

Dear USO Advisory Board Member,

This is a letter--report to you of our progress and program and problems so that you, who are busy with great responsibilities in your service to the people, will still be up to date and feel more confident in your role as a member of our USO Advisory Board.

Epoch making was our event last Tuesday night, when over 350 parents and friends gathered for an inspiring evening. Somehow words cannot tell what it meant to all of us who were there and met the host of parents and family members of service men. It was the beginning, and we hope a continued development of a new and wonderful group of men and women of all groups in the Center, united by their devotion to their son, united by their passion to weave some meaning into our life here and our children's life ahead.

Since our last letter to you, we have moved to barrack 12. You must come to see the new place. Our kitchen has a stove. Our ball-room has two living room and a dining room set--furnitures that are a joy to see. We are going to get a mirror and perhaps a rug for the end room. It will be fun to improve the place. We owe a great deal to the personal interest and enthusiasm taken by members of the administrative staff. We owe a great deal to the volunteer evacuee girls' and boys' leaders who have been unselfish in their support.

Last weekend we had 84 service men visit Jerome. Our last Saturday night dance and our Sunday afternoon o-chazuke party have been a great hit with the boys. We have had prominent leaders such as Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Melton, Mr. and Mrs. Love, Dr. and Mrs. Taira, Rev. and Mrs. Geo. Aki, Rev. Muneo Miyazaki, Mrs. Shuji Ikuta, Miss Vera Saliba, and many of our Caucasian teachers serve as chaperones at all our functions.

Until now the girls and mothers have obtained rice, tsukemono, and tea from each mess hall, and we borrowed the residents' chopsticks and o-chawans. From this Sunday, through the kindness of Mr. Hudson mess hall 36 will cook a special container full of hot rice, and we shall get all the tsukemono the boys will eat. We have purchased bowls (the smallest mush bowls for o-chawans). We hope to campaign for chopsticks to be made by people who want to help the USO, so borrowing every weekend and returning would not be necessary. We have also requisitioned for some card tables to be made, so they wouldn't have to be borrowed every weekend.

Our USO girls are organized. There are over 70 girls registered. The USO hostess committee headed by Miss Marie Cash and composed of Mrs. Ikuta, Mrs. Aki, Miss Saliba, Miss Palmer, Mrs. Murayama, and Mrs. Tsukamoto have planned ways in which the hostesses will be trained in etiquette, hints on charm, and proper conduct, so the standard of the USO will be kept high. We had one lecture which all of the girls were required to attend. Mr. Webb spoke on "Boy Girl Relations". We will have our second one Wednesday noon for luncheon with the National director, Miss Dorothy Richardson.

We are planning to work out a handbook of "Dos and Don'ts" as a reminder to the girls as they do their part each weekend. Only registered girls with badges will be admitted.

Since the USO room is so inviting, many clubs have asked to use it. Under strict regulations, we are permitting responsible, registered clubs to use the room for socials on nights when the USO does not have any function and the YWCA clubs are not using it. We are eager to serve the civilian groups in the Center and are glad to let them use it--if they will be considerate of the property that has been so hard won for the USO.



We are especially glad at this time to report that Mrs. Sada Murayama, formerly of Tule, is our new USO director. We have had Mrs. Bill Nikkaido, Mary Yamada, May Horie, and Mrs. Tsukamoto on the staff. We are getting Akiko Yamanaka as our typist and office worker, Mary Yamada and Eli Sasaki to help Mrs. Murayama in the ever growing program of the USO.

In order to clear some of the confusion that has been brought to our attention, we would like to state that the USO has been referred to as the YWCA-USO, simply because the YWCA started the USO. The YWCA, USO, the office, the Hospitality Center were all one. One director had charge of both the YWCA and the USO. What is important is the spirit and service behind the life of this Hospitality Center. From this time on, we shall refer to it only as the USO. The YWCA will still have the office in barrack 12-F, and although the same director will be the correlator of the YWCA club program, barrack 12 will be known as the USO room or the Denson USO.

We have never officially given you a financial report. We should like you to know how we have operated up to this date.

The Community Activity, of which we are a part, furnishes us paper and office supplies. We buy our own stamps for correspondence with the outside. Mr. Hudson has been very considerate, and consequently our own expense has been comparatively small.

\$250 from the Carnival, which the Community Activity sponsored, was budgeted to the USO. With that as a starter we opened our USO doors. Since June to October 31, our total expense has been \$292.83. Our total income, donations, gifts from friends, and mostly from the visiting groups has been \$160.72. The balance, therefore, was \$117.87. Because we do a great deal of buying, we have gone ahead and become a member of the Community Enterprise.

This Wednesday afternoon (Nov. 17) at 3:30 a significant meeting will be held at the USO room with a representative from the National USO Board. We wish to have the privilege of presenting our USO Advisory Board at that time.

To be recognized nationally is our aim and your presence will greatly add to the meeting.

Thank you very much for your splendid cooperation and interest. As long as I live, I shall remember this year at Jerome and the special joy I had working with fine leaders such as you. I am sorry to leave my friends, because I must part from all of you, but my prayers are with you and your continued good work.

Sincerely,

*Mary Tsukamoto*  
Mary Tsukamoto