

114

CORRESPONDENCE

INCOMING / OUTGOING

MAY 1943

C-A  
171

May 1, 1943

Dr. Theodore C. Hume  
Claremont Church  
Claremont, California

Dear Ted:

I am glad that I stepped into my office on the way to the train I am about to take for Seattle. I had a feeling that I might hear from you, and as a meeting in Claremont is one of the important things on my agenda for this month, I do hope that we can get together on a time.

I know that Saturdays are perfectly awful, but I do hope that some time--any time on Saturday, May 15 will be suitable, and if not then, I may be able to push it up to Friday, May 14, in the evening. As I have only the five days in southern California, I cannot take too many days away from Los Angeles and Pasadena.

Will you kindly write to me at the Hotel Christie, Hollywood, where I expect to stay for the week beginning May 10. I do hope that we can get a good group going in the Pomona Valley.

Very sincerely yours,

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#### PACIFIC COAST

### Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco

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##### Executive Secretary

MRS. RUTH W. KINGMAN

Office: 2207 Union St., Berkeley

Telephone: ASHberry 6214

5-3-43

Dear Ruth:

Here's stuff. Probably little of use to you. It's been kicking around in my purse for quite a time.

// Get hold of Isabel Hemingway at Baptist Divinity School Women's Dorm -- she's the nurse who cared for J. B. Powell on the Gripsholm -- and get her to tell you the story she told me of how her sister, who teaches at Poston, escorted a group of Japanese-American girls on a week-end in Phoenix. It's the sort of story that'll bring you a real cheer, and maybe you can use it in some of your publicity. I don't want to spoil the story for Isabel by telling it second-hand. //

Any news?

Good luck,

Eleanor





STATE OF UTAH  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
SALT LAKE CITY

HERBERT B. MAW  
GOVERNOR

May 3, 1943

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman, Executive Secretary  
Pacific Coast Committee on American  
Principles and Fair Play  
2207 Union Street  
Berkeley, California

Dear Mrs. Kingman:

This is to acknowledge with thanks  
receipt of your communication addressed to me  
which was submitted to the Governors' Conference  
recently held at Salt Lake City.

I have provided each of the Governors  
of the eleven western states with a copy of the  
communication.

Yours very truly,

*Herbert B. Maw*  
Governor

r

Ruth--

Art Linkletter (Seabright 1133) phoned  
5/4/43 to invite you to participate in his  
Tuesday night radio program discussing the  
Japanese evacuees. I told him that a week from  
Tuesday would probably be best for you and he  
figured that would be o.k.

You'd better phone him.

HK

Call

125 San Anselmo  
San Francisco (Home)

May 10, 1943

Mr. Art Linkletter  
125 San Anselmo  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Linkletter:

We received your phone call of May 4 inviting Mrs. Kingman to participate in one of your Tuesday night radio programs. I believe May 18 was suggested as the best possible date for both you and Mrs. Kingman.

However, at the moment, Mrs. Kingman is en route to Los Angeles on Committee business and will return on the morning of the seventeenth, at which time she will get in touch with you immediately.

For months your radio programs have helped to inform listeners of the facts behind many important issues, and this seems to be another step in the right direction toward an interesting program and a well informed public. Mrs. Kingman will be glad to hold open the evening of May 18.

Sincerely yours,

Joan N. Stout  
Secretary to Mrs. Kingman

# LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY

~~530 South Hope Street~~  
Los Angeles, California

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CITY LIBRARIAN  
Althea Warren

May 5, 1943.

*Answered*  
*5/25/43*  
*Enclaved material  
originally  
relayed to  
Hickman*

Executive Secretary  
Pacific Coast Committee on American Principle  
of Fair Play  
2207 Union Street  
Berkeley, California

Dear Sir:

Mrs. Theodore Eckerson of our advisory board tells me that your group has a statement concerning the current attitude toward Japanese-Americans, which might well be presented to our recently-formed community forum.

Discussion at an April meeting centered on "Japan and the Japanese" and showed a wide range of opinion and some misinformation.

We shall welcome any materials you may at any time wish to send us for presenting to this group. And we wish you well of your efforts.

Yours sincerely,

*Lone Rider*

(Mrs.) Lone Morrison Rider  
Branch librarian.



May 10, 1943

Mrs. Ione Morrison Rider, Librarian  
John Muir Branch Library  
1005 West 64th Street  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mrs. Rider:

Thank you for your letter of May 5.

I am sorry but Mrs. Kingman is out of town at the moment, traveling from Seattle to Los Angeles, and will, therefore, not be able to answer your letter directly at this time.

However, she plans to return on the morning of the seventeenth; and I will bring your letter to her attention at that time, so that she may answer it immediately.

Very sincerely yours,

Jean N. Stout  
Secretary to Mrs. Kingman

May 24, 1943

Miss Ione Rider  
Branch Librarian,  
John Muir Branch  
Los Angeles Public Library,  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mrs. Rider:

Upon my return from a trip to Seattle and Los Angeles, my attention was called to your letter of May 5, in which you suggested that we might wish to send you some of the materials which we have sent out from time to time.

I shall be delighted to put you on our mailing list, and so be sure that you receive all future releases. I am enclosing one or two things which you may find helpful. So far much of our time has been spent in organization, so the releases have not been sent out regularly. However, the enclosed material will be self explanatory, and I trust that the material we are able to send out in the future will prove helpful.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman

enclosures

Fair Play  
Release  
Frankenstein

Crew  
Belt Sun  
Kleinman



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Pacif. Coast Com. on Am. Prin's + Fair Play  
Mrs Ruth W. Kingman, Exec. Sec.  
465 California St.  
San Francisco  
California

1222 Fulton St. Palo Alto, Calif.  
May 6, 1943

Dear Madame,

If it is possible, I should like  
to be kept informed of the activities  
of your committee. I would like  
to write letters to the legislature also  
against discriminatory legislation.

Sincerely yours,  
Mrs. Carroll T. Kellogg



# MILLER FREEMAN PUBLICATIONS

71 COLUMBIA STREET  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

May 6, 1943

*Reply June 2*

Mrs. Ruth Kingman  
535 San Luis Road  
Berkeley, California

Dear Mrs. Kingman:

I was disappointed that you were not able to confer with me further, particularly because you were calling in behalf of a group of distinguished citizens of California, who are so earnestly desirous of working out a just solution of the problem of the Japanese in this country.

I believe strongly that it will not be possible for the various conflicting elements to themselves arrive at the solution of what we are to do about the problem. There is, in my opinion, just one agency that is organized and able to act with all the authority of the United States government, and that is the Congress of the United States.

That is why I favor the proposal of Congressman Henry M. Jackson to set up a special sub-committee to make such an investigation. The writer recommends that your group endorse the creation of such a committee, and notify your members in Congress accordingly.

Sincerely,

*Miller Freeman*  
Miller Freeman

MF:lr  
enc.

(Not printed at Government expense)



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 78<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

## Investigation of the Japanese in America

SPEECH  
OF

HON. HENRY M. JACKSON

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 23, 1943

THE SPEAKER pro tempore. Under previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington [Mr. JACKSON] is recognized for 15 minutes.

(By unanimous consent, Mr. JACKSON was granted permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Speaker, I have today introduced a resolution, asking that a special committee of the House be set up to investigate Japanese activities in the United States and its possessions. I have requested that this committee direct an investigation into any and all activities of the Japanese in the United States, its Territories, and possessions, including their infiltration into American economic, political, and social life, with the end of preserving the security of the United States during the war and looking toward the establishment of a proper policy toward the Japanese residents of the United States, its Territories and possessions after the war.

We first heard much of Japanese infiltration tactics on Bataan and in the Philippines, but the Japanese had for many years practiced a different type of infiltration—infiltration into the vitals of our economic, political, and domestic structure. The disciples of Bushido, by insidious and indirect means, inserted themselves in a great many organizations in much the same fashion as the Nazis have utilized their front organizations. In our great Pacific coast cities they controlled much of the hotel and restaurant business although always there was a white manager who would front for them with the general public. They lowered prices to their own countrymen in the fresh produce and vegetable field, forcing out their white competition, only to raise prices as soon as they had monopolized this sphere of business. Always they had prominent civic leaders as their attorneys, paying them on a retainer basis. Whenever a situation came up in which they were interested, they had only to contact these individuals with their specious reasons to have them immediately come forward in their interest. Investiga-

tion will show that Japanese consuls in our large cities lavished expensive and sumptuous gifts on a great number of prominent citizens at Christmas and other appropriate occasions.

I wish to make it clear here that I do not intend to indict the great majority of these individuals because I am positive there was no disloyalty to their country in their minds. However, because their actions were unintentional, does not alter the fact that they were of great importance and value in the subtle propagandizing efforts of the Japanese nation and enabled them to exert an unbelievable amount of influence on the economic, political, and social life of the Pacific coast region.

After my study of this question, I wish to assure the Members of this House that there is not the slightest doubt in my mind but that the Japanese consul, taking his orders directly from Tokyo, ruled the Japanese colonies in our country with an iron and dictatorial hand; thus there was a society within a society and a race within a race. Every 2 years the Japanese consul in the large Pacific coast cities was changed and a new consul came in, bearing direct orders from the "Son of Heaven" in Tokyo. He directed the establishment of Japanese language schools; he managed the complicated Japanese financial system through the Japanese banks, owned and controlled in the land of the Samurai. The consulate office was the fountainhead from which flowed all directives to Japanese residents, both alien and native to this country, and was also the center of espionage and propaganda activity to which came all the data which the Japanese were able to gather regarding our Pacific coast line and the Isles and inlets of the Alaskan Peninsula.

Let me outline briefly to you a few of the examples of Japanese infiltration tactics which have recently come to light. The most striking example, in my opinion, is a fact recently brought out by Mr. Miller Freeman, of Seattle, Wash., publisher of eight trade journals and who is undoubtedly one of the greatest experts on the Japanese problem in our country. He points out that in the China Club of Seattle, Wash., which has an executive board composed of 29 members, 11 members are listed in the 1942 roster of officers and members of the Japan Society of Seattle. How ironic it is that with China and Japan having been at war for over 5 years, such a large majority of the directors of the China Club and the

Japan Club should belong to both organizations.

I wonder also if you gentlemen know that immediately after Pearl Harbor, several Japanese organizations turned over to the American Red Cross a number of bandages, medical supplies, and other material fashioned by Japanese societies. They attempted to obtain wide publicity and made great fanfare about their patriotism at that time, neglecting, however, to mention that all their supplies up to that date had been forwarded to the Japanese military machine. They neglected, also, to mention that it was necessary for them to remove the bills of lading from the material which they donated to our Government because it had been addressed previously to Tokyo.

