



Miss Joan Gillis,  
R.R. no 1,  
New Westk,  
B.C.

(4)  
The air is fresh and so — well  
it seems to be free of dust.

What have you been doing all  
summer Joan? Have you seen  
Betty and Margaret lately?

Over a month ago I wrote to  
a Lieutenant C. Thomas 'cause he's  
the one that was recruiting us Misses  
for the Can. Army. He was supposed  
to come to Alta but he did not

so I wrote to him over a month  
ago telling him that I wished to  
volunteer in the Army Intelligence  
Corps. I have been awaiting answer  
a long time ~~and I~~ not receiving  
a reply, I wrote again after hearing  
that they needed Misses for the army.  
I still have no answer yet.

Magrath, Alta.  
Sept. 19/95

Dear Joan;

I am really at a loss as to how  
I should apologize for the long silence.  
I have to apologize to a number of  
other people too, cause I did not write  
for so long. e.g. - Masas, May Ohama,  
May Webb, Bob Drouge, Dot Carr etc.

This summer we had to work such  
long hours and nearly all the Sundays.  
We worked from 12 to 14 hours a day  
in the busy times. Now we work between  
10 to 12 hours. All summer I <sup>only</sup> had 2  
Sundays off. I really loathe to work  
on Sabbath day, but it was work  
that had to be done — irrigating.  
I am glad, so very glad that we have  
finished with it now. After we finish



(3)

Yesterday I went to the dentist in Lethbridge and suffered from 11 AM till after 3 PM. I did not have dinner so I got a bite to eat & ran to the bus terminal to catch the bus. Since yesterday morning we have had snow and later rain till this morning. The sun is out now for a change.

On Sunday we played a baseball game against a Raymond team and won 8-0. I got hit on the nose when I slid into a base. It's healing now.

On the end of August I had my summer holidays and went up to Waterton Lakes again. I had a grand time fishing, boating and hiking. Gee! Joan, it's really wonderful to be there for a few days! Even tho' it's only once a year.

(2)

Topping the hats I'll be happier still. Had I really wanted to write and make myself write, I could have done so, but in the hot sweltering heat when one works for so long it just drives the energy from your body and after you have supper at anytime between 7.30 and 9 P.M. — sleep & rest is all you think off. I really should have written long ago but another reason is plain laziness. Shall I come back and start writing a letter? okay.

First of all, how are you Joan? I hope you are in the best of health. Are you going to Normal school now? I am still working on the Farm. I do not know if I will work in the store this winter or not.



(8)

the swellest song "Home Sweet Home". All the verses too. Golly — it makes a guy feel pretty lonely after not having a real home for 3½ years.

I'm sorry I ran off the subject. Thanks very much for the D.E. View. It was swell. I was really interested in the two views on the Japanese question. One boy really spoke from a democratic point of view and the other from the general point of view of people who are more or less leaning towards the "expulsion leagues." If you can — I'd like to write a friendly letter to both — I'd like to have their addresses. I have a few copies of the pamphlets

(6)

Since U.S. Day I gave up hopes but when I read that Japanese-Canadians are still needed for Intelligence I wrote a second time and as yet no answer. Even tho' the war is finished now, I may be of use if they do accept me.

For years now I ~~having~~ been waiting for the war to end, but now that it has ended I am at a loss as to what to do. It seems I have a war to fight from now. A fight that does not need physical energy but mental. Our fight for our freedom as Canadians. We have to fight to make up our minds where we should move to. At present we are not allowed to move to B.C.



⑦

how it is back there. I'll bet the maple leaves are red, yellow, brown and all colors; leaves falling down everytime a breeze comes blowing.

I wished that I was in the East when I first moved — then I might have been in the army intelligence and would have been to Vancouver for advanced training. Some more of the Japanese-Canadians who have ~~just~~ finished their basic training in Ontario have gone to Vancouver on Sept 5 for advanced training.

— Gee! Joan it makes me almost cry right now — the time is 9:15 and the radio is just bringing forth

⑧

As far as we know now we are free to move <sup>to points</sup> ~~an~~ East from the 15<sup>th</sup> of November. Even if we do move east on the 15<sup>th</sup> we are subject to relocation again. It's all so funny, so complicated. If ~~a~~ I were just a lone ranger I would not worry so much but as it is I am a member of a family of 6. So far we have not decided on any place to move. but I think we will be on this form till next fall anyway as far as we know now. Gee, Joan, I'd give anything to go back to a place near Westminster. I wonder



(12)

Then I went off again.

The hanky I am enclosing is a souvenir of Watatani Lakes Park. I'll send some pictures soon.

Once again I am sorry that I did not write to you more soon. Please forgive my not ~~doing so~~ writing.

Hoping that I will hear from you sometime I am

P.S. - The program that is on right now certainly is bringing a lot of swell song.

P.S. The radio is playing

"I dream of you"

I do really & if the rest of the old gang. Some days, even tho' we be almost strangers I will visit that way.

9

showing what ① - The Japanese - Americans did for the war effort.

② Japanese - Canadians - This pamphlet was written by A. Mr. Norman. It answers a lot of questions that are in the minds of the general public. At present I have not any but I'll get some & send you a copy of each. I want to send a copy to each of those two boys. I think those two boys will appreciate getting true facts on a question they themselves did not know very well. Although what they both wrote, there was a lot of truth in it, yet there were other things that were not.



Racial prejudice and discrimination are two things that ~~are~~ certainly not a part of democracy. President Roosevelt made that clear in one of his later speeches. He is my ideal of "Democracy". He was very fair but stern to the enemy, He was fair and equal to all Americans, — be they negroes, Japanese, Chinese or ~~or~~ Caucasians. I think that he was the greatest man ever to watch over a nation. Abraham Lincoln ranks with him for he was the father of Democracy.

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A lot of the people such as Doctors, Bishops and well-to-do farmers do not favor us or take our side (~~for that~~ <sup>and</sup> I think that they are really swell) but they do express the democratic point of view, which Canada is following or is supposed to be in regard to the Japanese Canadians. I, like hundreds of other Canadian born boys, am officially a citizen of Canada ~~for~~ which I was willing to serve as she wanted me to. I have done nothing bad, yet I am treated as I am. I am hoping that some day, justice and true democracy will come to us.