

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa  
Library — Archives

Koko An, Monday, Oct. 12  
1964

(55m)  
Dear Roshi Sama:

I will begin this letter now, and finish it after the President Wilson comes and goes on Tuesday the 13th. We arranged to meet Kai San and to spend as much of the day with him as he wished, and to have him sit with a specially called meeting of our zazenkai that evening before his boat sails at 10:00 PM.

However, Tai San appeared unexpectedly at our door last night. He is on his way to Japan, and will sail with Kai San on the Wilson. His principal purpose in calling on us seemed to be to tell us that our plan to have a special meeting of our zazenkai with Kai San would have to be cancelled. We said that our arrangement by letter with Kai San was really a misunderstanding (though when I looked up the correspondence in my files, I found that my invitation and Kai San's acceptance are entirely clear).

We felt very sorry about this, as we considered the meeting to be important in establishing Dharma relationships for our present attenders, some of whom are new. We had printed up special invitations and sent them to the 25 people who currently attend, and now we must telephone them all to cancel. We asked Tai San if his plans (probably for a party with his special friends) could not be changed just between 7:00 and 9:00 PM, but he said it was too late to change the plans. He will pick up Kai San at our house before lunch, and we will not see him after that, and our members will not get to meet him.

Tai San said that he wants to take the Senzaki manuscript with him when he returns to the U.S. mainland. I will follow your instructions on this point. We asked him to bring us some keisaku, as all we have is the one decorated stick, which is very nice, but not suitable for use in the zen'do. He said that he wanted to remain friends with us, and we replied that we too want to be friends. However, as I think you understand, it probably would be best if he were not to return to Koko An.

Thank you for seeing Itsuko San again, and for the nice things you said t

ask her about us. Of course, while we may have superficial and temporary ~~some~~ misunderstandings, these do not interrupt our true communication.

[REDACTED] has been released a second time from the hospital, and now seems a little better. She is starting to do zazen again, and sat with us yesterday for three senko during our all-day zazenkaï.

Kai San wants to know "all details, but I will tell him only what he already knows and nothing more. I am keeping my promise. /I have told no one any more than they already know from Tai San, even though he is spreading his story from New York to Los Angeles. None of our present attenders even knows that there has been any trouble.

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Tuesday: 1:00 PM

Now we have had a very pleasant three hours <sup>with Kai San</sup> and Tai San has come and taken him away. Just as we supposed, there was no "misunderstanding", -- Kai San knew we planned the meeting, but felt obliged to promise to spend time with Tai San's friends, after our arrangements were made.

Apparently Tai San is telling people that the trouble in Hawaii is between old members and me, of all things. It is true that three old members did stop coming when Tai San left but people are forever coming and going. It is true that one hysterical lady did write me a letter about the lectures I was giving at Tai San's request, but this was a trivial thing, and I don't believe I even mentioned it to you. <sup>Tai San</sup> He has apparently magnified this as the cause of the difficulty. He had mentioned that there was some rumor of scandal to Kai San, and that I had talked to some doctors about it. Kai San asked me whether I had approached the doctors, or they had approached me. I said they had approached me. Apparently <sup>Tai San</sup> he did not tell him as much as he told Ikenaga San, so I did not give him any details at all. I did not indicate anything about names or mental illness, so Kai San is inclined to regard this matter rather lightly. He understands that I promised you I would not discuss the scandal, so he did not press me with questions, and we did not go into it.

