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1945

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c

Nabeshima
NABESHIMA, IRENE

*7000 letter
Sept 3*

AUG 27 1945

Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

August 23, 1945

Attention Mr. Wexler:

Referring to the telegram and letter I sent to you on 11th and 17th of August, I wish to add the following:

I have heard from the past few days, that to us the renuancee, our request for regaining our citizenship is not possible at present. If this is the case, my earnest wish is to be released as a parolee in order that I may relocate as soon as possible and start my life anew once again.

My sister, her husband and baby daughter as well as my parents all desire to relocate together and hope to continue our business where we left off when war broke out. My sister, parents and I are all State licensed Hairdressers & Cosmeticians and hope to open a salon of our own again in the near future.

Our decision as to where we will go has not yet been decided but as for myself, I would like to go out where my young brother, Albert is. He is now in Evanston, Illinois, attending a private school.

He is every ounce an American, and looked upon as that by many of his newly acquired friends, who are all Caucasians. To think that going by the color of the skin and the slant of the eyes, brought on by their creeds is overlooked, makes a person feel so happy. He is getting along splendidly, and the more I hear of it, the more I want to be with him, and share the happiness.

Realizing the mistake, I've made I sincerely wish to correct it. Please give your special attention to my plea of parolee. Thanking you in advance, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Irene Nabeshima
#20292
4605A
Newell, Calif

(COPY)

AUG 27 1945

Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

August 14, 1945

Attention Mr Wexler:

It was in the Tanforan Assembly center that my parents decided to repatriate. As I was taught to obey my parents from childhood I also decided to expatriate as it was inevitable for me not too since I did not have means of supporting myself. I could not help gazing out of the window after signing and looking at the skies, hills and far beyond, without the tears streaming out of my eyes. The Caucasian in charge had my sister and parents taken out of the room, but kept me behind because I believed he knew how I felt, as he kindly expressed that I still could retain citizenship despite the fact that the paper statement did say I would lose it if I were to sign. In Topaz, I was asked again to sign my second expatriation papers.

On Sept. of 1943, my family and I were segregated to the Tule Lake Center. It was here, that I had heard rumors circulating around that Japan would not accept any American Citizen of Japanese descent unless they've renounced their citizenship. That is the reason why I had applied for renunciation. Making the mistake of renouncing has made me feel very remorseful and knowing that really inside of me, I had cherished everything that America ways of living stands for. Living in a center for three years subject to internal group pressure, one is surrounded by misinformation and distorted information and I have been no exception. In corresponding with my young brother on the outside, he has taught me a lot about Americanism. It was then that I saw the clear light dawning on me. I would like to stay here in America not for a while but till I die.

Please accept my sincere wish. I would like to restore my citizenship as a loyal American citizen. If it is not too late and since I have not yet been informed that my application for renunciation has been accepted by the United States government, I earnestly desire to have that application cancelled.

I would like to relocate in the near future with my parents, sister, and brother-in-law. I intend to remain a loyal American citizen.

I have written to the Swiss Embassy and the State Department to cancel my expatriation request.

(COPY)

-2-

This is to note that I have sent a telegram to your department on August 11, 1945, Saturday wishing to cancel my application for renouncing of citizenship.

Very truly yours,

Irene Nabeshima
Family #20292
4605-A
Tule Lake Center
Newell, California

4311-B
Tule Lake Center
Newell, California

Sept. 2, 1945

SEP 11 1945

Mr. Ernest Besig
American Civil Liberties Union
216 Pine Street
San Francisco, California

Dear Sir:

We are appealing to you for your aid in helping us so that we may resettle in normal communities outside.

During the renunciation hearings held in this center we applied for renunciation of citizenship. We deeply regret that we had taken such an action. We would like to regain our citizenship in some way.

We had an intention of visiting parents who were residing in Hiroshima City, Japan but having learned of the complete destruction that desire of visiting them is all gone. We had been led to take such an action of renouncing citizenship due to the strong camp pressure and misleading information. Due to newspaper articles pertaining to persons of Japanese ancestry and discriminating incidents outside, many confusing rumors had been spread in the camp.

