

dear mr. gardner:

I've been meaning to write to you ever since coming here, but have been in a mental lethargy from the very first. I hope you will forgive me, but the main purpose in my finally writing you is to ask a favor. I am seeking admission to the University of Nebraska graduate school and have taken the liberty of submitting your name as one who has "knowledge of your training and ability for graduate work." Of course, as I was never in ~~xxxx~~ any of your classes, you ~~xxxx~~ know almost nothing of my academic ability~~xxxx~~ (frankly, my record at U.C.L.A. was only mediocre.), but I should appreciate it very much if you would write to Dr. R. W. Goss, Dean of the Graduate College, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska, and ~~xxx~~ give me some kind of recommendation. I have written to two professors at U.C.L.A. and the wrestling coach there asking similar favors (~~xxxx~~ the testimony of four persons is required).

Ever since I received assurance that I would receive my ~~xxxx~~ B.A. degree despite the fact that I did not complete the full semester, I have entertained hopes of working for an advanced degree in English, and as the University of Nebraska seems ~~xxxx~~ most convenient for me, I am trying to get in there. ~~Theyxxxxxx toxxxxxxzprettyxxxxcompletezdepartmentxxxxEnglishxxx~~ Any advice you can give me will also be gratefully received.

~~Myxxxxingxxxxacceptedzbyxxxx~~ Acceptance by Nebraska will not necessarily mean that I will be automatically released from this camp or any ~~xxxxxx~~ relocation center that I may be moved to in the meantime. I suppose that my residence in Japan will make it doubly hard for me to get out, but I am not giving ~~xx~~ up hope. Of course, I am anxious to continue my studies, but aside from that, I'd like to shake myself free of this demoralizing atmosphere. I'm getting used to life around here and am afraid that I'll get to like the place; that will mark my utter degradation. We are being well treated and there's no doubt that there is a maximum of physical security assured us in ~~xxxx~~ camps such as this that would be lacking outside ~~forx~~ even white Americans during these uncertain war years, but at the same time, psychologically, it's a very depressing situation we are in. A lot of people

are unaware of the social repercussions that may follow in the future and are quite happy here; in fact the majority probably feel that way; the proximity of many of their friends helps to alleviate any discomforts of the fence keeping them in here. However, I have always been opposed to ~~xxxxxx~~ group isolation and would like to get away from it. That may sound like snob-~~xxxx~~ bishness, but I've ~~xxxxxx~~ never believed in segregation and am afraid of the results. I suppose it's selfish of me to want to escape this, but ~~xxxxxx~~ I'm certainly not indispensable around here and may be able to at least keep myself from regressing mentally if I were at school outside.

There is much more to write on the same subject, but I'm afraid that you'll find it boring so I will close here. If you are interested in the camp or on the ^{project} project of relocation, I shall be very glad to give you any information. *I can.*

Before I close, let me apologize for not sending you the enclosed stamps earlier. I recall having promised them to you long ago. I had misplaced them for a while, but located them some weeks ago and my conscience has felt severe twinges every time I've seen them since.

I hope this letter finds you as well as ever; thanking you in advance for seeing about the recommendation, I am

very truly yours,

Joseph B. Ishikawa