

3:21

To newspapers regarding renunciants

1947-1953

78/177

C

August 11-1947

Mr. Wayne W. Collins  
Mills Bldg. S.F.

Dear Sir:

As per telephone conversation with you  
I am mailing you inclosed the rough  
translations of the articles in the Progressive  
News of July 30 - and August 1 - 1947

Yours very truly,

K. Ikeda

The Progressive News 7/30/47 (1)  
While I was in Tule Lake Center, we were misled by a  
false propaganda. We renounced our citizenship  
and applied to be deported to Japan.

The war came to an end shortly after that, and  
we began to get wise that we made mistakes.

At that time, the propaganda was prevailing  
that those renouncers were to be deported, and  
there was only one way for them to remain  
in this country was to take legal steps to stay  
deportation and regain citizenship through  
the Civil Liberties Union. And the said legal

expenses was \$100,000., and to raise the  
necessary funds 1,000 renouncers should  
chip in \$100 piece. There was not  
much time left, therefore we the renouncers

chipped in \$100, \$50 and \$25. The amounts  
which we could stand.

In its meantime, the exchange boat  
left for Japan and only those who wished

to go to Japan departed, and the others renounced could remain in this country. That meant those renounced who desired to remain could do so. As soon as the center was closed the renounced were allowed to relocate without any restrictions, we found out that there was no difference between the renounced and those who did not renounce their citizenship.

There was a strange phenomenon at that time, among those who contributed to the legal funds were sent to the Sea Brook Camp.

There have been no reports as to the stay of deportation and regaining citizenship and also about the funds raised. I would like to obtain the full reports. There were about 700 contributors and the amount was raised was substantial.

It came to light later that regaining citizenship and the renounced were to be deported were entirely false.

These things were used as a means to raise the funds.

We should like to know what the Civil Liberties Union did with the money at that time.

It is not my desire only, but all the people wish to know.

8/1/45

It is a well known fact that the people who renounced the citizenship and desired to depart <sup>for</sup> Japan were confined in Tule Lake Center.

Antoney Collins made a statement that there were about 1800 renouncers and those applied for regaining citizenship were about half the number. They contributed direct to Mr. Collins the amount ranging from \$100, \$50 and \$25.

Phenix - 3:05

8/12/47

Leaving for  
fact's today.

Mr Shedd

933

7th Avenue

Sacto.

THE KIKAKEN KISEI DOMEI OF N. CALIF.

2031 BUSH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

PHONE WEST 1-6644

*H. Ikeda*



*Mr. Wayne W. Collins  
Mills Bldg.  
San Francisco, Calif.*

*attorney at law.*

報新 THE "L.A. JAPANESE DAILY NEWS" RAFU SHIMPO 府羅

104 NORTH LOS ANGELES STREET  
LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

May 3 1948

Attny. Wayne M. Collins  
American Civil Liberties Un.  
San Francisco, California

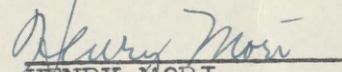
Dear Sir:

Would you kindly send us, immediately,  
the complete interpretation of the recent Judge  
Goodman's decision in re: 2700 renunciants at Tule  
Lake Center.

We have many inquires and would like  
to print through our newspaper, the ruling in full  
text. We would also like to be included on your  
mailing list.

I do not believe we get your releases  
regularly at this office. Thanking you in advance,  
I remain.

Very truly yours,

  
HENRY MORI

HM/tn

The Rafu Shimpo  
English Section Editor

May 4, 1948

The Rafu Shimpo,  
104 North Los Angeles Street,  
Los Angeles, California.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find copy of decision in the  
renunciation case as requested in your letter  
of May 3rd.

Very truly yours,

WMC:cw

Enc.

Rafu Shimpo  
104 No. Los Angeles St.  
Los Angeles 12, Calif.  
May 18, 1948

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
Mills Tower, 220 Bush Street  
San Francisco 4, Calif.

Dear Sir:

Thank you very much for the copy of the opinion by Judge Goodman on the renunciation case. We are trying our best to inform our readers on this matter.

We would like to be authoratively clear on some of the points, which we are frequently asked by our readers. We shall appreciate very much if you would give us your answer for publication on the following points:--

1. We have heard an attorney say that the government has the right to contest the whole case for another 90 days after July 29th. Is it true? Assuming that the defendants did not contest by the 29th of July, will it be safe for any one of the 2,300 to buy a house before the end of Oct. 1948?
2. Are the other renunciants who wish to have their renunciation rescinded under your defence to be joined with the original group of 2,300, or are you going to start another case for the new group? And in that case will the judge be the same?
3. Are there any action being started for those who were repatriated to Japan? Can the friends and relatives in this country help in any way those renunciants in Japan in case they want to have their renunciation rescinded?

Sincerely yours,

*Kiyoshi Yano*  
Editorial Desk

May 20, 1948

The Rafu Shimpo,  
104 No. Los Angeles Street,  
Los Angeles 12, California.

Attention: Mr. Kiyoshi Yano, Editorial Desk.

Dear Sir:

The written opinion of Judge Louis E. Goodman orders the renunciations of approximately 2,700 party plaintiffs in the cases cancelled and restores their citizenship. The decision was made on the merits of the cause and involved the review of a mass of evidence. The court's opinion, however, permits the Attorney General to designate, within 90 days, any specific person or persons for further special hearings. The burden of proof, however, is laid upon the Attorney General to demonstrate in any such special hearing that the designated person's renunciation was free and voluntary and in nowise the product of the concurrent duress of the government and alien led groups whom the government authorities permitted to operate in the Center. From a purely legal viewpoint it is difficult if not impossible for the government to sustain that burden of proof in any person's case. In consequence, if the government designates anyone for such special hearing the number will be few, and it is likely that those few would be selected from the list of the last group of 330 whom I liberated from detention in habeas corpus proceedings.

I have not yet filed an interlocutory decree in the cases because several hundred renunciants who previously were not included have written me requesting the inclusion of their names. As fast as I receive such requests I have them joined as parties plaintiff by court orders. On May 18th 307 additional renunciants were joined in the suits. Each mail brings in additional requests. I shall continue to join additional renunciants until and unless the Attorney General opposes their joinder. If I meet any such opposition in the future all those who thereafter apply to me will be included in a new suit which doubtlessly would be assigned to the same judge pursuant to court practice. The decision thereon would be the same as that already rendered.

I have requested the Attorney General to supply me with a complete list of each and all of the 5,371 renunciants. If that

list is sent to me or made available each of the 5,371 will be included in suit No. 25294 by consent. The original actions were brought by me on behalf of the specially named plaintiffs and also on behalf of each and all similarly situated renunciants in the form of class actions. They cover renunciants from Tule, Poston and elsewhere.

Several hundred Nisei who are in Japan have been included in the case at their own request and at the request of relatives or friends. When the judgment becomes final those in the case who are in Japan will be permitted to return to the United States. If any among their number were to be designated for special hearings they would be permitted to come to this country for their hearings. When the judgment becomes final the U.S. consuls at Yokohama and Kobe will receive from me a complete list of those plaintiffs who are in Japan.

