I am sorry that this is the type of legal formality that must be executed to satisfy the consulate, but if it is at all possible for you to do so, would you send such an affidavit of support in duplicate to Ai Chih so that he could present it to the Consul in Shanghai?

At present, I am trying to find definite employment for Ai Chih, through Rev. Kikuchi, pastor of our church here, and through Rev. Seido Ogawa, whom Ai Chih knows, (a CTS graduate) of the Congregational Committee for Christian Democracy, and Ai Chih is himself in touch with Rev. Gordon Chapman of the Presbyterian offices in San Francisco. The petition called for a statement of employment but I was not able to receive any answers before I sent in the petition. The Immigration officer advised me to send in the petition as early as I possibly could, and said that perhaps a statement of employment would not be necessary, (although it would have helped greatly) because of the conditions under which Ai Chih left this country. Ai Chih may be able to serve in a church on the West Coast, because there are some Japanese churches which do not have ministers, but it is still too early for any answers to be forthcoming.

The petition also called for a statement by my employer, but as I am not working that part was left out. The Immigration officer said that it was not necessary because of the fact that Ai Chih himself was employed and was receiving a salary. However, I am now looking for work either on state, county, or city civil service, but have not completed all the examinations yet. When I do get a job I will be able to add the statement of my employment to strengthen the petition

I have not received any word from the Commissioner of Immigration in Philadelphia but I know he is in possession of the petition and the papers and documents which I sent by registered mail. If anything develops from this step I will write to you immediately, and I will always write as fully as possible so you will know every aspect of this situation.

I hope you had a good trip and that you and Aunt Zelma and all of your family are well. We are fine here and Mother sends her best regards to you. BiHua asks where Daddy is regularly and I hope and pray we can be reunited in the near future. Thank you so much for all you are doing for us. We are already so indebted to you. How can we ever return your kindnesses!

Sincerely yours,