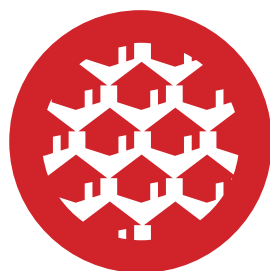




**DAY THREE
SUPPLEMENTAL
INFORMATION**

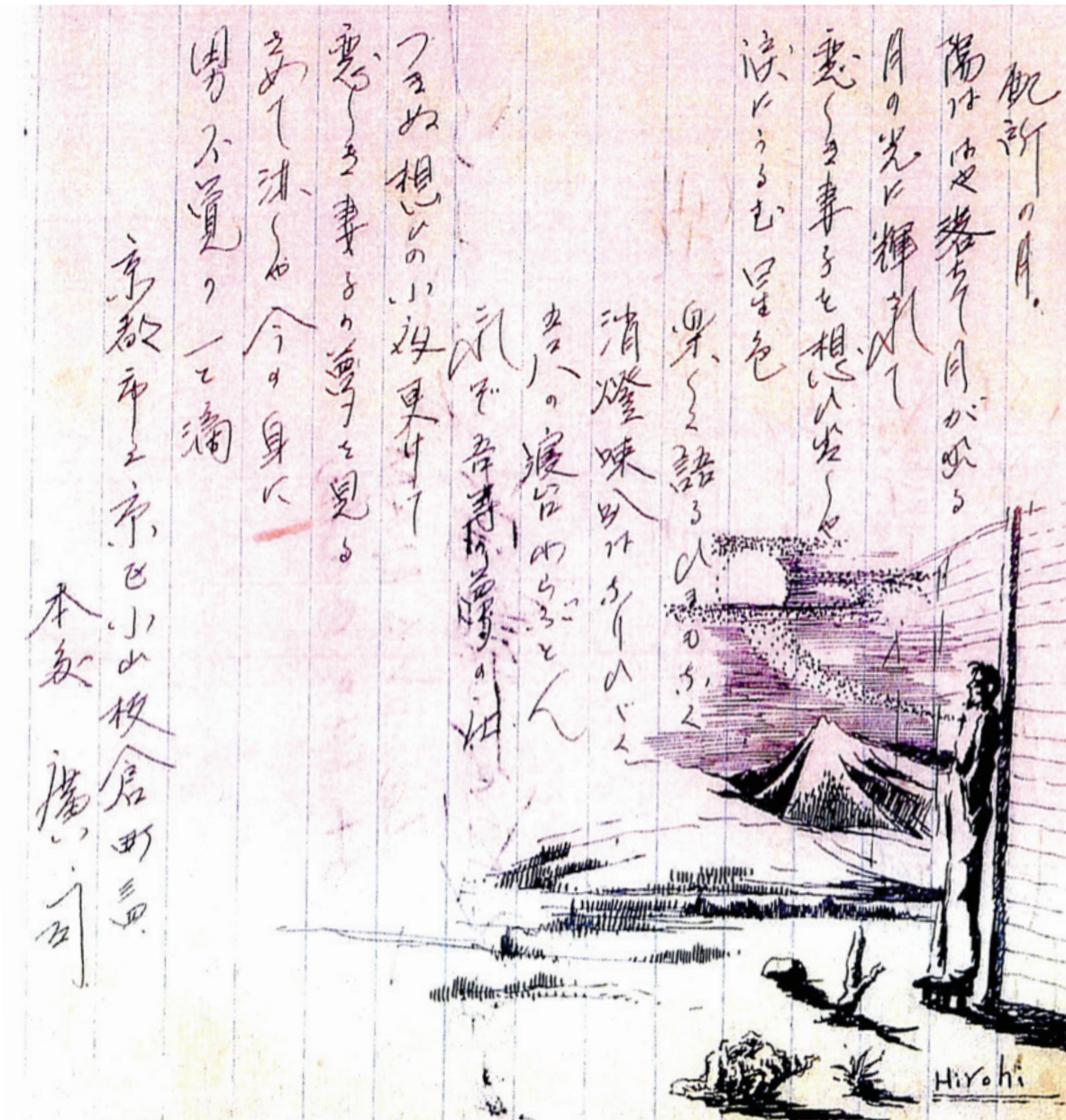
Additional Resources

Optional Extension



DAY THREE SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



MOON OVER CAMP

The sun has set, the moon rises
Under the shining moon light
I think of my dear wife and children
The star's color is dulled by tears.