We are depending upon your kind advice as our only desire is to relocate and live a happy normal life which we had led before we had been evacuated to the camp.

Any of your suggestions or aid will be deeply appreciated and shall be very grateful.

Yours very truly

Mr & Mrs Kentaro Nakamura

Mr. and Mrs. Kentaro Nakamura

SEP 4 1945

5907-C
Newell, Calif.
August 30/45

Mr. Ernest Besig
American Civil Liberties Union
216 Pine Street
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Besig:

I hope I won't take too much of your time, but I am asking for your help if possible. As you know by name I am a person of Japanese Ancestry, and at the present time residing at the Tule Lake Segregation Center. My family number is 40459. My problem is relocation, and I am in great need of your help. I've heard you have done so much for the Japanese people I decided to ask you.

My place of birth is Clovis, California and should have my American Citizenship, but I have renounced it. I have not received any papers stating my renunciation has been approved as yet, and I would like to cancel it. Can it be done? Months ago I decided to relocate so I dashed out to the relocation office to find out if I can go out, but to my disappointment I found out I was off the Army and also the Justice Department stop list. Can you tell me the best way for me to get my citizenship back and also the fastest way to get cleared both by the Army and the Justice Dept.?

I know I may be relying on you too much, but I believe in you and I hope you will do everything possible to help me out.

Most sincerely,

Kazuto Nakamura

Age 19

4514-C

Tule Lake

Newell, California

September 18, 1945

Mr. Earnest Besing

American Civil Liberties Union

216 Pine St.

San Francisco, California

SEP 20 1945

Dear Mr. E. Besing:

Sometime during the early part of 1945, after I sent my application for renunciation, I was called for a hearing by a representative of the Department of Justice to decide upon the most important question of whether to renounce my citizenship of the United States of America. At the time I requested to have my citizenship renounced, which was a grave mistake that I made so foolishly without ample reason for doing so.

When I was thrown into an evacuation center and put behind barbed wires, I felt my citizenship was taken away. At that time I was only 17 years of age. Although I was developing physically, and mentally my mind became narrow with years that passed, due to the most abnormal condition of living; and therefore, when, at young age of 19, I was called to face such a grave problem, I did not have the clear understanding or the capability to cope with such a serious problem. The natural tendency for listen to rumors, with which the center was flooded, and to letting them influence me was so acute that it became the chief factor for my foolish act. In fact the pressure of rumors forced me to fill in form (401) (1) of the Nationality Act of 1940, sign it, and send it to you. I am now, much after much thought and reconsideration, fully aware of the important error which I committed,

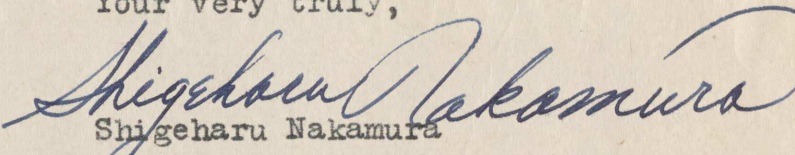
and I am deeply ashamed of my stupidity and ignorance. I repudiate my signature as it was under pressure and request your help in securing a restoration of my citizenship.

I was born on April 15, 1925, in Oakland, California, and I am not a dual citizen. I lived in Newark, California, till 1933; I went to Japan with my mother, and I came back to the United States on June, 1940 to Newark California. I lived in Newark till the evacuation. I finished my elementary education at the Newark Elementary School, and I completed my secondary education of the Tri-State High School of this center. During my years in Newark, I never knew that I would have to question the status of my nationality. I believed that I was an American and would be treated as such, and would strive for the betterment of America.

I am appealing for your favorable consideration to cancel my renunciation papers and reopen the matter and grant me a hearing.

At present my family want to go outside, and I would like to help them resettle and establish a new home.

Your very truly,


Shigeharu Nakamura

I have sent these copies to following persons:

Mr. Edward J. Ennis, Director
Enemy Alien Control Unit
Department of Justice
Washington, 25, D.C.

Mr. Harold L. Ickes
Dept. of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

Mr. Tom Clark
Attorney General
Washington, D.C.