The War Relocation Authority and the Federal Reserve Bank Board now have all the information regarding the financial assets and economic enterprises of the Japanese in this country. Now that we are at war with Japan, we need not be concerned with diplomatic niceties. Is there any reason why this information should not be made available to the American people? Do not the American people, and particularly the residents of the Pacific coast, have the right to know the extent of the economic stranglehold possessed by Japanese residents on the domestic economy of our country? I for one must insist that the American people have a right to be fully informed on this subject.

Let me point out also here that these are not recent developments in Japanese strategy. The Japanese have used these tactics for many years. Over 20 years ago, our able colleague [Mr. WOODRUFF] called to the attention of Congress some information which he has recently again brought to light before this Seventy-eighth Congress. During World War No. 1, our so-called ally, Japan, owned two airplane plants in the State of New Jersey which were employed on Government contracts. These two plants were the Standard Aircraft Corporation and the Standard Aero Co., which were in the control of Mitsui & Co., the fiscal agents of the Japanese Government at that time. Japan, therefore, had access to our most advanced secret military information regarding that vital military weapon, the airplane. Under orders from Tokyo, this company actually shipped a number of complete airplane engines to Japan for study and imitation at the height of this war. It has even been reliably reported that Japanese emissaries applied at that time to



Thomas Edison, head of the United States War Invention Board, to share in all the technical military information available to this country.

Despite the enlightening exposé made by the gentleman from Michigan, Congressman Woodruff, and despite the fact further investigation showed the Japanese had not only stolen our military secrets but while so doing had milked the United States Treasury of over \$16,000,000, I can find no evidence to demonstrate that any successful effort was ever made to follow up these events and to receive an accounting from the Japanese nation.

Those who have read the White Paper of the State Department, outlining our Nation's course of diplomacy with Japan prior to Pearl Harbor, find it difficult to understand why the American people were left so much in the dark as to the actual trend of diplomatic events in that area. I venture to say that if the true facts are brought out regarding the inadequacy of our naval intelligence in the Pacific area the American public will find such a revelation even more astounding. I know conclusively that the facts regarding Japanese military preparations, the Japanese war psychosis, and Japanese plans for conquest were brought forcefully to the attention of our Naval Intelligence not once but many times in the years preceding Pearl Harbor.

Even the schoolboys in coastal cities on the Pacific coast who had observed Japanese merchant marine sailors, cameras slung over their backs, on their Sunday afternoon stroll over the waterfronts of our large cities were more aware of the crisis which might become imminent at any moment.

Certainly, the fishermen in the great Alaskan salmon industry, who had fought to expel Japanese floating canneries from our Alaskan waters, were well aware of the true facts. Certainly, too, it is no wonder that these same fishermen expressed their wonder in times past that not only did the State Department exert its influence against their efforts to expel the Japs from these regions, but even urged that their technical and student missions receive special courtesies in viewing this area. If anyone doubts the accuracy of the information which the Japanese have regarding the shores and inlets of the Alaskan Peninsula, I urge him to ask any experienced fishing skipper in those waters if he would not prefer to have the Japanese maps and sounding charts in preference to those obtained by the belated efforts of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey.

In my mind there is no question but that the same pro-Japanese influences which existed in this country prior to Pearl Harbor still exist, although they have temporarily gone underground. I believe the investigation of Japanese activity during these many years in our

514609—1333

country will bring out a number of startling revelations which will materially assist us in the prosecution of the present war. Mme. Chiang Kai-shek quoted a Chinese proverb in her recent address to this House: "Know thyself; know thy enemy." I do not believe that either the American people, the Members of Congress, or even the military authorities can fully understand the Japanese conflict in all its aspects without knowing more fully what has been the history of pre-war infiltration and propagandizing in this country. If we fully study and analyze their mode of second-front activity in this country, we will better be able to conduct the present war to a successful and speedy conclusion. Armed with this information, we will realize the necessity for diverting a greater portion of our military might to the war in the Pacific before they have been able to consolidate the vast industrial and economic empire they have recently taken over.

Even a dilettante student of history knows Japan, although nominally one of our allies in World War No. 1, did practically nothing for the common cause in that conflict. They did manage, however, to take Tsingtao from the Germans, which they afterward retained along with the mandated isles, which they fortified strongly in abrogation of their solemn trust and which we must now reckon with in the war of the Pacific. By building up previously to the First World War a great stock pile of materials which they lacked, they also managed to grab a great part of world trade. In truth, the greatest factor in the modern economic development of Japan was the First World War. Japan felt no obligation to her allies in that war any more than she has given us any reason in World War No. 2 to believe she will assist Germany unless such help coincide with her own nefarious purposes. However, in the event Germany seems about to succumb to weight of combined Allied military might, may we not expect that she will attempt a diversion to save her own skin?

I submit, gentleman, in view of what has already transpired in the past and future eventualities we may anticipate, this investigation is an urgent and immediate necessity.

Mr. ANDERSON of California. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. JACKSON. I yield.

Mr. ANDERSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I compliment the gentleman for bringing this subject to the attention of the House at this time. I think it is high time that we look into the status of the Japanese in this country not only during the war but after the war. Will the gentleman give the House his attitude on the present War Department project of developing a Japanese unit within our own armed services?

Mr. JACKSON. I might say to the gentleman that I have not gone into that matter in any great detail. We all know, however, that it is one which requires the greatest precaution. From what we have been able to gather up to date I think it is pretty clear that the Japanese we trusted most are those who often proved to be the most treacherous.

The SPEAKER. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. ANDERSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman may proceed for 2 additional minutes.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

There was no objection.

Mr. ANDERSON of California. Does not the gentleman believe that the utmost care must be taken in separating the wheat from the chaff, so to speak, before any Japanese in this country are permitted to join our armed forces?

Mr. JACKSON. That is right. I do not see how it is possible for the War Relocation Authority or any other branch of the Government to determine the loyalty of the individual Japanese on the basis of the information we now have on hand.

Mr. ANDERSON of California. The gentleman comes from the Pacific coast and knows the reaction of the people out there just as I do.

Mr. JACKSON. That is right.

Mr. HINSHAW. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. JACKSON. I yield.

Mr. HINSHAW. The gentleman knows that there are already a number of Japanese in the Army—several thousand who are there under operation of the Selective Service Act prior to our going into war with Japan.

Mr. JACKSON. That is right.

Mr. HINSHAW. They are now in the service.

Mr. JACKSON. That is right.

Mr. KEFAUVER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. JACKSON. I yield.

Mr. KEFAUVER. The gentleman, I understand, is proposing a committee to make this investigation; is that correct?

Mr. JACKSON. Yes; I may say that it is for a study of the Japanese problem in all its aspects.

Mr. KEFAUVER. I believe the gentleman is proposing a very good line of inquiry, but I see the gentleman from Texas [Mr. Dies] present, and I wonder if this does not come within the purview of the work of the Dies committee.

Mr. JACKSON. I may say to the gentleman from Tennessee in that connection that what I propose is a study of the whole Japanese question, not just the matter of the subversive side of it with which the gentleman from Texas is interested. The committee that I propose is of much broader scope than that of the Dies committee.

May 10, 1943

Reverend Stephen C. Peabody  
First Congregational Church  
Third and San Antonio Streets  
San Jose, California

Dear Dr. Peabody:

Thank you very much for your recent correspondence.

Mrs. Kingman is, at the moment, traveling from Seattle to Los Angeles. Upon her return in about *one week*, I shall bring your letter to her attention so that she may answer it immediately.

Very sincerely yours,



May 10, 1943

Mrs. Anna E. Harris  
222 West Euclid  
Stockton, California

Dear Mrs. Harris:

Stopping in at my office for a few hours between trains, I find your letter of May 5 asking me to speak in Stockton on May 20.

As I am now on my way to Los Angeles, I am not sure that I will be back by that time. In fact, if I should return, I have other appointments which will hold me in the Bay Area over May 20.

I am very sorry that I can not meet with your Stockton group as we are eager to have the people in that city as completely informed as possible regarding the American Japanese.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman

RWK:jas

LIBRARY  
SEARCHER NO. 20



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman,  
Berkeley, Calif.  
try 535 San Luis Rd

Dear Mrs. Kingman: Portland, Ore. <sup>Box 5</sup>  
May 10 - 45  
Don't you think that you & the other  
members of "Committee on American  
Principles & Fair Play" could use your  
time & ~~better~~ energy to better advantage  
by working for our service men both  
here & abroad? We Americans do not like  
to hear about this maudlin sympath-  
y for the interned Japs who are living  
in greater luxury than many of our own  
workers. Verian Stratton  
7835 S. E. Taylor St.

May 25, 1943

Mrs. Vivian Stratton  
7835 S.E. Tayler Street  
Portland, Oregon.

Dear Mrs. Stratton:

Our Committee is always glad to receive honest criticism of persons who are as obviously interested in our national good as you so obviously are. We feel strongly that full expression should be made of such convictions. Our interest is to try to put before the thinking public such facts that the thinking shall be based upon truth rather than fiction.

We suffer no delusions as to the seriousness of this war, either here or abroad, but are concerned lest in the height of unclear thinking, the American people lose sight of the principles for which our men are fighting. The right of American citizens to fight and work for their country is inherent in the rights of American Citizenship, and we are eager that the War Department and the Department of Justice, in their efforts to include persons of Japanese ancestry, who are considered by the Army and FBI, in the war effort, not be impeded by a lack of understanding of the Japanese Americans.

Our efforts for these persons, 7500 of whom are already in the armed services, hundreds already in action on all fronts, are motivated by the same feeling which prompts all of the members of the Committee to spend much time on all types of war work, USO service and Red Cross training.

I enclose a recent statement by Ambassador Grew, lately of Japan, whose feelings cannot be considered maudlin, but who expresses perfectly, our feeling regarding the Japanese Americans who are trying desperately to contribute to the war effort at this time.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman

enclosures



RK. Represents Council of Churches of Maryland  
& Delaware

DOROTHY ELDERDICE

75 W. GREEN STREET

WESTMINSTER, MARYLAND

May 8, 1943

My dear Mr. Fisher:

Thank you very much for the concise, illuminating answers you gave to my questions forwarded you by Mrs. Douglas. Along with your article in The Christian Century they were of inestimable help when I gave my 30 minute report on The Attitude of the Church toward Japanese American Resettlement. At the conclusion of my talk our commission unanimously adopted the enclosed recommendations for submission to the Conference which meets at Hood next month. I plan to take your letter with me there to continue its good work.

This week I am trying to resettle here two Japanese American beauty operators and one Japanese American farm family. Mrs. Douglas's daughter, Charlotte Susu-Mago, is co-operating at Rivers, Arizona. The employers-to-be are enthusiastic but the building of community sentiment is slow work. While we do not have to contend with oriental race prejudice here, the war has given us a plentiful crop of super patriots who enjoy spy hunting and lose no opportunity to echo Gen. DeWitt, "A Jap's a Jap!"

Mrs. Douglas has written so enthusiastically about your work that I'm glad to make even a letter acquaintance with you. If you ever decide to organize an eastern branch of The Fair Play Committee I should be delighted to co-operate.