If the government were to decide to appeal the decision as to any plaintiff it is not likely the appeal would be successful. This is because the judgment is based upon specific findings of fact from the evidence that each renunciation was the product of the joint duress of the government and alien led groups. Appellate courts cannot reverse district court findings on evidence where the record supports those findings of fact. Insofar as conclusions of law are concerned there seems to be scant possibility for the government to be able to reverse the decision on the legal points resolved in favor of the plaintiffs. It is doubtful if an appellate court would even consider the constitutional questions raised because the factual findings of duress alone are sufficient to support the judgment without consideration of the constitutional questions involved.

The Alien Property Property Initiative Act of 1920, as amended, was not declared unconstitutional in the Oyama case. All that case decided was that escheat judgments against citizens of Japanese ancestry constituted an unequal application of the law forbidden by the 14th Amendment because the statute contained provisions setting up prima facie presumptions and burdens of proof against citizens of Japanese ancestry to the exclusion of citizens of other types of ancestry.

Until and unless the California legislature repeals that statute, commonly known as the Alien Land Law, or until the U.S. Supreme Court declares it unconstitutional it remains in full force and effect as to aliens deemed to be ineligible to citizenship. Although the California Attorney General, through the medium of a press release, indicated that he was of the opinion that such aliens might purchase or possess residential and commercial land he has not made an official ruling in the matter. He has not ventured to express an opinion of the question whether such aliens might own or possess agricultural land. He has not expressed any opinion or ruling on the question whether renunciants, pending a

decision restoring their citizenship, could own or possess agricultural, commercial or residential land. Inasmuch as the citizenship status of renunciants in the case will not be conclusive until a final judgment is entered in the cases it is inadvisable for any of them to purchase land in the meantime.

Very truly yours,

WMC:cw

P.S. Whoever the attorney or other person was who informed you the government had the right for 90 days after July 29th to contest the whole case is not only misinformed but ignorant of the matter in its entirety. The government introduced all the evidence of which it was capable at the time. If it can produce any additional pertinent evidence it will be limited to a few persons only.

September 27, 1948

Hokubei Mainichi,  
1737 Sutter Street,  
San Francisco, California.

Attention: Iwao Shimizu.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find a copy of the order entered in the Tule Lake renunciation cases cancelling the renunciations and restoring citizenship to some 5500 renunciants, the said judgment to become final on January 29, 1949. Paragraph No. 2 is the actual interlocutory judgment.

Very truly yours,

WMC:cw

Enc.

September 27, 1948

Japanese American Times,  
1761 Sutter Street,  
San Francisco, California.

Attention: I. Namekawa.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find a copy of the order entered in the Tule Lake renunciation cases cancelling the renunciations and restoring citizenship to some 5500 renunciants, the said judgment to become final on January 29, 1949. Paragraph No. 2 is the actual interlocutory judgment.

Very truly yours,

WMC:cw

Enc.

September 27, 1948

Rafu Shimpo,  
104 North L.A. Street,  
Los Angeles, California.

Attention: Mr. Komai, Editor.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find a copy of the order entered in the Tule Lake renunciation cases cancelling the renunciations and restoring citizenship to some 5500 renunciants, the said judgment to become final on January 29, 1949. Paragraph No. 2 is the actual interlocutory judgment.

Very truly yours,

WMC:cw

Enc.

September 27, 1948

California Daily News,  
132 No. San Pedro Street,  
Los Angeles, California.

Attention: Mr. Sei Fujii, Editor.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find a copy of the order entered in the Tule Lake renunciation cases cancelling the renunciations and restoring citizenship to some 5500 renunciants, the said judgment to become final on January 29, 1949. Paragraph No. 2 is the actual interlocutory judgment.

Very truly yours,

WMC:cw

Enc.

GEORGE YAMADA  
*Acorn Press*  
1154 GLENDALE BLVD.  
LOS ANGELES 26, CALIF.

Mar 7, 1949

Dear Mr. Collins:

To be very brief:

I appreciated your sending me the summation of the Renunciation Test Cases, and have made extensive use of the factual information therein, with credit to you.

I am commissioned to write a lengthy piece on this subject for a national magazine and would like other reliable sources from which to get factual information to supplement your summary.

If you can give me a few pointers or hints I will be very grateful to you.

Sincerely,

George Yamada

GEORGE YAMADA  
*Acorn Press*  
1154 GLENDALE BLVD.  
LOS ANGELES 26, CALIF.

We favor employment of  
qualified non-Caucasians in the  
Los Angeles Department Stores



Wayne Collins, Atty. at Law  
Mills Tower  
220 Bush St.,  
San Francisco 4,  
Calif.

*A Rejoinder to  
Commonsense*

## DOESNT BELONG IN A DEMOCRACY

Reverend Ernest Bromley, 36, a Methodist minister of Albany, N. Y., urges young men eligible for the draft not to register.

He argues that disobedience to the nation's laws is the only way to prevent war.

What kind of a country would we have if every one disobeyed any law that he didn't like?

We would soon have a country of anarchy with the citizens making war upon each other.

The minister lives in a democracy. If he lived in a dictatorship and preached disobedience to the government his life would be brought to an early end.

Living in a democracy and enjoying its benefits, it is his duty to comply with the laws which that democracy enacts.

Perhaps he prefers not to live at all. In that event he should depart this land of freedom and go to a land of dictatorship where they would quickly take care of him once he opened his mouth against the government.

The free speech which the democracy provides gives to every man the right to express his opinion on the efficacy of military service in preventing or terminating war. But it doesn't give him the right to urge violation of laws enacted by the democratic process.

Editorial from  
*Hollywood Citizen-News*  
August 25, 1948

Editor, Hollywood Citizen-News  
Sir:

In your editorial of August 25, you assert that the Rev. Ernest Bromley "doesn't belong in a democracy" because *he urges young men of draft age to disobey the draft law.* (Emphasis my interpretation).

In stating that "He argues that disobedience to the nation's laws is the only way to prevent war," you develop a case that is based upon a false premise for Bromley and his kind do not advocate "disobedience to the nation's laws" but disobedience to the *Selective Service Act*. By using the device of special pleading you are guilty of a sophism.

You then ask, "What kind of a country would we have if every one disobeyed any law he didn't like?" Accepting this question on its face value, though phrased in a way that begs the question, (because Bromley and his kind have too much sensibility, courage and social vision—ingredients that constitute truly responsible citizenship but is rarely found in high places—to disobey "any law he didn't like") let us searchingly inquire what would happen if people did assume the responsibility of refusing to recognize immoral laws, as Bromley does, even though legislated by duly elected representatives.

Applying your logic, the Germans, then, properly discharged their citizenship responsibilities in obeying Hitler. Hitler was elected by plebiscite and received the popular mandate of the Weimar Democracy. And you say there is no parallel. But there is a parallel, an all too terrible historical parallel to which Bromley is trying to direct our attention. You deny it but let us not be self righteous and smug—as we are. Did we not ask, why did the Germans tolerate Hitler, why did they acquiesce to him? Why did they permit him anyway?

