

Stockade
Feb. 23, 1944

Mr. Best
Project Director
Pile Lake, Calif.

Dear Sir:

Since I was arrested and put in the stockade thirty-four days have passed. Why I was arrested I do not know; it has never been made clear to me. I have never entertained radical ideas.

On the contrary I have always formed my ideas logically and rationally. Therefore, I would not be surprised if my arrest was caused by someone who had made false report about me and I am at a loss to understand why anyone should do anything so mean.

Needless to say, life in the stockade is meaningless to me. It does not make sense besides being unpleasant. However, it gave me time introspection and speculation and it bewilders me as to the outcome of it all. But fortunately for me, my wife wrote to me a few days ago informing me that she has had ^{the} opportunity to see you.

The result of the meeting was most encouraging and gratifying, she writes. She showed you the letter I wrote to her on about Feb. 16 wherein I made it very clear to her how I am feeling and what my trend of thoughts are.

I have only the best of interest and peace and happiness of the people at heart.

That is my very sincere thought and I am speaking with the utmost frankness. I pray that this Center will be restored to its normal condition as soon as possible. Many of friends know this.

And because I had the best interest of the colonists at heart always. Some of the more hard-bodied people accused me of being weak minded. But the matter of fact is that I have always been fair-minded and strived to see things in a way that was just and reasonable. I have made every effort to cooperate with the authorities and the sane thinking people who are striving to bring about the normal condition we once enjoyed in Pule Lake.

I am one of the score or more of such people in the stockade. But unfortunately there are some who do not share our opinion. To have to live together with such people is, indeed, not a very pleasant thing as it gives me the feeling that I am at loggerheads with them. It is really hard to endure.

Therefore, I beg of you to kindly give me the opportunity to explain and otherwise make my stand clear to you. It is unfortunate that I do not speak the English language and I wish you would permit my wife to become my interpreter. Of course it could be someone else

Kindly give consideration to my case and may I expect an early meeting with you?

Sincerely yours,
Wm. J. Fujimoto