

1 Season Four: *Forbidden Diary*
2 Episode Twenty-Two: *Back to the Bad Old Days*
3
4

5 CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE
6

7	Announcer	Steve Mountjoy
8	Mr. Tomibe	Masaya Okubo
9	Mr. Suda	Yuki Amezawa
10	Natalie Crouter	Sevil Delin
11	Larry	Patrick Golebiowski
12	Phil	Eric Ryan Moore
13	Dr. Mather	Joseph Jo Macdonald
14	Dr. Benedetti	Lance DeBock
15	Arthur	Robert Ball
16	Alex	Slava Timoshenko
17	Herb	Vincent Caruso
18	Carl	Scott Walton
19	Bill Moule	Dustin Parkhurst
20	Committee Man	Christopher V. Thorn
21	Jim	Maxwell Glick
22	Joe	Rich 'd Angle
23	Ted	Troy W. Hudson
24	Committee Woman	Wendy Davis
25	Peg	Rebeccah Haugh
26	Betty	Julie M. Dean
27	Miss McKim	Christine Atsuko Holloway
28	Millie	Melba Sibrel King
29	Mr. Hayakawa	Koji Asano
30	Tanabe	Masaya Okubo
31	Sgt. Sato	Miki Hiramoto
32	Jorge	Andre Ricarte
33	Nida	Jeannie Marie Sison
34	Auntie	Ria Vrana
35		
36		
37		

38 [Cold Open]

39
40 Announcer Previously on *Forbidden Diary*....

41
42
43 [SOUND BITES FROM PREVIOUS EPISODES]

44
45 Announcer And now, Episode Twenty-Two.

46
47
48 [SCENE ONE]¹

49
50 [SOUNDS OF BOOK OPENING, PAGE TURNING, WRITING]

51
52 Mr. Tomibe [IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] February 1, 1944.

53
54 [IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] My dearest wife,

55
56 [IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] I think of you and the children every
57 day and miss you all terribly. [REMAINDER IN ENGLISH] I know
58 that you will want to know that the American girl who had the
59 blood transfusion will live.² Tragically, a mother with two young
60 children died from a heart attack last week. I attended her funeral
61 to express my sympathy and ask the prisoners to take care of her
62 children. General Kō³ won't allow their father to be transferred

¹ Tomibe's letter to his wife is fictitious but, unless otherwise footnoted, is based on or directly quoted from Tomibe, Rokuro, *Memoir Notes*, MacArthur Memorial Archives, Record Group 105, Box 11, Folder 4.

² Referring to June's medical issues in Episode 21, *Heroic Medicine*.

³ The General was actually an Lt. General but because his name is used frequently, I have shortened it to General. Natalie spelled his name Kwo; Jim Halsema, Kuo; and Tomibe, Kou. I am going to break my rule to default to Natalie's spelling and use Kō because in Jim Halsema's California University Fullerton oral history, he said that "Kou" was a Korean prince, Jim Zobel of the MacArthur Memorial said that many Koreans were "conscripted" as guards, and the following from Wikipedia:

Hong Sa-ik (*Korean*: 홍사익; 4 March 1889 – 26 September 1946),^[1] also known by the Japanese reading of his name **Kō Shiyoku** (洪思翊), was a lieutenant general in the *Imperial Japanese Army* and the top-ranking *ethnic Korean in Japan* to be charged with *war crimes* relating to the conduct of the *Empire of Japan* in *World War II*. See *Hong Sa-ik - Wikipedia*.

Natalie probably heard the Japanese soldiers call him Kō, didn't know how to spell it and wrote "Kwo."

63 from a military prison to Camp Holmes. So again, I was the
64 messenger of bad news from High Command.⁴

65
66 My English is improving to the point where I can have polite
67 conversations with prisoners, but when I speak officially to the
68 Camp or attend one of the prisoners' Executive Committee
69 meetings, Miss McKim must translate for me. Before the war, her
70 father was the Episcopal bishop of Japan. She is American but was
71 born in Osaka and educated at the royal Peeresses' School, so her
72 Japanese is excellent.⁵

73
74 It is amusing to watch a guard's reactions to her aristocratic
75 vocabulary and accent from her elite schooling. They address her
76 deferentially as "Honorable Aunt," but everyone in camp trusts
77 and respects her. I have never met anyone like Miss McKim. In her
78 mind and soul, she is Japanese and American.⁶

79
80 My opinion is changing about Americans. Before coming
81 commandant, my knowledge was they monopolize the wealth in
82 the world and are as superficial as a Hollywood movie screen.
83 They forced Japan to go to War. But having come to know them
84 and how they live, I find their good sense and intelligence
85 surprising. They live an inconvenient prison life harmoniously and
86 in unity with their leaders whose organization and executive
87 abilities are marvelous.⁷

88
89 And so, I ask, "What can be done by a poor commandant who is
90 newly inaugurated with only four officers and one squad of
91 soldiers to guard 500 prisoners?" If we are unable to control the
92 Camp by our power, there is no choice but to control by human
93 warmth and human confidence.⁸

⁴ Natalie wrote in her [January 28, 1944](#) diary entry, "[Tomibe] wished he could to more" and that the "Japanese [High Command] phoned to the father but it was not possible to bring him here [Camp Holmes]."

⁵ Tomibe, op. cit., pp. 6 and Crouter Natalie, *Forbidden Diary*, pp. n22. See also [The Peers' School, Tokyo, c. 1910. | Old Tokyo](#) and [The History of Gakushuin | The Gakushuin School](#)

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Tomibe, op. cit., pp. 3.

⁸ Tomibe, op. cit., pp. 7. Natalie wrote 15 times in her diary that there were around 500 internees at Camp Hay and Camp Holmes.

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I believe that these prisoners can honestly accept the good intentions of a common Japanese such as myself. Most of them are families of educated professionals who are good neighbors and share a deep faith in their moral principles and cultural background.⁹

When I make Camp policies, I first suppose, “What if I were an internee?” And ask, “What would be needed first to make their lives more comfortable without risking escapes?”¹⁰

Unfortunately, I must enforce the strict rules coming from General Kō in Manila. He is consolidating the three civilian internment camps on Luzon and wants us commandants to enforce the same rules,¹¹ so some of my plans may be for nothing—unless I can find ways to help my prisoners *and* follow General Kō’s orders.

One thing I am sure that I can do is allow prisoners to....

[SOUND OF DOOR KNOCKING]

Mr. Tomibe [IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] Yes. Come in.

Mr. Suda [IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] Please excuse me Tomibe-san.¹² Do you need any letters posted to Manila?

⁹ Tomibe, op. cit., pp. 8.

¹⁰ Tomibe, op. cit., pp. 7. Note that I added “without risking escapes” to 1) foreshadow a later episode and 2) explain that Mr. Tomibe was caught between a rock and a hard place trying to help prisoners and administer orders from Gen. Kō.

¹¹ Tomibe, op. cit., pp. 5.

