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Heart Mountain, Wyoming

August 16, 1943

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

Dear Hon. Ennis:

This is a war of every man, woman and child.

If you wish to be a spectator, that is no longer your choice. Aircraft in a single raid can deny you that luxury.

Civilization denies you a spectator's role, too. The people who aspires to freedom and those who are ready to die to retain it know that in this people's war the choice is simple. It is either freedom or slavery. As for myself, I infinitely prefer to be dead rather than to be conquered by the Facists or become a subject of the Axis. We all have that choice.

Wars are made by men who scheme, but wars are fought by people who dream. The men fight wars, the common men and his leaders, at the battle fronts. But the soliders at the front are not any more a soldier than the man or woman who works behind the front, ten miles in the rear or ten thousand miles. We all face death before victory comes to us.

With this sentiment in me, I hereby appeal to you for a reconsideration for my father, Tsunejiro Udo, who is at present in the Santa Fe Detention Station.

I appealed for a reconsideration once before. I know my father is loyal to this country. He has sent me through school hoping, no doubt, to make me a good American. How could my father teach me to be a good citizen if he himself didn't have faith and loyalty for the United States. He has shown his loyalty in many ways. For instance, he has given to various national and local organizations happily and generously.

My father has been in this country much longer than he has been in Japan. He started work as a houseboy in a family and was treated as one of the family. This he never forgot and spoke of it often. Slowly he worked his way up to the point where he owned his own business. Since his business was that of a cleaner in a residential district, he was in contact with Caucasians everyday. For almost 21 years, he had his business in one locality and everyone knew him and he knew everyone. The customers were brothers to him and he shared in their joys and sorrows. He was liked and trusted by everyone. Never have I heard him speak harshly to his customers or even to the members of the family.

He was appointed to assist the State Fire Marshall in 1936. In March 1940 he was officially recognized as an examiner by the State Fire Marshall. His work was to give examinations so that others could go into the cleaning business. I know that he served his appointment faithfully to the rules and regulations for the safety of the community in general. He enjoyed helping the young people in their problems. Since he himself was so wrapped up in his cleaning business, he helped others who were just starting in the same business. So by being an examiner, he has started many people into the world of business.

My mother and I have never given up hope of having him come back to the relocation center to join us. Since my sister's father-in-law is back from an internment camp, I thought that I would try again to get a reconsideration for my father and hope that he may be paroled, too. I know he is anxious to join his family since he has just become a grandfather. In fact this child is his first grandchild.

I hope you will study his case thoroughly and if he is able to be paroled, I appeal to you.

Please help us out? May I hear from you soon?

Respectfully yours,

Yoshiko Udo
(Miss) Yoshiko Udo