No time for pleasure talk
Taps sound loudly into the valley
Five feet of bed and straw mattress
This is our dream world.

As the endless night becomes daylight
I dream of my dear wife and children
Now I feel sad about being in this situation
And tears come to my eyes uncontrollably.

*Poem and drawing by Hiroshi Honda for Jukichi
Tsushima when the latter left Honouliuli camp.
June 30, 1943. Translated by Shige Yoshitake,
JCCH Collection.*

CENSORED INTERNEE LETTER

2575 Cartwright Rd.
Honolulu, T.H.
Aug. 12, 1942

Dear Uncle -

I am writing this letter on behalf of mother and she is sitting across from me telling me what she would like to have included in this letter to you.

Today we received your letter which you wrote on the _____. So you see despite the air mail stamps the letter took more than _____ to arrive here. On _____ we received your radiogram asking for money so immediately we sent you a hundred dollars which we hope you have already received.

We receive letters from Hilo once in a while which tell us that the family is doing fine. We here in Honolulu are also in the best of health. Every morning mother makes 4 lunches for Mineyuki, Ruomichi, Kazuo and I are working. Mineyuki is still doing very well at Fair Dept Store

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*By Harriet (Sato) Masunaga
As Told to Jane Kurahara (JCCH)*

I was ten or eleven in 1941. On the afternoon of December 7th, I remember being frightened when two men with pistols appeared at my home [I later learned that they were from the FBI]. They had come to pick up my father, Taichi Sato, head of Sato Clothiers and a leader at the Japanese Chamber of Commerce.

The men did not allow my father to re-enter the house and took him away in his yard-cleaning clothes. However, they did allow him to change his footwear from geta to shoes.

When I was in the sixth or seventh grade, my Japanese Language School friend, Eleanor Akata, and I got our first permanents [curled hairdos]. My mother took us to a photo studio and had pictures taken. These were sent to our two fathers, both of whom were interned.

Upon receiving the photo, my father carved a likeness of my photo and sent it to me. I was amazed; I had not realized that my father had such talent. I also realized that he had lots of time in camp and that perhaps he learned to carve there.

I am not sure in which camp my father was incarcerated; I did not see him again until after the war. He was paroled from camp early to rejoin his son (and my brother), Bob, in New York City. He was not allowed to come back to Hawai'i at that time. Bob had been studying in New York. Because he had studied at Keio University before the war, his translation skills were valued and he was called to Washington, D.C. to help with such work.



Translated Letter from Hideko Ozaki to Her Husband

Otokichi Ozaki, JCCH Collection

January 19, 1943

We are finally here in Arkansas, but we are disappointed that we cannot join you as we had presumed would be the case. The children feel that I made a foolish decision in coming here, and I cannot disagree. It would have been so much simpler if we had remained in Hawai'i.

We were not prepared for the cold weather and promptly came down with the sniffles. Sachi developed a skin rash that caused itching and kept both of us awake at night. Yuri seems to have fared the best among the children, even on board the ship.

What a difficult time we had in disposing of our assets on 3-days' notice. We begged for an extension but were told that everyone, even the elderly, had to leave. The bulky items were sold and the rest given away or destroyed. Mr. Kataoka's son will handle the sale of our property.

The cold weather seems to have caught everyone by surprise. I ordered \$100 worth of warm clothing immediately. There is not even a rag on the premises, so I also mail-ordered pots and pans and cleaning items. What a terrible inconvenience.

Thank you for the telegram. I was too ill to go out. The others here are making arrangements to visit their loved ones, but I doubt I can travel with four children, so I shall wait a while.

You should be receiving some money from Mr. Kataoka. The \$300 I brought with me will not go far, but I have already made necessary arrangements, so you need not send me any. However, we need geta clogs badly, and since you are making them for camp residents, I would appreciate some. Please send candy, too, if possible. The children often ask for it, but none is available here.

School is in session, but the children stay home on very cold days. They will probably adjust to the weather in time, but Sachi and Yuri complain loudly as they follow me around. I only hope we can remain healthy since many here have fallen ill.

