

12:6

KUMASAKI, TAMOTSU

1944-1946

78/177

C

Headquarters United States Army Forces Central Pacific Area

Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Military Intelligence

COUNTER INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

Box 3, APO 456

WARRANT OF ARREST

To any Sheriff; or to any Sheriff's Deputy; any Police Officer within the Territory of Hawaii; or any Member of the Military Police; or any Member of the Counter Intelligence Corps; or any officer of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; or to any member of the Navy Shore Patrol;

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to take the body of

.....
TAMOTSU KUMASAKI
.....

on suspicion of being a person inimical to the interests of the United States Government, and to detain said person pending final action by the Commanding General, United States Army Forces Central Pacific Area.

This Warrant of Arrest is issued under the authority of the Secretary of War of the United States by his delegated agent this 24th day of April, 1944

[SEAL]

Byron M. Meurlott
.....
BYRON M. MEURLOTT
Major, M. I.
Asst. A. C. of S., G-2

OFFICER'S RETURN

EXECUTED the within Warrant of Arrest on the body of.....

.....
TAMOTSU KUMASAKI
.....

named therein, this 24 day of April, 1944

Delbert S. Westling
.....
Agent C.I.C.



TERRITORY OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF INTERNAL SECURITY
IOLANI PALACE GROUNDS
HONOLULU 2, T. H.

30 October 1944

Mr. Tamotsu Kumasaki
ISN-HUS(J)-965-CI
Honouliuli Internment Camp
Honolulu, T. H.

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that pursuant to Executive Order No. 9489 of the President of the United States, dated October 18, 1944, and effective October 24, 1944, you are being detained, and have been detained since the effective date of said Executive Order, pending your exclusion or evacuation from the Territory of Hawaii Military Area.

Yours truly,


WM. R. C. MORRISON
Brigadier General, U.S.A.
Executive

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

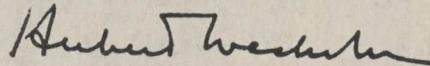
WASHINGTON, D. C.

NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF RENUNCIATION OF UNITED STATES NATIONALITY

To: Tamotsu Kumasaki
(born Feb. 4, 1921, Paia, Hawaii)
5604-D
Tule Lake Center
Newell, California

You are hereby notified that, pursuant to Section 401(i) of the Nationality Act of 1940, as Amended, and the regulations issued pursuant thereto, your renunciation of United States nationality has been approved by the Attorney General as not contrary to the interests of national defense. Accordingly you are no longer a citizen of the United States of America nor are you entitled to any of the rights and privileges of such citizenship.

Date: March 22, 1945



Herbert Wechsler
Assistant Attorney General
War Division

LEGATION OF SWITZERLAND

SPECIAL DIVISION

Washington 8, D.C.

Department of
Japanese Interests

November 5, 1945,

Ref. No. V-13

Mr. Tamotsu Kamasaki,
7902-F,
Tule Lake Center,
Newell, Calif.

Dear Sir:

Due note has been taken of
your request dated October 16, 1945,
that your application for repatriation
to Japan be cancelled.

Very truly yours,

LEGATION OF SWITZERLAND
Dept. of Japanese Interests

✓
RF/H

Date Feb. 28, 1946

Honorable Tom C. Clark
Attorney General of the United States
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

On Oct. 28, 1945; I was requested by Mr. Ivan Williams, Officer in Charge, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, to appear before their officer to register under the provisions of the Alien Registration Act.

Although I appeared before your office to comply with the provisions of the Alien Registration Act, I wish to state that said registration form was signed by myself under protest.

I am an American Citizen. Although within the non-repatriation form it indicated in Question No. 2 that my nationality was Japanese, I hereby wish to protest said designation as I am not a citizen or a national of Japan, but a citizen and a national of the United States.

Therefore I shall appreciate your accepting this letter as a documentary evidence that my signature affixed on said Alien Registration form and informations furnished in Question No. 2 of the non-repatriation form was done so under protest, as I am an American Citizen.

Yours very truly,

Jamatah Kumaraki

Block _____
Tule Lake Center
Newell, California

Feb 28, 1946

Honorable Tom Clark
Attorney General of the United States
Department of Justice Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

On or about Oct 28, 1945, I signed an application for renunciation of U. S. Nationality at the Tule Lake Center, Newell Modoc County, California.

