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AUG 20 1945

Aug. 12, 1945.

Dear Mr. Besig-

May I ask you to please help me and my little crippled child?

I have no idea why I am on the Segregee list as I answered 27 and 28 Yes, Yes, and came here to Tule Lake Center voluntarily. I was not sent here but came to be with my wife's father. I am enclosing a copy of my letter to the W.D.C. but don't you think they could release me without the questionnaire and the rehearing and all which takes so many, many weeks? Will you please see what you can do for me?

My little two year old child has a misplaced hip and has been in a plaster cast for a year. We are anxious to get her out of here to a place where she can have more specialized attention. I would like for them to put me on the free list so I can go back to California.

The W.R.A. workers tell me I am not being held by the Department of Justice for evidently they did not accept my renunciation. I renounced because of the crippled child because I felt that that was the only security I had--to stay here. At my hearing they said they did not know what to do as that was the first case of that kind they had had. I am writing to the Dept. of Justice to say however if my case is still pending to discontinue it as I know now I can have security on the outside and want to relocate.

Mr. Besig, I shall appreciate your help so much.

Sincerely,

*Hiroshi Aris**2907-B**Tule Lake*

August 21, 1945.

Mr. Hiroshi Arai,  
2907-B,  
Newell, Calif.

Dear Mr. Arai:

I have written to Attorney General Tom C. Clark and to the Commanding General of the Western Defense Command about your case. I am hopeful that summary action will be taken to allow your release.

If your renunciation is approved by the Attorney General, it seems to me that legal action in your case would give some promise of success. We have an attorney studying the entire problem at this moment, and in the near future we will file a test case.

I am hopeful that upon the formal signing of surrender terms all individual exclusion orders will be cancelled and the segregation business ended.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Besig, Director.



HEADQUARTERS WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND  
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL  
PRESIDIO OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

AUG 25 1945

CAD 201 - Aarii, Hiroshi

24 AUG 1945

Mr. Ernest Besig, Director  
American Civil Liberties Union  
Northern California Branch  
216 Pine Street  
San Francisco 4, California

Dear Mr. Besig:

The Commanding General has directed me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 21 August 1945 concerning the case of Hiroshi Aarii of Tule Lake Center.

Mr. Aarii's letter requesting a hearing has just been received, and in due course he will receive the usual notification as to the date of his hearing.

If during the process of preparation and re-examination of his case, prior to hearing, it appears that his Exclusion Order may be modified or revoked, you will be so advised.

Sincerely yours,

  
J. A. ROMANCO  
Major, A. G. D.,  
Asst Adjutant General

August 21, 1945.

Commanding General,  
Western Defense Command,  
Presidio of San Francisco, Cal.

Dear Sir:

We are concerned about the case of Hiroshi Arii, 2907-B, Tule Lake, who has just appealed the segregation order in his case. He has asked us to represent him.

Mr. Arii is a renunciant, but under very strange circumstances. I think he has informed you that he testified at his renunciation hearing that he was taking the step in order to remain in the camp and thus obtain a measure of security for his two-year-old crippled child.

It appears, too, that he was a "Yes, Yes" and that he came to the center voluntarily to be with his wife's

*father.*

In view of these facts, may I request that you re-examine the file in his case to ascertain whether the segregation order cannot be cancelled and revoked at this time.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Besig, Director.

AUG 30 1945

2907-B  
Newell, California  
August 13, 1945

Headquarters Western Defense Command  
Office of the Commanding General  
Presideo of San Francisco, California

Dear Sir:

Will you please look into my case again and help me to get out as soon as possible for the sake of my little crippled child?

I answered "Yes", "Yes" to questions 27 and 28 and came here voluntarily as I thot I ought to be near my wife's father and thus keep the family together. I hope that you can put me on the free list as I would like to return to California.

My two year old child has a misplaced hip and has been in a plaster cast for a year. We feel that she needs more specialized treatment than we can possibly than we can possibly give her here.

I have two brothers in the United States Army and they are still in Italy.

I know you will help us and I thank you.

Sincerely,

*Hiroshi Arie*

Department of Justice

Washington 25

August 23, 1945



SEP 1 1945

A I R M A I L

Ernest Besig, Esq.  
Director, American Civil Liberties Union  
Northern California Branch  
216 Pine Street  
San Francisco 4, California

Re: Hiroshi Aii

Dear Mr. Besig:

I have for reply your letter of August 21 to the Attorney General referring to your earlier letter to the Attorney General of July 24. On August 21 I wrote to you concerning the general policy involved and on August 22 Mr. Ennis wrote to you in greater detail on the same subject. As to the case of Hiroshi Aii, I feel that you should know that the following appears in the transcript of the hearing given Aii at the time he signed the renunciation form:

.....