LETTER FROM FRED PATTERSON

FRED PATTERSON
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
HONOLULU 16, HAWAII

December 2, 1944

Mr. Toraro Matsui

My dear Mr. Matsui:

Our friend Mr. Murashige is in the office with me just now and he has been selling war bonds in the present drive. He sold me some bonds and we got to talking about you and were wondering how you are. I was out to dinner last night with Henry Awa Wong and Mr. Truslow and they also mentioned you. They are both very much interested in your welfare. I trust by the time you receive this letter your wife and daughter are with you, and I know it will be pleasant for all of you to be together again, and I hope that it will not be too long before you and your family return to Honolulu. Because I know that when you do return it will be a source of sincere pleasure to your many friends who live in this community. I wish to again assure you that if there is any way possible that you could make an application to be released I would be very happy to get a great many local people of Caucasian ancestry to vouch for you and agree to see that if you do return to Honolulu you will be able to make sufficient money to take care of yourself and your family.

I am enclosing my check for \$25 and I wish you would buy yourself something you need as a Christmas present from me. I know this is a little unusual but I know there is nothing I could buy in Honolulu and send to you that would be of any value to you.

Luise, Murashige, and all of us wish you and your family a very pleasant Christmas and a happy New Year.

Sincerely yours,
Fred Patterson



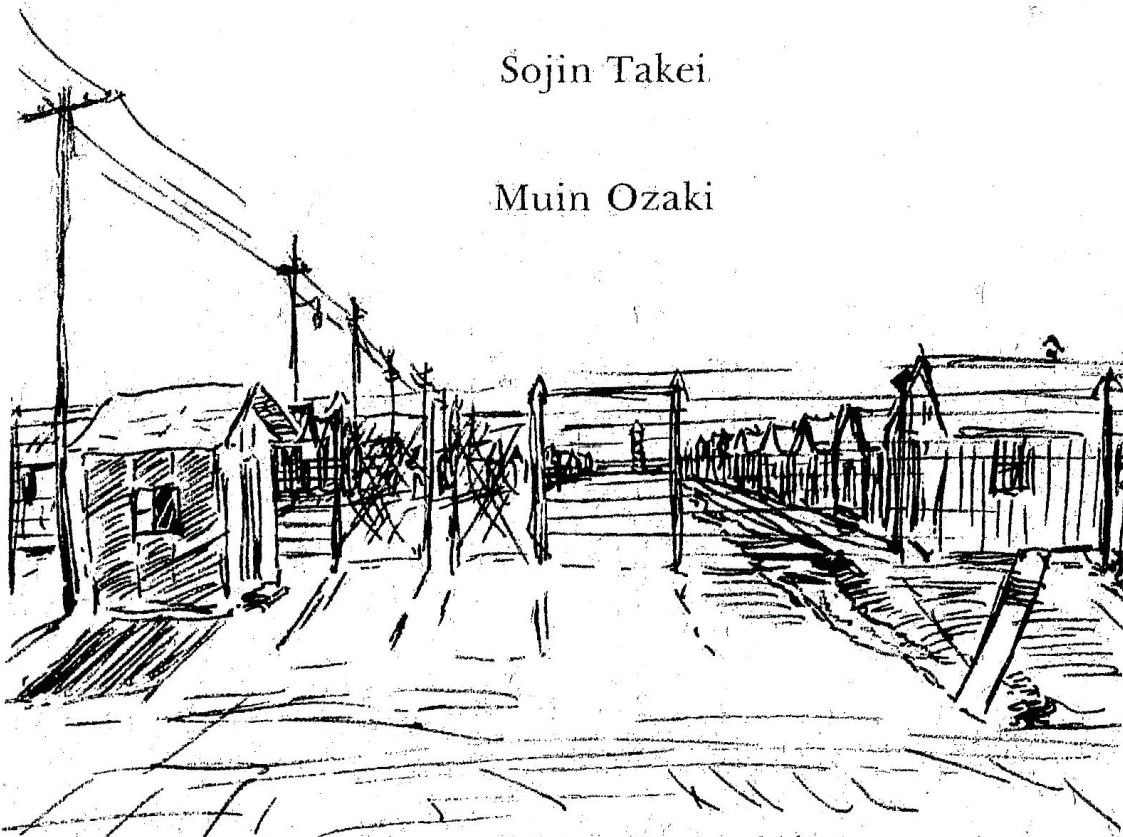
Poets Behind Barbed Wire

Keiho Soga

Taisanboku Mori

Sojin Takei

Muin Ozaki



Illustrations by George Hoshida

Edited and Translated by Jiro Nakano and Kay Nakano

3

ARREST

By Sojin Takei

torawaruru
toki wa kitarinu
ame no yoi
kokoro sadamete
kutsu no oto kiku

The time has come
For my arrest
This dark rainy night.
I calm myself and listen
To the sound of the shoes.

