

Frank Emi
9 - 21 - B
Heart Mt. Hell-hole

April 22, 1944

Dear Sam,

I received your letter quite awhile ago, but as yet I had not written to you because we've been busier than Hades the last few weeks. I have heard from Okamoto right along and he says that you are okay and as happy as a hen with a toothache. I don't blame you either. If your case wasn't a clear case of abduction, I don't know what is.

Everything is going okay over here. You're probably up with the news as Okie said that he showed you the letter I wrote to him. Something bad did come up today though. James Omura, the editor of the Rocky Shampo has been discharged from the newspaper. He was a real American. He really called a spade a spade and was not afraid to fight for the rights of a small minority. That's us. People that oppose guys like James Omura should read the early history of the United States. It was people like him who plenty of guts and fought for what is right that made this country what it is today. Those JACL guys sure make me sick. The only thing they know is to crawl on their bellies everytime the going gets tough.

Right after you and Okamoto were pulled away, that is, after Min and I came out of our "hotel" (we were in there two days) we wrote to Menin and to the ACLU about yours and Okamoto's case. ACLU wrote back stating that they were studying the case.

The 53 fellows who are in jail now are in pretty good spirits. They are located at different towns in Wyoming. There are 24 guys at Casper, 12 at Thermopolis, and 17 at Cheyenne. They are all sincere and are determined to fight for their rights as citizens of this country as Americans and not as yellow bellied bastards like the JACL bunch. As you said, its impossible to be just half citizen. We want to be a full citizen and enjoy all the rights and privileges as such as well as the obligations. Those fellows all write back and say that the hakujins treat them swell even in jails because they understand the situation and some of them even take off their badge and have a talk with the boys and express their feeling that if they were in the same shoes of those 53 fellows, they would probably do the same damn thing. That's American. To fight against wrongs. That's why you can depend on us back here to keep fighting till we go down fighting. When you fight for something that is right, then by holy Jesus you aren't afraid of anything. That's right aint it Sam? You fought for your rights and nothing phased you. They can't keep a good man down. The people back here feel they owe much to you and Okamoto for your strong fight for our Constitutional rights. So keep your spirits up Sam and some day these unthinking persons who oppose the principles for which we, you, and Okamoto are fighting will wake up out of their selfish delirium and see the issues in a clearer light. The old saying that "a baka will never change until he meets his Maker" ~~may hold true~~ may hold true with some of these narrow-minded, light thinking individuals. Those may never change. That can't be helped. We must not concern ourselves with those kind of persons. Just "waste Time".

Another "waste time" guy is Paul. We heard that the nite we all got stuck in the guardhouse, they had a meeting and he was scared shitless. He even announced that the FPC was going to disband and all that kind of stuff. After Min and I got out of the guardhouse, we held an open meeting and announced that the FPC was not disbanding and that it was going ahead strong as ever in its fight for justice and Constitutionality. We also told them of how you and Okamoto were taken away to Tule. Some women started crying when we told them how you were handcuffed and taken away without even being permitted to see your family.

Well, about our attorney. We are keeping in constant contact with him regarding the fellows in jail. He has been down to see the first group in Casper about two weeks ago. We have asked him to come down to Heart Mt. for a thorough discussion and explanation regarding the case. I'll let you or Okamoto know about it.

Another thing that has come up in the last week is about the councilmen, the church organizations (both Buddhist and Christian) the block managers, and the Sentinel editors. They are making plans to send representatives to the fellows in jail to try and talk them into giving up their fight and going to the physical. It was most likely started by the WRA. Nevertheless, when the block council brought back news of this to the block meetings, boy did they start something. The block residents really gave them hell for meddling into such things. So right now, nothing is definite about those hare-brained guys going to see the loyal Americans. The council-maniacs are just as "baka-kuso" as ever.

Min and I had hearings after we got out of the guardhouse. Sheepherder Robertson was our judge, prosecutor, witness, and everything. Besides the sheepherder there was present at the hearing, Anderson, Horn, the new project attorney, Campbell, Lieutenant Kellogg of the MP, the MP that arrested us, and three other guys. I sent a copy of the hearing to Okamoto. If you'd like to see it, go down to Okamoto's and read the damn thing. I sent copies of it to Menin and to the ACLU.

Well, hows everything with you over there. Have you got used to the food and other things. How about friends? Meet any friends down there? By the way, you and Okamoto aren't in the stockade or rather the ~~separate~~ separate fenced off ~~area~~ section of the camp are you? If theres anyone I know down there, say hello to them for me.

Well, there/ isn't much more I can think of at the present so I will sign off. So until the next time---sooo looong.

yours,