Very gratefully,

Dorothy Elderdice

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS, INC.  
381 FOURTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE  
PRESIDENT

May 11, 1943

Mr. Harry Kingman  
Styles Hall, Y.M.C.A.  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

Dear Harry,

Ruth and you will be interested in the copy of the letter I received from the War Relocation Authority. I first heard from Walter Heath of Manzanar who advised me to write to Mr. Clapp in Boston. Apparently, Mr. Clapp sent my letter on to Mr. Cullum of New York, and the latter's answer is attached. Apparently, the supply is not as great as Ruth thought.

I offered a couple \$75 a month in addition to board, room, work clothes and a just share in the profits of the farm, which profits would be determined by our combined initiative and energy.

If Ruth has any further light, I shall be glad to hear from her.

Faithfully yours,

ERC:la

C O P Y

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
Room 1410, 50 Broadway  
New York, New York

May 10, 1943

Rev. Everett R. Clinchy  
The National Conference of Christians and Jews, Inc.  
381 Fourth Avenue  
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Clinchy,

Thank you very much for your letter of May seventh which has been forwarded to this office.

In general we fear that there will not be a large number of evacuees willing to cross the country from the relocation centers in order to take domestic or farm employment here in the East, since there have been similar offers nearer at hand and the supply of people trained in these lines is nearing exhaustion. We shall, however, be very glad to transmit your employment offer to the centers, with the request that qualified applicants write directly to you. We will very much appreciate your informing us of the result and your sending on to us applications from any couples other than the one you hire. The demand for employees of this character is far in excess of the number of applications which we have on file.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Robert M. Cullum  
Relocation Supervisor



C O P Y

LOS ANGELES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

May 11, 1943

To the Chambers of Commerce  
of Southern California

Gentlemen:

We are advised by our Washington office that proposals are still under active consideration to permit Japanese to return to military areas of the Pacific Coast. A group of our local people have been called together to consider these proposals and they believe the situation to be of sufficient importance to justify a determination of the sentiment and opinions which exist throughout our coastal areas.

Accordingly we would appreciate having the benefit of your expression in answer to the following questions:

1. Does your organization believe it desirable that Japanese who are considered loyal to the United States be permitted to return to Pacific Coast states during the war?
2. Does the opinion expressed in answer to question #1 represent the attitude in the community or area which your organization serves?
3. Would return, in your opinion, involve dangers to our war operations?
4. Is there any probability that return of the Japanese would jeopardize their personal safety?
5. Would their return cause resentment which would interrupt war production?
6. Is it desired that Japanese be permitted to return so that their labor may be utilized for:

- (a) agriculture
- (b) industry

We are enclosing a postal card with questions numbered as above. We will appreciate your returning the questions checked "yes" or "no".

If you prefer, we would be glad to have your answer by letter, with a more comprehensive statement concerning these questions, and other items which you think should be considered in connection with this problem.

Since this matter is very actively before officials in Washington, it is desirable that we have your response at an early date.

Sincerely,

LEONARD E. READ  
General Manager

34-138  
Encl.

5/25/43

San Juan Bautista Cal.  
May 12, 1943

Harry Scott  
465- Calif St,  
San Francisco.

Dear Sir:-

Please send us as soon as convenient information, leaflets, etc., regarding the American Principles & Fair Play organization.

We are particularly sympathetic to the loyal Japanese of this country as they are no part of the militarists in control of Japan to-day. The F.B.I. and other intelligence agencies are well trained and capable of determining who is guilty and and undesirable among these unfortunates. We believe this whole evacuation was brought on by certain groups because of racial discrimination. The few who are guilty at heart are very few



at the source. The longer we keep  
the loyal citizens & aliens behind barbed  
wire enclosures the more bitter we  
will make them if we don't stop  
this poisonous discriminatory  
attitude now. These people had  
no part in Pearl Harbor at all - that  
has been proven even in Hawaii with  
the Japanese there residing.

My wife is an invalid - cannot  
walk at all and the little girl (Japanese)  
who cared for her showed more  
devotion, attention and love for  
her than all six Caucasian nurses  
previously employed - also the boy  
operating our farm machinery was  
careful & devoted to duty - always  
dependable and of good habits. We  
would do anything to have this  
Boy & girl and their widowed mother  
returned to us. We feel a movement  
should be started to return women  
where employment & housing is assured  
them. They can work as domestics & farm  
labor and skilled crafts as well.

Please send information also to Mrs.  
Mrs. Cecil Stilgebauer 1056 Montez St. Holl-  
ister, Cal.

Looking for an early reply. I am,

Very truly yours.

W. T. Freitas.

Box 31, C.



J. H. McCracken, President

WALTER REESE, Clerk

JAMES R. FRIEND, Trustee

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT  
N. D. MYERS  
Malaga Cove School  
Telephone Redondo 7205

Reply to  
Box 876  
Palos Verdes Estates

## Palos Verdes School District

PALOS VERDES ESTATES  
CALIFORNIA

May 12, 1943.

SCHOOLS  
MALAGA COVE  
Via Almar and Via Arroyo,  
Palos Verdes Estates  
MIRALESTE  
Via Canada and Via Picardie,  
San Pedro

Mr. Harry Kingman  
2207 Union St.,  
Berkeley, Calif.

Dear Harry:

Mrs. Nance, who is the Principal of one of my schools, handed me a letter from Mrs. Kingman relating to the activities of the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play. The open letter of March 17th also was inclosed.

We had about 18% Japanese in our schools before the evacuation. In those tense days following December 7th we tried to protect our own families, who did get a much better deal than some nearby, Terminal Island for example.

Tonight Mrs. Nance and I are meeting some people here with the idea of establishing a small committee along the lines of the one which is active in Pasadena.

I have lost track of Bill Davis. If you are still in contact with him please say "hello" for me. Not long ago a fellow told me about the phenomenal growth of the Mens' Coop. I look back on those days when we worked together on this organization as the most worthwhile training of my life and certainly most enjoyable.

Please put me on your mailing list for information regarding Committee action, and on your personal mailing list for a letter now and then. At the first opportunity I hope to see you personally.

Sincere regards,

*Dick*  
Dick Myers

get letter from  
A.F.L. re  
Joint Ann.  
affiliation  
+  
disaffiliation



*Reply - May 25/43*

Young Women's Christian Association

PORTLAND - OREGON

BROADWAY AT TAYLOR



May 12, 1943

Mrs. Ruth Kingman, Executive Sec'y *CAP-7P-*  
2207 Union Street  
Berkeley, California

Dear Mrs. Kingman:

It is Wednesday, but I know that you are so deeply submerged in the problems of Southern California that you hardly know you stopped at Portland, but you did, and tomorrow at one o'clock Don Fessler and Jane Chase and I sit down to talk over what is next.

We missed one awfully good bet in failing to contact Mr. Morton Tompkins, Master of the State Grange of Oregon, 1135 SE Salmon Street. I talked with him yesterday. The Oregon State Grange meets June 8 and he says the Japanese problem is surely coming up. I have a conference with him in his office the latter part of next week. Before then would it be possible for you, -a. to get to me the best material you have from the Grange and, -b. can the Grange member of the Advisory Board write him a good letter? He sounded like a gentle man and his voice was troubled. If we can keep Oregon from making some bad moves at their June meeting we will have won the first round on that. I will keep you informed.

I am returning to you the letter from Mr. Myer which you let me read. Thank you very much.

I should like to change the list of people whom I recommended for the state committee. Let us start over on that list.

Have big business from Los Angeles or San Francisco write Mr. E. B. MacNaughton, Pres. First National Bank, Portland, Oregon. You have my Who's Who about him in your file.

Have Chester Rowell or someone of *Mr.* position write Mr. Charles A. Sprague, Editor Salem Statesman, President of the Oregon Council of Churches, *1* Past Governor of Oregon.



I would not write to Mrs. Hodge or to Dr. Magruder.

The more I ponder the fact that no approaches were made to anybody in Oregon except the letter you wrote to me, the more concerned I am that you divide responsibilities for increasing your leadership from the Northwest so that Galen Fisher is not responsible for all of it. If he had written as you expected him to do, it would have saved all of us uncertainty and anxiety.

We are tremendously glad you came. The more I think about it the more I feel the backing that we need is going to come.

One more word. Last night I led a Service and used your daughter's "Quiet Day" poem for an opening. It is a very lovely thing. I will write to you again after Don and Jane and I have talked. Thank you so much for coming.

Cordially yours,

*Mildred Bartholomew*

Mildred Bartholomew  
Membership Education

Enc.  
MB:AR

P.S. I will be very glad if your secretary gives me the data on "Who's Who" on your advisory board and of your executive committee. We only got part way through the list and I too have some inquiries about it.

Mrs. Kingman note suggestion at bot.  
p. 1 + top p. 2

MRS. C. C. DOUGLAS

5722 BUENA VISTA TERRACE - LOS ANGELES, ALBANY 1632

+ see Miss Elderdice's letter incl.  
Dear Mr. Fisher, May 15, 1943  
(need not return)

Because Miss Elderdice is doing

Such splendid work; because you

helped her; I thought you might

like to see the enclosed clippings

from Balto, SVN as enclosed  
she sent and asked that I send

them to Charlotte, (our daughter) with

whom Miss Elderdice has

cooperated so wonderfully. I am

enclosing envelope addressed as you

can send it on. if you will please

This thought came. May earliest

Maryland have a Fair Play Committee  
if it <sup>(md.)</sup> continues to "grow in grace";

The real reason for troubling you again  
is an S.O.S. from our daughter  
regarding a brilliant little blind boy <sup>100/100/100</sup>  
who never went to school and whom  
Charlotte took in hand, got the  
Braille and has been teaching him  
all of this time. I have decided to  
enclose that part of Charlotte's  
letter referring to Kengo (whose last  
name I've forgotten) <sup>but will ask</sup>  
Charlotte to send to you so that  
should your group decide to help



MRS. JOHN FRANKLIN SHUMAN  
250 THE UPLANDS  
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

May 16<sup>th</sup>

Dear Mr Fisher -;

Your letter of March 29<sup>th</sup>.  
deserved a more prompt answer -  
I delayed until I could juggle my  
finances - I have pledged so much  
to the Church, the War Relief &  
the Red Cross that I have to calculate  
rather closely. I am sorry not to  
be able to send you more as I so  
heartily approve of your work.

