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April 28, 1995

Mr. Casey Williams
1319 North 1300 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Dear Casey:

I am glad to know that you went home safe and sound. Thank you very much for your kind letter and a package containing the beautiful Navajo pottery. It is intriguing to know about its "asymmetricality," because asymmetricality is one of the most important aspects of Japanese designs. The Native Americans came from the Asian continent long time ago, and it is no wonder that I feel close to their arts. It is really wonderful gift, and thank you again for your thoughtfulness.

It was wonderful to have you at the Japan Society last weekend. I wish every guest of ours were like you (so easy to work with, considerate, interesting, appreciative...). Your contribution by showing GENBAKUSHI and participating in the panel was invaluable. I wanted to include the American point of view in this series of JAPANESE FILM IN WAR AND PEACE, and in this sense, your participation was essential. Your film and talk added significant dimensions to our program. GENBAKUSHI is not only a moving and powerful film but also it is full of interesting information and insightful observations about history. The panel discussion was extremely satisfactory because it covered a number of important issues from different point of views by a filmmaker, a historian and a journalist.

Barbara and Yukari, as well as the Japan Society staff, enjoyed meeting you very much. Although every non-profit organization is having a hard time struggling to survive, and we had to ask Columbia University and Kodansha to collaborate in this project, your appearance was very important and the expenses for inviting you to New York were more than well justified by your excellent film and presentation.

I hope that our paths will come across again some time soon. The next time, I hope to meet your family as well.

Sincerely,


Kyoko Hirano