I hereby repudiate, withdraw, retract and revoke the said renunciation form upon the the following grounds and for the following reasons:

(1) The circumstances under which said renunciation form was signed by me did not constitute a fair and impartial hearing and was a denial of my constitutional guaranty of due process of law and of the equal protection of the laws:

(2) I was not a free agent at the time when and the place where said renunciation form was signed but then and there was held in duress and was the victim of fraud, menace, undue influence and mistake of fact and law;

(3) I then and there was and for a period of time prior thereto had been detained in said Tule Lake Center by official authority and was deprived of substantially of my constitutional rights, liberties, privileges and immunities as an American Citizen and was treated as though I were an Alien enemy and thus was discriminated against solely by reason of the Japanese nationality of my ancestors

(4) I was intimidated, coerced and compelled to sign said renunciation form by reason of the duress in which I was held by the government and the duress, fraud, menace and undue influence of groups and individuals within said Center, against which the government failed to protect me.

Because of the foregoing reasons the said renunciation was fictitious and is invalid and void.

I am not a citizen or subject of Japan and I do not and never have owed or given that country or nation any allegiance. I am not an alien enemy. I am a native American by birth and by choice. I have no dual citizenship through any act or acceptance upon my individual part.

I demand that you withdraw and set aside the said renunciation form, and the approval thereof if any approval thereof was given.

I am ready and willing to have this matter re-opened and a hearing by granted me in order to prove the said renunciation application was executed under the circumstances above-mentioned when I was not a free agent in any sense of the word but was acting under duress, menace, fraud, undue influence and mistake of fact and law.

I respectfully request your immediate consideration of this urgent matter.

Very Truly yours,

Jamata Kumatake

Address 1614 - A

May 15, 1946.

Mr. Tamotsu Kumasaki,
Alien Internment Camp,
Crystal City, Texas.

Dear Mr. Kumasaki:

Mr. Joe Masaoka telephoned me last evening concerning you because he was at a loss, so he stated, to ascertain just what your letter to him asked of him. I explained to him that you were undoubtedly desirous of obtaining letters addressed to the Attorney General on your behalf testifying to your loyalty to this country and requesting your release from internment. He informed me that he would endeavor to comply with your request.

Mr. Cooley of the Department of Justice has informed me that additional persons interned in Crystal City will be released but he was unable to inform me either as to when, the names or the number. I hope that the Attorney General will consent to release most, if not all of the renunciants before the matter is finally determined in court. The preliminary motions have been put over by the court to May 27th due to the illness followed by a short vacation of the judge before whom the cases are pending.

There is no reason for you to be alarmed inasmuch as none of the renunciants who are protected by the court cases can be deported by the Attorney General inasmuch as written stipulations entered into between him and myself together with court orders prevent the deportation of any person in the suit. If the Attorney General refuses to release any person, it is my opinion that the court will order his release.

I realize that the internment works hardship on those who are interned as well as to their families, but no relief can be obtained except through the Attorney General or the courts. Letters addressed to the Attorney General from your friends, preferably Caucasian friends, might do much toward persuading the Attorney General to order your release before the court passes upon the issues involved in the mass suits.

Very truly yours,

WMC:cw

Form 22-B

USE THIS CARD TO NOTIFY YOUR CORRESPONDENTS OR
PUBLISHER OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS

DATE MARCH 26, 46

THIS IS TO ADVISE THAT ON MARCH 24, 46

I MOVED (OR WILL MOVE) FROM

1614-F TULE LAKE CENTER

(No.)

(STREET OR AVENUE)

NEWELL

(CITY)

CALIF.

(STATE)

NEW ADDRESS:

D.V. 138-B P.O. Box 788

(No.)