Very sincerely -

Louise Shuman

Enclosed check  
for \$25.00

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

FRANK HERMON SMITH, Chairman  
GALEN M. FISHER  
C. S. REIFSNIDER

COOPERATING BODIES

American Bible Society  
Northern Baptist Convention  
Congregational Church  
Disciples of Christ  
Evangelical and Reformed Church  
Free Methodist and Holiness Churches  
Friends  
The Methodist Church

PROTESTANT CHURCH COMMISSION  
FOR JAPANESE SERVICE

Agency of National Church Councils  
and the Japanese Churches

May 17, 1943.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

GORDON K. CHAPMAN  
Room 207, Board of National Missions  
228 McAllister Street  
San Francisco, California

COOPERATING BODIES

Presbyterian Church in U. S. A.  
Protestant Episcopal Church  
Reformed Church in America  
Salvation Army  
United Lutheran Church  
Y. M. C. A.  
Y. W. C. A.

President Arthur Cushman McGiffert,  
Pacific School of Religion,  
Berkeley,  
California.

Dear Dr. McGiffert:-

It is a pleasure to accept the invitation of the Fair Play Committee to become a Contributing member and I enclose herewith a check for \$5.00.

In view of the fact that the Christian Church is a most important agency in all movements on behalf of American principles and fair play, I am wondering whether it would not be the part of good strategy to secure closer cooperation between your Committee and representative Church agencies. During my last tour of Relocation Centers several Japanese inquired as to our relationship to your Committee and also wanted to know whether the Protestant Church on the Pacific Coast was really backing this movement. Some of your leading members are also included in the National Council for Student Relocation, together with certain representatives of Church agencies. I believe that this has been a decided advantage and there is certainly no reason to indicate that the Churches have been a detriment to this movement. Even though the main intention may be to enlist laymen there are certainly a large number of leading men in our churches who undoubtedly would be willing to serve.

I recognize, of course, that several churchmen are included in your membership and this suggestion is not intended as an intimation that you are not able to represent the churches. But as I have journeyed throughout the State I have become convinced that we are not utilizing the churches as we should in combating un-American movements. And the same applies to the whole Pacific Coast. If your Committee is intended to represent this area, then there are great possibilities in the enlistment of prominent citizens who are also Christians.

With best wishes,

Very sincerely yours

*Gordon K. Chapman*

COPY

Telegram sent to Dillon S Myer, May 19, 1943

Fair Play Committee wishes to know what steps you are taking in regard to Walter Winchell's quotation on Last Sunday night of prejudiced statement of Senator Chandler.

Ruth W. Kingman



WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

MAY 20 1943

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman  
Executive Secretary  
Committee on American Principles  
and Fair Play  
2207 Union Street  
Berkeley, California

Dear Mrs. Kingman:

In response to your wire of May 19, I am  
sending you a copy of a letter I have sent to  
Walter Winchell concerning his broadcast of May 16.

Sincerely yours,

*D. S. Myers*  
Director

Enclosure



May 20, 1943

Mr. Dillon S. Myer  
War Relocation Authority  
Barr Building  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Myer,

After a two week's trip to Seattle, Portland, Tacoma and Los Angeles, the northern portion of which was fairly calm, the southern a bit more battering, I have returned to my office with a renewed conviction that in order to "hold the line" we are going to have to take a much more positive approach to the problem of mobilizing the more liberal opinion which lies on the Pacific Coast.

While in Seattle, I visited Mr. Miller Freeman, as you suggested, and while I felt at first that we would probably end the interview in each other's hair, we finally managed at least an armistice, and I was pleased that Mr. Freeman took the initiative in trying to arrange a second meeting. As my calendar did not permit another appointment with him, he wrote a letter to me, a copy of which I am sending you. It seemed to me that while Mr. Freeman is undoubtedly held by a forty year old mind set patterned somewhat on the Hearst-McClatchey line, he nevertheless has a fine attitude toward the Nisei, and sincerely believes that no constitutional moves should be made to deprive them of their rights as citizens. It would be good if he were to make that conviction known to his reading public, and we shall try to get him to do so. I find no reason to object to a real Congressional investigation of the entire Japanese population of the United States, and see that it may be possible for us to "go along with him" to that end, providing that the investigating committee be composed of persons qualified by experience and information, as well as the unique approach of objectivity.

At any rate, we fell that we shall not have any great opposition from Mr. Freeman, for the time being, at least. We could hope for more than that, but the hope would not be very realistic.

While in Los Angeles, I had the pleasure of lunching with Mr.



Mr. Dillon S. Myer - 2  
May 20, 1943

Charles Ernst, Director of Topaz. It was good to hear about all of my Berkeley friends although, of course, it is not necessary to tell you that much of what I heard could not be considered pleasant. You have undoubtedly heard of the attack upon Professor Chiura Obata some weeks back. In fact, I remember speaking of it to you when you were in my office. I was relieved to hear Mr. Ernst's account, as I had feared that some permanent ill effects would remain. I had had a full history of the thing from Mr. Obata's son Kimio, and while quite naturally that was a bit more colored by feeling, it differed not too greatly from the "Administration" interpretation. It is interesting to me that at no time in the past year has young Obata seemed bitter, but he is truly alarmed now, with this new development. He has written to me to beg that we try to get his father out into some small school in the Middle West, where he and Mrs. Obata might live peacefully, and in some way be able to contribute some calm and beauty to the troubled world through his art.

I have conferred with Vice President Deutsch of the University of California, where Professor Obata is a member of the Art faculty on leave. Dr. Deutsch has written to Mr. John W. Nason of Swarthmore, Dr. Guy Snively, Executive Director of American Colleges, and to President Donald Cowling of Carleton College. At the suggestion of Mr. George Rundquist, after a personal conference with him, I wrote to the Friends' Service Committee, hoping that perhaps through their Refugee Placement Committee something might be found for Professor Obata. However, all of the responses have been discouraging, based upon the fact that art teachers are now considered "expendables" and none are now being hired.

We feel most strongly, and I am sure that Mr. Ernst concurs with us in this, that the fine and cooperative attitude of Professor Obata during the past year, often developing into a positive type of leadership which has led many of the other residents not holding his conviction of loyalty to discriminate against him in many ways, should be recognized. We feel that there must be some way in which WRA can use its various facilities to place this man and his wife, both of whom can be of great value in interpreting all that is fine in our American Japanese, in some position where this interpretation can best contribute toward the development of your program. It is quite true that this man does not always command the affection of his fellow citizens of Japanese extraction, but he has a unique ability to translate and interpret the best of his own culture to Caucasians. (Incidentally, he has some choice fish stories which Nimrod himself could not match.)

This letter is much overlong. My only excuse is that I had something to say, and feel that perhaps it is better to get it all said at once, and then not bother you again for a while.

The present barrage of anti-Japanese propaganda very naturally



Mr. Dillon S. Myer - 3  
May 20, 1943

carries over in the thinking of persons who cannot dissociate the "Japs" from the Nisei. While it is quite obvious that you cannot possibly attempt to answer all of the accusations and charges aimed at the War Relocation Authority, it would certainly make our task considerably easier if some refutation were made, and if the facts supporting the refutation were made available to us who are trying to channel the more intelligent thinking here on the Coast.

In the wire I sent you yesterday, I urged that some such refutation be made, as our office is deluged with requests for facts which our members are eager to use in support of your program. I trust that I am not becoming tiresome on this public relations thing, but for some reason or another, I still feel that there lies the greatest weakness of WRA.

Very sincerely yours,

MRS. RUTH W. KINGMAN

# WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

JUN 12 1943

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman  
Committee on American Principles and Fair Play  
Room 203  
465 California Street  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mrs. Kingman:

Thank you for your fine letter of May 20, and I want to apologize for not answering it sooner. Mr. Cozzens was in Washington last week, and I had an opportunity to show it to him while he was here.

As you may know, we had all of our project directors and field assistant directors in Washington for a week and some of them for a longer period of time. During their stay, some of Mr. Dies employees and certain members of his committee have added a little spice to our daily routine, not to mention the fact that we were engaged in presenting our budget to the House Appropriations Committee and had a hearing before the California Congressional Delegation.

I was very much interested in your comments about your trip to the northwest and particularly your visit with Mr. Freeman. I was also interested in your comments regarding Professor Obata. As you may know, he has been living with Larry Tajiri in Salt Lake City and I sincerely hope he will be able to find a spot where his services can be fully utilized.

Incidentally, I was recently presented with a painting of a sunset at Topaz done by Professor Obata. I also had the fun of taking Mike Masaoka and three other boys to the White House to present another painting by Obata to Mrs. Roosevelt. I am sure you would have enjoyed seeing the side glances of the secret service staff and outer guards.

For your information I am attaching copies of press release which we put out on May 31 in reply to certain charges by Mr. Stripling of the Dies Committee, and a copy of a letter of June 2 to Mr. Dies, copies of which were sent to all members of the committee. There has also been some correspondence with J. Parnell Thomas, a member of the Committee, who sent a wire to President Roosevelt asking that the relocation program be held up until they completed their investigation. In response, I sent a short letter and he in turn wrote me a very vilifying letter.





We learned of his letter before it got into the press and therefore were able to supply first hand facts to the press in reply to his statements. Consequently, the press in utilizing excerpts from his letter at the same time utilized the information with which we had provided them in reply to the Thomas letter. This was the first time we have had an even break. Also attached is a copy of a wire to Congressman Costello putting us on record in regard to the hearings that are being conducted in Los Angeles.

In addition to that I visited some of the members of the Dies Committee relative to statements appearing in the newspapers that they were alleged to have made, and received at least one letter confirming the fact that these statements were not made. Accordingly, I think we may be making some progress in tying down wild quotes coming from representatives of the committee.

I would like to comment at length on a meeting with the California Delegation but since this letter is already long, I suggest you get in touch with Mr. Cozzens who will take great delight in telling you about the meeting. From my standpoint it was eminently successful. We have Congressman Holifield to thank for making the arrangements, and he did a very effective job. I am hoping to work out the same kind of a meeting with the Oregon and Washington Delegation reasonably soon.

With kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

*D. P. Myer*  
Director



May 19, 1943

Mr. Larry Tajiri, Editor  
Pacific Citizen,  
25 East Second South Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Dear Mr Tajiri:

You are to be congratulated upon the fine standards your paper continues to hold before the Nisei. It is encouraging to us to feel that such level headed leadership is offered. It is also a challenge to us that we should remain as clear in our thinking and acting as your leadership rightfully asks of all fairminded Americans.

I have just returned from an organizational trip to Seattle (well set up by Bob O'Brien), Tacoma, Portland, and on down to Los Angeles, and am happy to report that Fair Play groups are developing in all of those cities, and in many Student Communities as well. I shall keep you informed as the groups develop.

As we enlarge our program and reach out for new means of reaching public thinking, it is natural that we should turn to the Nisei themselves for help. Just now I am working out a plan which I hope will make it possible for several articles written by persons either still in Relocation Centers, or preferable, just now, from members of the Combat Unit, to be published in West Coast papers. With the present acute interest, we are confident that these will receive wide circulation, notwithstanding the general hostility or lukewarmness of the press at large. The subject of the American Japanese is sufficiently "hot" to warrant presentation of any really outstanding writing by one of their number. I feel that this material should and must come from the Nisei.