P.S. Since the foregoing letter was formulated, the Justice dept. has indicated that it will remove renunciants to internment camps and thereafter ship them to Japan. The latter action will be taken in a rather summary fashion. You say you are not a dual citizen. How are you going to prove that question? Are your parents prepared to testify that they did not register your birth with the Japanese Consulate? In filling out forms for the WRA, did you ever claim to be a dual citizen and in your hearing before the Justice dept. on your renunciation, did you claim at that time to be a dual citizen? My own feeling is that renunciants ought to take legal action to defend their rights and that if they are not in a financial position as individuals to do so, they ought to pool their resources.

EB

NAKANO, MINORU

AUG 24 1945

*Form letter
Sept. 3*

Tule Lake Center
Newell, California
August 17, 1945

Dear Sir,

I am enclosing a letter which I send to Mr.
E. J. Ennis of Department of Justice. I have not
been to Japan. I will appreciate it very much,
if every thing could be done to help me.

Sincerely yours,

Minoru Nakano

Minoru Nakano
7905-D

AUG 24 1945

Tule Lake Center
Newell, California
August 17, 1945

Mr. E. J. Ennis
United States Department of Justice
Attention: Enemy Alien Control Unit
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Ennis:

I want to get my American citizenship back. I renounced my citizenship in March 1945. My mother who had suffered for all of us three children wanted me to go to Japan with her and I wanted to do what she wanted me to do. I was the oldest child and had to do what she asked me to do. My mother died in April, 1945, and now I don't have to take her back and I don't want to go to Japan anyhow.

I don't have any reason to go to Japan now. My only hope now is to stay in the United States. I want to work outside and help the United States win this war so we can have peace. I am sick of camp life. I have been in three centers. I was working as a mechanic in Chicago in May 1944, when my Mother asked me to come to Tule Lake and go with her to Japan. I did not want to but I had to obey my Mother. I would like to go back to Chicago and work as a mechanic and live with my friends there.

I have told Mr. Louis M. Noyes, the Project Attorney, that I will serve in the United States Army if the government will let me. Please try to help me.

Sincerely yours,

Minoru Nakano
7905-D

NAKAO, SATOYO
, MASARU (WIFE)

*Form letter
Sept. 2*

AUG 23 1945

1019-B, W. R. A.
Newell, California
Aug. 20th, 1945

Hon. U. S. ATTORNEY GENERAL
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Your Honor:

My wife, Satoyo, and I, Masaru Nakao, had hearings on renunciation of our birth rights on Jan. 12 of this year. Since then, for the last seven months, I haven't heard from the Department of Justice as to the out-come of the decisions reached on our cases. I am and will be very glad if our applications would not be approved by your office.

My motive of writing to your office is caused by the fact that I was told I should write to the department if I wanted to cancel my application for the renunciation of my American citizenship.

After I had my hearing on the case, I had been thinking how foolish I was to do away with my precious birth rights especially when there is nothing promising that I would be sent to Japan. Of course, I am convinced that my regret renunciation, which is deepened at the time of the Japanese surrender as an eminent fact.

My true reason of renunciation is that the evacuation of the Japanese extracts from the Pacific coast without due regard for the citizenship rights. Though I have a contempt for the pro-Japan organization, Hoshi Dan, nor I am a member of it, I was influenced by the rumour by the Hoshi Dan that unless I renounce my U. S. citizenship I would be forced out of this center. It prompted me for renunciation. But, as time goes by I realized the significance about the evacuation, namely it was to protect us from some unreasonable people and also by the military necessity.

As the result of the recent destruction of Hiroshima by the atomic bomb, I realize that there is

AUG 23 1945

--(2)--

no cause for my returning to Japan for I have been wanting to see my old Father, who has been expecting me for the last eight years. Undoubtedly my father's folks there are not there any more.

Change in war situation calls for reconsideration of my family future, I have no desire of any sort to expatriate to Japan now. In fact that I would like to beg you to grant me an opportunity to remain in this country for the sake of my family. For once more I wish to prove that I really meant to be a true American.

In order to give some reliable character picture of myself I would mention just a few of my friends. They are the followings;

Mrd. E. W. Stadtmuller
3235 Pacific Ave.
San Francisco, California

Miss Grace Miyata
524 W. 112 St., Apt-10-A
N. Y. 25, N. Y.