¹² Natalie only referred to Tomibe as “Major Tomibe” once, but used Tomibe, Tomibe-san, and Mr. Tomibe throughout her diary. I asked Mark Wagner, a relative and officer stationed in Japan, about whether a soldier would use -san or a superior’s rank. He said, “‘San’ would be a bit informal in that context but still used professionally. For example, I have a speech in Tokyo and referred to Shibuia-San to talk about a leader. In military circles, the rank would be used.” I am assuming Mr. Suda was civilian, so San would be appropriate here. Because Natalie practically never used Tomibe’s title of Major, I decided to keep it simple and just have soldiers and officers address him as Tomibe-san. The story is complicated enough and populated with too many characters for listeners to have to try to remember or keep being reschooled on honorific rules.

122 Mr. Tomibe Yes, you can take these.
123
124 Mr. Suda I can wait for you to finish your letter.
125
126 Mr. Tomibe Thank you, Mr. Suda. I'll post it myself.

127
128

129 **[DIARY READING ONE]**

130

131 [SOUNDS OF BOOK OPENING, PAGE TURNING, WRITING, AND FADE OUT]

132

133 Natalie February 8, 1944. June is back at the barracks, and I am breathing
134 a thankful sigh to have my little foot warmer back in bed with me.
135
136 I've been so preoccupied with June's health that Mr. Tomibe's new
137 orders during this time stayed in my periphery until now.¹³

138

139

140 **[SCENE TWO A]¹⁴**

141

142 Larry Are you done with the Camp Newsletter, Phil?

143

144 Phil Yea, here you go, Larry.

145

146 Larry What the hell is this?

147

148 Phil A Japanese chop mark

149

150 Larry I know what it is. They used to put them on the newsletter at
151 Camp Hay.¹⁵

152

153 Phil Well, they're back.

154

155 Larry What gives?

¹³ My words for transition to Scene 1A.

¹⁴ Based on and imagined from Natalie's [January 25, 1944](#) diary entry.

¹⁵ This is my assumption. In 1942 Natalie wrote about the Japanese closely monitoring written materials. I'm using this to refer to the episode's theme of going "Back to the Bad Old Days". When the Japanese were worried about losing the war, they became more stringent about isolating prisoners.

156
157 Phil They've started censoring the Camp News. Mr. Tomibe put a
158 notice on the parade ground. Didn't you read it?
159
160 Larry No.
161
162 Phil Everything coming into Camp has to be delivered to his home in
163 Baguio for inspection.
164
165 Larry Before we get it?
166
167 Phil Yea. That would be the point of an inspection.
168
169 Larry Son of a bitch.
170
171 Phil That's not the worst of it. The Japanese Army's gonna take over
172 the kitchen's food supplies.¹⁶
173
174 Larry Huh?
175
176 Phil Oh yea. From now on the kitchen's gonna get food from the
177 Japanese Army. And it's all gonna be rationed.¹⁷ The Executive
178 Committee's talking about it over in the dining hall.
179
180
181 **[SCENE TWO B]¹⁸**
182
183 [SOUNDS OF DISCONTENTED MEN AND KITCHEN IN THE BACKGROUND]
184
185 Dr. Mather *We cannot* live on that, Arthur. It's *not* possible.
186
187 Dr. Benedetti They're not serious. Right?
188
189 Arthur Unfortunately, doctors, they are. Mr. Tomibe told Miss McKim that
190 we're getting better than the Japanese Army.¹⁹

¹⁶ Natalie's [January 28, 1944](#) diary entry.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Based on and imagined as footnoted.

¹⁹ Natalie's [February 17, 1944](#) diary entry.

191
192 Dr. Benedetti And you believe that?
193
194 Arthur Yes. I do. And so does Miss McKim.
195
196 Dr. Mather So, let me get this straight: the Japanese Army is going to supply
197 food instead of money?²⁰
198
199 Arthur Yep.
200
201 Alex They'll steal it.
202
203 Herb Yea. Just like this morning.
204
205 Alex Japanese officer shortchanged us 20 kilos of meat at market.
206
207 Arthur How'd he do that?
208
209 Alex Filipino started to put 50 kilos on scale but Japanese stopped him.
210 All we got was 30 kilos.²¹
211
212 Herb And they've skimmed off some of the 100,000 pesos we're
213 supposed to get from the Red Cross.²² So, whaddya think they're
214 gonna do with the food?
215
216 Dr. Mather Are they still going to let us buy food with our own funds?
217
218 Arthur We'll get into that Dr. Mather. [TO THE ROOM] Alright everyone.
219 Alright everyone. It stinks. We all know it. Let's just look at the
220 situation and see what we can do. Carl's figured out exactly how
221 much food the Japanese are going to give us.
222
223 Herb [UNDER HIS BREATH] Or say they are going to give us.
224
225 Arthur Go ahead, Carl.

²⁰ Natalie's [January 28, 1944](#) diary entry.

²¹ Meat shortchange story from Natalie's [February 2, 1944](#) diary entry.

²² Ibid.

226
227 Carl Okay. Starting February 10th,²³ the Japanese are going to give
228 prisoners ten years and older 400 grams of rice, 200 of
229 vegetables, 100 of meat or fish, and 20 grams of sugar and salt.²⁴
230
231 Dr. Mather That's two days from now!
232
233 Herb Could you translate grams into English, Carl?
234
235 Carl It's about 2 cups of rice, a cup of vegetables, a half a cup of meat,
236 and 4 teaspoons each of sugar, salt, and lard.²⁵
237
238 Arthur That's daily, right?
239
240 Carl Yes.
241
242 Dr. Benedetti What about kids?
243
244 Carl They'll get half rations.²⁶
245
246 Dr. Benedetti You know, that means that parents'll be sharing their rations.
247
248 Arthur Yea, we know, Dr. Benedetti, but Carl and I have some ideas about
249 that.
250
251 Carl Oh, hey. I forgot. They're also going to give us an extra 100 grams
252 of food and 20 grams of lard for people doing heavy labor.²⁷
253
254 Dr. Benedetti What's that? A half a cup of food and a couple teaspoons of lard?
255
256 Carl About that.
257
258 Alex They going give us coffee?

²³ Note that the restrictions started February 1. However, to focus on June's illness in the prior episode, I pushed the Army food timeline forward to February 10.

²⁴ Natalie's [January 28, 1944](#) diary entry. Also, it was 25 grams of salt.

²⁵ Natalie listed grams, so I converted the measurements using the weighted converter at [Grams to Teaspoons Converter \(g to tsp\)](#) to make the amount more meaningful to American listeners.

²⁶ Natalie's [January 28, 1944](#) diary entry.

²⁷ Ibid.

259
260 Arthur No coffee, Alex. We're all going to get one cup of tea²⁸ with
261 teaspoon of sugar every day.
262
263 Bill Moule I hate tea.
264
265 Committee Man Who the hell drinks tea?
266
267 Bill Moule Old ladies and Japanese.
268
269 Herb The Brits'll like it.
270
271 Dr. Mather I doubt that.
272
273 Alex What is this Jap cup of tea? How much tea we going get?
274
275 Carl A gram of tea each day.²⁹
276
277 Arthur About a half a teaspoon per person per day.
278
279 Alex It's gonna be gnat's piss. Am I going still buy food for kitchen?
280
281 Arthur You'll still get the funds from us like always,³⁰ but like I said no
282 money from the Japanese.
283
284 Alex [IN ENGLISH] What! [IN RUSSIAN] We're all going to starve then.
285
286 Arthur That's what I said. The Japanese Army is going to give us food, so
287 you'll have to work with what they give you.
288
289 Alex [IN ENGLISH] I know Japanese Army, Arthur. We're going get
290 leftover fish heads and pigs feet?
291

²⁸ Natalie said 1 gram of tea, so I used a weighted converter (using breadcrumbs to approximate weight) at [Grams to Teaspoons Converter \(g to tsp\)](#) to figure a half teaspoon which I'm estimating makes about a cup of tea.