I am writing to you for suggestions as to whom I might

call upon for such material. I know Sgt. Yori Wada of Camp Shelby, who did fine work on the Daily Californian when he was of the Editorial Staff, and who edited his camp paper at Camp Robinson. I expect him to give us something which I am confident that I can get into the University of California Alumni Bulletin. Can you suggest others? There could be a variety of subjects, either directly dealing with the future of Americans of Japanese ancestry, or with any other post war subject upon which one of your group is particularly well prepared to write. I do not need to suggest any of these things to you, who have a "news sense" far more acute than mine.

What do you think of the whole idea?

I note that you are sending the Pacific Citizen to our Headquarters in San Francisco. We greatly appreciate this courtesy, particularly inasmuch as my own private copy, which I have been eager to keep for my own files, can now remain intact. May I suggest, to save redirecting each copy, that the paper be sent here to my Executive Office, 2207 Union Street, Berkeley, where most of the real work of the Committee is done?

Let me express my own personal appreciation of the fine contribution your paper is making toward a better understanding of the problems and aims of the Nisei. I only wish that the spirit that seems to dominate its policies could be more widespread throughout the entire country, and that the fine, high standards it is setting for the Americans of Japanese ancestry could permeate the thinking and resulting action of the citizenry as a whole.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman



Enclosure---covering story of meeting of National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in Seattle, May 5, 1943

On the evening of May 5th the local NAACP was holding a meeting in a small Negro Church. The speaker was Mrs. Mary Farquarson, former State Senator, who had been asked to talk to them about the case, now before the Supreme Court, involving the citizenship rights of Gordon Hirobayashi, in whose defense she has been active. Mrs. Farquarson made a very complete presentation of the case, going over the high points of the legal brief and also outlining Gordon Hirobayashi's background and education. She ended by reading them a letter in which he set forth his attitude in regard to his American citizenship.

The Rev. F.W. Penick, president of the Seattle NAACP rose to thank her. Expressing their interest in the case of "This Gordon Hiro-", stumbling as so many of us do over the Japanese name, he smiled and said, "Well, let's just call this boy Gordon, because it seems to me that what's happening to Gordon can happen to any of us." So simply and directly he connected the problem of the rights of one minority group with the problems facing another- the American Negro. "As long as there are cases like Gordons the rights of all racial minorities are threatened".

Then he asked about the financing of the case. Did they have money enough to cover the cost of taking it before the Supreme Court? Taken by surprise, Mrs. Farquarson tried to evade the question. She had not come there to ask for help. She did not want to ask for money from a group of about forty people, apparently just average citizens of limited resources. But Mr. Penick was insistent. How much did they need? And reluctantly she admitted that they were a few hundred dollars short.

Mr Penick seemed sure of his audience as he remarked that he didn't see any reason why they couldn't raise \$250.00 right there. "We have a custom that's different" he explained, "We don't like pledges and signing things for the future, so we have a way, as we say, we 'lay it on the wood'". His hand touched the top of the table that stood behind the simple altar. "I'll be the first" he told them, laying a \$5.00 bill 'on the wood'. "It's for Gordon, remember, and for what Gordon is trying to do for us".

A secretary, treasurer was appointed, and she took down the names of the people as they quietly came forward, one after another, in a simple, sober way, crediting each with the amount, none large, which he or she 'laid on the wood' for Gordon. In ten minutes it was all over, and it lay there, a pile of it, which, when finally counted, came to \$204. 25, given in understanding and sympathy for the boy who, in fighting a fight for his own race, was waging a kindred fight for all others.



May 21, 1943

2207 Union Street  
Berkeley, California,  
May 21, 1943.

Mrs Alice Hoiem  
Routh 1, Box 171, Fowler, California

Dear Mrs Hoiem:

We are delighted that your newspaper committee is so entirely up and coming. It is most encouraging to find that kind of work going on. I am enclosing the information you requested, with a suggestion as to how it might best be used, tho of course, you should feel entirely free to use any method you wish.

It would appear advisable for several persons to write in, each in answer to the McClatchey letter, each covering one specific point, possibly a day or two apart. I shall send you, as soon as it comes from Boalt Hall of Law, a short opinion on the subject of dual citizenship which you will probably wish to send in at a later date.

May I suggest that each member of the Fair Play Committee in Fresno write to your local Congressman, (I believe it is Mr. Gearheart) asking him for the complete report from which I have quoted, expressing, each in his or her own personal way their concern over the misquotation of facts which you are concerned to have answered properly. He will get the idea.

Keep it up.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W Kingman

FOURTH INTERIM REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE INVESTIGING NATIONAL  
 DEFENSE MIGRATION  
 House of Representatives, 77th Congress, 2nd Session  
 "Findings and Recommendations on Evacuation of Enemy Aliens and  
 Others from Prohibited Military Zones".---  
 House Report #2124.

Japanese in California. (Figures taken from Bureau of Census)

1890	-----	1, 147
1900	-----	10, 151
1910	-----	41, 356
1920	-----	71, 952
1930	-----	97, 456
1940	-----	83, 717

pp 91 - 92. "Future increases in the Japanese population will come largely from native born parents. More than 90% of the foreign born females are 35 years or older; more than 50% are 45 years or older. Almost three fourths of the foreign born males are 45 years or older and about 45% are 55 years or older. The births of third generation Japanese will fail for some time to offset the high mortality rates consequent upon the abnormal age composition of the alien Japanese. The total Japanese population therefore may be expected to drop substantially during the coming years." (Underlining by me, RK)

pp 82 -83 provide a specific analysis of McClatchey's approach, in which he neglects to provide for deaths and deportation in his population computation.

California Total Population

Taken from 16th Census of United States, 1940

"Population" First Series--- Number of Inhabitants, California.

1930	-----	5, 677, 251
1940	-----	6, 907, 387

May 31, 1943

Mr. Miller Freeman  
71 Columbia Street  
Seattle, Washington

Dear Mr. Freeman:

I, too, was disappointed that we could not continue our conversations while I was in Seattle. Feeling that there were areas of agreement upon which we could base such further consideration of the questions concerning the problem of the Japanese in America, I am sure that further discussion would prove helpful.

One of these areas lies in our mutual conviction that the agency best organized to act with the necessary authority in any investigation, worth the name, of such a specialized subject, is the Congress of the United States.

I shall bring the matter before the Executive Committee when it meets next week, and feel sure that we shall make some recommendation following that meeting.

I shall be happy to inform you of our action at that time, and look forward to reporting to the Committee our conversation in Seattle.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W Kingman



May 22, 1943

Mr. Francis P. Harmon  
c/o Will Hayes Office  
Hollywood, California

Dear Mr. Harmon,

I have not seen you for a number of years. I hope that you enjoy your present work.

I am writing you to ask whether your office can take precautions to see that pictures produced in Hollywood do not do injustice to American Japanese. In my years of service here at the University, I have become well acquainted with a good many members of this racial minority. I can testify that some I have known have become loyal and valuable citizens of this nation.

Doubtless your attention has already been called to the serious and unnecessary untruths about Japanese Americans in Hawaii which appear in the Warner Bros. picture "Air Force". Report No. 2124 of the House of Representatives, May 1942, pages 48-58 seems to indicate that alleged sabotage portrayed in "Air Force" never happened. Hundreds of thousands of people who see "Air Force", however, will have their emotions aroused against one of our racial minorities, and the chances of America's handling the problem in a fair and constructive way is lessened.

It is my understanding that RKO is going to make a picture about Japan which will include shots of Japanese airmen who speak good English and who wear American college insignia. There are Japanese enemy aliens who have studied in our colleges and who speak good English who are now, doubtless, members of the Japanese flying forces. But it is very necessary to discriminate between these foreigners who secured visas to study in this country, and our own American Japanese who, for the most part, are loyal Americans.

Can you give me any reassurance in regard to these matters? A Coastwide Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, with President Robert Gordon Sproul as honorary chairman, has been formed to give aid to those forces which desire to play fair with American minority groups, particularly those of oriental ancestry. Unjust treatment of one minority may create precedents which will later harm others.

I would appreciate hearing from you on this.

Cordially yours,

Harry L. Kingman

# War Activities Committee

## MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

1501 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

TELEPHONE: WISCONSIN 7-9350

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Office of the  
Executive Vice-Chairman  
Francis S. Harmon

Arthur L. Mayer  
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Herman Gluckman

June 1, 1943

Mr. Harry L. Kingman  
Y.M.C.A. of the University  
of California  
Stiles Hall  
2227 Union Street  
Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Kingman:

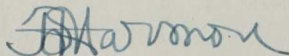
Your letter of May 22nd addressed to me in Hollywood just reaches me. I am giving full time to the war work of the motion picture industry.

With respect to the RKO picture which you state soon goes into production, I would suggest that you address a letter to the RKO Studio on this subject and send a copy of it to Mr. Joseph I. Breen, Director, Production Code Administration, 5504 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood, California. If Dr. Robert G. Sproul wrote this letter in his capacity as honorary chairman of the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, it might be even more impressive.

The Warner Bros. picture AIR FORCE has already been released. I have not seen it. You know, of course, that films of this kind are usually made with the cooperation of the branch of the armed services whose personnel is shown in the picture.

Thank you for writing me about this matter. I expect to be in Hollywood June 11th to 20th and will be glad to discuss the question further with my friends there.

Cordially yours,



Francis S. Harmon



## Roster

### WAR ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

#### MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

BERT ALLENBERG, President, Artists Managers' Guild  
BARNEY BALABAN, President, Paramount Pictures Inc.  
MAURICE BERGMAN, President, Associated Motion Picture Advertisers  
NATE J. BLUMBERG, President, Universal Pictures Co., Inc.  
HARRY BRANDT, President, Independent Theatre Owners Association, Inc.  
JAMES CAGNEY, President, Screen Actors Guild  
L. E. CHADWICK, President, Independent Motion Picture Producers Assn.  
JAMES P. CLARK, President, National Film Carriers, Inc.  
HARRY COHN, President, Columbia Pictures Corp.  
G. S. EYSELLE, Managing Director, Radio City Music Hall  
Y. FRANK FREEMAN, President, Association of Motion Picture Producers, Inc.  
JAMES R. GRAINGER, President, Republic Pictures Corp.  
HERBERT GRIFFIN, President, Society of Motion Picture Engineers  
THOMAS J. HARGRAVE, President, Eastman Kodak Company  
JOHN H. HARRIS, President, National Variety Clubs  
WILL H. HAYS, President, Motion Picture Producers & Distributors of America, Inc.  
W. RAY JOHNSTON, President, Monogram Pictures Corp.  
E. L. KUYKENDALL, President, Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America  
MARY C. McCALL, Jr., President, Screen Writers Guild, Inc.  
ROBERT H. POOLE, Executive Secretary, Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners  
EDWARD C. RAPTORY, President, United Artists Corp.  
N. PETER RATHVON, President, Radio-Kelth-Orpheum Corp.  
HERMAN ROBBINS, President, National Screen Service Corp.  
M. A. ROSENBERG, President, Allied States Assn. of Motion Picture Exhibitors  
JONAS ROSENFELD, JR., President, Screen Publicists Guild  
MARK SANDRICH, President, Screen Directors' Guild, Inc.  
NICHOLAS M. SCHENCK, President, Loew's Incorporated  
ROBERT SHANNON, President, R.C.A. Manufacturing Co.  
SPYROS P. SKOURAS, President, Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corp.  
T. KENNEDY STEVENSON, President, Electrical Research Products, Division of Western Electric Co.  
RICHARD F. WALSH, President, International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees  
WALTER WANGER, President, Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences  
HARRY M. WARNER, President, Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc.  
LOYD WRIGHT, President, Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers  
HERBERT J. YATES, President, Consolidated Film Industries



May 23, 1943

Mr. George E Rundquist  
297 48th Avenue  
New York City, NY.

