

Sept. 15, 1982

Dear Robin,

Here is the outcome of yesterday's Board meeting. I have decided not to attempt to give you a complete blow-by-blow description from memory because it would not be accurate, because there were so many attempts at Eido at sidestepping, side tracking, trivializing, evading, ducking, etc., etc,¹

Eido's behavior necessitated that I become stubborn + one pointed in my own purpose. These reactions did not, of course, make for a truly productive meeting. This also made any attempt at fully accurate recollection very difficult. What follows is what I understood as coming out of this meeting. (not in chronological order)

Eido submitted his resignation as chairman of the Board – the Board voted and accepted this. He will probably take a short sabbatical soon. (within the next quarter year). He will remain as Abbot.

Quite difficultly, I raised two motions which did not get the support of a majority of the Board.

First I offered him the option of an extended sabbatical from the Board + the Zendos. Refused.

Next I raised a motion to have him removed as Chairman and Abbot of both Zendos. Some consideration was given to this, but as each member expressed his opinion only three of us would give it consideration Jean Bankier, Peggy Crawford and yours truly. The other members expressed strong support of Eido. So a vote would have been a waste of time.

After this the meeting went on to discuss the options of reorganization of the Board. "Significantly" Aiho will probably turn over the treasury to someone of her choice.

The meeting began with Eido's proposal of resignation but I stopped the discussion of this because of George Zournas' letter (enclosed). At first Eido refused to have this "outsider's" letter read but when yours truly pressed on he yielded.

After the meeting I and another Board member went to visit George where we discussed the meeting, then we called Soen Roshi.

As I explained over the phone, he had us relate the meeting slowly and clearly, particularly because a secretary was writing everything we said down.

He (Soen) told me that of course Eido would not leave.

¹ And it would still be biased

He told another board member that “Eido’s fault was his fault and that Dai Bosatsu’s shame is Ryutaku Ji’s shame.”

(Robin if this isn’t taking the blame I don’t know what is)

Soen told George the following

“I do not hate Eido Roshi
I do hate falsehood and lying
I love Eido and Aiho very intensely
And have pity for them”

“Now, nothing else but Namu Dai Bosa!”

“If we become more genuine and honest we become more and more strong”

Next he said

“From dead point here to dead point. Eido’s dead point is Aiho.”

“All the evil karma ever committed by me since of old on account of my beginningless greed anger and folly born of my body, mouth and thought I now confess and purify them all”

Then Soen said that the most important Bodhisattva in the purification ceremony was Namu Bravelly March On Butsu.

Finally he had us all join in chanting Namu Dai Bosa. After finishing chanting Soen shouted “KWATZ!”

Silence for a while Then the phone was hung up at Ryutaku Ji.

So the outcome.

Now get this damn article printed so that we may all move on and continue!

Thank you, Robin

Gassho
Frank