Yes, these are disturbing questions but they must be answered. And the standard by which we measure the moral stature of Germans must be the same standard by which we measure ourselves. There is no double standard practiced by decent civilized people. But a double moral standard is applied by anti-democrats, by totalitarians.

If there would have been adequate resistance in Germany at an incipient stage of Hitler's sweep to power there would have been no Hitler. There is a precious price to pay for this kind of opposition; few people have the courage to pay it. It is resistance based on individual integrity; masses don't resist tyranny. The masses are too confused, doped by national propaganda, such as your editorial, (which is already hysterically calling names).

Abetted by such organs of national propaganda as yours, we are fast being molded into a military state no whit different from Hitler's, Stalin's or the erstwhile Nipponese variety. Only we are too self righteous to see it, let alone admit it. In five more years, unless there is more widespread opposition such as Bromley's, we will have developed all the earmarks of Prussia and Russia, a goose stepping military bureaucracy exercising thought control and regulating our every phase of life—destroying freedom. What we detest we will have become.

It is to the credit of our cultural life that it *has* produced a few such specimens as Bromley. I will tell you why:

It is a totalitarian philosophy which puts State above man. (You say the individual must submit to the State: you place a higher authority on the State than on Man). This is what Hitler did. This is what Mussolini did. This is what the military-commercial caste did in Japan. And this is what constitutes Stalin's philosophy. Arn't I right?

God bless Bromley and his all too rare breed who have the guts to defy the totalitarian philosophy that the State is a higher authority than the Individual; whose obedience is to God, not to Man. May they multiply!

To pursue such a logic as yours is to deny the mind and spirit of Christ—if Christ has any real meaning to us. I suspect that your words about "freedom"—are just words. For if you carried out its implications you would staunchly champion disobedience to State tyranny as a rare virtue—and not as neglect.

Sincerely,

GEORGE YAMADA

Los Angeles, California  
September 6, 1948

The above letter was not printed by the *Citizen-News*. The writer has not received an answer to it.

# New Japanese American News

新 日 米 新 聞 社

358 EAST FIRST STREET

LOS ANGELES 12, CALIFORNIA

EDITORIAL DEPT.: MADISON 6-3904

BUSINESS DEPT.: MUTUAL 5675

November 19, 1948

Wayne M. Collins  
Mills Tower Building  
220 Bush Street  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Collins:

It is with sincere wishes that this letter finds you and yours in the best of everything.

Yuletide season is just around the corner, and the New Japanese American News is contemplating a special New Year's edition. It has been suggested by the planning committee of the forthcoming special edition, that we ask you to write something on the "Naturalization and Restoration of Citizenship". It will mean a lot to have something written by you and we do hope that you will heartily consent to this request.

We shall be anxious to get a favorable answer within a few days. With kindest regards, I remain,

Very truly yours,

NEW JAPANESE AMERICAN NEWS

*Tetsuo Sato*

Tetsuo Sato  
Rep., Editorial Staff

TS:ks

November 29, 1948

Mr. Tetsuo Sato  
Rep., Editorial Staff  
New Japanese American News  
358 East First Street  
Los Angeles 12, Calif.

Dear Mr. Sato:

I received your letter of November 19th requesting me to write something on the subject of "Naturalization and Restoration of Citizenship." I shall be pleased to do so but I would be grateful if you would inform me as to the general nature of the article which you desire.

Very truly yours,

# New Japanese American News

新日米新聞社

358 EAST FIRST STREET  
LOS ANGELES 12, CALIFORNIA

EDITORIAL DEPT.: MADISON 6-3904

BUSINESS DEPT.: MUTUAL 5675

November 30, 1948

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
Mills Tower, 220 Bush Street  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Collins:

We are grateful in receiving your letter of November 29th, and to be informed that you will write something for our special New Year's edition.

The main interest is in the renunciants' case now before the court.

1. Present status of the renunciants' cases.
  - A. Number involved.
  - B. Judge Goodman's decision.
    - (1.) The addition of new cases.
2. Will the government appeal the case?
  - A. If so, what is the legal basis for the government's appeal?
3. What effect will the winning of the case have on the renunciants?
  - A. Those residing in this country who have not joined the mass case.
  - B. Those residing in Japan who may or may not be part of the case.

We would like to have the length of the article to be from 1000 to 1500 words. With appreciation and kindest regards, I remain,

Very truly yours,

New Japanese American News

*Tetsuo Sato*

Tetsuo Sato, Rep., Editorial Staff

TS:ks

December 28, 1948

Hokubei Mainichi,  
1737 Sutter Street,  
San Francisco, California

Attn: Mr. Iwao Shimizu

Gentlemen:

Enclosed are accurate and authoritative articles by Tetsujiro Nakamura of Los Angeles, Theodore Tamba, attorney of San Francisco, and Yori Wada, of San Francisco, concerning Issei and Nisei which you may be interested in publishing in your annual inasmuch as the information therein contained affects a large number of Issei and Nisei.

Very truly yours,

December 28, 1948

Japanese American Times,  
1761 Sutter Street      PO Box 3098  
San Francisco, California      SF 19

Attention: Mr. I. Namekawa

Gentlemen:

Enclosed are accurate and authoritative articles by Tetsujiro Nakamura of Los Angeles, Theodore Tamba, attorney of San Francisco, and Yori Wada of San Francisco, concerning Issei and Nisei which you may be interested in publishing in your annual inasmuch as the information therein contained affects a large number of Issei and Nisei.

Very truly yours,

December 28, 1948

Rafu Shimpo  
104 North L.A. Street  
Los Angeles, California

Attention: Mr. Komai, Editor

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358 East First Street  
Los Angeles 12, California

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Very truly yours,

## THE ISSEI WHO WERE BRANDED DANGEROUS

By: Yori Wada

At the outbreak of war the F.B.I. arrested several thousand Issei who were deemed a possible source of danger to our security. They were picked up on the mainland and in our outlying possessions. These seizures were made under a presidential proclamation issued under the Alien Enemy Act.

Thereafter, the Issei who had been arrested were interned in various internment camps maintained by the Immigration Service at Missoula, Mont., Santa Fe, New Mexico, Bismarck, North Dakota, and elsewhere. After being given speedy administrative hearings the great majority of them were released when they were found to be friendly to the United States and innocent of wrongdoing. Many of them were fathers of boys serving in our Army.

On V-J Day several hundred of this group were still interned. Among these were a number of Buddhist and Shintoist priests who had been imagined by federal authorities to be hostile to us. None of these, however, bore enmity to us. The ethical principles preached and practiced by these priests do not differ greatly from Christian principles. They were simply the victims of blind suspicion engendered by the existence of a state of war.

After hostilities ended the Attorney General ordered the remaining Issei held under the Act deported to Japan on the claim they had adhered to the enemy or to the principles of an enemy government during the war. However, none of them had been given a fair hearing on any such question and none of them were given a chance to refute such charges. Several hundred German aliens who likewise had been interned also were ordered deported and large numbers of them were removed to Germany when their lawsuits were lost in the Supreme Court.