(STREET OR AVENUE)

CRYSTAL CITY

(CITY)

TEXAS

(STATE)

GPO

05-10891

SIGNATURE

Jumote Kumasaki



TO Mr. Wayne M. Collins
1721 Milk Tower
San Francisco
California

228 McAllister Street
San Francisco, Calif.
June 8, 1946.

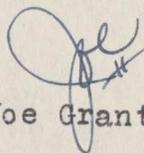
Mr. Wayne M. Collins
Attorney-At-Law
Mills Tower
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Wayne:

The enclosed is a copy of a letter drafted on behalf of Miss Nancy Kumasaki. We have heard from her cousin Tamotsu and learn that you have been retained by him while he was in Tulelake.

As his attorney we thought you ought to have all material relative to the case of Tamotsu Kumasaki.

Yours sincerely,



Joe Grant Masaoka.

C
O
P
Y

1359 Pine St.
San Francisco, California
May 14, 1946

Hon. Tom C. Clark
Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

RE: RELEASE OF TAMOTSU KUMASAKI
American Citizen
from Crystal City, Texas

Dear Attorney General Clark:

Recently I received a letter from my cousin in Crystal City, Texas in which he confessed his dismay at being continued in detention. For a man who has been in custody for almost two years his letters contain surprisingly little rancor or resentment. I note almost a philosophic strain in his forbearance and understanding about being misunderstood.

Because I believe there has been an inadvertent miscarriage of justice in the suspicions of war and because I am convinced that TAMOTSU KUMASAKI through his inability to express himself clearly in English has not been able to avail himself of the proper procedures to secure his release, I feel it highly desirable to make this plea on his behalf.

I have been in correspondence with cousin TAMOTSU KUMASAKI over a period of time and I can see running through his letters the likelihood of his life and living being so easily misinterpreted. It seems to me he is one of those whose lives have been tangled by the fortunes of war. His parents' residence in Japan accounted for the majority of his years being spent in Japan but this upbringing is not necessarily any index to his being inimical to the security of the nation.

Please remember that the thousands of Nisei counter-intelligence used during hostilities, who merited unstinted praise from our military commanders, have in many instances the same background and upbringing as TAMOTSU KUMASAKI.

Please remember, as I am sure that a search of your records will reveal, that TAMOTSU KUMASAKI volunteered for army service in the winter of 1942-1943 when such volunteering meant a destination as frontline combat duty, military intelligence or paratrooper service for Japanese Americans. At the time he volunteered, TAMOTSU was employed in remunerative work and was also performing Office of Civilian Defense activities at night. Surely, TAMOTSU in whom the Commanding Officer in Hawaii certified as much confidence doesn't belong and shouldn't be any longer kept in Crystal City.

In the many "bull sessions" among his friends TAMOTSU tells of encouraging others to enlist. Today, he still maintains correspondence with his Nisei friends in the armed forces.

Hon. Tom C. Clark

So certain his innocence and good faith has been that TAMOTSU KUMASAKI has momentarily expected his release. It may be that the natural griping of a man who feels that he has been wronged has been unduly inflated in the charges directed at him, nevertheless TAMOTSU believes that his original act of volunteering speaks for itself as to his earnestness and intentions.

TAMOTSU KUMASAKI has been under the impression that the corrective processes of democracy would right his situation eventually. For that reason he has been patiently waiting for the considered decision of the government which he feels must in the last analysis be favorable.

As his cousin I have a natural interest in his case. As an American citizen of Japanese ancestry who has experienced the evacuation which has been described by many as an unjustifiable deprivation of civil liberties of a minority group, I feel a keen concern about the rights of any individual being confined without the most strongest, unmistakable and substantiated evidence of wrongdoing to warrant his confinement.

As the Attorney General of the United States sworn to uphold the Constitution and its rights, privileges and immunities, I make this appeal in the hope that you will discern in the case of TAMOTSU KUMASAKI a sufficiency of good intentions and integrity to order his release.