²⁹ Natalie's [January 28, 1944](#) diary entry.

³⁰ Natalie's [August 15, 1944](#) diary entry, mentions meeting minutes stating, "The Command opened the discussion by asking whether we had completed the collection of private fund money in the camp."

292 Arthur You're already cooking low-grade rice and month-old cabbage.
 293
 294 Dr. Benedetti Why the change all of a sudden?
 295
 296 Arthur We are under new management, Dr. Benedetti. You know there
 297 was bureaucratic shake up when Tojo gave independence to the
 298 Philippines last October?³¹
 299
 300 Dr. Mather Independence? Is that what that was?
 301
 302 Herb Oh yea, like that new Filipino "President" is running things.
 303
 304 Committee Man What's this clown's name?³²
 305
 306 Dr. Mather Jose Laurel.³³
 307
 308 Bill Moule What ever happened to Manuel Quezon?
 309
 310 Dr. Mather He escaped and is living in Washington, D.C.³⁴
 311
 312 Herb I thought he was dead.³⁵
 313
 314 Dr. Mather No. He's still the president of the Philippine Commonwealth. Jose
 315 Laurel is the president of the "Second" Philippines Republic.³⁶
 316
 317 Committee Man It's nothing but a political who's on first, what's on second.³⁷ The
 318 Japanese are running everything. They're not fooling anyone.
 319

³¹ Tomibe, op. cit., pp. 5. Also, [Second Philippine Republic - Wikipedia](#).

³² Ororato, Micheal P., California State University, Fullerton, Oral History, James J. Halsema, pp 12. Regarding the Laurel government, Halesma said, "Most people felt that that was just a sham. Filipinos were not easily taken in by that. As a matter of fact, Filipinos are like the Spanish and the Arabs in this: their language is used for decorative purposes. You always look below the surface. What people say is not as important as what they do. In this respect, I don't think many Filipinos were taken in."

³³ See [Jose P. Laurel - Wikipedia](#).

³⁴ See [Manuel L. Quezon - Wikipedia](#).

³⁵ Ibid. Quezon had tuberculosis.

³⁶ See [Manuel L. Quezon - Wikipedia](#), [Jose P. Laurel - Wikipedia](#) and [Second Philippine Republic - Wikipedia](#)

³⁷ Referring to a popular Abbot and Costello radio routine in the 1930s that became a colloquialism. See [Who's on First? - Wikipedia](#).

320 Dr. Mather I don't think the Nipponese care whether they're fooling anyone
321 or not.
322

323 Arthur Are y'all done with the current events here? Because we need to
324 figure out how we're all gonna put food on our plates. [COUGHS]
325 Go ahead, Carl.
326

327 Carl Like Arthur said, before all of that happened the money for our
328 food was coming from the Japanese Bureau of External Affairs,
329 not the Japanese Army.³⁸
330

331 Bill Moule What's that got to do with the price of tea in China?
332

333 Arthur There's a big difference between how the Japanese Imperial Army
334 runs things and a bunch of Reservists.
335

336 Carl Arthur's right. And that's where the kitchen used to get money for
337 food before Jose Laurel "took over" and the Japanese reshuffled
338 the deck.³⁹ They dissolved the External Affairs Bureau⁴⁰ and
339 appointed some General named Kō to oversee the three civilian
340 prisons on Luzon,⁴¹ of which Camp Holmes is one. General Kō's
341 based in Manila.⁴²
342

343 Arthur You see, Mr. Tomibe used to work as a supply officer in the
344 Reserves for the Japanese Bureau of External Affairs.⁴³
345

346 Carl A, ah, first lieutenant.⁴⁴ Right, Arthur?
347

348 Arthur That's what Miss McKim says.

³⁸ Ohdaria, Shinichiro, *Recollections of 1943-1945*, MacArthur Memorial Archives, Record Group 105, Box 11, Folder 7, pp. 3.

³⁹ Ibid. See also Author Unknown, *Rokuro Tomibe* (Thumbnail Biography), MacArthur Memorial Archives, Record Group 105, Box 11, Folder 4.

⁴⁰ Ibid. Note that Ohdaria, op. cit., wrote that Tomibe worked under as a Reservist at the External Affairs Bureau; Unknown Author, op. cit., referred to it as the "Japanese military administration."

⁴¹ Tomibe, op. cit., pp. 5. Note that Tomibe wrote about a "transitional commander" before Kō but for simplicity, this was not mentioned.

⁴² My assumption that the General would be based in Manila. Also, on [December 8, 1944](#), Natalie wrote about Carl telling an officer to go to "Manila and tell Gen. Kwo that...."

⁴³ Tomibe, op. cit., pp. 5. Tomibe wrote that he was a "civil officer" but I found that to be vague. He was involved with supplies (Red Cross kits), so I used "supply officer" to give listeners a clearer description of what Tomibe was doing.

⁴⁴ Ibid.

349
350 Carl Seems Mr. Tomibe did such a bang-up job with our Christmas kits
351 that General Kō demoted Mr. Hayakawa and replaced him with
352 Mr. Tomibe.
353
354 Arthur But Kō's pulling the strings.⁴⁵
355
356 Committee Man There's a surprise.
357
358 Arthur Yea. So we need to watch it. This General Kō's got a whole
359 different mindset. Remember when Sy escaped last year? We got
360 off Scott-free. No one was interrogated or sent to prison.⁴⁶ If that
361 happened now, I can assure you that ol' General Kō wouldn't be
362 lookin' other way.⁴⁷
363
364 Bill Moule Swell.
365
366 Carl Well, it could be a lot worse. We got lucky twice. General Kō was
367 going to move all of the civilian prisoners on Luzon to Santo
368 Tomas. But the typhoons last year put a monkey wrench in his
369 plans.⁴⁸
370
371 Bill Moule You mean they were going to jam all of us into one prison in
372 Manila?
373
374 Arthur Yep. Everyone from Santo Tomas and Los Banos, plus us. That's
375 what, about 5,000 people?⁴⁹ So we dodged a bullet. At least for
376 now.
377
378 Carl *And* we got Mr. Tomibe. He's the reason we have any of our Red
379 Cross packages.⁵⁰
380

⁴⁵ Kō was Tomibe's commanding officer.

⁴⁶ Natalie's [August 17, 1942](#) diary entry. This was dramatized in Episode 11, *Close Calls*.

⁴⁷ My assumption. Kō was later executed for war crimes. See Ohdaria, op. cit., pp. 5. See also [Hong Sa-ik - Wikipedia](#).

⁴⁸ Ohdaria, op. cit., pp. 2-3.