AT THE SAND ISLAND CAMP

By Keiho Soga

jyuken no
saki de inu no goto
sashizu sare
munen no shinpi
muramura to tatsu

Like a dog
I am commanded
At a bayonet point.
My heart is inflamed
With burning anguish.

DEATH AT THE CAMP

By Keiho Soga

sunu kuruu
areno ni toha ni
nemuritaru
tomo no sabishisa
omoi namidasu

The barren wasteland
Raged by sand storm,
I weep for my friend
Who sleeps there alone,
Eternally.

HONOULIULI OVERVIEW

1943

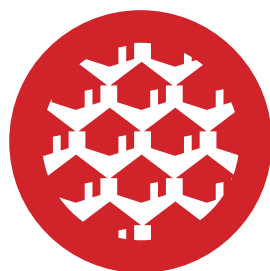




HONOULIULI OVERVIEW

2002





DAY THREE SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

OPTIONAL EXTENSION

TWO PERSPECTIVES OF THE SHOOTING OF INTERNEES KOBATA AND ISOMURA

10 August 1943

Dr. T.G. Ishimaru
Poston General Hospital
Poston, Arizona

Dear Dr. Ishimaru:

Your letter to Colonel Scobey of 3 August 1943 enclosing your report on the internee situation has been received in his temporary absence. Your analysis must represent a great deal of work on your part, and it presents the basic questions in a clear manner. I am sure that the Department of Justice will do everything in its power to prevent needless internment and consequent separation of families.

On Page 12 of your report you make reference to “the cruel and cold-blooded murder of two men” on 7 July 1943 at Lordsburg, New Mexico. For your information this unfortunate incident was thoroughly investigated at the time both by the civil and military authorities. I happened to see the investigation reports myself, and it was clear that the two men were attempting to escape at the time they were shot.

Sincerely,
John M. Hall
Captain, F.A.
Assistant Executive
254 Lordsburg, New Mexico
ASW 383.7 J.A. - General

(Note: Captain Hall retained Dr. Ishimaru’s report to show at a joint board meeting.)

THE COURSE OF THE INCIDENT

1. The group reached the station at 1:45 A.M., on July 27, 1943 Monday.
2. Then the group got off the train, the two sick men were asked to come forward.
3. This shows evidently that the camp authorities had been notified of the presence of the sick among the group.
4. The group did not see any truck or automobile to transport the sick to the camp.
5. No one in the group saw the two men being put in a car.
6. When the group were starting for the camp, three guards were watching the two sick men.
7. The group reached the outside of the camp fence (Compound 3) at 3:15 A.M.
8. The leader of the group, Mr. Ishizaki counted 146 men, including himself, out of 148, and led them inside the fence.
9. Mr. Ishizaki thought that the two sick men were taken to the hospital.
10. When the group reached the outside of the camp fence (Compound 3), many (those in the group and those inside the fence) heard several rifle shots (some heard two shots, some three).
11. By the evening of July 27, Monday, the rumor that the two were shot, coming from the soldiers, was current in the camp. All were worried. To find the actual facts Dr. Furugochi was asked to find out the whereabouts of the two men.
12. When Dr. Furugochi phoned the army physician and asked him about the two men, he received the reply that they had nothing to worry about, since the two men were well taken care of.
13. On Tuesday morning, July 28, the army physician reported personally to Dr. Furugochi that the two sick men were shot to death.