For months attorney Wayne M. Collins of San Francisco negotiated with the Attorney General with a view to securing the release of as large a number of the Issei as possible without resort to a court suit because courts have no jurisdiction to release enemy nationals held under the Alien Enemy Act by executive order. He was successful in obtaining the release of a majority of them on a gradual basis.

Under an agreement with the Justice Department he succeeded in having a number of them secure employment at Seabrook Farms. Later, when the deportation of those still held under relaxed internment was impending, petitions for writs of habeas corpus were filed on their behalf at Del Rio, Texas, and at Philadelphia. Attorneys Theodore Tamba and George Olshausen filed the petitions.

While those suits were pending the Attorney General agreed to release additional Issei from removal orders. Thereafter he released the remainder into the custody of Mr. Collins and they returned to their homes. When the last of the German aliens had been removed to Germany and while the Philadelphia case was pending on appeal to the Third Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia the Attorney General finally cancelled the removal orders against the remainder of the group with the exception of two whose files were still to be reviewed. The rights of the two will be court tested in 1949.

## THE PERUVIAN JAPANESE

By: Theodore Tamba

During the early years of the war Issei Peruvian were kidnapped in Peru and interned in the United States. The male heads of the families had been asserted to be a danger to Western Hemispheric security. However, none of them were formally charged with wrongdoing and, as a matter of fact, none of them had been guilty of any crime. None of them were given hearings on the cause of their arrest and internment. The F.B.I. subsequently cleared each of them of suspicion.

These Issei were permanent residents of Peru and a number of them were naturalized citizens of Peru. A number of them were married to Spanish-Peruvian citizens and a number of their children were native-born Peruvians. A few of these children were serving in the Peruvian armed forces. When forcibly ousted from Peru their families were invited to join them in exile. As a result about 1700 single men, married men, their wives and children were interned at Crystal City and Santa Fe for the duration of the war.

When hostilities ended the Peruvian government refused to re-admit them to Peru. In despair some 900 voluntarily migrated to Japan. The rest preferred to remain in the United States in the hope of eventual return to their Peruvian homes. However, in 1946 our government endeavored to deport these to Japan on the ground their presence here was unlawful under our immigration laws. The absurd claim for this drastic action against them was asserted to be that they did not possess valid passports, visas or other credentials showing they had lawfully entered this country and that they could neither speak, read nor write English or Hebrew.

Thereupon attorney Wayne M. Collins of San Francisco filed

two test cases on their behalf in the U.S. District Court in San Francisco and prevented the deportation. Thereafter, by an agreement with the Justice Department and Immigration Service the cases were held in abeyance pending the outcome of his negotiations with Peruvian officials concerning their admission to Peru. Later 79 families were permitted to return to Peru. The remaining members of the group now are gainfully employed at Seabrook Farms, New Jersey, and elsewhere in this country and Hawaii.

Negotiations with the Bustamante government in Peru to repatriate the remainder to Peru were prolonged and only partially successful. There is hope that negotiations with the new Peruvian government may prove more satisfactory. In the meantime none of them are deportable to Japan. The Second Circuit Court has ruled that aliens brought here by federal agents are not deportable as illegal entrants.

Thomas C. Cooley, II, the former director of the Alien Enemy Control Unit of the Justice Department primarily is entitled to credit for initiating and sponsoring the new law that allows Issei and other aliens ineligible to citizenship to apply for suspension of deportation. Under 8, U.S. Code, Sec. 155(c), an alien ineligible to citizenship who has resided here for seven years or has a dependent American born child or a legally resident spouse, child or parent now is eligible to apply for a suspension of deportation.

Under this new law 45 of the Peruvian group are applying for suspension of deportation and permanent residence in this country either because they have American born children or have married American citizens. Additional members of the group probably will decide to remain here permanently and apply for like suspension of deportation. The rest will become eligible to apply for like suspension by 1951 when the last of them will have resided here for the seven year period.

THE SUSPENSION OF DEPORTATION PROGRAM FOR ISSEI

By: Tetsujiro Nakamura

The advent of World War II prevented the Immigration Service from deporting a number of Issei who had been found to have entered this country illegally. During the war additional Issei in the war relocation centers were discovered to be deportable as illegal entrants or because they had lost their admission status as treaty merchants, teachers, ministers, students and visitors because of their failure to maintain admission status or because of change in occupation.

When hostilities ended the Immigration Service proceeded to deport these Issei. Attorney Wayne M. Collins of San Francisco appealed to the Attorney General on their behalf. The program was suspended temporarily and as the camps closed out these Issei returned to their homes.

In early 1946 the government decided to carry out the deportations. Mr. Collins applied to the Attorney General and Commissioner of Immigration for their relief. He informed them he would commence suits challenging the program. He contended that deportation was illegal because the immigration law permitted the Attorney General to grant relief from deportation to white aliens who had dependents here but denied like relief to aliens deemed ineligible to citizenship who had like dependents.

The Attorney General and Commissioner finally consented to defer deportation of Issei and all other aliens ineligible to citizenship who had citizen or lawfully admitted alien dependents in this country pending the outcome of the test suits. They refused, however, to delay deportation of single Issei and Issei couples without children. Thereupon Mr. Collins surrendered 43 single Issei, married Issei couples and Issei parents of citizen children to the Immigration

headquarters in San Francisco. Concurrently he filed a series of habeas corpus test proceedings in the U.S. District Court in San Francisco and promptly released all of them from detention to return to their homes. Thereafter, over a period of a year and a half additional deportable Issei were added to the suits. These proceedings prevented the deportation of all single and married Issei deportables who joined the suits and also the deportation of all deportables who had citizen or lawfully admitted dependent alien family members in this country. By consent the suits were held in abeyance.

Thomas C. Cooley, II, the director of the Alien Enemy Control Unit of the Justice Department was defending the suits. He appreciated the possibility that the suits might be won by the petitioners. He grew sympathetic to the plight of these unfortunates and decided to do something for them. On his own initiative he prepared proposed legislation granting relief from deportation in hardship cases. He presented the bill to the Senate and House immigration committees which took interest in the matter. Attorney General Tom C. Clark appeared and testified in favor of the proposed legislation. After deliberating and finally amending the bill, Congress passed Title 8, U.S. Code, Sec. 155 (c).

Under this new statute all Issei and other aliens deemed ineligible to citizenship who have lived here for seven years or whose deportation would result in serious economic hardship to a citizen family member of/legally resident alien who is the husband, wife, child or parent of such alien are eligible to apply for suspension of deportation. They will be given administrative hearings and if found to be of good moral character and the Attorney General recommends suspension of deportation and Congress approves his recommendation, they will be given the status of permanent residents. All those who take advantage of this new law forever will be indebted to Mr. Cooley who was the originator of the relief law. He is now privately practicing law in Washington, D. C.

December 28, 1948

Rafu Shimpo,  
104 North L.A. Street,  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Attention: Mr. Komai, Editor.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find copy of article which you  
might be interested in using in your New Year's  
edition.

The said article on the renunciation  
cases will be used in the Hokubei Mainichi  
in San Francisco.

Very truly yours,

WMC:cw

Enc.