⁴⁹ There were 500 at Baguio (see Natalie's [January 25, 1943](#) diary entry), 1200 at Los Banos (Ohdaria, op. cit., pp 2); and 3500 (see Natalie's [January 8, 1944](#) diary entry).

⁵⁰ Crouter, Natalie, *Forbidden Diary* introduction, pp. [xix](#). Tomibe was tasked with delivering the Red Cross Christmas kits from Manila.

381 Arthur It's true. Miss McKim told me he did some fancy footwork to keep
382 the guards from stealing our cigarettes.⁵¹
383
384 Carl Remember that high-grade rice we got late last year? Well, when
385 Mr. Tomibe first took command, he asked Mr. Hayakawa how much
386 rice we had in Camp. Hayakawa told him that there wasn't any for
387 the next day. So, Mr. Tomibe personally knocked on every Army
388 Corps and found 30 bags of rice to feed us.⁵²
389
390 Herb No kidding? I didn't know that.
391
392 Carl Ask Ray. He drove the truck. Well, then Mr. Tomibe figured out a
393 way to get a military loan from a bank in Taiwan to buy 60 more
394 bags.⁵³
395
396 Arthur And here's another thing, he's letting us trade our Red Cross
397 supplies in town. Miss McKim said the Military Police have
398 reported people to Mr. Tomibe, and he's done nothing about it.⁵⁴
399
400 Herb Why?
401
402 Arthur I don't know. Because he knows we're short on food, I suppose.
403
404 Alex And prices triple now.⁵⁵
405
406 Arthur I know. And food from the Red Cross kits is starting to run out,⁵⁶ so
407 we'll have to start conserving and cutting back.
408
409 Alex We already conserving! How much this cut back going be?
410

⁵¹ Crouter, [Footnote 43 \(1943\)](#).

⁵² Tomibe, op. cit., pp 6.

⁵³ Ibid.

⁵⁴ Tomibe, op. cit., pp. 10. Tomibe ignored guards' reports of Red Cross medicines going to Filipinos in Baguio.

⁵⁵ I'm guessing and averaging. Natalie's [January 5, 1944](#) diary entry talks about "kits" costing 40 pesos in 1941 and 1,500 pesos in 1944.

⁵⁶ It's been almost eight weeks since the Red Cross packages have been opened and Natalie wrote in her [January 8, 1944](#) diary entry that her diet was "adequate" and she was "petulant, irritable, and could dissolve into tears" if a meal was delayed by "five minutes."

411 Arthur Well, here's what Carl and I are thinking. First, we'll have to
412 eliminate the children's egg ration.⁵⁷
413
414 Dr. Benedetti, What!
415
416 Bill Moule No way!
417
418 Dr. Mather Am I hearing you correctly?
419
420 Dr. Benedetti Come on, Arthur! The kids' health is already compromised as it is!
421
422 Arthur There's not enough to go around, Dr. Benedetti. And we need
423 them for patents on special diets. You agree?
424
425 Dr. Benedetti Yes. But under protest. It's going to make children weaker and
426 more prone to disease.
427
428 Arthur Duly noted. But we have to disperse food in order of priority, and
429 special diets is right at the top. Any eggs we have go to that.
430
431 Dr. Mather So, now we're down to triaging our food....
432
433 Arthur That's what it's coming down to. Look at the Crouter girl. We
434 would have lost her if we hadn't prioritized and rationed.
435
436 Dr. Benedetti Yea. I get it. But what happens when the whole Camp's in the
437 hospital needing special diets?
438
439 Arthur Until things get better, we'll give the kids adult rations. It'll make
440 up for the eggs and keep parents from giving their portions to
441 their kids.
442
443 Carl We talked to our Dietician and he approves. It'll kill two birds with
444 one stone.
445
446 Arthur And, Mr. Tomibe is still going to let us keep the Camp store open⁵⁸
447 and allow money from the outside.⁵⁹

⁵⁷ The remainder of this scene based on and imagined from Natalie's [February 3, 1944](#) diary entry.

448
449 Dr. Mather That's jolly good, isn't it? But not everyone can afford the Camp
450 store, Arthur.
451
452 Dr. Benedetti And what about the extra food for people doing hard labor? An
453 extra half cup of extra chow and dab of lard is nothing.
454
455 Arthur The only thing we can do, at least for now, is reduce the men's
456 workload.
457
458 Carl You see, we want to form two crews that work on alternate days.
459
460 Herb Sounds fair.
461
462 Dr. Mather Yes, I suppose that would work.
463
464 Arthur And like Carl said earlier, that leaves us, at the moment, with
465 about 125 pesos a day from the funds we collect in Camp every
466 month to help pay for first and second meals.
467
468 Alex That's not going be enough for 500 people, Arthur.
469
470 Arthur Nope. It's not.
471
472 Carl Well, now remember, the Japanese are going to be giving us food.
473
474 Alex Okay. I do best with what I got.
475
476 Arthur You always do, Alex. Okay, for the record, let's take it to a vote.
477 Carl?
478
479 Carl I move that when the Japanese Army starts supplying food, we'll
480 1) put children on adult rations, and 2) double our work crews and
481 cut their hours in half.
482

⁵⁸ Natalie's [March 4, 1944](#) diary entry mentions Tomibe saying, "additional food would have to be purchased through the Camp store."

⁵⁹ Natalie's [February 17, 1944](#) diary entry.

483 Dr. Benedetti Yea, okay. I second it.

484

485 Arthur All in favor, say Aye.

486

487 Group Aye

488

489

490 **[DIARY READING TWO]**

491

492 [SOUNDS OF BOOK OPENING, PAGE TURNING, WRITING, AND FADE OUT]

493

494 Natalie February 9, 1944. At noon a bag came in from Nida. It was like a
495 letter from home, and I needed that contact after these last three
496 weeks of piling up misery. In it were four baskets of berries, two
497 cookies, the carrots I'd asked for, and lettuce which we ate the
498 inside raw and outside cooked.⁶⁰

499

500 Everyone is gloomy about the Japanese Army taking over our food
501 supply. It'll mean no fruit and half the amount of vegetables.⁶¹

502

503 There's been more cheery news from Tokyo: 15,000 tons of
504 bombs were dropped on Berlin in 20 minutes and another raid the
505 next day. The Berlin we know is no more, wiped out like beautiful
506 Hamburg and London.⁶²

507

508 February 10, 1944. The kitchen started serving food from the
509 Japanese Army today, and it is rice in abundance, fish (with me
510 allergic to it), and excellent tea with sugar for breakfast. Looks like
511 meals from the Camp kitchen are going to be either a dull
512 combination of rice, sweet potato gravy and cabbage OR rice, fish
513 chowder and Chinese cabbage. There'll be no more fruit or eggs
514 unless relief money comes.⁶³

515

⁶⁰ Natalie's [January 29, 1944](#) diary entry.

⁶¹ Natalie's [January 31, 1944](#) diary entry.

⁶² Natalie's [January 29, 1944](#) diary entry.

⁶³ Natalie's [February 3, 1944](#) diary entry. Natalie wrote "Camote Gravy" and "Wong Bok" which I respectively translated into sweet potato gravy and Chinese cabbage.

