

SI:JCB

April 5, 1955

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Dr. Masao Tsuzuki
Japanese Red Cross
Central Hospital
Miyashiro-Cho, Shibuya-Ku
Tokyo, Japan

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Dear Dr. Tsuzuki:

Spring has at last arrived in Washington and the cherry blossoms which at this time of year are so beautiful around the Tidal Basin remind me that the same season is now with you in Tokyo. I well remember the freshness and beauty of the landscape in Japan. I trust that you have returned home from your long travels to find your family well and happy.

We seem to continue with the misunderstandings concerning the events of a year ago as reported by the newspapers in both our countries, particularly in the case of Aikichi Kuboyama. I have been reluctant to make comments since I know that this case has been under careful and prolonged study. On one occasion, in answer to a direct question, I stated that it was our understanding from the studies in Japan conducted by you and others that the hepatitis from which he died was a complication of his illness and that prior to this development he had been recovering apparently quite well from his radiation injury. On that occasion I added that we would have to await the conclusion of the studies by the Japanese pathologists before it would be possible to know precisely the nature of the case.

It would be very helpful to me and would serve to correct some of the misapprehensions which now seem to be widespread in this country if there could be an early publication of the clinical and pathological findings in this case after the studies are completed. We on our part are planning to present the complete report on the injuries of the Marshall Islanders at the forthcoming meeting of the American Medical Association. By our combined efforts we should probably have placed in the medical literature within the next few months all of the essential medical information arising out of the most unfortunate accident of March 1, 1954.

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Dr. Masao Tsuzuki

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Recently we had the pleasure of a visit by Dr. Robert Holmes who reported on the progress and needs of the program for the Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Dr. Holmes spoke in the warmest terms of the help and valuable guidance which you have so generously given him.

By this time Dr. Charles L. Dunham should have reached Tokyo and doubtless will have discussed with you some of the matters about which the medical people of Japan and the United States have a common concern. This is Dr. Dunham's first visit to Japan, and I am certain that the opportunity to learn something of Japanese culture and thought will be of the greatest value and pleasure to him.

With the very best personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

John C. Dugher, M.D.
Director
Division of Biology and Medicine