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December 24, 1964

Mr. & Mrs. Iver Fischman  
315 Hicks Street  
Brooklyn 1, New York

Dear Friends:

I have learned from Bernard Phillips that you will be sponsoring Tai San, now that he has resigned his position as resident monk of Koko An. We wish Tai San well in his new responsibilities, and trust that your organization will benefit greatly from his services.

At this point, Tai San's legal American sponsor is the Diamond Sangha. So long as no notification is made to the immigration authorities, he will continue in that status. If we were not planning to sponsor someone else, we might not object to this continuation, but in fact we do wish to sponsor another monk. We would like to be able to show that Tai San has transferred to another group, and that our new monk will take his place.

I have determined that the procedure is quite simple. I should just notify the authorities by letter of his transfer. In order to do this, I would like to have a letter from you, indicating that your group is accepting transfer of sponsorship. Please type it on your group's letterhead (typed letterhead is okay); indicate that your group is accepting legal sponsorship for the monk Eido Shimano, that he is transferring from his former position as resident monk of Koko An, 2119 Kaloa Way, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822, and that his full-time responsibility will be to serve as priest of your group and related American Zen groups. Your group need not be incorporated for this transaction, ours is not.

Could you send me this letter soon? I would like to move on our other sponsorship plans, so will be very grateful for your help. Anne joins me in sending you holiday greetings, and best wishes for a productive new year.

Cordially yours, with gassho,

Robert Aitken, Chairman  
DIAMOND SANGHA