516 February 11, 1944. Bedie enters his teens today, and I'm not so
517 sure this is something to celebrate. He is inconsiderate, bluffs his
518 way out of chores, prevaricating continually. He isn't developing
519 or growing up at all, though I suppose he will, some day.

520
521 A week ago, he and his pals had their heads shaved, thinking it fun
522 to put it over on me. It just makes me just heartsick. Bedie knew
523 only too well how I feel about that awful, blue-veined, gray look
524 of a prison head. It makes me ill to see it, but his thoughtless,
525 smart-aleck stage is worse.⁶⁴

526
527 At seven he made his party ready with Peg's borrowed dishes for
528 two of his cavalier pals and three girls who are all pretty blondes.
529 Jerry put out muffins with strawberry sauce on them and served
530 them with cocoa and our emergency chocolate.

531

532

533

[CUT-IN ONE]

534

535 Jim *Camp Holmes Daily News* IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM THE CAMP
536 COMMANDANT: Effective Sunday, February 20, 1944, no more
537 bags from friends and relatives will be permitted into Camp from
538 town. As of today, the garbage crew is no longer allowed outside
539 of camp. All garbage must be dumped in the dirt pits at the end of
540 the Camp.⁶⁵

541

542

543 Natalie February 13, 1944. In seven days, we'll be cut off from the world.
544 Everything is being shut down except the Manila *Tribune*⁶⁶ delivery
545 and the Camp store—and we're all praying that the store stays
546 open.

547

548 Damn the enemy! Even Germany permits bags and letters from
549 home. I don't want these officers killed. I want them isolated
550 and incommunicado in a camp for months on end; no bags, no

⁶⁴ Ibid.

⁶⁵ Natalie's [February 13, 1944](#) diary entry. This was actually posted on the Camp's "Board."

⁶⁶ Natalie used just *Tribune*, but I added *Manila* to indicate from where it came.

551 word from home, just plugging along without any toilet paper,
552 living on rice and cabbage.⁶⁷

553
554 February 17, 1944. Mr. Tomibe posted new orders on the parade
555 ground today. We're all scratching our heads, not sure what to
556 make of some of them.⁶⁸

557
558

559 **[SCENE THREE A]⁶⁹**

560

561 Joe Did you guys read it?

562

563 Ted Yea, they're going to let us write one postcard a month.

564

565 Larry Real big of 'em, huh.

566

567 Bill Moule Well, I'm not proud. I'm gonna write one.

568

569 Phil But... there were some provisos. Check this out. Get this: we can't
570 use braille or invisible ink.

571

572 Larry What?

573

574 Joe Damn, and I was saving my last bottle.

575

576 Phil Then it just got weirder. It said people who are dying, lepers,
577 crazy, or over 70 can live outside Camp.

578

579 Joe Someone's been hittin' the sake.

580

581 Bill Moule It's probably coming from High Command in Manila. What else
582 did it say?

583

584 Phil [TRYING TO REMEMBER] Ummm, we're still gonna get medicine
585 and, ah, personal supplies and cash from the Outside.

⁶⁷ Natalie's [February 15, 1944](#) diary entry.

⁶⁸ My lead-in for Scene 3A.

⁶⁹ Based on and imagined from Natalie's [February 17, 1944](#) diary entry.

586
587 Larry What about the Camp store? It didn't say anything about closing
588 it. Did they?
589
590 Phil Nope.
591
592 Joe Good 'cuz the Japanese Army food ain't cuttin' it.
593
594 Phil And that's not all. They're gonna mess with the Executive
595 Committee. One of the vice-chairmen has to speak Japanese, so
596 by default it's gonna go to Miss McKim.
597
598 Ted I don't mind that.
599
600 Larry Nah, me neither. She's probably running the Camp anyway.
601
602 Bill Moule I'd vote for her.
603
604 Phil Well, then you're gonna love this cuz Mr. Tomibe's ordering the
605 Executive Committee to merge with the Women's Committee.⁷⁰
606
607 Ted/Joe/Larry/Bill What!
608
609
610 **[SCENE THREE B]**⁷¹
611
612 Committee Woman Ha, ha, ha! We're *finally* going to get some representation around
613 here!
614
615 Peg And, it's because of the Japanese no less.
616
617 Betty Really? How's that possible?
618
619 Committee Woman Mr. Tomibe's dissolving the Women's Committee and merging it
620 with the Executive Committee. They're gonna call it the Internee

⁷⁰ Natalie's [February 18, 1944](#) diary entry.

⁷¹ Based on and imagined from Natalie's [February 17, 1944](#) diary entry.

621 Camp Committee with men AND women voting and holding
622 office.⁷²
623
624 Peg And *you* get to be vice chairman, Miss McKim.
625
626 Miss McKim There'd have to be a vote for that to happen, Peg.
627
628 Peg You have to speak Japanese. Who else speaks Japanese in here?
629
630 Miss McKim Oh, I really don't think I'll be doing anything differently. It'd just
631 be a title.
632
633 Committee Woman Are you kidding? You can make motions and vote in the meetings.
634
635 Millie Well, all that glitters is not gold,⁷³ as my mother used to say.
636 We're losing *our* committee, and we'll probably never get voted
637 into the men's committee.
638
639 Committee Woman You mean the co-ed, Internee Committee.
640
641 Millie Whatever it's called, I hope the men don't drown us out and we
642 end up with nothing.
643
644 Betty But Millie, we get to run for office.
645
646 Millie I'm not going to vote for someone just because she's a woman.
647
648 Miss McKim Honesty, I think that it will sort itself out. We'll just have to wait
649 for the next election and see.
650
651 Millie When's that?
652
653 Committee Woman Every six months, I think.
654
655 Natalie You know, I just don't understand Mr. Tomibe, Miss McKim. You're
656 with him more than any of us. One minute he's giving us suffrage,

⁷² Natalie's [February 23, 1944](#) diary entry.

⁷³ All that glitters is from Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice*.

657 then he's cutting off all contact from town and then he allows
658 supplies and cash to be sent in.
659
660 Peg Yea, what gives with him? Isn't he supposed to be a Major or
661 something? Why are we calling him Mr. Tomibe?
662
663 Miss McKim If you ever talk with him, Peg, always address him as Tomibe-san.
664
665 Peg You say Tomibe, I say Tomabe.⁷⁴
666
667 Miss McKim It makes a big difference to Japanese people Peg.
668
669 Peg Well, if you ask me, it's all too much. I can't keep track of it.
670
671 Miss McKim It can be confusing. Tomibe-san was a first lieutenant in the
672 Japanese Army Reserves.
673
674 Peg That's still the Army.
675
676 Miss McKim It is, but when Tomibe-san took the commandant position, they
677 placed him in the Regular Army and promoted him to a major.⁷⁵
678
679 Millie First lieutenant to major is a big bump.
680
681 Miss McKim Well, you know how the Imperial Army feels about civilians. It's
682 not much different for Reservists, so I guess they thought a higher
683 rank would give him more authority. But some soldiers are
684 resentful and still question his authority.⁷⁶
685
686 Millie Humph. Anyone can see that Mr. Tomibe's a gentleman and the
687 rest of them are a bunch of boobs and hay-seeds. I don't care
688 what their rank is.
689

⁷⁴ Riff on popular saying from *Let's Call the Whole Thing Off* is a song written by [George Gershwin](#) and [Ira Gershwin](#) for the 1937 film *Shall We Dance*. Credit goes to Sevil Delin for the play on words.

