

10:20

IWASAKI, TATSUMI OBELLE

1945

78/177

c

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

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

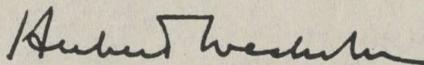
WASHINGTON, D. C.

NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF RENUNCIATION OF UNITED STATES NATIONALITY

To: Tatsumi Obelle Iwasaki
(born June 29, 1914, Logan, Utah)
2218-F
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: May 3, 1945

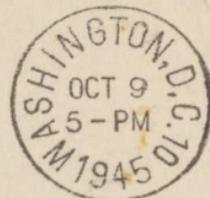


Herbert Wechsler
Assistant Attorney General
War Division

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID

PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$306

(PMCC)

Tatsumi Obelle Iwasaki
2218-F
Tule Lake Center
Newell, California

Date Alien Regist, Oct, 16

Classification No. 3.A 4 c.

hearing Date. Feb. 10

Date Cancell Repat. form 8-27 1945

Date apply Regat. 12-3 1943

Cancellation of japon citizen: 3-9 1937

EDWARD J. ENNIS
DIRECTOR

REPLY TO:
JLB:FL 146-54-3575

Department of Justice

Alien Enemy Control Unit

Washington 25

July 13, 1945

Mr. Tatsumi Iwasaki
2218-F, Tule Lake Segregation Center
Newell, California

Dear Sir:

I have for reply your letter to the Attorney General asking that your renunciation of citizenship be canceled. Having executed an application for permission to renounce your citizenship, you appeared on February 10, 1945 before a Hearing Officer appointed by the Attorney General and executed the final renunciation. This renunciation was approved as not contrary to the interests of national defense by the Attorney General on April 30, 1945. You will recall that at the time you executed the final renunciation form you were given a careful hearing and were asked why you wished to renounce your citizenship and whether you understood the consequences of your act and that you indicated that you did understand what you were doing and that it was your own wish to give up your citizenship.

Upon the approval by the Attorney General of your renunciation of citizenship, pursuant to Section 401(i) of the Nationality Act of 1940 as amended, you ceased to be a United States citizen and became an alien. Neither the Attorney General nor any other officer of this Government has any power under the law to restore your citizenship to you and there is no way under the law by which your renunciation of United States citizenship can be canceled.

Since you are an alien and since you are a person of Japanese ancestry and a person who has shown loyalty to Japan by voluntarily renouncing his United States citizenship during the existence of a war between the United States and Japan, it is presumed that under the laws of Japan you are a national of Japan. Thus you are deemed to be an alien enemy and subject to control as such pursuant to Section 21, Title 50, U. S. Code.

In the event that, since your renunciation hearing, your loyalties have changed and you have realized your mistake, I regret the tragic consequences of your earlier act. The renunciation procedure, however, is surrounded as much as possible by safeguards to make sure that renunciants understand what they are doing; and, once the renunciation is complete, there is no way in which it can be undone.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Ennis

Edward J. Ennis
Director



HON. TOM CLARK
ATTORNEY GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Wayne M. Collins
~~1721 Mills Tower~~
San Francisco, ~~California~~

Dear Sir:

On February 10, 1945, I signed an application for renunciation of U. S. nationality form at the W.R.A. Segregation Center situated at Tule Lake, Modoc County, California, at a perfunctory appearance before a government official. (And I have received a letter dated October 15, 1945, from Mr. Herbert Wechsler, Assistant Attorney General, approving the same.)

I hereby repudiate, withdraw, retract, and revoke the said renunciation upon the following ground 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 was then and there held in duress and was the victim of fraud, menace, and undue influence and mistake of fact and law;

(3) I then and there was continuously from May 15, 1942 had been detained in the said W.R.A. Segregation Center by official authority and was deprived of substantially all my constitutional rights, liberties, privileges and immunities as an American citizen by birth and by choice and was thusly discriminated against solely by reason of the Japanese nationality of my ancestors;

(4) I was intimidated and compelled to sign the said renunciation form by threats of physical evidence to myself (and members of my family) made by a pressure group in said camp, by members thereof, and I was in constant fear, (as was my family) that said threats would be carried into execution if refused to sign it. I was acting under the menace and fraud of said group and its members and the undue influence exerted by them upon me and I signed said renunciation form under duress.

Because of the foregoing reasons the said renunciation (and approval thereof) were, and each of them is, invalid,

null, and void.

I am not a citizen or subject of Japan and I do not and did not give any allegiance to that country or nation. I am not an alien enemy. I am a native American by birth and also by choice. I recognize as my sovereign the United States of America and I give and ever have given the United States my undivided loyalty and allegiance. I have no dual citizenship.

Therefore I demand that you withdraw and set aside the said renunciation form which is repudiated, recall, withdraw, cancel, and revoke your approval of said renunciation form.

