

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, BOULDER

Department of History



December 28, 1984

Bill & Mary  
Kochiyama  
Apt. 3B  
545 West 126th Street  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Bill & Mary:

After being away from New York for so long, I felt like the prodigal son returning home. It was great to see family and friends even if only for a little while.

Since my return to Colorado, I have been immersed in the usual end-of-the-semester work, grading examinations and term papers, which is undoubtedly the most dreadful part of the profession. That is why it has taken me so long to write to you.

On the plane back to Colorado, I had ample time to reflect on my sojourn in New York. Among other things, I thought about our brief discussion on heroes and still think that they are for the young, who need role models to emulate. I prefer to believe in each individual's potential to pursue noble causes and to rise above the normal, accepted way of life rather than in heroes. The problem with heroes, as they are popularly conceived, is that they are such a select group and are such disappointments when you discover that they are first and foremost people, with the usual strengths and weaknesses. While I have found all my childhood heroes to be wanting and have suffered a certain amount of disillusionment because of it, I have not given up on people. If I did, I would probably turn into a first-class cynic. For what its worth, these are some more of my thoughts on the subject.

Russ Endo and I<sup>are</sup> grateful to you for offering us the use of your materials on the Asian American Movement. It will really facilitate our research, allowing us to finish it sooner rather than later. For that reason, we would like to use it as soon as possible. However, we both agreed that it would hardly be repaying you for your generosity by asking that you send it to us as well, especially since you have so much. Instead, we thought that Russ, who has the time, will make a special trip to your place and arrange for its shipment. This will allow him to meet with you and to talk about the Asian American Movement as well as assist you in determining which documents you would like to retain and that he will have to copy before mailing it.

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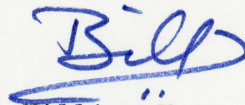


The only possible time for him to visit you in the near-future is in mid-January, perhaps during the week of the 14th. Would that time be convenient for you? Please let us know what your schedule will be like. By the way, we need to ask you for another favor. Could Russ stay at your place during his visit?

I recall that you mentioned that you would like the material eventually to go to a library so that future researchers could use it. If it is alright with you, after we have finished with it we would like to contact some libraries, public and university, about the possibility of cataloging and storing it in their archive for posterity. Russ will discuss this matter with you when he is in New York.

I look forward to hearing from you soon. Best wishes for 1985.

Best regards,



William Wei  
Assistant Professor  
of History