

June 13, 1942

My dear Mrs. Waigell,

Tonight I feel like doing any thing for the first time since I came here. After the long trip it took from Elk Grove to here was a tiresome ride and did not feel like doing any thing. When I was just beginning to feel better they gave me a typhoid and vaccinated shot, then second inoculated for typhoid. Before I get my third one I better write to you.

First of all I want to express my thanks and my appreciation for your lovely gift which you present to us. It was certainly generous and kind of you to be good to us as well as the others. The Japanese people who you know will never forget your wonderful characteristic way of friendhip to any kind of nationalities. So in the 11th, quite often the Japanese friends of yours often think of you.

When we were on the train, the Japanese girls and all other people did not hardly speak to each other. They all were in their place and gazing at the scenery. Those times I think they were thinking of their place they had to leave or they were kind of relief to all the trouble they were before - the evacuation. When we all arrived here, fixed up our place where we dwell in and every thing done, very busy to visit

their relatives and friends. There were tears in their eyes when the trains started to go of course awhile on the train, the little children played around. Not even their happy voices made us forget our grief. I think we rode on the train for sixteen hours

Now every one is happy, full of pep and anxious to do anything. My folks made ^{two} cupboard boards and six chairs. They are trying to make our room comfortable. Each family get one large room. The larger families get a larger room. They supply us with rest rooms, laundry ^{hand} shower rooms, recreation hall, hall for little children to play in, hall for adult hospital, dental, almost every thing.

I was expecting to find there a terrible place, but when I came here I have no complain to make except the dust when the wind blows hard. The weather ~~is~~ here is hot during the day time and at night is cooler.

Last week they gave a wonderful stage show. Every players of acting, singing, playing instruments are very good. I was told that these players used to earned lot of money outside of here. There is a wonderful ballet dancer, and she willingly gave out her dance from to all the people.

My brother got a position as orderly in the hospital. He is kind of happy about his job because he can again experience while he out of school. I havent apply for any position yet I will in the future as doing any work for man or learn dressmaking. My sister is rather upset about this place because she have no friends to suit her. I am trying hard to make her be friends with the Japanese but it seem she cant get very well with them. all her life she been with white friends and deaf who know sign-language.

My father already registered for milk as milking cows. My mother will keep the house or whatever she find to do.

How the things go in Elk Grove or any place where Japanese evacuated. What about the strawberries. Are they letting them rot? or some school boys are picking them?

There are quite a number of white ladies who have Japanese husbands and very few white men married to Japanese girls.

We all are hoping that we will be able to come out from this reception center very soon. Every one is hoping that this war will come to the end as soon as possible.

I think I have wrote all about this place and I hope you under-

stand. Manzanar is located between
the two high mountains I believe on
the west side of mts, is called mts.
Whitney and other side see in Nevada,
about one hundred twenty-five miles
from here. Mojave Desert is located.

Won't you write to me and tell
me what happening in Elk
Grove.

Please take good care of yourself
and your family. Thank you again
for the gift.

Most sincerely

Ruth Taro Takagi

PS

My parents, Paul and Hannah sent
their best regard to you. This letter
is also behalf of them.

Block 31 Bldg. 1 apt. 2

Manzanar Reception Center

Manzanar, Calif.

I have not yet met Mrs. Yoneda
but will try again to locate her.