Miss Hatsuye Nakao
School Headquarters
Fort Snelling 11, Minn.

Please find the copies of our cancelling requests for expatriations to Japan. Our requests were sent to the State Department as dated.

Since my wife and I are requesting your office to disapprove our applications for renunciation, I asked her to fix her signature along with mine in this letter.

I thank you for all the trouble, but may I hear from you at your earliest convenience? As I remain,

Yours truly,

Masaru Nakao

Satoyo Nakao

State Department
Washington, D. C.

Attention; Special War Problems Division

I, Masaru Nakao, requested expatriation and exchange to Japan on March 1943 at the Topaz Relocation Center. I now certify that I wish to cancel that application and to remain in the United States. I request respectfully that my name be taken off the list of the persons to be considered for exchange.

Name

1019 - B, W. R. A., Newell, California
Address

Aug. 20th, 1945
Date

14935
Family Number

Jan. 7, 1914 at San Francisco, Calif.
Date and Birth Place

Dual citizenship renounced.
Citizenship

2055 Bush Street, San Francisco, Calif.
Address Before Evacuation

State Department
Washington, D. C.

Attention; Special War Problems Div.

I, Satoyo Nakano, requested expatriation and exchange to Japan on March 1943 at the Topaz Relocation Center. I now certify that I wish to cancel that application and to remain in the United States. I request respectfully that my name be taken off the list of the person to be considered for exchange.

Name _____

1019 - B. W. R. A., Newell, California
Address

Aug. 20th. 1945
Date

14935
Family Number

July 21, 1917 at Oakland, Calif.
Date and Birth Place

Dual
Citizenship

2055 Bush Street, San Francisco, Calif.
Address before Evacuation

AUG 23 1945

1019-B, W. R. A.
Newell, California
Aug. 20th, 1945

MR. ERNEST BESIG
American Civil Liberties Union
216 Pine Street
San Francisco, California

Dear Sir:

Please find the copies of the documents we have sent to the respective places. I would like to have you keep them in your file for the future references.

Somebody told me of your taking interest in our affairs, and I was urged to send the same for the purpose you may find useful.

Thank you for the trouble. As I remain,

Yours truly,

Masaru Nakao
Masaru Nakao

August 24, 1945

Mr. Masaru Nakao
1019-B
Newell, California

Dear Mr. Nakao:

This will acknowledge the receipt of your letter of August 20 enclosing a copy of your letter to the attorney general and certain forms which you furnished to the Special War Problems Division. We will be glad to place these documents in our files and, in fact, turn them over to one of our attorneys who is preparing a test case in relation to renunciation of citizenship by persons at Tule Lake.

I am sure the information contained in your letter will be helpful to us, and I am hopeful in the near future the situation of renunciants will be clarified.

OE

Sincerely yours,

EB:AR

Ernest Besig, Director

AUG 31 1945

Russell. Camp
Aug 29, 1945

American Civil Liberties Union
216 Pine Street
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mr. Beig:

I am sending you a copy of
a letter which I have sent to Mr.
Ennis regarding my cancellation of
an application for renunciation
of citizenship.

I would appreciate very much
if you will please help me in my
case for I really want to stay in
this country and prove to everyone
I can be a useful, and a good citizen.

Most Sincerely yours

Masao Nakata

6804-D

Newell, Camp
Aug. 27, 1945

AUG 31 1945

Mr J. E. Ennis
Attorney General
Enemy Alien Division
Dept of Justice Wash. D. C.

Dear Sir: -

You have probably received my
wire of Aug 27, 1945. Asking you to cancel
my application for renunciation of
Citizenship.

Ever since the hearing I have more than
realized that I made a very serious mistake
by doing a great injustice to myself and I
would like to do my utmost to regain my
former status as a citizen of the U. S.

At that time I really had no choice
in the matter since I was heavily forced
by the various pressure groups which
lead me to this decision. if I were to
continue living as a peaceful resident
of this particular center.

I have always known that I went
against my better judgement when taking

this vital step but without doing so,
I would not be permitted or accepted
among the residents therefore I was
left with no other alternative.