Dear Mr. Rundquist:

Upon my return from a trip to Seattle and Los Angeles I find that your membership card from our committee has not been sent to you. We trust that you will very properly attribute the neglect to inexperienced office personnel rather than to intent!

At any rate, herewith the card, which I hope will be filled in immediately, and the Office Card returned, so that you will be a bona fide member of our organization .

I am enclosing a copy of the release we are sending out-- there have been practically no quotations from this speech of Ambassador Grew in any of the Western press. We feel that nothing better has come out.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman

enclosure

May 24, 1943

Dr. Hubert Phillips  
Fresno State College  
Fresno, California

Dear Dr. Phillips:

In line with the suggestion you and Miss Cosgrave made, we have asked John Duffy of my husband's staff to report on the convention of the Native Sons of the Golden West.

Naturally there was nothing in the way of action that we could expect to promote, but it was illuminating to get his report which indicated that the action taken there was extraordinary inasmuch as it was made over and above the recommendations of some of the appointed committees.

It will be interesting to know just what results come from the recommendations of that exalted body.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman

RWK:jns

May 24, 1943

Mr. G. A. Schee  
Box 278, Pt. Loma Sta.  
San Diego, California

Dear Mr. Schee:

My attention has been called to your letter of April 13, addressed to Mr. Scott of our Committee. I have only just returned from a lengthy trip to Seattle and Los Angeles, or I would have replied sooner.

First may I acknowledge your contribution of \$10 which will be registered as a Sustaining Membership in our organization. It is much appreciated, as the expanding work of the Committee naturally means an increasing budget.

You refer to the picture "Mary Ann". While we have noted and made protests against certain scenes in the Warner Brothers' picture "Air Force," and are corresponding with the Hays office concerning a new picture at RKO which has not been released, we have no record of the picture to which you refer. We will be glad to hear of any details of that or any others which you feel should come to our attention. If you can give us any further information we shall appreciate it very much.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman

Enc.



May 24, 1943

Mrs Agnes Morley Cleaveland  
Datil, New Mexico.

Dear Mrs. Cleaveland:

Three months ago, when I received the appointment of Executive Secretary of the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, the entire files of the Committee were turned over to me, and I have tried, along with organizing the Committee, to clear up some of the correspondence to which I fell heir.

I find that one letter addressed to me was from you, in which you suggested that the Committee had been taken over by some organization by the name of League for Democracy, and that such a procedure was a reversal of policy. I have searched the files, and spoken with many members of our Advisory and Executive Committees, and none of them are aware of any such development. Indeed, none that I know of have any knowledge of such a League, much less subscribe to its policies.

May I assure you that we have not in any way deviated from our original purpose, and that our Committee is constantly drawing into its membership more and more persons whose desire to protect the rights of one of our more cruelly misunderstood minorities makes their membership in our Committee a very satisfying thing to both themselves and to the persons in whose behalf we are working.

I am enclosing several releases and statements which I hope will prove helpful to you in regaining a prospective of our Committee which will more perfectly coincide with the impressions you once held. We shall be very happy if you feel that you can join with us again in our efforts.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman

May 24, 1943

Mrs. Goodell, Director  
American College Bureau  
28 East Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Goodell:

Dr. Donald J. Cowling, President of Carleton College, to whom I have written, suggested that I bring to your attention the case of Professor Chiura Obata. I am keenly interested in Professor Obata who has been a member of our faculty in the Department of Art and is now in Chicago at the Friends Service Committee Hostel. He is a native of Japan and an artist and has been on our faculty since 1932, beginning as lecturer and later becoming assistant professor and curator of our collection of Japanese prints. He was highly regarded by his colleagues as a teacher, and combines to an extraordinary degree the art of his native land with the art of the Occident.

He is now a man of fifty-seven years of age. He had been granted a semi-sabbatical leave on two-thirds salary for the period July 1, 1942, to December 31, 1942, and I am happy to say that though he and all his family were evacuated by the order of General DeWitt, the University continued him on this sabbatical leave as already voted. He is now on leave of absence from the University without salary.

His son Kimio, who, together with his wife and daughter, were with him at the settlement at Topaz, wrote a letter last month saying that Professor Obata was "slugged in a typical Kibei attack from the rear with a lead pipe on the night of April 3. It was about 11:30 p.m. and he was returning from his nightly shower; then some unknown assailant" struck him "with a blackjack on the left temple, gashing the head part severely, injuring the left eye. This Kibei must have had all intentions of killing... as he kept after him, trying to slug him into insensibility by hitting approximately twenty times. But luckily the blows did not fall on his head but on his left forearm as he tried to defend himself." He was in the hospital for quite some time.

Professor Obata, as I understand it, had felt the responsibility of acting as a guide and a leader of the people. First, he thought that through art they could find solace and peace. But, as his son has said, being a strong-willed person, he became of necessity a leader in almost every type of function in the camp. One point which he constantly urged was that it was for the individual to make up his mind whether he should register for service in the American Army, I presume standing against the position that family influence should dominate.

Dr. Cowling tells me that you have a very wide acquaintance



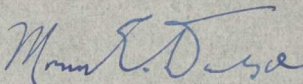
Mrs. Goodell - 2  
May 24, 1943.

among American colleges and universities. Is there not some small college or university which would welcome him as a teacher of art? If you have any suggestions for him, I am sure both he and I would appreciate it greatly.

Professor Obata's wife, by the way, has won considerable local attention for her flower arrangements.

The son, Kimio, who wrote the letter, has volunteered for service in the American Army.

Very sincerely,



Monroe E. Deutsch  
Vice-President and Provost

MED:A  
CC: Mrs. Kingman ✓



new,  
org. plan  
Sub-Committee

May 24, 1943

Mrs Afton Dill Nance  
2110 Manhattan Avenue,  
Hermosa Beach, California

Dear Mrs. Nance:

Upon my return from a trip to Seattle and Los Angeles, I found that my greatly cherished secretary had been ordered to quit work for a year's rest in the country, so my correspondence, never very well caught up, is in a sad morass at this point. However, I am trying to take care of what I can handle in my very inefficient 'peck and find' which was sorked out many years ago in High School Typing class. Please forgive the many mistakes, and take the content for what it should be.

I shall be delighted to have a group started in your area. I am enclosing some material, and will be delighted to send anything more that you might wish. When you have progressed sufficiently, I shall send you membership cards, including as many as you feel that you might need.

We are preparing anew release, to be sent out very soon, and I am sending you, in advance, a couple of the things we are including in that compilation. As you know, we do little or no editing, feeling that the material, just as it comes from authoritative sources is the best possible reference.

I hope that the southern press is keeping up on the fine material going out in our Bay Area News columns this week, covering a press conference in Tulalake. If they are not, I shall try to get some of the stuff reprinted in some of the less recalcitrant of the southern organs.

I hope that this material is what you are wanting. If it is not, kindly let me know immediately, and I shall send ## whatever you think you should have, that I am not including.

Do keep me informed as to the developments in your organization.

Very sincerely yours,

enclosures

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman

# THE TRIANGLE PRESS

PUBLISHERS OF

THE SELMA ENTERPRISE

LOWELL C. PRATT, EDITOR ED S. BYFIELD, BUSINESS MANAGER

BOOK AND COMMERCIAL PRINTING

TELEPHONE 302

1732 TUCKER STREET

SELMA, CALIFORNIA

May 24, 1943

*F. J. J.*  
Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman,  
2207 Union St.,  
Berkeley, Calif.

My dear Mrs. Kingman,

I thought you might be interested in the enclosed clipping from The Enterprise. From time to time during the past year I have written in similar vein and have aroused the wrath of a comparatively few readers.

Yesterday, Mrs. Pratt and I had the pleasure of entertaining your nephew, Alan, on his first leave from the Fresno camp where he is stationed. We were glad to renew our acquaintance with him and hope that we will have other opportunities to see him before he is transferred.

At a meeting of the Fair Play Committee in Fresno last Thursday night, Mrs. McLaughlin was very generous in her praise of your activities in Sacramento in preventing harmful resolutions or legislation on the Japanese question.

If I can be of any assistance to you in this important work, do not hesitate to call on me.

Cordially yours,

*Lowell C. Pratt*



333 Conghia St

Vallejo May 24-1943

Dear Mr. Fisher,

6/2 Sent Union art +  
new sabotage

This editorial in our

one Vallejo paper came out this morning and is representative of the paper's attitude. It also has an "Opinion of the People" department or page that comes out every Monday morning. Could you take the time to write just a short "Opinion" for next Monday's paper and I would give it a local setting by quoting from you or rather offering your contribution as a quotation. Some of the salient facts you brought out especially in contrasting the Hawaii policy and ours with regard to the American Japanese and perhaps a word about some of the other motives besides patriotism that were instrumental in causing our wholesale evacuation of the Japanese here in Calif. should be given



to help offset this editorial and the  
biased Japanese attitude of this paper.  
You could do this so much better than  
I with so much more authority that I  
wish you might take time out for  
it. I know its asking a good deal  
of you and you may not be able to  
take the time but I knew it wouldn't  
hurt to ask, anyway. I should have  
taken fuller notes on your splendid presenta-  
tion of facts here. Have you anything  
in print that covers about the same ground?

Mr. Sears has sent his card to Dr. Fidd  
as you suggested.

We certainly feel very grateful to you for  
coming to speak to this small group here in  
Valley and only wish you could come back  
to speak to a larger audience of our white  
people.

Very cordially yours

(Mrs. T. B.) Ruth W. Sears.

P.S. Perhaps you might quote from Gov. Warren.

May 35, 1943

Mr. W.T. Freitas  
Box 31-C  
SanJuan Bautista,  
California.

Dear Mr. Freitas:

Mr. Scott, our Treasurer, has called my attention to your letter of May 12, in which you asked that information be sent you regarding the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play. I am happy to send some releases and other statements put out by the Committee which not only express some of our convictions concerning our American Japanese, but also present a concrete plan for organizing groups who are interested that our treatment of those loyal persons of Japanese ancestry be based upon true American principles.

