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Heart Mountain, Wyoming

August 17, 1943

Hon. Edward J. Ennis, Director
Enemy Alien Control Unit
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.



146-13-27 11-265
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ALIAN ENEMY UNIT

Dear Hon. Ennis:

I am writing this humble letter to you with the sole purpose of getting a reconsideration of the case for my husband, Tsunejiro Udo, who was given internment for the duration of the war at Santa Fe Detention Station in New Mexico as potentially a dangerous alien.

Living together as man and wife for 26 years and raising three daughters between us, I know thoroughly his character, his hobby, his business, and his associates. I know he is not a person as considered by the hearing board and my husband also is not contended with the findings of the hearing board.

He came over to this country in 1906 at the age of 18 and worked as a school boy. While working as a school boy, he attended grammar school and graduated. In 1915, we were married and we worked together to earn capital with the hope of starting business later. After our two daughters were born, we moved to San Francisco and started our business of dry cleaning at 772 Stanyan Street in 1921, and we stayed in this same location and same business until the recent evacuation. Since we stayed in one location for so many years, we made many friends who were like brothers and sisters to us and we shared each others joys and sorrows. Also because he liked and enjoyed his business so much, all his activities and friends were built up around Stanyan Cleaners, our business name.

He was a member of a Japanese association but he never took enough interest to attend any of its meetings because he had his hands full in his business organization. He was at one time a member of the Togo Kai when the members were solicited about 8 or 10 years ago and paid one years due and never since; and therefore, he had considered himself a non-member of that organization for the past several years. Most of his interests were taken up, as I mentioned before, by his business activities and the Buddhist church. He was also a member of the Cleaning and Dyeing Association. This club met once a month to discuss the common interest to further their service to the community and to improve their businesses and also to foster the friendship among the associates. My husband was the president of that organization at the time the war started. The term of officers is one year and to be elected every year in January. I am proud that he served his duties as the president faithfully and know that he was liked by all of the members. I just know that he was interested in his cleaning activities and I know that this interest was his first.

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Our two daughters are now married and one of them just became a mother and the other is now expecting. The other daughter, when the war started, had to discontinue her schooling. Although we would like her to finish her schooling or to go out from the camp so that she can serve this country usefully, she and I are alone and I just haven't the heart to be separated from her, too. Being separated from my husband for almost two years, it is the most I have ever been away from him. If he should be able to return, I will have his companionship and then we can send our youngest daughter out into the world to school or to some work that will be of service to this country.

In view of these facts concerning my husband's activities and feelings, I earnestly request a reconsideration of my husband's case. If he is paroled and be permitted to live with us, I would take full and sole responsibility of his actions to avoid any further misunderstandings. I firmly believe in him and trust him. Wherefore I once more humbly request and beseech your Honorable Authority to grant him a rehearing and accord him an opportunity to satisfy the board by answering and explaining fully any matter suspected by the parole board.

Your courtesy, kindness and consideration extended in the premises shall be immensely appreciated by each and every member of our family.

Respectfully yours,

Tsukio Udo

(Mrs.) Tsukio Udo