If I were given the opportunity
I would like to prove to you and every
one that I can become an useful citizen
to this nation by serving in various ways
during this tremendous task of reconversion.

Please review my case very thoroughly
for I would like to plead with you to
accept my cancellation of ^{my application for} ~~citizenship~~ ^{renewal of} ~~citizenship~~.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours.

Masao Nakata

Form letter 460 - a
 Sept 1
 Newell, Calif
 Aug. 21, 1945

AUG 27 1945

Mr. Ernest Besig
 American Civil Liberties Union
 216 Pine St.,
 San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mr. Besig:

To Mr. Edward J. Ennis, Attorney General of Washington D.C., I have written a letter asking for cancellation of my renunciation of citizenship.

I would like to have your backing in restoring my citizenship in order to relocate or if I cannot restore my citizenship, to be able to go out as an Issei.

Here is my letter to Mr. Ennis:

It's shame to write and ask after I renounced my citizenship rights. But in spite of it all, I would like to present the facts and ask for reconsideration of my cancel-

tion of renunciation.

Ever since evacuation, I was hurt as a citizen to be rounded up in relocation center. Though my loyalty to America was unbroken through long years of endurance in camp. I have gone to work as soon as I entered the camp and assisted in every manner possible in making the camp a peaceful one.

My only intention of returning to Japan was not to go back as victory nation but to visit the grave of my mother. Also as Japanese race, I thought we were no longer wanted since there were much anti-Japanese ^{feelings} etc.

To be honest about it all, I thought renouncing my citizenship was the only possible means.

My household property and my business tools here stored in a private Japanese home was burned down last year.

I have been asked repeatedly by my brother-in-law now serving in the armed forces somewhere in Europe, to relocate. Without my citizenship, I am unable to do so at this time.

Again with your permission I would like to ask for reconsideration of my citizenship which I have lost. If another opportunity is granted I would gladly like to stay in the United States even as an alien and prove my loyalty.

For my doubt of past record, kindly refer to Capt. H. M. Fowler
1334 Cole Place, Hollywood, Calif.

Again may I ask for your backing in obtaining my citizenship back again in order to relocate. If it cannot be restored, could you help me relocate as an alien.

Very Truly Yours,
Mamoru Tsuchikawa

NISHISAKI, JOICHI
ans by form letter, 9-3-45

5206-A

Newell 3, Calif.

August 27, 1945

American Civil Liberties Union

216 Pine St.

San Francisco, Calif.

AUG 29 1945

Dear Sir:

I am an American citizen
by birth who have mistakenly
or forcefully renounce citizenship.
I have try to regain or retain
my citizenship by writing to
Mr. Ennis of the Justice department
but met with not much
success. I am enclosing
the duplicate letter which
I have writtens to Mr.
Ennis.

Can you help me regain
my citizenship so I will be
able to leave this center,

I Thank you

Respectively Yours
Joichi Nishisaki

August 25, 1945

Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

AUG 27 1945

Dear Sir:

I wrote to you asking for cancellation of my renunciation of citizenship on June 18, 1945 and I have received your answer on June 27, 1945. Ever since then I have been very miserable for the tragic consequences.

I have been put on pressure by the environment of the peoples' reactions in this particular section of this center where the pressure group had their headquarters. I had no desire to take such step if I was not influenced by the ignorant people or rumors. If I did not take this step I would be considered against them and they would make things quite miserable for us. I have never attempted to join such organization or group of any kind. I thought we would be able to regain our citizenship when we leave this center, so I just unwillingly renounced to be considered human in this place. When I wrote you for a cancellation I had definite plans to leave soon but when I saw your letter I was downhearted.

I have never been to Japan and had no intention of going there before evacuation. I am a property owner here and had future plans to live as a good citizen. Before evacuation or even after the attack on Pearl Harbor my family and I have shown loyalty to this country by purchasing U.S. War Bonds which I still have in my possession. If I were drafted I was willing to serve in the Armed Forces of the United States. A few months after we were evacuated to the assembly center there was a call for volunteer for farm labor to harvest the nation's sugar beet crop in Colorado. The whole family voluntarily responded to help out in the shortage of farm labor. After we completed this harvest we returned to the relocation center but soon the registration had begun and we were misled by the radical persons who had cooked up unfounded rumors about the registration. When I was sent to this center before the Hearing Board I mentioned that my parents were going to Japan and that I was going with them. I have never tried to fight my parents' decisions.