⁷⁵ Author Unknown, op. cit., says that at Camp Holmes, Tomibe had "equivalent rank of captain," but Natalie and Lynn Z. Bloom, her editor, wrote that he was a major. I defaulted to Natalie's recollection.

⁷⁶ Ibid.

690 Natalie Lt. Kira was well educated.⁷⁷
691
692 Millie I thought he was a little too slick. Mr. Tomibe has class.
693
694 Miss McKim I think that's probably where the resentment comes in, Millie.
695
696 Natalie With all of these new rules and restrictions, what do you think of
697 Mr. Tomibe now, Miss McKim?
698
699 Miss McKim I still think he is a good man. The new restrictions are coming
700 from Manila. Tomibe-san is doing his best to find ways to get us
701 more food.
702
703 Millie Well, he's a whole lot better than that milquetoast Hayakawa.
704
705 Miss McKim The guards tell me that when the Japanese allowed the Filipino
706 puppet government to take over Baguio, Tomibe-san could have
707 gone home with the rest of his Reserve unit, but Col. Urabe
708 persuaded him to stay because he's such an excellent
709 administrator.⁷⁸
710
711 Natalie Really?
712
713 Miss McKim Yes. I attend meetings with Tomibe-san, and he has more in
714 common with the General Committee than the soldiers.
715
716 Millie Why would you ever say that?
717
718 Miss McKim Because Mr. Tomibe is an intelligent, level-headed man and so are
719 the men on the Executive committee.
720
721 Peg Well, I wouldn't go so far as to say that.
722

⁷⁷ Lt. Kira appeared in Episode 16, *Social Studies*.

⁷⁸ Unknown, op. cit. Also, my assumption that Tomibe was an excellent administrator for being promoted from first lieutenant reservist to major (Crouter, [April 9, 1944](#) entry)/captain (Unknown, op. cit.) in the Imperial Army.

723 Miss McKim I would. Well, for the most part, anyway. You see, they are all
724 educated professionals and so is Mr. Tomibe who's a lawyer.⁷⁹
725 Even though they don't speak the same language, they think the
726 same way.
727
728 Millie Huh?
729
730 Miss McKim Well...they're all problem solvers.
731
732 Peg Mr. Tomibe'd turn us over to the Kempeitai in a New York minute. I
733 don't trust any Japanese.
734
735 Miss McKim We always have to be cautious, but I think we're in the best hands
736 under the circumstances.
737
738 Peg Then why is Mr. Tomibe isolating us?
739
740 Miss McKim Those are General Kō's orders for all of the civilian camps.
741
742 Peg Great, so one size fits all.
743
744 Miss McKim America's closing in on the Philippines, Peg, and the Japanese are
745 worried about espionage and escapes. I don't know if you all
746 remember what Tomibe-san said at Mrs. Morris's funeral about
747 her husband. But he said he'd asked High Command to transfer
748 him back to Camp Holmes. Just the fact that he tried and spoke at
749 the funeral speaks volumes, I think.⁸⁰
750
751 Peg But what good is he if he can't do anything?
752
753 Miss McKim We could do a lot worse.
754
755 Millie We already have.

⁷⁹ Natalie's [March 23, 1944](#) diary and Unknown, op. cit. Natalie wrote, "He is a graduate of Kyoto University. According to another conversation he has held no other position though he is trained in the legal profession." The Thumbnail Bio reads that Tomibe "attended" Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto and worked in local government in Manchuria. It does not mention studying law. It is my assumption that Tomibe probably was a lawyer. I want to paint him as a highly-educated man and a peer of the General Committee members.

⁸⁰ Natalie's [January 28, 1944](#) diary entry.

756
757 Miss McKim I think Tomibe-san's the reason we can still get cash and buy
758 things from town. But there is only so much even he can do, and
759 I'm afraid more rules are coming from General Kō.

760
761

762

763 **[DIARY READING THREE]**

764

765 [SOUNDS OF PAGE TURNING, WRITING, AND FADE OUT]

766

767 Natalie February 18, 1944. Poor humble Tanabe fell off his bicycle, cut his
768 knee, and then fainted. The guards took him to the Camp hospital
769 on a stretcher and roared with laughter at the accident, enjoying
770 that Tanabe has lost face still further.

771

772 They perched around him like vultures making fun of him while
773 Dr. Benedetti tried to take a look at Tanabe.⁸¹

774

775

776 **[SCENE FOUR]⁸²**

777

778 Mr. Hayakawa [IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] Is he dead?

779

780 Mr. Suda [IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] Hey, [SOUND OF SLAPPING FACE]
781 Tanabe wake up.

782

783 Sgt. Sato Congratulations, Tanabe! Now you've destroyed two cars *and* a
784 bicycle.

785

786 Dr. Benedetti Oh brother, Miss McKim, will you tell these guys to quit harassing
787 the poor kid so I can take a look at him?

788

789 Miss McKim [IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] Please, stand back and let the doctor
790 help Mr. Tanabe.

791

⁸¹ My lead-in to Scene Four.

⁸² Based on and imagined from [February 18, 1944](#) diary entry.

792 Mr. Hayakawa At least you didn't drive the Lincoln into garden again.
793
794 Sgt. Sato Hey Tanabe, no more cars or bikes for you. You'll have to walk
795 from now on.
796
797 Mr. Suda [IN ENGLISH] Yea, on your two left feet!
798
799 Dr. Benedetti Miss McKim, will you, will you please....
800
801 Mr. Hayakawa [IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] Oh man, you look bad, Tanabe.
802
803 Mr. Sato I don't think he's going to make it.
804
805 Mr. Hayakawa If he dies, I get his rifle.
806
807 Mr. Suda I get his boots.
808
809

810 **[DIARY READING FOUR]**

811
812 Natalie February 19, 1944. It is our last day of bags from town. Nida sent
813 two fat and bursting bags. Wonderful girl! She thought of
814 everything and then some.
815
816

817 **[SCENE FIVE]⁸³**

818
819 Jorge [ENGLISH AND TAGALOG] Is that it everything you want me to
820 take to the Crouters, Nida?
821
822 Nida [ENGLISH AND TAGALOG] I think so, Jorge. Maybe I'd better
823 double check. It could be the last bag for a while. Let's see... two
824 kilos of black beans, two kilos of brown sugar, four and a half kilos
825 of coffee beans⁸⁴....

⁸³ Based on and imagined from Natalie's [February 19, 1944](#) diary entry.

⁸⁴ Natalie wrote that Nida gave her "two gantas" of coffee beans and "one ganta" of black beans. A ganta is three liters in volume (see [GANTA \(Tagalog\)](#), so I converted 6 liters to kilos for kidney beans, the closest in weight to coffee and black beans offered. See [Liter to Kg Converter - Convert Liters to Kg](#).

