

August 13, 1958

Hello Anna and John, Mary and Bill, Sambo and John Kuroda:

I am writing my letter to everyone in groups of four because I am saving time and also getting my mission accomplished, so please excuse the informality of this letter. I shall attempt to give you a few of the highlights of doings up this way hoping that it might be of interest to all of you.

Bobby, Higa, Rudy, Butch and I left LA of Sunday Morning at 7:10AM. Rudy drove from LA to over the Grapevine and after that I took over, needless to say that Rudy being tired and sleepy. Bobby had asked me to stop at Bakersfield to take out an additional life insurance but as you will see, I may have flown low, but got everyone home safely. We reached Fresno around 10:30AM and phone Tom Kawano, who very nicely came and met us and took us out to see Harry "Horsehit" pardon me, Hoshiko and family. According to the boys, he hasn't changed a bit excepting for his mustache. He has a lovely wife, Betty and two boys. It was very hot there. 95 degree in the shade. We all went and had lunch at Italian Restaurant and chatted until 3:30 at which time we again took off for home. We reached San Jose at 6:30pm. It was a very nice vacation but it was nice to be home again. As you girls will understand, upon arriving home it was a mad rush to make beds, unpack, straighten out the house and cook dinner and also to meet the 10:30 pm Airplane at the San Jose Airport which Clarence and Ed took because we could not bring them with us. On Monday the boys all slept late and Rudy dragged himself to work. I took them on a tour of San Jose and visited the Egyptian Museum and none of the boys felt too good after seeing the museum's mummies. Tuesday evening the boys and I were invited to Hayward to Kiyoshi Yoshii's for a lovely buffet dinner. After dinner we took the boys on into Oakland and across the Bay Bridge into San Francisco for the evening view of the City. It was quite cold and it got foggy while we were there so we were not able to take full advantage of the view. Wednesday Harry and his wife arrived from Fresno to attend the Co. K get together in SF at the Yamato Sukiyaki. Rudy borrowed his brother's new Mercury Station Wagon and all eight of us went up together. To say we had fun is the understatement of the year. Moon Saito and wife, Kenny Shimbukuro and wife, Tom Yamashita and wife, Kiyo Yoshii and wife, Bob Kawauchi, Nakabe, and our group were present. After dinner we took the boys to the Top of the Mark and due to an unscheduled fog, we were unable to see a thing. Later we went to a Chinese Night Club and saw an uninteresting floor show. Clarence and Ed went to stay with the Yoshii's for a few days and so on Thursday Bobby flew back to LA and the Hoshiko's left for Fresno, our house got very quiet and lonely. By Thursday Rudy was feeling worse than ever so he took off from work Thurs. and Friday. On Friday we took Clarence, Higa and Ed to Sacramento to see Willie Sakai, who owns a partnership in a Japanese-Chinese-and Philippine grocery goods store. Needless to say he is doing very well. His partner is Chinese. I contacted some of the Co. K boys in Sacto, and talked to George Ishimoto who owns and runs a service station, Robert Kashiwagi who works for the Div. of Hwys for the State, and Yosh Imura who for some funny reason I don't remember anything about. Because of some previous commitments, these boys were not able to meet with us. Willie is married to a very nice gal called Sue and they have 2 girls and 1 boy. On our way back from Sacto, we stopped in at Woodland and dropped Ed off so that he could visit with his sister, but unfortunately she was on vacation and had not come back as yet but was expected at any time so we left Ed there.



By Sturday everyone was quite tired to say the least and so we did nothing but rest. Sunday morning at 11:00AM Higa took off for home and so very sadly we bid him farewell from the Oakland Airpot. In fact there were so many people getting onto the airplane that I swear I don't know where they put them, but upon take off the airplane looked as if it would never get off the ground. Clarence and Eddie took off Monday at 10:30 am from San Francisco Airport, so once again our homes felt more empty than ever. While Clarence and Ed were here in San Jose, because they are ham radio operators, I got them to meet several people who were ham radio operators but unfortunately were not able to reach Hawaii due to some kind of difficulties. I finally got the boys to drive a car here in San Jose and wouldn't you know it they got lost. Clarence and Higa that is. So the next time they went I outlined a map and gave instructions to Ed and Bobby drove. I'm sure my son gave them lots of help also. While they were here I also took them on the tour of the Ford Plant and they got to see how an automobile is made. Luckily the Ford Plant was in operation and it was very interesting even though we did nothing but walk for 1½ hours, which nearly exhausted all of us. Did you know that they put out 50 cars per hour, 400 per day and 100 trucks? I have had almost all of the pictures developed with the exception of 2 more rolls. The pictures are quite good, however the group picture of the boys could have been better. I was standing too far back and in my anxiousness to get everyone in the picture, I am in the process of having them printed now and will send to each of you copies of the ones I think you will be interested in only. This is it for now as I want to leave space on the bottom of each letter for a personal thank you to each of you. It truly was an heartwarming experience renewing old acquaintances and meeting your lovely wives, and as for John and Sambo, I hope you are married by the next meeting. Each of you has our very personal invitation to stop and visit with us when you are up this way. So now we say ALOHA and GOODBYE until next time and may God Bless each and everyone of you with lots of good luck and good health. Please write and tell us about your families and doings also.

Mary and Bill: we were so very sorry to hear of your unfortunate illness to your children and hope that everything is much better now. We were all looking forward to seeing you here and your brother and wife had made great plans. I do hope that this has not discouraged you to come back to California at some later date and when you do, please call us and we would love to see you. After coming home I was going thru some of Rudy's war time pictures and came across one of Bill, who I think hasn't changed a bit. I have been typing 19 letters this afternoon and I am getting tired so I shall ~~this short~~ cut this off now and hoping that when you have recovered from your ordeal, you will find time to write also.

Most sincerely,

Rudy  
+ Lily