14. The company leaders' meeting was held at once to decide what to do about the matter.
15. The authorities proposed that the funeral service be held at 4 o'clock of the same day.
16. We asked the authorities to have the examination of the bodies of the two men in the presence of Dr. Furugochi, Dr. Akimoto, and Mr. Yasutake, our camp governor. But the request was rejected.
17. Since the proposal that the funeral service be held at 4 o'clock was rejected, we decided to show our respect to the dead from 4 to 5 o'clock in our respective barracks; to wait for the solution of the whole problem after the arrival of the Spanish consul; and to hold a funeral service at that time.

THE CONDITION OF THE TWO SICK MEN

1. Toshiro Kobata, age 55, Weight 130 lb., Height 5'5"

When he was at Bismark Camp, he was in a hospital. He had tuberculosis. He was gradually getting better. Though he felt no difficulty in walking, he could not walk a long distance. And he could not run away.

2. Hirota Isomura, age 57, Weight 140 lb., Height 5'3"

Ever since he fell off from a boat ten years ago, he had been suffering from a spinal paralysis. He could not walk well. When he did so, he would take short steps, stooping.

EDUCATION AND CHARACTER OF THE TWO MEN

1. Toshiro Kobata

He understood English. He was of a quiet and gentle nature. He was not the kind of man that would defy and resist the guards.

2. Hirota Isomura

He had an ordinary education. He understood English. He, too, was of a quiet nature.

WHAT WAS SUPPOSED BY US TO HAVE HAPPENED

1. Judging from the condition of the sickness and character of the two men, we know that they were physically incapable of running away and besides, they were not the kind of men who would run away.
2. Probably the two men, after getting off the train, were forced to walk to the entrance of the camp—a distance of about two and half miles.
3. As a result, they were scores of minutes later in arrival than the rest. We imagine that the guards, who followed them, forced them to walk faster. Perhaps they were anxious to get back to their own barracks.
4. The two could hardly endure the long walk. With great difficulty, they reached the entrance of the camp. Feeling somewhat relieved, they wanted to rest. But the guards did not permit them to do so.
5. There must have been much argument with one side saying, “Go”, and the other, “Let us rest”. We imagine that the guards shot the two men, after deciding that the two had not obeyed their order.

STATEMENTS MADE BY FRIENDS OF THE LATE MR. KOBATA & MR. ISOMURA AT THE JOINT BARRACK LEADERS' MEETING, HELD ON TUESDAY, 8:30 A.M., JULY 28, 1942

In the early dawn of Monday, July 27, 1942, 148 internees from the Detention Camp at Bismark, North Dakota, arrived at the Lordsburg Internment Camp. Mr. Toshiro Kobata and Mr. Hirota Isomura, two sick men among them, were shot to death by the guards here on the charge that they had tried to escape. The fatal shooting of the two men became known on the following morning, July 28. So, we immediately held a joint meeting of all the barrack leaders and heard the following statements from the close friends of the two who were killed.

REGARDING MR. TOSHIRO KOBATA:

By Mr. Ishigaki, leader of the group who came from Bismark:

We, 148 internees from Bismark, rode in three cars on the train coming to this camp. When the train arrived all got off the train.

I directed the internees in the first car to line up in front and the internees in the second car to line up right back of the first line. I had all those who were in the third car to stand behind the other two lines.

At the time the major who accompanied us from Bismark told the sergeant who had come to get us from the Lordsburg Camp about the two sick men. The two sick men were made to stand by themselves apart from the other internees who were standing in three lines as described above. The group started to march for the camp, leaving the two behind. No one in our group saw any truck or automobile sent there to take the two sick men to the camp. I believe it was after we had marched for about a mile when we saw a coupe coming toward us and soon passed us on the left. After a while we noticed a car following us. Soon this car passed us on the left and sped toward the camp. At the time we noticed that it was the same car that had passed us a little while ago. We also noticed a soldier standing on the fender. Since it was dark we could not see who were riding in the car. When I saw a soldier riding on the fender, I thought that the two sick men might be in the car. No one in our group saw any other car going from the camp to get the two sick men. At any rate we couldn't even imagine that the two men, being sick, could run away. Mr. Isomura came to this camp voluntarily because he had wanted to come.

By Mr. Konomi:

Mr. Kobata and I slept on the two-decked bed. I slept on the upper berth and he slept on the lower. I did not see him while he was in the hospital but we were together on the train. Outwardly he didn't seem to be suffering from his illness and at a glance no one would think that he was sick. Mr. Aizawa knows Mr. Kobata intimately. When we turned from the highway to the road leading to the camp, there was no sign of any car coming. After having walked about a half mile, I saw a coupe coming from behind and I saw a soldier riding on the fender. I didn't think that the two men were in the car, because the car was too small to let the two men ride.