Following your suggestion, I am sending the same type of material to Mrs. Cecil Stilgebauer of Hollister. We hope that you will find many persons whose determination to remain high minded and sane in the face of the hysterical pressures the public is being faced with. Only the mobilization of the strength of such persons, and a full and determined public stand by the same, can hope to maintain unimpaired the Constitutional rights to our loyal Japanese Americans, and indirectly of all of us, in these challenging days.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs Ruth W. Kingman

enclosures



May 25, 1943

Mrs. Cecil Stilebauer  
1056 Monterey Street  
Hollister, California.

Dear Mrs. Stilebauer:  
At the suggestion of Mr. W. T. Freitas of San Juan Bautista, I am sending you information concerning the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play. I am happy to send some releases and other statements put out by the Committee which not only express some of our convictions concerning our American Japanese, but also present a concrete plan for organizing groups who are interest that our treatment of those loyal persons of Japanese ancestry be based upon true American principles.

Following ymns suggestion, I am sending the same type of material to you that I sent to Mr. Freitas. We hope that you will find many persons whose determination is to remain high minded and sane in the face of the hysterical pressures the public is now facing. Only the mobilization of the strength of such persons, and a full and determined public stand by the same, can hope to maintain unimpaired the Constitutional rights of our Loyal Japanese Americans, and indirectly of all of us, in these challenging days.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman

enclosures



May 25, 1943

Miss Fern Babcock  
600 Lexington Avenue  
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Miss Babcock:

In response to your request that I send you some material covering the organization and program, and more particularly the outline of the student branch of the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, I am sending several things which should prove helpful.

We are particularly pleased with Student Plan, which has been worked out by our Chairman for Students, who is Mrs. Ruth Fisher, Vice-President of the Associated Students of the University of California. As you can easily see, it is specifically set up for this particular campus, but any other group could follow the general plan for including all existing campus committees etc. in any given local situation.

It would be a fine thing if something of the sort could be set in motion throughout the Middle West and East, as well as here on the Pacific Coast.

I have placed your name, as well as your office, on our mailing list, and shall be happy to send you future releases.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman

enclosures

May 25, 1943

Miss Mildred Bartholomew  
Young Women's Christian Association  
Portland, Oregon.

Dear Miss Bartholomew:

At last, after a long, hard trip into the South, and a resulting bout with a flu bug, I am trying to catch up with the most pressing of my correspondence. I have been at my desk for a few minutes at a time, trying to catch at the most tantalizing of my tasks, that of drawing together some of the loose ends of the trip to the Northwest.

You have no idea how much I enjoyed my two days in Portland. Entirely aside from the fine piece of preliminary organization you had done for the Fair Play Committee, I like to remember the restful breakfast in your office, and of course the most delightful blintzes, sour cream and all. But to come down from the sublime----

I have asked Dr. Deutsch to write to Dr. Donald Erb, as you suggested. I am asking Mr. Ralph Fisher, Vice president of the American Trust Company, and one of our outstanding Republican financiers, to write to Mr. MC. Naughton. Mr. Sprague's name is being given to Chester Rowell, and I shall ask Bishop Block to write to Dr. Shannon. We should have replies from them all very soon, as the letters should leave the Bay area this week. I shall follow your suggestion that no letters be written to Mrs. Hodge or to Dr. Magruder.

We are preparing a new release, a copy of which you will receive. I am enclosing some of the material which we will use, but feel that you might like to see it now. I hope that someone on the Oregonian was at the press conference at Tulelake last week. Some fine things are appearing in the local press. I have been in correspondence with Dillon Myer on the Denver Post story which your nice boy on the Oregonian wanted the "dope" on and the material he asked for should be in my hands within the next two days. I shall send it on, immediately.

It will be good to hear from you again.

Very sincerely yours,

enclosures



May 25, 1943

Mr. Abe Oyamada  
24-19-C  
Heart Mountain, Wyo.

Dear Mr. Oyamada:

Just as I was leaving on an extended trip to Seattle, and on down to Los Angeles, organizing local Fair Play Committees, Mr. Galen Fisher handed me the letter you had written him, and suggested that I answer it. I read it hastily and saw why he wanted me, particularly to write the reply. So I put it into my briefcase, where it has lain all of this time, waiting until I could get a chance to give it some real thought and be able to give you a constructive answer.

As Mr. Fisher indicated to you, I have long thought that some use should be made of Nisei writers and workers in a comprehensive public relations program. For a full year, I have been urging Mr. Dillon Myer of the War Relocation Authority to make some such move, but his program, which has been so really fine in most respects, (insofar as he can control it) still lacks any really effective public relations department.

Since receiving your letter, I have worked on a plan, which I have every reason to believe will work out most satisfactorily, whereby outstanding writers among the Nisei can get material written by them, in fields wherein they are expert, can be printed in certain of the more liberal, or might I better say, less conservative of the West Coast press. I have written to Larry Tajiri for suggestions of such persons, either in the centers, or preferable in the Combat Unit. The subject need not be specifically concerned with the American Japanese, nor the particular problems confronting you as a group, although some material in that field should be covered. I am hoping that something outstanding on the general subject of Post war planning or Four Freedoms in the Pacific etc, shall be forthcoming, for such articles, with a Nisei name on the byline, would be most apt to be well received just now. Have you any suggestions to make as to persons in Heart Mountain, or elsewhere whose background and training might make it possible for some such writing to be done?

I wish, as do you, that more of the type of thing that the Topaz Volunteers are doing could be done in all of the centers. The various church and social agency groups which are able to



page 2

publish or otherwise handle such material can be reached through the offices of the Federal Council of Churches, addressed to either Dr. George Haynes or to Dr. A. M. Cavert, both of 297 - 4th Ave. New York City.

Two of the publications which they control, and both of which reach a large number of persons are their "Interracial News Service" and their "Information Service".

I am sending a copy of your letter to Father Mulkern, the new State Chairman of the Council of Social Agencies, who has, just within the past week, come on to the Advisory Board of the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play. I look forward to some really constructive and specific suggestions from him. He is well experienced in social welfare organization and program and is devoted to any program urging intelligent consideration of all social, and particularly racial minority problems.

I shall look forward to hearing from you again, as I feel that your idea, along with others which Link Kanai has suggested, can go far in interpreting the problems not only of the Nisei, but of the country as a whole. I am most eager to have wide publication of such interpretation. I am wondering if you are still in Wyoming or if you are already in Mississippi. I shall be glad to hear from you as soon as possible.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman

PS. Enclosed you will find copies of a release we are sending out to several hundred papers and individuals whose thinking might be tempered a bit by these fine statements.

JOHN H. TOLAN  
U. S. Representative  
7th District of California  
Oakland, Berkeley, Albany  
Emeryville, Piedmont

Member, Committee on the Judiciary  
74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, and 78th Congresses

## Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

May 25, 1943

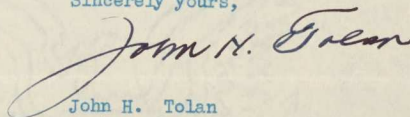
Mr. Galen M. Fisher  
11 El Bueno  
Orinda, California

Dear Mr. Fisher:

Thank you for your letter of the 19th. I have already voted in favor of the extension of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements act. I am substantially in accord with the Ball-Hatch Resolution. I am of the opinion that the Chinese Exclusion Act should be lifted and I thoroughly agree with you regarding the continuation of the National Resources Planning Board and a substantial appropriation give to it.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "John H. Tolan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

John H. Tolan  
Member of Congress

FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY  
SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD  
REGIONAL OFFICE—SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

IN REPLY REFER TO  
FILE NO. 11:RO:XII

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

May 26, 1943

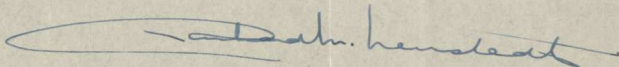
Mr. Galen M. Fisher  
Assistant Treasurer  
Committee on American Principles and Fair Play  
Room 203  
465 California Street  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Fisher:

In response to your letter of the 24th I take pleasure  
in sending you my check for twenty-five dollars.

It's hard for me, particularly in this instance, to  
strike the right balance between what I would like to do and  
what financial fairness would indicate I should do. Please  
let me know how the whole campaign comes out.

Sincerely yours,



Richard M. Neustadt  
Regional Director

Enclosure

*Mr. Fisher:*

*Check for \$25.00 enclosed  
with letter — has been acknowledged  
and deposited.*

*D m m*





May 26, 1943

Mr. Dillon S. Myer, Director  
War Relocation Authority  
Barr Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Myer:

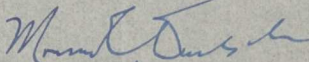
You have, I dare say, heard of the tragic situation with reference to Professor Chiura Obata. As you perhaps recall, he has been Assistant Professor of Art at this University since 1932. He had been granted semi-sabbatical leave from the University for the period July 1, 1942 to December 31, 1942 on two-thirds salary, and I am proud to say that despite the evacuation of the Japanese population from this area, the University continued to give him this leave as already determined, for the six months' period. Since then we have given him a leave of absence without salary.

While at Tanforan, and subsequently at Topaz, he did an excellent piece of work in organizing classes in art and giving the inhabitants of the centers something to fill their time. I believe that the number who studied art under his direction at Tanforan was 900. He served as a leader at Topaz until the attack was made on him. He is now in Chicago and some of us are trying hard to find a place for him so that he may not have to go to work in the beet fields. Do you think that there is any chance to find a post for him? Or, possibly, even furnish funds so that he may teach in some college or university in the light of what he has done? I, myself, have been in communication with President Nason of Swarthmore College, President Cowling of Carleton College and Dr. Snaveley, Executive Director of the Association of American Colleges. Nothing has thus far developed.

I trust that everything is going well with you, or, rather, as well as it can in the light of the many problems that confront you.

With personal greetings, I am

Very sincerely yours,



Monroe E. Deutsch  
Vice-President and Provost

MED:A

CC: Mrs. Kingman

May 28, 1943

Mr. John Wagner  
457 Bryant Street  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Wagner:

We were sorry that you could not attend the Executive Committee meeting yesterday. It was most interesting and full of discussion of questions ~~wasse~~ your help would have been greatly appreciated. Perhaps I can ask something at this time, instead.

I understand that on next Tuesday you are to be talking with Mr. Vandeleur. Will it be possible for you to ask him if the American Federation of Labor is still a member of the Joint Immigration Committee, or, if it is not, why it has withdrawn?

It will be very helpful if we can have such a statement on file, as many people are asking for information as to the makeup of that Committee, and of the position of the AFL in that organization.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman



XXXXXXXXXX

May 26  
1943

Honorable John J. McCloy  
Assistant Secretary of War  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. McCloy:

If in Washington it is being made to appear to your Department that opinion on the Pacific Coast solidly opposes mobilization of loyal Japanese-American citizens for full participation - military and economic - in the nation's war effort, you will do well to look behind the appearances.