[ 12/28/48 ]

THE RENUNCIATION SUITS

In 1942 our Nisei and Issei were hemmed in west coast areas designated by General J. L. DeWitt to be restrictive military areas. Thereupon they were ordered evacuated from their homes and lodged in various places of confinement. These camps euphemistically were termed war relocation centers apparently in the belief or hope that the American public would be misled enough by the name to fail to recognize them for the concentration camps they were in reality.

None of these unfortunate persons was a threat to the security of our country. They were victims of an arbitrary governmental discrimination simply because they were descended from forbears who were born in Japan.

Protests against the outrage of restriction, evacuation and imprisonment in concentration camps were unorganized, scattered and futile. Neither resistance to the great injustice nor civil disobedience to the unwarranted exclusion orders occurred. The JAACL and New York ACLU favored cooperation with the government in the perpetration of the wrong. Those organizations thereby lost what little respectability and claim to being protectors of civil liberties they had been deemed to possess. Only the Northern California Civil Liberties Union had sufficient courage to protest the government's act of oppression.

Following evacuation the War Relocation Authority, under the pressure of the Korematsu and Endo test cases which were progressing through our courts, commenced to liberate the evacuees in small numbers from detention and to relocate them in Eastern and Middle Western States.

None of the evacuees were given proper hearings on the cause of their evacuation or on the question of their loyalty. A large number of them were denied leave clearance for quite arbitrary reasons and had neither an opportunity to clear themselves of suspicion nor a chance to be relocated. These, along with aliens who requested repatriation to Japan to avoid their prolonged detention, were confined to the Tule Lake Center. The government intended to convert this camp into a segregation center to detain those who wished to be repatriated to Japan. However, segregation plans were abandoned and the internees who applied to be repatriated to Japan were permitted to mingle freely with those internees who wished to remain in this country. As a result the prospective repatriates were permitted by the authorities in charge to proselyte openly in the camp to persuade others to join their ranks and request to be sent to Japan. Out of this alien movement sprang gangs which were allowed to spread propaganda in favor of repatriation and which used threats and force to compel others to submit to their will in requesting repatriation.

Thereafter, with the view of deporting sixty-one persons the authorities regarded as agitators in the camp the Justice Department secured the passage of the renunciation statute under which a citizen could renounce American citizenship and then be interned by the Justice Department as an alien enemy and finally be removed to Japan under the provisions of the Alien Enemy Act. These sixty-one persons also were the victims of governmental persecution for had they been accorded the rights of citizenship and not have been imprisoned without cause they would not have developed into agitators. Ultimately each of these was removed to Japan voluntarily.

A majority of the evacuees had been impoverished as the result of their confinement. They had lost their homes, property, occupations, earnings and security. They feared what the government intended to do with them and with their families. They feared to be relocated in communities which they believed were hostile to them. The authorities did nothing to allay but much to intensify those fears. Under governmental duress and the concurrent coercion of alien-led gangs which were allowed to operate in the camps and in obedience to parents who feared for the safety of their children, 5,371 Nisei applied to renounce citizenship for the purpose of being sent to Japan with alien members of their families who, they had been informed and led to believe, were to be deported to Japan in any event.

Thereafter, agents of the Justice Department held cursory hearings of those applications and the Attorney General approved the majority of them. The agents ignored the duress in which the applicants were held and to which they constantly were subjected. After the approval orders issued each renunciant was classified as an alien enemy. Their detention thereupon was converted into internment and each was destined for removal to Japan under the provisions of the Alien Enemy Act.

Hundreds of the internees were ex-soldiers who had been ousted from military service simply because they were of Japanese ancestry. Hundreds more were children under 21 years of age. A number of the renunciants were insane. Hundreds more were parents, brothers and sisters, and children of Nisei soldiers serving in the armed forces in Europe and the Western Pacific combat areas. To all intents and purposes the Government had deprived all these internees of everything for which American citizenship stands and, in consequence, of citizenship itself. In addition, it long had held

them in doubt, uncertainty and fear while they were tormented and terrorized by aliens who sought repatriation. Their renunciations were the product of governmental duress to which the actions of these aliens were mere incidents.

In July, 1945, a number of the internees sought my aid to relieve the internees from detention and to prevent their removal to Japan. By November approximately one thousand (1,000) of them had joined in mass habeas corpus proceedings in the U. S. District Court in San Francisco to terminate their internment and in mass suits in equity to cancel their renunciations and to restore their citizenship on the grounds the renunciations were the products of governmental duress. Members of this original group at Tule Lake and members of the group at Bismarck, N. D., raised sufficient funds to commence these proceedings.

When the suits were filed on November 13, 1945, U. S. District Judge A. F. St. Sure issued an order in the habeas corpus proceedings temporarily forbidding the government to remove them to Japan and requiring that removal proceedings be stayed pending the final outcome of the suits.

A month later the Justice Department, realizing that individual court hearings would take years before completion, was compelled to hold "mitigation hearings" in the camps for all of the internees. As a result of these hearings and reviews by a board set up in the Justice Department thousands were freed from internment in due course of time from the Alien Internment Camps at Tule Lake, Calif., Bismarck, N. D., and Crystal City, Texas. As they were released hundreds of them were accepted for service in our military forces.

Every person released owes freedom to the original members of the groups at Tule Lake and Bismarck who made it possible for the suits to be instituted. The residue of 330 persons who were not released by outright order of the Attorney General and were held at Crystal City, Texas, and Bridgeton, N. J., finally were released into my custody by order of the Attorney General and a goodly proportion of these also entered our military forces.

The suits not only brought an end to the detention of the innocent renunciants but closed out the last of the relocation centers and alien internment camps. They also saved the government millions of dollars which would have been required to operate those camps and additional millions which would have been required to deport these mistreated persons and their families to Japan.

While the suits were progressing hundreds of additional renunciants applied to be joined as plaintiffs in the equity suits. Eventually some five thousand (5,000) were joined as parties plaintiff therein.

After Judge St. Sure retired from the bench the cases were transferred to U. S. District Judge Louis E. Goodman who decided the habeas corpus cases in favor of the applicants on June 30, 1947. Following this, approximately one thousand five hundred (1,500) additional persons were joined as plaintiffs. Thereafter, on April 29, 1948, Judge Goodman decided the equity cases in favor of the renunciants and over two thousand (2,000) thereafter joined these suits. In the latter suits an interlocutory decree cancelling the renunciations and restoring citizenship was entered on September 27, 1948. This ordered the citizenship of all the plaintiffs in the case restored whether they were in the United States, Japan or elsewhere. The court gave the government 120 days within which

it might, in good faith, designate any of the plaintiffs against whom it wished to present further evidence but placed the burden on the government to show that the renunciations of any such designated persons were free and voluntary and not affected by the duress in which they were held or to which they were subjected.

Thereafter, the government designated all of the plaintiffs for individual hearings. In consequence, the designations were not of the allowed type and Judge Goodman ordered those designations stricken from the record. On April 12, 1949, a final judgment was entered cancelling the renunciations of all the plaintiffs and declaring them to be nationals and citizens of the United States. By the terms of the judgment the government and its agents are prohibited from interfering with the rights, privileges and immunities of the plaintiffs and from denying those in Japan the right to return to the United States. It is not yet known whether the government will appeal from the judgment.

