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Koko An
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Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
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Dear Mr. Sekida:

Your latest letter arrived ^{last} this/week. Now it is Sunday after our regular meeting, and I have time to answer. First of all, I must say that your letters are more clear and more literate than most American letters I receive. With such capacity to begin with, I am sure that your speed will pick up. I do regret very much the time you have spent on their composition.

Second, it looks very much as though the New York group which is sponsoring Tai San is not going to send me/any sort of release or statement of transfer of Tai San's visa/ ^(for a while) sponsorship. Also, Yasutani Rosh has asked me to remain as his sponsor until he has obtained a Mainland sponsor (I gather that it will be the same New York outfit). Thus, Diamond Sangha is still the sponsor of Shimano, Yasutani and Satomi. With all the trouble I had getting Yasutani's visa, I am confident that I cannot get another on top of his, unless we are officially no longer his and Shimano's sponsor. Of course, I could simply notify the immigration authorities of the transfers and be clear for sponsoring you, but that would lead to their investigation of Tai San and Yasutani Rosh's visa sponsorship status, and if the sponsors are not ready for official sponsorship, there could be real trouble.

The third matter is my trip to Asia, which is now official. I leave April 2 and do not return until May 31. You would be welcome to come to Hawaii before I return, but I wonder whether or not you might prefer to wait until June. I will probably be meeting with Soen Rosh May 27 and/or 28, either at Ryutakuji or at Gangyoji in Tokyo. It might be fun to meet together at that time.

In view of all this, I suggest that we might consider a

simple visitor's visa for you at this time. I am afraid that if we wait for Tai San's group in New York to get busy, we may wait too long and not be able to get any visa at all for the time you wish to leave. With a visitor's visa, you will be able to renew at least once and stay for a year at least, or perhaps 18 months. Then we will try to have it changed to a professional visa here, or if that is not possible, we can send you back to Japan for a visit of a month

or so to complete the red tape there.

In any case, please continue with your preparation of the documents, and we will use them when we finally apply for your professional visa. I will wait another couple of weeks for action from New York, and if there is none, I will go ahead with the simpler visitor's visa application, which does not require contact with the local authorities. When you have the documents certified, please send them to me, together with statement of cost. Aloha.

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