Support for the excellent work attributed to you is not so well organized as your opposition, but it is substantial.

Many citizens, even in this part of the country, believe that what you are doing raises the prospects for our success in this war. They do not want you to allow any loyal resources to remain unused.

Respectfully,

*Paul S. Taylor*

1163 Euclid Avenue  
Berkeley 8



## CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION

1201

## SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENTNEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARDJ. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

(59)

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

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1945 MAY 28 AM 10 34

MRS RUTH KINGAN=

CARE YMCA UNION &amp; ALSTON WAY

CIRCUMSTANCES MAKE WED AT NINE UNAVAILABLE CAN YOU COME  
FRIDAY=

CLAUD N SETTLES

*Ans: impossible*

WED

Regret that other

appointments made Friday

date impossible to accept

May 29, 1943

Mr. Ralph T. Fisher  
American Trust Company  
Oakland, California

Dear M. Fisher:

While in Portland last week, I met with several of the leading business and professional people there who were considered possible members of our Advisory Board. Among them was Mr. E. B. MacNaughton, President of the First National Bank of Portland, Oregon. He appeared most interested and sympathetic to the idea, and the leaders of the organizing group there are most eager that he be invited to join the Board.

They agree that our practice of having such invitations go from original members of our Committee is a good one, and hope that you will feel free to ask Mr. MacNaughton to come onto the Board.

I am enclosing a suggested form which you may or may not wish to use. It is merely a suggestion, for use should you feel too pressed for time to dictate your own. I am also sending two or three enclosures you may wish to use, although Mr. MacNaughton heard me discuss the aims and policies of the Committee at the meeting in Portland.

As his membership on the Board would greatly facilitate a good organization being effected in Portland, I hope that you can find time to write the letter, quite soon.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman

enclosures



May 29, 1943

Mr. Chester Rowell  
Chronicle  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Rowell:

While in Portland last week, I met with several of the leading business and professional people there who were considered possible members for our Advisory Board. One man who was not there, because he was out of town, but who is thought by the Portland group to be most sympathetic and a most desirable supporter, is Mr. Charles A. Sprague, Editor of the Salem Statesman, President of the Oregon Council of Churches, and Past Governor of Oregon.

The organizing group feels that our practice of having invitations to the Board go from original members of our Committee is a good one, and hope that you will feel free to ask Mr. Sprague to join us.

I am enclosing a suggested form which you may or may not wish to use. It is merely a suggestion, for use should you feel too pressed for time to dictate your own. I am also sending two or three enclosure you may wish to use. Of course we would ~~be interested~~ if you would add some of the things you have written on the subject of the loyal Japanese Americans, as you express so exactly our position.

As Mr. Sprague's membership on the Board would greatly facilitate a good organization being effected in Portland, I hope that you can find time to write to him, quite soon.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs Ruth W Kingman

enclosures

May 29, 1943

Rev. Joseph P. Mulkern  
Affiliated Catholic Charities  
Dalziel Building  
Oakland, California

Dear Father Mulkern:

We are turning to you not only as a newly welcomed member of our Advisory Board, but as the President of the California Council of Social Agencies. Some time ago Mr. Galen Fisher received a letter from Mr. Abe Oyamada, of Heart Mountain, and because of my interest in the development of a Public Relations program for the Relocation Centers, he turned it over to me.

I am sending you a copy of the letter, just as it came to me, feeling that you can get a good idea of what the young Nisei are trying to do for themselves, and hoping that you can give some suggestions on the paragraphs I have marked for your attention.

I am working on paragraph 2) and am corresponding with WRA and other agencies on the suggestions of paragraph 1).

It seems most desirable that the social agencies take a much more active part in helping these people in their desire to help themselves. In a conversation I had with George Rundquist, of the Friends Service, a few weeks ago he told me that in his capacity Evacuee Relocation Director of the Friends (Appointed at the request of WRA) he had found a sad lack of cooperation of the ~~maj~~ established of the social agencies in any resettlement program.

Can you suggest some reply that might be made to Mr. Oyamada as to possible cooperation and coordination of such agencies?

Very sincerely yours,

May 29, 1943

Honorable John J. McCloy  
Assistant Secretary of War  
Washington D.C

My dear Mr. McCloy:

If, in Washington, it would appear that opinion on the Pacific Coast is in whole hearted opposition to participation of loyal Japanese Americans in the war effort, may we assure you that appearances belie the true situation.

While those who support the excellent work you have done are not so well organized, nor as vocal as your opposition, it is nevertheless true that their support is vigorous and substantial.

Many citizens, particularly here in California, feel that the stand the War Department is taking makes the war aims real and inspiring of cooperation by all persons of unbiased mind.

We wish you to know that your determination to make use of all loyal resources, military and economic, has our complete and enthusiastic approval .

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman, Executive Secy.



WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 2, 1943

Dear Mrs. Kingman:

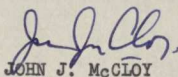
Thank you very much for your letter of May 29. I am glad to know the feeling of your organization with reference to the Japanese Americans. As you know, although the War Relocation Authority has administrative control of the war relocation centers and the granting of leave to the evacuees, the War Department is vitally concerned as to the type of individual released and the locality to which the released evacuee goes. The War Department, therefore, in a measure does have a controlling influence upon who is released and where they go.

While it is well known that many of the Japanese, both citizens and aliens, are disloyal to the United States, nevertheless, it is a fact there are many entirely loyal, and it is the War Department's policy that these loyal ones shall be used either in the military service or employed in gainful occupations in support of the war effort. Of course, the big problem is to determine just who is loyal or disloyal. The War Department has established a procedure by which it is believed this determination can be made with every reasonable degree of assurance. So far there has been no indication that this procedure has permitted disloyal evacuees to be released either for military service or in civilian occupations. Certainly these people with their industry should be able to contribute much at this time when the manpower shortage is so acute.

The Japanese Americans who have entered the Army have so far demonstrated their zeal as soldiers and loyalty to their country. In fact, only recently three of these soldiers in one of the theaters of operation were decorated for meritorious service, and I believe that the recently organized Japanese American combat team will demonstrate a fighting ability equal to other American units when it is ready for entry into battle.

I have had many letters and telegrams quite antagonistic to the position which the Department has taken against discrimination of this sort and it is pleasing to get one letter at least which indicates that our attitude is not unsupported.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John J. McCloy".

JOHN J. McCLOY  
Assistant Secretary of War

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman, Executive Secretary  
Committee on American Principles and Fair Play  
465 California Street, Room 203  
San Francisco, California



May 29, 1945

Mr. Frank C. Atherton, Trustee  
Juliette M. Atherton Trust  
P.O. Box 2990, Honolulu, T.H.

Dear Frank:

The receipt of the generous gift of \$500. from the Juliette M. Atherton Trust for the work of this Committee brought great delight to all of us who know its financial limitations and its unlimited opportunities for service. It came just a day or so before the Executive Committee met, and I was asked to express their deep appreciation.

As to the nature of the Committee's work, the statement of principles gives a general idea. In particular, the Committee is doing these things:

1. Forming branches, or affiliates, in a dozen cities from Seattle to Los Angeles, which will serve as active outlets for printed and mimeographed materials, correcting misstatements in the local press, supplying speakers, and interviewing important community leaders. In the Universities, also, active groups have begun to take shape, under the leadership of the Univ. of California, where the Student Christian Associations have long stressed race relations.
2. Distributing pertinent materials to branches, press, radio, and organizations, chiefly on this Coast, but also eastward.
3. Answering many inquiries for data and arguments from all over the country, and stimulating the writing of articles, and the sending out of speakers.
4. Keeping in touch with Coast State legislatures to check discriminatory acts and educate legislators. Some success attended our efforts in this direction in California. Similarly, with Congressmen and high officials.

We are soon to secure a full-time office secretary to help the Executive Secretary, Mrs. Kingman, who hasterly hands more than full. We also hope to find a volunteer field associate, to cover So. California.

With your gift as a precedent, we are now trying to get a grant from the Columbia Foundation, of San Francisco.

Very sincerely yours,  
C.M. Fisher



May 29, 1943

Miss Mildred Bartholomew  
YWCA  
Portland, Oregon

Dear Miss Bartholomew:

I wish that you could have been present on Thursday Afternoon, so that you could have heard yourself praised for your fine organization of the meeting we had in Portland. I met with my Executive Committee, and they were gratified at the fine cooperation you gave us.

I have asked Mr. Rowell to write to Mr. Sprague, Mr. Ralph Fisher, of the American Trust Co. To write to Mr. Mac Naughton, and Dr. Deutsch has already written to Mr. Erb.

If only distances were not so great, this organization struggle could be so easily gotten over with. However, I feel sure that you and Mr. Fessler and Jane Chase will get it going and keep it so.

I am much pleased with the prospect of a new office secretary who starts work after her graduation from the University next week. She will take so much of the routine off my shoulders, that I hope to be able to swing into a series of releases etc which will step up the entire program.

I shall let you know as soon as we have replies from Messrs Sprague, MacNaughton and Erb.

Very sincerely yours

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

DIVISION OF CENTRAL  
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Saturday  
[May, 1943]

Dear Ruth:

You can notify the church and other interested groups in Calif. communities — Berkeley, Centerville, Hayward, etc. that shortly after May 5 — the Nazi volunteers will recruit — in uniform of the Army — their home communities.

Maybe this is the time for the Churches to make good on their farewell notes — The Legion might honor these volunteers, if they could see it as patriotism —

Local papers could well report that so & so is home, his parents in center, & he's on his way to fight for us.

Greetings  
PST

P.S. This info. is from Chicago Office  
WRA.





June 1, 1943

Dr. Donald Erb, President  
University of Oregon  
Eugene, Oregon

Dear Dr. Erb:

I am writing you to ask you to become a member of the Advisory Board of the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play which is being formed to support the principles enunciated in the Constitution of the United States, particularly as they apply to Americans of Japanese ancestry.

The Committee is already functioning through its San Francisco office. I enclose a copy of its initial release to the press. This will acquaint you somewhat with our purposes and principles. The enclosed temporary letterhead will indicate the high calibre of citizen that has already been enlisted in the northern part of the state. A similar support is being sought in southern California and in Oregon and Washington.

It is not contemplated that members of the Advisory Committee will be expected to attend many meetings nor are its members accepting any financial obligation. The program will be financed by voluntary contributions from individuals up and down the Pacific Coast, but financial support is not a condition of your acceptance.

It may be that the future of all minorities in this nation will depend somewhat on the success or failure of the work of this Committee. It should play an important function in defending the American way of life, and I sincerely hope that you will consent to accept this invitation to add your name to its roster.

Sincerely yours,

*med*  
Monroe E. Deutsch

RWK:A  
cc: Mrs. Kingman ✓