My parents, since coming to this country from Japan have never been back there. They were trying hard to establish themselves here and for us. Since evacuation our heads were in turmoil because we were suddenly uprooted from our homes and somewhat easily influenced by the extremes and bitterness.

Now that my parents are free to relocate my brother and I wish to go with them and look after our interest. If you cannot cancel my renunciation of U.S. citizenship, can you at least grant me a parole in order that I may look after my interests.

I shall be most grateful.

Respectfully yours,

Joichi Nishisaki

Macaji Nishieki
5206 - A
Newell, Calif.

Sept. 17, 1945.

American Civil Liberties Union
216 Pine Street
San Francisco, Calif.

SEP 19 1945

Dear Sir:

I am an American citizen who have misleadingly renounced my citizenship. At the time of renunciation I was twenty-two years of age.

Speaking of renunciation I have unwillingly renounced merely for the appearance of the pressure surroundings and not truly from the bottom of my heart.

I am enclosing a duplicate letter which I have sent to the Attorney General repudiating my renunciation.

Will you kindly help me in regaining my citizenship so that I can be a free citizen, I gratefully thank you.

Respectfully yours,
Macaji Nishieki.

Nishisaki, Masaji

Masaji Nishisaki
5206-A
Newell, California.

Sept. 17, 1945

Herbert Wechsler
Assistant Attorney General
Department Of Justice
Washington, D.C.

SEP 19 1945

Dear Mr. Herbert Wechsler:

I am an American born citizen who have unwillingly renounced my citizenship which I am very regretfull since realizing my consequence.

At the start of war and before evacuation I was fully loyal to this country. I had my future to live in this country as a law abiding citizen. I was willing to serve in the armed forces of the United States and also after evacuation I was loyal in my heart. Few month after I was evacuated to the center there was a call for volunteer farm labor to harvest crops in Colorado. I have responded voluntarily to harvest this vital crop. After completion of this work I have returned to the center and was planning to relocate but suddenly registration has come up and was misled by the radical group and unfound rumors which I was influenced. When the renunciation came up my head was in turnoil and unfound condition in which I didn,t know what to do. At the bottom of my heart I was loyal to this country, but to save my face in this radical surroundings I have unwillingly taken this action.

Before the war I have never been to Japan nor had any intention of going there. I have been cultured in the American ways of life. Eversince realization of the misfortune I am very miserable for the tragic consequence. I greatly wished to have my citizenship regained. Can you please give me a rehearing for renunciation or a parole. I wished to be freed to leave this center and live the American way of life, I greatly thankyou.

Yours truly,

September 27, 1945.

Mr. Masaji Nishisaki,
5206-A,
Tule Lake Center,
Newell, Calif.

Dear Mr. Nishisaki:

This will acknowledge receipt of a copy of your letter of the 17th to Mr. Wechsler. My own feeling is that the letter does not go far enough because you fail to repudiate and to disavow the renunciation of your citizenship but content yourself with a request for reconsideration and a rehearing.

I am now informed that the Justice Department intends to remove renunciants to internment camps and thereafter to ship them to Japan. Legal action is imperative if people want to remain in this country. If they have insufficient financial resources, they should be pooled.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Besig, Director.

4912 - Z
Newell, Calif.
Sept. 11, 1945.Husband released.
wife detained bec of renunciationMr. Ernest Besig
American Civil Liberties Union
216 Pine St.
San Francisco, Calif.

Gentlemen:

The following is a copy of the letter which I am sending to Mr. E. J. Ennis:

I wish to join my husband who is out in Seattle. Through my own mistake of renouncing my citizenship, I am unable to join him. Is there some way by which I can be paroled and leave as an alien? Can you please do something for us? I shall greatly appreciate your favor.

I respectfully request that will do something for me.

Yours truly,
Kimiye Nomura