The misfortune inflicted upon the renunciants by the government is a greater stain upon the government than the blunder of evacuation. The injury they suffered to their rights and liberties cannot fully be repaired. However, the country has learned a lesson from these great injustices. It is not likely that any minority groups will be subjected to like mistreatment in the future.

- - - - -

December 28, 1948

Mr. Tetsuo Sato  
Rep., Editorial Staff  
New Japanese American News  
358 East First Street  
Los Angeles 12, California

Dear Mr. Sato:

Enclosed find the article that you  
requested.

Very truly yours,

December 28, 1948

Mr. Tex Nakamura  
117 No. San Pedro St.  
Room 302  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Tex:

Enclosed find copies of series of articles which are supposed to be published in the annuals of the Rafu Shimpo, California Daily News and New Japanese American News, as well as in Iwao's and Namekawa's papers. I would thank you to pick up two copies of the annuals printed in Los Angeles if these articles appear.

Very truly yours,

# New Japanese American News

新 日 米 新 聞 社

358 EAST FIRST STREET

LOS ANGELES 12, CALIFORNIA

EDITORIAL DEPT.: MADISON 6-3904

BUSINESS DEPT.: MUTUAL 5675

January 5, 1949

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
Mills Tower, 220 Bush Street  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Collins:

May I take this opportunity to thank you for the articles you so graciously sent us for the special New Year's edition. However, we are very sorry that we did not receive them in time for the intended publication.

We will certainly print them in the next issues as we know of their importance to the Japanese people.

Your kindness and trouble of writing the article is deeply appreciated. May you find the New Year full of happiness and success.

Very truly yours,

NEW JAPANESE AMERICAN NEWS

*Tetsuo Sato*

Tetsuo Sato  
Rep., Editorial Staff

TS:ks

January 13, 1949

Rafu Shimpo  
104 North L. A. Street  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Attn: Mr. Komai, Editor

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find copy of article - "Government Removal Orders Challenged" - which you may be interested in publishing.

Very truly yours,

January 13, 1949

Hokubei Mainichi,  
1737 Sutter St.  
San Francisco, Calif.

Attn: Mr. Iwao Shimizu

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find copy of article - "Government Removal Orders Challenged" - which you may be interested in publishing.

Very truly yours,

January 13, 1949

Japanese American Times  
P. O. Box 3098  
San Francisco 19, Calif.

Attn: Mr. I. Namekawa

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find copy of article - "Government Removal Orders Challenged" - which you may be interested in publishing.

Very truly yours,

January 13, 1949

New Japanese American News  
358 East First Street  
Los Angeles 12, California

Attn: Mr. Tetsuo Sato

Dear Mr. Sato:

Enclosed find copy of article - "Government Removal Orders Challenged" - which you may be interested in publishing.

Very truly yours,

January 13, 1949

California Daily News,  
132 No. San Pedro Street  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Attn: Mr. Sei Fujii, Editor

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find copy of article - "Government Removal Orders Challenged" - which you may be interested in publishing.

Very truly yours,

## GOVERNMENT REMOVAL ORDERS CHALLENGED

Two test cases challenging the right of the government to exercise its wartime power to arrest and remove two Issei to Japan were filed in the U. S. District Court at San Francisco on Thursday.

The suits were brought by Frank Y. Miyazawa, Seattle businessman, and Makio Kobayashi, Ogden laundryman, against Irving F. Wixon, the District Director of the U.S. Immigration Service, who has ordered them removed to Japan on the instructions of the Attorney General.

Wayne M. Collins, George Olshausen and Theodore Tamba, San Francisco attorneys who represent the petitioners, contend the Issei are not deportable because the Alien Enemy Act which authorizes removals expired at the close of the war. They also assert that the two petitioners were not given proper hearings before the deportation orders issued and that the attempted removal violates the basic constitutional rights of the Issei.

The attorneys liken the power to remove to a form of punishment for opinions the Attorney General arbitrarily suspects the Issei may have harbored in their minds. They state that such punishment is contrary to American law and that it is as repugnant to democratic principles and processes as were the police measures taken by the Kempeitai in Japan to control thought and to punish people suspected of no greater wrong than that of mere thinking.

The two Issei were released a year and a half ago from internment into the custody of their attorney, Wayne M. Collins, by the Attorney General. Upon reporting to the Immigration Service in San Francisco for removal to Japan the Issei filed their petitions for habeas corpus. U. S. District Judge Michael Roche has ordered them freed pending a final determination of the cases so that they may return to their homes.

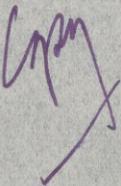
January 21, 1949

Mr. George Yamada  
Acorn Press  
1154 Glendale Blvd.  
Los Angeles 26, Calif.

Dear Mr. Yamada:

Mr. Ernest Besig of the Northern California  
ACLU informed me yesterday that you would like  
a copy of the article that appeared in the  
Hokubei Times concerning the renunciation suits.  
A copy thereof is enclosed together with three  
other articles relating to the Peruvian-Japanese  
immigration cases and alien enemy cases.

Very truly yours,

  
January 21, 1949

Rafu Shimpo  
104 North L. A. Street  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Attn: Mr. Komai, Editor

Dear Sir:

On January 19, 1949, you published an article to the effect that certain test cases filed by Wirin and Okrand and slated to be argued in the Court of Appeals at San Francisco may affect the status of over 5,000 Tule Lake renunciants. The article also stated that Los Angeles federal court judges had set aside the renunciations and restored citizenship to approximately 5,000 Nisei internees.

The information you received and published is erroneous. The Los Angeles cases on appeal affects only the three persons involved in that appeal. No Los Angeles court has set aside renunciations and restored citizenship to approximately 5,000 Nisei internees.

Unfortunately that article has the effect of misinforming and misleading a number of renunciants who have not taken steps to sue in court to have their renunciations cancelled on the ground of duress. It tends to lull them into a false belief that a favorable decision in the Ninth Circuit Court involving only three renunciants would restore the citizenship of persons other than those three persons.

The rule long has been that a written document entered into between two persons can be set aside by a court for the duress of one of the parties thereto. No appellate court, however, has held that a written document can be cancelled for duress exerted by a third person on one of the parties to the written instrument. Because the district court in those test cases held the renunciations cancellable without considering that rule, the government appealed to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The legal question there involved is whether a renunciation can be set aside for the personal duress of a third person.

No court in this country has declared that the statute which Congress passed in 1944 authorizing the Attorney General to accept renunciations is unconstitutional as a matter of law. In the absence of such a decision renunciations are presumed to be valid unless and until set aside by a court for factual reasons of fraud, duress or mistake. The Attorney General has no power to set aside a renunciation. Only a court can do so in a case where a renunciant actually sues to cancel his renunciation.