826
827 Auntie [ENGLISH AND TAGALOG] Ooh, where'd you get the sugar and
828 coffee, Sobrinita?
829
830 Nida I've been saving it up, Auntie.
831
832 Jorge That Benguet coffee is worth a gold mine.
833
834 Nida I know Jorge, but after this we can't send packages into Camp
835 Holmes any more.⁸⁵
836
837 Auntie Why?
838
839 Nida I don't know, Auntie. Where was I? Six kilos of potatoes... the
840 carrots Mrs. Crouter asked for.... Could you hand me the gabi,
841 bananas, and papaya, Jorge? Thank you.
842
843 Auntie You forgot the bag of limes and four baskets of berries.⁸⁶
844
845 Nida Oh my goodness how could I forget. Thank you, Auntie.
846
847 Auntie Why did you say this is the last bag?
848
849 Nida After Sunday, the Japanese aren't going to let us send bags to
850 Camp Holmes.
851
852 Auntie How are the Americans going to live?
853
854 Nida I don't know.
855
856 Jorge Then there'll be more food for us.
857
858 Nida Jorge!
859
860 Auntie That was unkind Jorge. You know that the American give us
861 medical supplies.⁸⁷

⁸⁵ Natalie's [February 20, 1944](#) diary entry.

⁸⁶ Natalie called them "calamensits," but I used the more familiar limes. See [Calamansi - Wikipedia](#).

862
863 Nida I don't know how any of us are going to get food with the prices
864 going up.
865
866 Jorge You want to know why?
867
868 Nida Because the occupation money isn't worth anything.
869
870 Jorge Wanna know why?
871
872 Nida Why
873
874 Jorge Because the Americans are printing counterfeit pesos and
875 smuggling them into the country.⁸⁸
876
877 Nida How do you know that?
878
879 Auntie You haven't been hanging out with those guerrilla friends of
880 yours, Jorge?
881
882 Jorge [IGNORING AUNTIE] And the Americans are going to start
883 bombing the Japanese merchant fleet.⁸⁹
884
885 Nida Well, *that* isn't going to help us.
886
887 Jorge Nida, the only way we're going to get food is to win the war, and
888 the marines are coming! They're sneaking in weapons on subs
889 down south. Everyone's just laying low until MacArthur gives the
890 word and then, boom! We're gonna let them have it.⁹⁰
891

⁸⁷ Tomibe, op. cit., pp. 10.

⁸⁸ In the *Episode 20 Epilogue*, Jim Zobel talked about Americans printing counterfeit pesos and flooding the market.

⁸⁹ Ibid. This is gung-ho hyperbole from the Jorge character. The U.S. was sneaking in counterfeit money and weapons but did not have enough of a presence to sink ships. I put this in to foreshadow the fact that this would happen later in the war. [Japanese Naval and Merchant Shipping Losses - WWII](#) shows increased activity as the war progresses.

⁹⁰ In the Episode 8 and Episode 10 epilogues, Jim Zobel talks about MacArthur's guerrilla strategy in the early years of the War of first making contact with guerrilla groups and having them gather intelligence instead of fighting because they were outnumbered and many of the early guerrillas had died. During 1943 and 1944, MacArthur is locating the guerrillas, gathering information, arming guerrillas, and telling their leaders to wait for America's major offense on Luzon.

892 Nida Who is this... "we"?

893

894 Auntie Are you a guerrilla!

895

896 Nida Jorge, you'd better watch what you say.

897

898 Jorge Then I won't tell you about Ismael.

899

900 Nida Ismael? What did you hear?

901

902 Jorge A friend told me he's being sent to a work camp in Davao.⁹¹

903

904 Nida Davao!! That's so far away. Why's he going there?

905

906 Jorge Probably to work on an airfield. My friends said Ismael
907 volunteered, so it must be better than where he is now.⁹²

908

909 Nida Why didn't you tell me this sooner?

910

911 Jorge I just found out.

912

913 Auntie Oh Jorge, This isn't funny!

914

915 Jorge I'm not joking.

916

917 Nida Do you know *when* he's leaving?

918

919 Jorge No.

920

921 Nida Didn't you ask your friends?

922

923 Jorge No.

924

925 Nida Then after you deliver the Crouter's food, go ask them.

926

927 Jorge What if they don't know?

⁹¹ Natalie's [March 31, 1944](#) diary entry.

⁹² Ibid.

928
929 Nida Then you can some a food to Ismael and find out what's going on.
930
931 Jorge Who am I going to ask?
932
933 Nida I don't know. Pay off a guard. I'll give you some cigarettes. Here
934 take the Crouter's food and hurry. [FOLEY OF HER GIVING HIM A
935 LARGE BAG OF FOOD] I'll have a bag for Ismael ready when you
936 come back.
937
938 Jorge But....
939
940 Nida Well, what are you waiting for?
941
942 Jorge But....
943
944 Nida Go on!!!
945
946
947 [SOUNDS OF JORGE LEAVING]
948
949 Auntie Oh Sobrenita, Ismael may already be gone.
950
951 Nida I know Auntie, but I have to know where he is.
952
953
954 **[DIARY READING FIVE]**
955
956 [SOUNDS OF PAGE TURNING, WRITING, AND FADE OUT]
957
958 Natalie February 20, 1944. Today we enter complete isolation; no bags,
959 no Japanese radio, no market, nothing but medical trips to town,
960 and no news or rumors. Well, that's what the Japanese think!
961 There are rumors around Camp that Truk is being heavily
962 attacked. And, there have been some landings in the Marianas.
963 Good news for us, if it's true. Another says Guam and Wake are
964 now ours and that on one of the islands not a living thing was

965 found — all wiped out by bombings. The enemy is jittery so we're
966 all waiting for more shoes to drop from General Kō.⁹³

967

968

969

[SCENE SIX]⁹⁴

970

971 Miss McKim [IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] Excuse me, Tomibe-san, Mr.
972 Hayakawa said that you wish to see me.

973

974 Mr. Tomibe [IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] Yes. Please come in and be seated,
975 Miss McKim. [ENGLISH] I would like you to translate these orders
976 from Manila.

977

978 [FOLEY OF TOMIBE PASSING A SHEET OF PAPER TO MISS MCKIM]

979

980 Miss McKim It says that everyone over 10 years of age must sign a loyalty
981 oath?

982

983 Mr. Tomibe Yes. We must communicate that internees have no choice. If they
984 do not sign, I must report them to Manila and the authorities will
985 assume that they are planning to escape. There is nothing that I
986 can do on their behalf this time.

987

988 Miss McKim Then would you like me to emphasize that the orders are from
989 Manila, like last time? I think that people will understand what
990 that means.

991

992 Mr. Tomibe I would be grateful if you would do that, Miss McKim.

993

994 Miss McKim Um, please excuse me for saying this, Tomibe-san, but it is very
995 likely that the Executive Committee will write a protest letter.

996

997 Mr. Tomibe I would expect no less from them.⁹⁵ However, we must make them
998 understand that it is also for their safety.

999

⁹³ My introduction for Scene Six.

⁹⁴ Based on and imagined from Natalie's [February 22, 1944](#) and [February 23, 1944](#) diary entries.

⁹⁵ They were already protesting the food rations. See Natalie's [February 17, 1944](#) diary entry.

