

April 11th

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Principal Robert Lee,
Turlock Elementary Schools,
Turlock, California

Dear Mr. Lee,

In behalf of the Turlock Social Club, an organization composed of American citizens of Japanese ancestry, I take this method of expressing our most sincere appreciation for the kindnesses you bestowed upon many of us through your leadership during our grammar school days.

The Western Defense Command of the United States has considered it a military necessity that we evacuate very soon. To its decree, we are cheerfully cooperating as every loyal American should do.

Throughout our education from the kindergarten days, we have been taught the American way of life. Most of us only know the American way from a practical viewpoint. And in order that we and our children may live, sleep and breathe in such atmosphere in the future, we shall do our part in preserving the American way of life to the best of our ability.

When the United States Government permits us to return to our homes in this community, we earnestly hope that we can come back with a stronger conviction that this American way-- this democratic way of life is the best, as we have been taught and experienced. We hope that you and the community will accept us and our children then as one of you, as you have always done up to this time.

Because we do not know when actual evacuation will be asked of us, this simple expression of our feelings convey our appreciation for the leadership you so kindly contributed in helping to guide and mold our thoughts and actions.

It is only proper that I direct a separate message to each faculty member, but, as a matter of expediency, will you kindly convey our appreciation to each and every member of the faculty.

Goodbye just for awhile.

Yours very sincerely,

T. Iwata, president