The U.S. District Court in San Francisco has ordered some 5,000 individual renunciations cancelled in mass equity suits brought by me on their behalf. These renunciations have been ordered cancelled because they were caused by governmental duress, that is to say, by agents of the government who held them in duress and subjected them to duress, the coercion other internees exerted upon renunciants being deemed and declared to be an incident and part of the governmental duress. Consequently, the acts of the governmental agents were the acts of the Attorney General who was a party to each written renunciation. Such renunciations are cancellable by a court sitting in equity.

Three years ago and repeatedly since then I have requested that the Attorney General consent that if the renunciations were cancelled in these mass suits the court order cancelling them be deemed to protect all renunciants who had not sued to cancel their renunciations. The Justice Department, after considering this problem, reached the conclusion that it could not supply a complete list of renunciants names to receive protection from the mass suits. It also decided it was not authorized to treat renunciants outside the suits as being protected thereby. The mass suits, however, are not only joint and several but "representative" ones designed to protect all renunciants who applied for inclusion. In consequence, the court could treat these mass representative suits as protecting not only the named renunciants but all others if the Attorney General were to supply a list of the names of such persons and they wished to be protected.

The renunciation statute must be presumed to be constitutional until and unless the U. S. Supreme Court decides to the contrary. This means that in the absence of such a decision renunciants who have not sued to cancel their renunciations would be barred from suing when the lawful period of time to file such a suit has expired. Thereafter, no renunciant could maintain a suit to set aside a renunciation for factual reasons (fraud, coercion or duress) against the defense of laches (failure to file such a suit within the proper time) but would be limited to a contention that the statute was unconstitutional as a matter

of law and the renunciation therefore void. The prospect of winning in such a case on the narrow ground of unconstitutionality is a matter for speculation and finally would have to be determined by the U. S. Supreme Court. If that Court held the statute void all renunciations would be voided but not otherwise.

Very truly yours,

*W. M. Collins*

January 25, 1949

Rafu Shimpo,  
104 North L.A. Street,  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Attention: Mr. Komai, Editor

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find copy of article on the  
renunciation cases which you may be inter-  
ested in printing.

Very truly your,

Enc.

January 25, 1949

California Daily News,  
132 No. San Pedro Street,  
Los Angeles, California.

Attention: Mr. Sei Fujii, Editor

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find copy of article on the  
renunciation cases which you may be inter-  
ested in printing.

Very truly yours,

Enc.

January 25, 1949

New Japanese American News,  
358 East First Street,  
Los Angeles 12, California.

Attention: Mr. Tetsuo Sato

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find copy of article on the  
renunciation cases which you may be inter-  
ested in printing.

Very truly yours,

Enc.

January 25, 1949

Japanese American Times,  
P.O. Box 3098,  
San Francisco 19, Calif.

Attention: Mr. I. Namekawa

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find copy of article on the  
renunciation cases which you may be interested  
in printing.

Very truly yours,

Enc.

January 25, 1949

Hokubei Mainichi,  
1737 Sutter Street,  
San Francisco, California.

Attention: Mr. Iwao Shimizu

Gentlemen:

Enclosed find copy of article on the  
renunciation cases which you may be interested  
in printing.

Very truly yours,

Enc.

TULE LAKE CASES

Upon the representations of Mr. Grumbly of the Justice Department made Tuesday afternoon Judge Louis E. Goodman extended the government's time to February 25, 1949, within which to designate any of the plaintiffs in the Tule Lake mass equity suits for special individual hearings.

The motion was opposed by Mr. Wayne M. Collins, the attorney for the 5500 renunciants. The Department made representations to the court that it had not had sufficient time to examine in excess of 16,000 files containing records relating to each of the renunciants and pleaded for 60 additional days' time to complete its investigations. Judge Goodman denied the request for the 60 day delay and allowed the Department of Justice only 30 days within which it may, in good faith, designate any of the renunciants for special individual hearings.

The burden of proof as to such renunciants was placed by the Court upon the government to demonstrate that such designated persons did not renounce as a result of the governmental duress in which they were held and to which they were subjected but that their renunciations were free and voluntary despite that duress. A final judgment will be entered in the mass equity suits on February 26, 1949.

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# CHICAGO PUBLISHING CORPORATION

division of General Mailing Service & Sales Co., Inc.

2611 South Indiana Ave., Chicago 16, DAnube 6-4242

April 8, 1949

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
American Civil Liberties Union  
461 Market Street  
San Francisco 5, California

Dear Mr. Collins:

First of all, we would like to congratulate you on your fight in court for the regaining of citizenship for Tule Lake internees. It was with great interest that we followed your actions on behalf of fairplay.

We are putting out a new monthly pictorial news magazine called SCENE, within a couple of weeks. It is a publication by and for Japanese Americans, and it has an initial circulation of 25,000.

We would like to include the Tule Lake Citizenship Issue in another edition of SCENE. Is there any late development on this? Can you possibly provide us with any material? In any event, can you possibly provide us with a glossy print photograph of yourself?

We would also like to obtain a picture of District Judge Louis E. Goodman, who presided in the case. Have you any suggestions as to how that may be accomplished?

How about other leads for our publication? If you have anything that you feel will be of interest, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Very truly yours,  
CHICAGO PUBLISHING CORPORATION

*Robert Ozaki*

Robert Ozaki  
Editor, SCENE



PUBLISHERS OF THE **GUIDE BOOK of AMERICA**

April 22, 1949

Mr. Robert Ozaki  
Editor, SCENE  
Chicago Publishing Corporation  
2611 South Indiana Ave.  
Chicago 16, Illinois

Dear Mr. Ozaki:

Replying to your letter of April 8th, I am enclosing a photograph of Judge Louis E. Goodman who in the habeas corpus proceedings liberated all of the renunciants therein from their detention and in the equity suits canceled their renunciations and declared them to be nationals and citizens of the United States. He is a very remarkable judge.

I am enclosing an article concerning renunciation cases which you may publish if you see fit. Unfortunately I haven't had a picture taken since I was a boy and in consequence am unable to send you one.

Very truly yours,

P.S. If you publish Judge Goodman's photograph or article concerning renunciation cases, I would be grateful if you would send me two copies.

# CHICAGO PUBLISHING CORPORATION

division of General Mailing Service & Sales Co., Inc.

2611 South Indiana Ave., Chicago 16, DAnube 6-4242

May 4, 1949

MAY 9 1949

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
American Civil Liberties Union  
461 Market Street  
San Francisco 5, California

Dear Mr. Collins:

May we thank you for your prompt response to our request for material and the photograph of Judge Louis E. Goodman.

Please feel assured that copies will be sent to you upon publication of the same.

We are wondering if we may possibly obtain a photograph of yourself at such time as one is obtainable.

If other events occur that would be of concern and of interest to the Japanese Americans, we are presuming upon your kind offer to count on you for help.