I am ready and willing to have this matter re-opened and a hearing be granted me in order to prove that said renunciation form was signed when I was not a free agent in any sense of the words but was acting under duress and under menace, fraud and undue influence and mistake of fact and law.

I respectfully request your immediate consideration of this urgent matter.

Very truly yours,

Tatsumi O. Swaseki
2218 - F
Newell California

EDWARD J. ENNIS
DIRECTOR

REPLY TO:

Department of Justice

Alien Enemy Control Unit

Washington 25

August 14, 1945

ABD:mam

146-54-3575

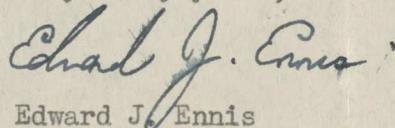
Mr. Tatsumi Obelle Iwasaki
2218-F
Newell, California

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your recent letter requesting that you be permitted to leave the Tule Lake Segregation Center.

I wish to advise you that no change will be made at this time in your present status and that you are not now eligible to leave Tule Lake. However, your letter will be made part of your file for consideration in the event that your case is re-examined at a later date.

Very truly yours,



Edward J. Ennis
Director

Date: October 22, 1945

Wayne M. Collins
1721 Mills Tower
San Francisco, California

Sir:

On October 16, 1945, I was requested by Mr. Ivan Williams, Officer in Charge, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, Tule Lake Center, Newell, California, to appear before their officer to register under the provisions of the Alien Registration Act.

Although I appeared before the 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 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 information furnished in Question No. 2 fo the non-repatriation form was done so under protest, as I am an American Citizen.

Yours very truly,

Tatsumi O. Swasaki
22 / 8 - F
Newell Calif.

October 25, 1945.

Mr. Tatsumi O. Iwasaki,
2218-F,
War Relocation Center,
Newell, Modoc County,
California.

Dear Mr. Iwasaki:

I am in receipt of your letter of October 22nd concerning your protest on the registration of yourself as an alien.

Your letter of protest should be delivered or sent to the registration officer or to the officer who had charge of the registration generally. If Mr. Ivan Williams requested your registration your letter of protest should be addressed and sent or delivered to him.

You should also keep a copy of the said letter and annex it to the questionnaire form you are filling out for your committee.

Very truly yours,

WMC/W

CONFIDENTIAL

Committee No. 1020

(For Use Only of My Attorney)

Atty. No. _____

Name (type or print) Tatsumi Obelle Iwasa/ki

Block No. 2218-F

Sex: Male X Female _____

Age: 31 years Date of Birth: Month: June Day: 29 Year: 1914

Place of Birth: (City) Logan (County) COCHE State) Utah

Permanent residence address at time of evacuation: 3421 John St.
Los Angeles, Calif.

Occupation at time of evacuation: Garden Work

Have you "dual citizenship"? no

Did you ever have "dual citizenship"? _____

If you have or have had dual citizenship, who registered you as
a dual citizen: _____ When: _____

Where: _____

Did you ever take any steps to cancel dual citizenship? _____

When: _____ Where: _____

What steps were taken to cancel it? _____

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

Month: Oct. Feb. Day: 16 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? John Burling and his staff

Did you have a hearing on the matter at that time? yes, but brief

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? May 3, 1945

On what date did you receive the letter of approval? Oct. 13, 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? yes

If you did, what date did you send that letter in the U. S.

mail? end of June 1945 to Ennis and August 14, 1945 to Ennis too

Have you a copy of that letter? yes

(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? yes

What date did you send that letter revoking your renunciation of U. S. citizenship? October 22, 1945

(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? _____

What was your last draft classification? 4C

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: Juhei Iwasaki (father)

Have they been released from detention? are 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. 16, 1945

Where: Tuā Lake Center Who was present with you at that time, if anyone? no one Were you represented by

anyone at that time? no

Was any hearing given to you at that time? no

Who registered you, if you know? do not know

Did you protest registering as an alien? no, but sent a letter to Ivan Williams protesting

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 _____

_____ 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? Dec. 3, 1943

When did you send a letter cancelling that request? August 27, 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:

~~Marital Status; married wife named Misao Iwasaki I have 2 children.~~

~~My wife is not a renuncee.~~ KENICHI - 1 yrs. TAMIKO - 3

~~My wife says that she definitely does not want to go to Japan. My children who are American citizen, my wife would rather have them educated in the United States. She does not know Japan and the children are use to American life, and it would be very difficult for them and my wife. My bigger brother who is in Denver, Colorado wishes that I go there and work. There is work and a house waiting if I do go out.~~

Date: ~~October 25, 1945~~

Tatsumi O. Iwasaki

Tatsumi Obelle Iwasaki

(Name)