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December 24, 1964
2119 Kaloa Way
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822 USA

Dear Mr. Sekida:

Soen Roshi has written to us about the plan for you to come to Koko An to work with us. We are very much interested in this idea, and wish to explore it with you.

If we reach an agreement on plans, then we will be glad to make visa arrangements for you, to buy your ticket, and to set you up here with room and meals, either in Koko An or separately, whichever seems best. We should understand, I think, that any arrangement we make should be tentative, until it is clear that you are really happy living in America, with only peculiar Americans to talk to. We would welcome you as soon as you would like to come, and as soon as arrangements are complete.

We would like to hear from you, to learn when you would like to come, and what visa arrangements you would like to make. I should explain that you have a choice of three types of visa. 1. Visitor's visa, six months, renewable once or twice I think. 2. Special professional visa, up to four years I think. For this, we would have to demonstrate your special ability in translation, but this would just be a matter of gathering affidavits from Soen Roshi and others. 3. ~~Residence~~ Permanent visa. This would be open to you if you could show an ordination certificate dated two years previously. We could get Soen Roshi to fake one, I suppose. I should tell you that I cannot make any application for visas under the second or third categories until I transfer my sponsorship of Tai San to his new group on the East Coast, and settle the matter of my sponsorship of Yasutani Roshi and Satomi San. The latter two have requested that I cancel their visas, but this would be very awkward for us to do, and I have asked them to allow me to try to have the sponsorship transferred to the East-Coast group. Therefore I am waiting for Yasutani Roshi's final instructions in this matter, and I am waiting for Tai San to let me know to whom I should transfer his sponsorship. He came to see us

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yesterday out of nowhere, but he was not able to tell us the name of his new sponsor. I hope he will supply me with this information soon. The immigration people are very sticky. According to their records, I/am the sponsor of three priests. I am sure that I cannot sponsor any more unless I can show that one or more are cancelled or transfered. All this should be cleared up in a month at the outside.

We look forward very much to working with you, Mr. Sekida. I am very busy at the East-West Center, and I do not see any lessening of my busy-ness in the future. However, I will devote what spare moments I may have to ~~my~~ our mutual interests and projects. Anne joins me in wishing you a happy holiday season. Yours, with gassho