

June 23, 1951

Dr. Jiro Harada, Liaison Officer
The National Museum
Ueno Park
Tokyo, Japan

Dear Dr. Harada:

Apparently our letters crossed in transit.

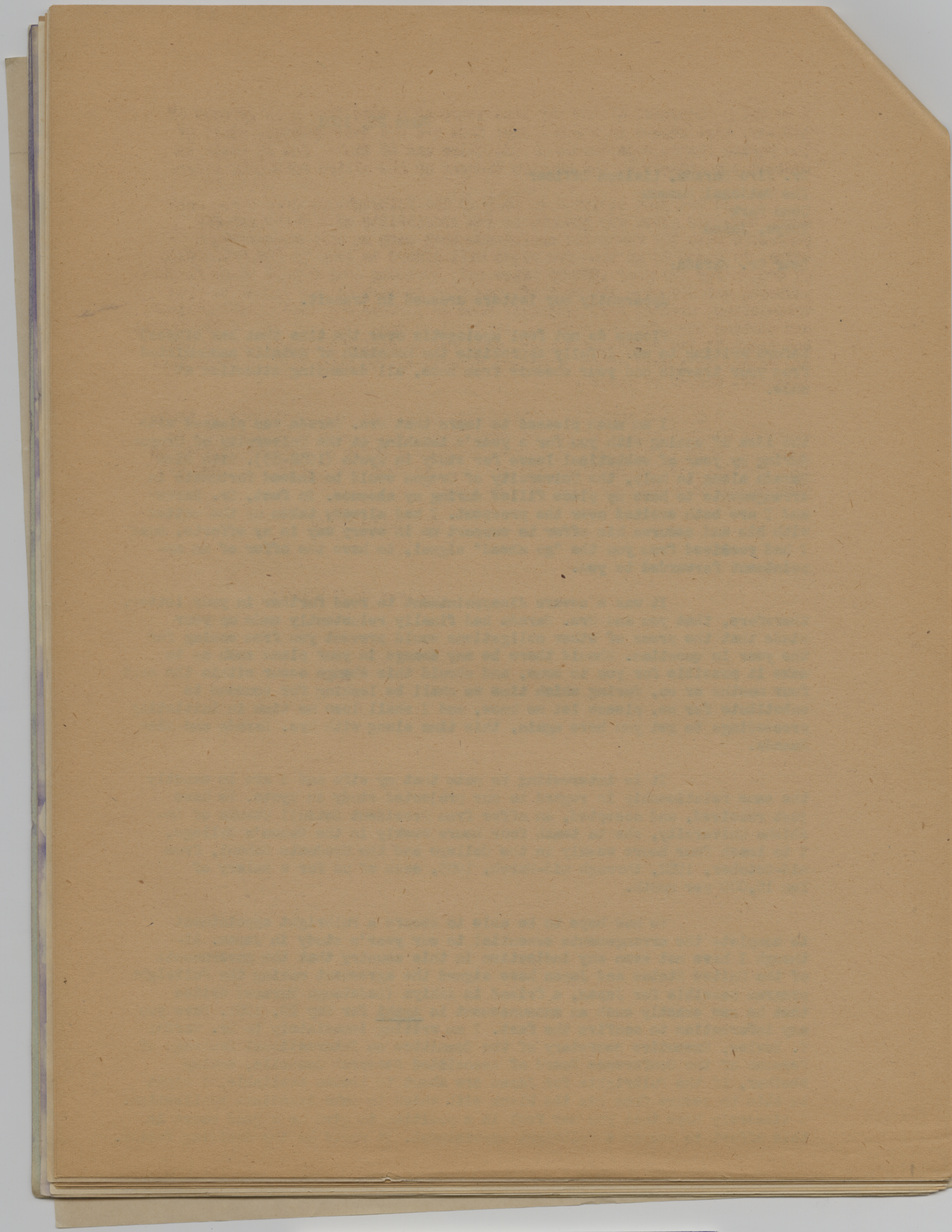
Please do not feel apologetic over the time that has elapsed before writing to me. I fully appreciate the mountain of details accumulated from your travels and your absence from home, all demanding attention at once.

I am much pleased to learn that Mrs. Harada was pleased with the idea of coming with you for a year's teaching at the University of Oregon during my year of sabbatical leave for study in Kyoto (1952-53). With Miss Hamada along to help, the University of Oregon would be indeed fortunate in arrangements to have my place filled during my absence. In fact, Dr. Barker and I are both excited over the prospect. I had already taken up the matter with him and secured his offer to support me in every way in my efforts, once I had received from you the "go ahead" signal, to have the offer of an appointment forwarded to you.

It was a severe disappointment to read further in your letter, therefore, that you and Mrs. Harada had finally reluctantly made up your minds that the press of other obligations would prevent you from coming for the year in question. Should there be any change in your plans such as to make it possible for you to come, and should this change occur within the next four months or so, during which time we shall be looking for someone to substitute for me, please let me know, and I shall lose no time in initiating proceedings to get you here again, this time along with Mrs. Harada and Miss Hamada.

It is interesting to note that my wife and I are in exactly the same relationship in regard to our projected study in Kyoto. We have just received, and accepted, an offer from President Setsuji Otsuka of Doshisha University, she to teach four hours weekly in the Women's College, I to teach four hours weekly in the College and the Graduate School, from mid-October, 1952, through mid-March, 1953, each of us for a salary of Yen 15,000 per month.

We now hope to be able to secure a Fulbright appointment to complete the arrangements essential to our year's study in Japan. Although I have not seen any indication in this country that the governments of the United States and Japan have signed the agreement making the Fulbright program possible for Japan, a friend in Ashiya (Sadatsugu Murase) writes that he saw exactly such an announcement in Asahi for May 20, 1951. Have you any information to confirm the fact. I am writing immediately to Dr. Gordon T. Bowles, Executive Secretary of the Committee on International Exchange of Persons of the Conference Board of Associated Research Councils, asking whether, if the Fulbrights for Japan are about to become available, I might be able to secure from him the blank with which to make immediate application. I sincerely hope that you may feel in a position to give me a good boost in this effort to secure a Fulbright appointment. It would be the deciding factor.



I am fully convinced of the key importance of a word from you, because of the very high regard in which I know that you are held by authorities of the United States Departments of Education and of State, and by those in executive positions in the Supreme Command of the Allied Powers in Tokyo.

It has just occurred to me that the Fulbright program works both ways. Have you given any thought to the possibility of a Fulbright for yourself? With the financial assistance that such an appointment might offer, it seems to me that you might well afford to come to the University of Oregon for the year 1952-53 after all, teaching only a part of my courses, perhaps, and devoting the rest of your time to work at the Warner Museum, translating, writing that projected book on Ikebana for Studio Publications, and meeting any other obligations confronting you. I'd back you to the utmost, and count it the rarest of honors, were you to decide to apply and to use me, maybe, as a very minor secondary reference. The more I think about this idea, the better it sounds.

I am glad that the little token of our esteem, contained in that envelope which I handed to you at your departure, proved a little help in acquiring things to please those near to you. I offer my warmest regards to Mrs. Harada, and the fervent hope that we may even yet get you and her and Miss Hamada here for the year in question.

Cordially yours

Wallace S. Baldinger

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