By Mr. Aizawa:

Mr. Kobata was born in Tako-Mura, Futami-Gun, Hiroshima-Ken. We had been intimate friends for the past twenty-six years. He graduated from middle school in Japan. He worked hard for the public welfare

in America. He has a niece in Japan. He was a farmer for many years but he was not well off financially. I believe he had about a hundred shares of the Subway Company of Japan. He was the chairman of the board of a Buddhist church. There was a time when he held the office of the chairmanship of the Japanese association. He was hoping to get a rehearing on the ground that there was no reason of him being interned.

Because of the fact that he had gone in the train directly from the hospital, I had no chance of seeing him. It was only when he was about to get off that I spoke to him. The group lined up in three lines and the two sick men were standing in front. Then the group began to march forward while the two men were left behind with three guards watching them.

On the following morning at 10 o'clock, I went to the hospital and asked Dr. Furugochi whether Mr. Kobata was in the hospital. When I received the negative answer, I told him about the two sick men and asked him to find out about them. I deeply regret the fact that I could not see him again. He was getting neither better nor worse. He was fifty-four years of age. His weight was about 130 pounds and his height about 5 ft. 5 in. He had no family in Brawley. He was not very good in English but he knew enough to enable him to converse. He was studying the Zen cult (religious meditation) and he was self-composed at all times. One thing is absolutely sure that he was not the type of man who would become suddenly insane or who would run away.

By Mr. Imamura:

We got off the train at 1:45 A.M., on July 27. It was a little after 3:15 when we reached the outside of the gate of the camp compound.

By Mr. Okita, a Buddhist priest:

Mr. Kobata was of a gentle and quiet nature. I am sure that he was not the kind of man who would resist the guards.

By Mr. Nishigaki, secretary of the Japanese Association:

Mr. Kobata had enough command of English to understand the ordinary conversation. He could easily understand the guards'

orders. If the guard said, "Halt", he would halt. He was sent to Bismark on the charge that he had been on the managing staff of the Japanese Association from 1939 to 1940. He was a man of character.

REGARDING MR. HIROTA ISOMURA:

By Mr. Fukujiro Hoshiya:

I had known Mr. Isomura for forty years. From June, 1941, to the time of arrest, Feb. 2, 1942, I lived together with him and we were arrested and sent to Bismark together.

He was a native of Shiga-Ken, Japan, and lived on Terminal Island. He finished paying for the fishing boat he had. He was once in the Japanese army. His conduct was exemplary. Ever since he fell off a boat ten years ago, he had suffered from a spinal paralysis. The fact that he could not walk well is well-known by the three thousand people of Terminal Island. It was absolutely impossible for him to run away. His age was 57 or 58. His height was about 5 feet 3 inches, and his weight about 145 lb. He had not been feeling well ever since he came to Bismark. He was a gentle and sincere man. He was not the kind of man who would get excited or angry. He was in bed most of the time while he was at Bismark.

By Mr. Koiko:

Because of his sickness Mr. Isomura used to eat earlier than the others at Bismark. We used to see him going to and from the dining hall. He was bent and while walking he would take short steps. When he stood still his whole body would tremble. He was from San Pedro and he was well known among the fishermen. He was reputed for his honesty.

By Mr. Nanbu:

Mr. Isomura was born in Kotani, Ibe, Higashi Asai-Mura, Shiga-Ken, Japan. He had an elementary education. He was of a gentle nature.

Ishizaki, Senmatsu	ISN-23-4-J-595-CI
Konomi, Masamoto	ISN-23-4-J-696-CI
Aizawa, Hiroshi	ISN-23-4-J-419-CI
Okita, Miyoshi	ISN-23-4-J-545-CI
Nishigaki, Shohachi	ISN-23-4-J-860-CI
Hoshiya, Fukujiro	ISN-23-4-J-62-CI
Koiko, Shiro	ISN-23-4-J-691-CI
Nanbu, Haruyoshi	ISN-23-4-J-445-CI
Imamura, Sototaro	ISN-23-4-J-69-CI

**MEETING WITH LT. MITCHELL
ON SHOOTING CASE**

Place: Governor's Office

Time: 2 PM Nov. 18, 1942

Attended by friends and the mayors, governor and staff

Lt. Mitchell explains the shooting:

I believe it was about 2:30 in the morning when the group reached the station. I drove to the station in my car. When I got there the main body was already marching on the highway leading to the camp. They were about fifteen yards from the turn of the road.