1000 Miss McKim Please pardon me for not understanding, Tomibe-san.
1001
1002 Mr. Tomibe If an internee were allowed outside Camp and was shot by what
1003 you Americans call “jittery” soldiers, they could say that he was
1004 escaping because internees have not signed a loyalty oath.
1005 However, if the oath is signed, they would have no such excuse.
1006
1007 Miss McKim I see. What about children? Do they have to sign?
1008
1009 Mr. Tomibe Their parents must sign for them.
1010
1011 Miss McKim When do you need a draft for your approval?
1012
1013 Mr. Tomibe As soon as possible. And Miss McKim... I must warn you that more
1014 rules are coming from High Command in Manila.
1015
1016

1017 **[DIARY READING SIX]**

1018
1019 [SOUNDS OF PAGE TURNING, WRITING, AND FADE]
1020

1021 Natalie February 22, 1944. The Japanese have sprung a mean and
1022 ominous one. They want us to sign a paper that we won't try to
1023 escape no matter what the conditions, children too.⁹⁶
1024
1025 The Committee has asked to talk with someone who knows
1026 international law and sent several letters of protest about the
1027 Japanese Army's food.
1028
1029

1030 **[CUT-IN TWO]⁹⁷**
1031

1032 Committee Man To: The Camp Commandant
1033 Attention, Mr. Tomibe
1034
1035 Dear Sir:

⁹⁶ Natalie's [February 23, 1944](#) diary entry.

⁹⁷ Natalie's [February 17, 1944](#) diary entry.

1036
1037 The Executive Committee wishes to make a report on the
1038 present ration system for our daily food allowance. The medical
1039 authorities of the camp are of the unanimous opinion that the
1040 present food allowance is totally inadequate for our
1041 requirements, and they cannot be held responsible for the health
1042 of the camp on the present diet. Hence, we register this official
1043 protest with you, Mr. Tomibe, as the representative of the
1044 Imperial Japanese Army, which is accountable for our welfare.

1045
1046 A considerable quantity of the Army's fish and shrimp were rotten
1047 when received and inedible. The vegetable ration has consisted
1048 almost entirely of cabbage. Living as we do in a section of the
1049 country known for truck farming, is it not possible for us to obtain
1050 a greater variety of this vital commodity for our use?

1051
1052 We know you are interested in maintaining the health of the
1053 camp, and we make these suggestions in the spirit of cooperation
1054 and as evidence of the desire on our part to continue the health
1055 of the Camp.

1056
1057 Very truly yours,

1058
1059 The Executive Committee.

1060
1061
1062 Natalie In the meantime, guards are popping into school at any hour,
1063 trying to catch "dangerous thoughts" or what they call "anti"
1064 teaching.

1065
1066 The Japanese are in a fine state of mind again.

1067
1068
1069 **[SCENE SEVEN A]⁹⁸**

1070
1071 **[FOLEY OF KNOCK AND DOOR OPENING SLOWLY]**

1072

⁹⁸ Scene Six A is my imagined introduction for Scene Six B.

1073 Miss McKim [IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] Excuse me, Tomibe-san, Mr. Suta
1074 said that I could come in.
1075
1076 Mr. Tomibe [IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] Please come in, Miss McKim.
1077
1078 Miss McKim I have translated the new camp rules from General Kō's office.
1079
1080 Mr. Tomibe Thank you. Have you made it clear that the rules come from
1081 Manila and apply to all civilian internment camps?
1082
1083 Miss McKim Yes, Tomibe-san. Would you like me to give my translation to the
1084 Executive Committee first?
1085
1086 Mr. Tomibe Yes, Miss McKim. I was thinking the same thing.
1087
1088
1089 **[SCENE SEVEN B]⁹⁹**
1090
1091 [SOUNDS OF MEN TALKING IN A ROOM]
1092
1093 Dr. Benedetti What? They're going to build a barbed-wire fence around the
1094 Camp?¹⁰⁰
1095
1096 Bill Moule Huh?
1097
1098 Herb Where the hell are we gonna go?
1099
1100 Arthur All right gentlemen, let's just go through the new rules. Carl, you
1101 get the honors.
1102
1103 Carl Well, they want us to obey their rules... ah... says we can't have
1104 any political meetings—nothing new there. Looks like the Camp
1105 store, schools and entertainment programs are going to stay.
1106 That's good. And we can still get money from the Outside. That's
1107 really good.
1108

⁹⁹ Based on and imagined from Natalie's [February 23, 1944](#) diary entry.

¹⁰⁰ Natalie's [March 2, 1944](#) diary entry.

1109 Dr. Benedetti But it says that Mr. Tomibe can get rid of them at any time.
1110
1111 Carl He's a fair guy. I don't think he'll do that unless we give him cause.
1112
1113 Dr. Mather They certainly want to get everything in writing, don't they?
1114
1115 Herb Do they have lawyers in Japan?
1116
1117 Dr. Benedetti Tomibe's a lawyer.¹⁰¹
1118
1119 Herb Really.
1120
1121 Carl Okay, here's something. We can't buy anything directly. It all has
1122 to go through Mr. Tomibe, even medical supplies and services....
1123
1124 Dr. Mather Did I hear you correctly? We cannot send patients to the hospital
1125 or order an x-ray without going through the Commandant?
1126
1127 Carl Looks like it, Dr. Mather.
1128
1129 Dr. Benedetti Well, what about the medical supplies? Are they all gonna come
1130 through the Japanese Army like the kitchen's food?
1131
1132 Carl I'm not sure.
1133
1134 Dr. Benedetti Because if that's the case, we'll be lucky to get bandages and
1135 aspirin, much less sulpha meds.
1136
1137 Arthur We're gonna ask Tomibe about that, Dr. Benedetti, but for now
1138 let's... let's just table that discussion and go through Kō's rules.
1139 Carl....
1140 Carl Ah...okay. Says we can't build anything without permission...
1141
1142 Bill Moule Who's doing any building around here? Man, they're stickin' their
1143 noses into everything.
1144
1145 Herb I know where they can stick it.

¹⁰¹ See Footnote 78.

1146
1147 Carl Hmmm, workers have to submit time sheets to Mr. Tomibe.
1148
1149 Herb On what? There's no paper.
1150
1151 Carl [WITH A CHUCKLE] It says, "The Commandant approves of the
1152 present social relationships between men and women but
1153 cautions against unseemly conduct by the young people."
1154
1155 Bill Moule Well, thank you Reverend Tomibe.
1156
1157 Carl Hmmm, looks they're going to start poking into the school
1158 curriculum again. It says all books and magazines are subject to
1159 censorship.
1160
1161 Arthur They've already started doing that.
1162
1163 Carl Really?
1164
1165 Arthur Yea, it's been going on for days, Carl.
1166
1167 Carl How'd I miss that one?
1168
1169 Arthur You don't have kids here.
1170
1171 Herb This is like those first weeks at Camp Hay. Remember?
1172
1173 Arthur It looks like, gentlemen, we are back to the bad old days.¹⁰²
1174
1175
1176 [COLD CLOSE]

¹⁰² In Natalie's [February 22, 1944](#) diary, says "Back to the old days." I added "bad" for emphasis and to use in the episode title to summarize the theme of the episode.