Very sincerely yours,  
CHICAGO PUBLISHING CORPORATION

*Robert Ozaki*  
Robert Ozaki  
Editor, SCENE



PUBLISHERS OF THE **GUIDE BOOK of AMERICA**

May 16, 1949

Mr. Robert Ozaki  
Editor, SCENE  
Chicago Publishing Corporation  
2611 South Indiana Ave.  
Chicago 16, Illinois

Dear Mr. Ozaki:

In answer to your letter of May 4th, please be informed that I have not had a photograph taken for in excess of twenty years and I have no immediate intentions of having one taken during the next twenty or more years. If it would appear that I should have one taken, I would be glad to supply you with a copy. If you wish any articles concerning either the renunciants, the so-called dangerous enemies, the Peruvians and immigration cases which I have handled and which related to classes of Nisei and Issei, upon request from you I should be glad to forward articles to you.

Very truly yours,

January 10, 1953

Rafu Shimpo  
104 North L.A. Street  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Attention: Mr. Komai, Editor

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is an article which you might be interested in publishing in English and also in Japanese inasmuch as it contains information which may prove to be of interest to a number of your subscribers who are renunciants whose citizenship status still is in doubt. I believe that your publication should make no reference to me as being the author of said article.

Very truly yours,

Enc.

January 9, 1953

Kashu Mainichi  
California Daily News  
132 No. San Pedro Street  
Los Angeles, California

Attention: Mr. Sei Fujii, Editor

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is an article which you might be interested in publishing in English and also in Japanese inasmuch as it contains information which may prove to be of interest to a number of your subscribers who are renunciants whose citizenship status still is in doubt. I believe that your publication should make no reference to me as being the author of said article.

Very truly yours,

Enc.

January 9, 1953

Nichi Bei Times  
1375 Eddy Street  
San Francisco 5, Calif.

Attention: Mr. Yasuo Abiko, Editor

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is an article which you might be interested in publishing in English and also in Japanese inasmuch as it contains information which may prove to be of interest to a number of your subscribers who are renunciants whose citizenship status still is in doubt. I believe that your publication should make no reference to me as being the author of said article.

Very truly yours,

Enc.

January 10, 1953

Hokubei Mainichi  
1737 Sutter Street  
San Francisco, California

Attention: Mrs. Michi Onuma, Editor

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is an article which you might be interested in publishing in English and also in Japanese inasmuch as it contains information which may prove to be of interest to a number of your subscribers who are renunciants whose citizenship status still is in doubt. I believe that your publication should make no reference to me as being the author of said article.

Very truly yours,

Enc.

RENUNCIANTS WHOSE CITIZENSHIP HAS NOT BEEN RESTORED  
MUST REGISTER AND BE FINGERPRINTED UNDER NEW LAW UNLESS  
THEY REGISTERED UNDER OLD ALIEN REGISTRATION LAW AND  
THEY MUST FILE "AN ANNUAL ADDRESS REPORT FORM I-53"  
BY JANUARY 31, 1953.

-----

Persons who renounced U.S. citizenship while detained by the government in a W.R.A. Center or camp during the war and whose citizenship has not yet been restored by a court judgment and who did not register and were not fingerprinted under the old Alien Registration Act of 1940 must do so by January 23, 1953, under the new Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 (Walter-McCarran Act) which became effective at midnight December 24, 1952.

However those renunciants who once registered and were fingerprinted under the old Alien Registration Act of 1940 while detained in a W.R.A. Center or camp at Tule Lake, Bismarck, Santa Fe, Crystal City or elsewhere, or afterward, do not need to register again under this new Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952.

Those renunciants who did not register and were not fingerprinted under the old Alien Registration Act of 1940 while in camp or afterward and who now are inside the United States or its territories should register and be fingerprinted, under protest, under the new alien registration law. They are required to register and be fingerprinted at the nearest or any office of the United States Immigration & Naturalization Service on or by January 23, 1953. (If, for any reason, it is impossible for such persons to do so by that time they should register as soon thereafter as is possible.)

If you are a renunciant who did not register under the old law while in a W.R.A. Camp or afterward but now register for the first time under the new law you will note that your answer

to Question No. 4 on the "ALIEN REGISTRATION FORM AR-2" which the registration officer will fill out or will have you fill out asks you to state the country of which you are a citizen or subject. Your answer to that question should be "the United States". If you now register and are fingerprinted for the first time under the new law you should do so under protest at the time you register. Your protest can be made verbally or in writing but preferably in writing. It should consist of a statement to the effect that you doubt the need for your registration but that you submit to registration and fingerprinting and all other requirements of the new law for your own protection; that you renounced U.S. citizenship in 1945 while you were illegally detained in a W.R.A. Center; that your renunciation was not free or voluntary but was the product of coercion and duress; that you assert that your renunciation is invalid and void for said reasons and that you still claim to be a U.S. citizen by birth. Printed protest forms can be procured from the Tule Lake Defense Committee, 124 South San Pedro Street, Los Angeles 12, California, or any of its committeemen, or from the office of attorney Wayne M. Collins, Mills Tower, San Francisco 4, California.

Whether a renunciant once registered under the old Alien Registration Law of 1940 while in camp at Tule Lake, or elsewhere, or afterward, or now registers for the first time under the new Alien Registration Law he must fill out an "ANNUAL ADDRESS REPORT FORM I-53" which can be obtained at the nearest or any Post Office. He cannot mail this form but he can get it there, make it out and deliver it there or have it delivered there on or by January 31, 1953. Thereafter, if he moves or changes his address he must get a printed change of address form called an "ADDRESS RECORD CARD-ALIEN REGISTRATION FORM AR-11" from the nearest or any Post Office or U.S. Immigration

& Naturalization Service Office, fill it out, place a stamp on it and mail it to the Department of Justice to whom it is addressed within ten (10) days from the time he moves or changes his address.

If such a renunciant is serving in our military or naval forces inside the United States and has never before been registered and fingerprinted under the old Alien Registration Act of 1940 while held in a W.R.A. camp, or afterward, he should register and be fingerprinted under the new law at the first opportunity he gets and by January 23, 1953, if possible, and also fill out and deliver the ANNUAL ADDRESS REPORT FORM I-53 at the first opportunity he gets and by January 31, 1953, if possible.

If such a renunciant now is outside the United States and has not been registered and fingerprinted under the old registration law he must register and be fingerprinted under the new Alien Registration Law within thirty (30) days after returning to the U.S. from abroad and should also fill out and deliver the annual report form and also the change of address form within ten (10) days after returning to the U.S.

If it embarrasses such a person to register and be fingerprinted at the U.S. Immigration & Naturalization office in his own city or town he can register and be fingerprinted in any other city or town at such an office. If it would embarrass him to get, fill out and deliver the ANNUAL ADDRESS REPORT FORM I-53 at the Post Office in the city or town nearest his place of residence he can do so in any other city or town. If it would embarrass him to get the change of address form called "ADDRESS RECORD CARD-ALIEN REGISTRATION FORM AR-11" in his own city or town he can get such a form from any Post Office in any city or town, fill it out, place a stamp on it and mail it.

If such a person has lost or loses his Alien Registration Card, Certificate or Receipt he should apply to the nearest or any U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service office for a duplicate or substitute one and pay the fee therefor. He should do this

Because the new law requires him to have a registration certificate or card in his possession at all times for his own protection. The application for a duplicate alien registration card, certificate or receipt is made on either the new Form I-90 or the old Form AR-16.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.