I returned to the camp. We counted the group 3 times at the entrance of the Compound Three. There were two men short. Those two short were the two sick men. As Sargeant Everett and I were driving back from the gate, Sgt. Everett heard two shots. I found one man dead and one man wounded. The wounded man asked for some water. He asked twice. I let him take the water down his throat. I went to awaken Dr. Bond and Col. Lund. We took him to the infirmary. We got to the ambulance and took him to the hospital.

Were you the receiving officer?

No, I was not. First Sargeant Buckam was the receiving officer. Circumstantial evidences show that the two men ran away. There were footprints. There were big tow pick-ups. I could not see the two men when I went to the station. They seemed all right. My honest opinion is that the two men committed suicide. On the road they rested once on the covert. The guard who shot the two men was Poston. I had no advance information that there were two sick men. If the hospital received any information about the two sick men, I didn't know anything about it. Usually such documents come four or five days ahead.

Why was the shooting concealed for 36 hours?

The army has no responsibility to tell the internees about the shooting. I have nothing to do with the hospital. Dr. Bond did everything in his power to save him.

What was the verdict of the Court Martial?

He was found not guilty. He did what he was supposed to do. I know they tried to run away. He was born in Texas I believe. He is still here. He is twenty-eight years of age. His nationality? Well, he is an American. Abstainer? Yes, he was absolutely sober. His record was straight. He is better than the average run of soldiers. He is married. He seems to be happy at home. He used buck shots, No. 2. He fired two shots. "Did he consult the other guard?" No, one guard was drinking water, while the other was shot. When he heard the shot, he saw that the two men were quite away from the guard. "One of the two men was quite sick. It would take six hours for them to reach where they were shot." When I saw them walking they were not far behind the other column. One man had a lot of scars on him. He asked for water in very poor English. At the time of the post mortem, I saw a lot of scars on him. I don't know about the other man. I was standing on the running board of the car when we took him to the hospital. The other two men were Lt. Bond and the driver. The first Sargeant was standing on the running board when I passed the column on the road. (Dr. Furugochi said that he had heard from Dr. Bond that the two sick men refused the ride three times.) It was a black coupe with tan top. I had no order to inform you. Neither did I have order not to inform you. Two men were shot approximately at the same places. One man was shot at head, neck, and shoulder. The second man was shot from the back. He had two shots in his spinal column. It is the army order to shoot to kill at the second "Halt". The soldier's name was Poston. He is second private.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION WORKSHEET

CREATE YOUR OWN TANKA



The tanka is the second shortest poetic form in the world, after the haiku. The basic form of tanka is a 5 line form consisting of 31 syllables: 5 syllables, 7 syllables, 5 syllables, 7 syllables, 7 syllables.

Tanka began in fifth century Japan and is still popular today. Tanka speaks of nature and human emotions and allows the reader to become aware of what is unsaid and suggested or made known indirectly.

Tanka poems were written by Issei and Japanese Americans in the internment camps. Although expressed in just a few lines, these tanka were in many respects more explicit and poignant in revealing humiliation, agony, loneliness and despair than the thousands of words spoken at the recent Congressional hearings. These internees created remarkable examples of emotional and spiritual tankas to present the story of their difficult war time conditions.

Example: The following tanka, composed by former internee Muin Ozaki, was originally written in Japanese and translated into English. (Excerpt from *Poets Behind Barbed Wire*, Bamboo Ridge Press: 1983)

*ko no negao ni
wakarete samuku
hikareyuku
yami shojo to
ame furi idenu*

I bid farewell
to the faces of my
sleeping children
as I am taken prisoner
into the cold night rain

DIRECTIONS:

Think of a very meaningful or even distressing experience you have had. Try composing a tanka to express your feelings and tell your story.

5 _____

7 _____

5 _____

7 _____

7 _____