Q How many relatives do you have in the United States?

A I have my wife, two daughters here. Then I have two brothers in the United States Army. Then I have my mother, father and other brother at Gila Relocation Center. One brother is sergeant and one private.

Q Where are they?

A Overseas.

Q There is a little difference of opinion in the family, isn't there?

A Yes.

Q How do you account for that?

A Well, I guess we don't belong to the same America.

.....

Q Are you loyal to Japan now?

A Yes.

Q Do you want Japan to win the war?

A Naturally.

Q Do you believe in the divinity of the Emperor?  
A Yes, I do.

.....

Q Do you feel like your brothers in the Army are a disgrace to you?  
A Yes, kind of.

Q Are you a member of the Hokoku Seinen Dan or the Hoshi Dan?  
A Yes. Hokoku Seinen Dan.

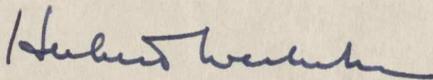
.....

Q How long have you wanted to go back to Japan?  
A Ever since I came here.

Q This is the form for renunciation of your United States nationality which you may sign if you wish. If you abandon your United States citizenship and if you should return to Japan, you may never be permitted to enter the United States. Do you understand?  
A Yes.

The record further shows that the subject appeared before the Hearing Officer with his head shaved. He was wearing a sweatshirt on which was embroidered the Rising Sun.

Sincerely,



Herbert Wechsler  
Assistant Attorney General

AUG 20 1945

5907-B  
Newell, California  
August 13, 1945

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

Dear Mr. Ennis:

I hope my renunciation was not accepted as I have never received any notification of it.

If you will look at my record you will see it was this way. I have a little two year old child who has a misplaced hip and has been in a plaster cast for over a year. I renounced because I felt for her sake I must stay here, that this camp was the only security we had. They were nice to me at the hearing and said that mine was the first case they had had like that--so I am in hopes it was not accepted and that I can relocate for we feel that the child needs more specialized treatment than we can possibly give her here.

Will you please notify me if I am right in thinking my application was not accepted.

I do thank you very very much.

Sincerely,  
*Hiroshi Arai*

September 9, 1945.

Mr. Hiroshi Arai,  
2907-B,  
Tule Lake Center,  
Newell, Calif.

Dear Mr. Arai:

Inquiries about your case brought the following response signed by Herbert Wechsler, Assistant Attorney General:

I have for reply your letter of August 21 to the Attorney General referring to your earlier letter to the Attorney General of July 24. On August 21 I wrote to you concerning the general policy involved and on August 22 Mr. Ennis wrote to you in greater detail on the same subject. As to the case of Hiroshi Arai, I feel that you should know that the following appears in the transcript of the hearing given Arai at the time he signed the renunciation form:

Q. How many relatives do you have in the United States?

A. I have my wife, two daughters here. Then I have two brothers in the United States Army. Then I have my mother, father and other brother at Gila Relocation Center. One brother is sergeant and one private.

Q. Where are they?

A. Overseas.

Q. There is a little difference of opinion in the family, isn't there?

A. Yes.

Q. How do you account for that?

A. Well, I guess we don't belong to the same America.

-----  
Q. Are you loyal to Japan now?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you want Japan to win the war?

A. Naturally.

Q. Do you believe in the divinity of the Emperor?

A. Yes, I do.

-----  
Q. Do you feel like your brothers in the Army are a disgrace to you?

A. Yes, kind of.

Q. Are you a member of the Hokoku Seinen Dan or the Hoshi Dan?

A. Yes. Hokoku Seinen Dan.

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Q. How long have you wanted to go back to Japan?

A. Ever since I came here.

Q. This is the form for renunciation of your United States na-

tionality which you may sign if you wish. If you abandon your United States citizenship and if you should return to Japan, you may never be permitted to enter the United States. Do you understand?

A. Yes.

The record further shows that the subject appeared before the Hearing Officer with his head shaved. He was wearing a sweatshirt on which was embroidered the Rising Sun.

For your information and guidance, I am enclosing a copy of a form letter which I have been sending to many persons at Tule Lake.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Besig, Director.