Yours sincerely,

NANCY KUMASAKI

CONFIDENTIAL

Committee No. 2310

(For Use Only of My Attorney)

Atty. No. _____

Name (type or print) ~~KUMASAKI~~ TAMOTSU KUMASAKI

Block No. 1614-A

Sex: - Male Female _____

Age: 25 years Date of Birth: Month: FEB Day: 4 Year: 1921

Place of Birth: (City) PAIA MAUI (County) HAWAII State) _____

Permanent residence address at time of evacuation: _____

1508 RIVER ST HONOLULU, T. H.

Occupation at time of evacuation: CARPENTER

Have you "dual citizenship"? YES

Did you ever have "dual citizenship"? YES

If you have or have had dual citizenship, who registered you as

a dual citizen: PARENTS When: BY BIRTH

Where: PAIA MAUI

Did you ever take any steps to cancel dual citizenship? No

When: _____ Where: _____

What steps were taken to cancel it? _____

On what date did you sign a form renouncing your U. S. citizenship:

Month: ABOUT FEB Day: _____ Year: 1945

Were you under 21 years of age at the time you signed that renunciation form? No

Was there a hearing officer present when you signed? YES

What was his name? NOT KNOWN

Did you have a hearing on the matter at that time? YES

Did anyone represent you at that appearance or hearing? No

If so, who? _____

Did you attend that hearing alone? YES If not, who went with you? _____

Have you received a letter approving your renunciation? YES

If you have, what date does it bear? MARCH 22, 1945

On what date did you receive the letter of approval? JUNE 18, 1945

Who signed that letter of approval? HERBERT WECHSLER

_____. (Attach the letter of approval and the envelope.)

Did you write a letter revoking your renunciation before you received a letter approving your renunciation? No

If you did, what date did you send that letter in the U. S. mail? No

Have you a copy of that letter? No

(If you have, annex it to this form)

Since receiving a letter from the Attorney General's office approving your renunciation, have you sent a letter to that office or to the Attorney General revoking your renunciation? No

What date did you send that letter revoking your renunciation of U. S. citizenship? ~~WILL SEND FORM~~, FEB. 28, 1946

(If you have a copy of that letter revoking your renunciation, annex it to this form.)

Have you served in our military forces? No

If so, what date did you enroll? _____ When were you discharged or released from military service? _____

What type of discharge did you receive? ~~A~~ ~~C~~

What was your last draft classification? 1-A 4-C

Did you refuse to be drafted? No

Are you or have you ever been a member of the Hoshi Dan, the Hokoku Dan, Seinen Dan or similar organizations while in camp, either becoming such by intimidation, coercion, or otherwise? No

Are your parents U. S. citizens? No

What are their names: KUMASAKI, YASUKICHI (FATHER) YOSHIO (MOTHER)

Have they been released from detention? IN JAPAN

Have they been relocated? _____

What members of your family, if any, are serving or have served in the military forces of the U. S.? No

Have you registered as an "alien" under the Alien Registration Act of 1940? YES When: OCT. 28, 1945

Where: TULE LAKE CENTER, CALIF. Who was present with you at that time, if anyone? _____ Were you represented by

anyone at that time? _____

Was any hearing given to you at that time? NOT KNOWN

Who registered you, if you know? _____

Did you protest registering as an alien? No

Did you write your protest on the form? No

Did you file a letter of protest with the registering officer?

No (If so, annex a copy of the letter to this form.)

Have you signed non-repatriation form asking to stay in U.S.? YES

Have you filled out a Department of Justice Repatriation form asking to be sent to Japan? No If you did, when? _____

Where: _____ Before whom did you appear to sign that repatriation form? _____

Did anyone represent you at that time or were you alone? YES

_____ Were you given a hearing by anyone on the question of signing the repatriation form? _____

If so, by whom? _____

Did you protest signing that Repatriation form? _____

Did you write the protest on the form? _____

Did you file a letter of protest with the registering officer at the time you signed it? _____

What was the name of the officer present when you signed, if you know? _____

When, if ever, did you fill out a repatriation form for W. R. A. Social Welfare? YES

When did you send a letter cancelling that request? YES Oct. 16, 1945

Do you own any agricultural land, a home, or commercial property in the U. S.? No If so, where? _____

The following space is for any remarks you care to write:

SAKAI, CHISEO (SISTER) 1508 RIVER ST. HONOLULU, T.H.

KAKUGAWA, AYAKO (") P.O. Box 1101 WAIPAHU OAHU

KUMASAKI, KANEKICHI (UNCLE) SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

KUMASAKI, MIYOKICHI (") FRESNO, CALIF.

Date: Feb. 28, 1946

Jamotyu Kumasaki
(Name)