

10:26

KAMATANI, TOMEO

1947-1955

78/177

C



(1)

KAMATANI, Tomeyo

Nakayama Gen.  
Nishimura Gen.  
Tamiyaya Mura,  
Japan.

8, August 47

added  
9/11/47

Mr. Wayne M. Gallins,  
Mills Tower. 220 Bush Street,  
San Francisco, 4, California.

Dear Sir:

I heard of your kind efforts in behalf of the unfortunate  
Nisei in America, and recently reading of the equity suit  
you have undertaken, I wished you would include  
my name along with the close to 200 renouncers.  
I am trying to reclaim citizenship rights.

While I was in Tule Lake Relocation Center I was  
led to believe that since my husband is and Issei  
a citizen of this country, Japan, and I and my three  
children being a citizen of America, unless I renounced  
and followed my husband here, I and my three  
children would be separated from him, our family  
split up. It was that fear alone that prompted me to  
renounce, a foolish act which I regret bitterly. I and  
my husband have brought my three children back here,  
leaving Tule Lake Center on Dec. 25, 1945 and docked at  
Yakamaka Camp on Jan. 13, 1946. I deeply regret my actions,  
I want to right the wrong I have done my children by my



actions. I want to take them back to give them an American education, to teach them the Democratic way of life. It is the only life worth while. I am not a citizen of this country, Japan, and never will be. It seems preposterous that I believed such a lie as to renounce but please believe me when I say that at that time it was very real to me.

My husband went to America when only 18 years old and came back now for the first time after close to thirty years. Those in my family who have all come here together are:

add to suit  
children { Tametani Tetsunosuke Born Japan March 28, 1900  
Tametani Tameyo Born U.S. May 5, 1915 <sup>Fair Oaks, California</sup>  
Tametani Yoshio Born U.S. Dec. 19, 1932, Sacramento, Calif.  
Tametani Shizuo Born <sup>U.S.</sup> Watsonville, Calif. Nov. 23, 1936.  
Tametani Miyako Born <sup>U.S.</sup> Watsonville, Calif. Aug. 26, 1941.

If you need proof or to ask for your father there is my brother living at:

Henry Taketaya

Rt. 1, Box 360,

Selma, California

Mrs. Hodge Amemiya,

or: 1552 W. 36 Place,

Los Angeles, 7, California

Please inform my above brother if this request of mine is possible and they in turn will relay it to me.

Thanking you sincerely and hoping my prayer to be answered  
Mrs. T. Tametani. Yours very truly,



Wakayama 2 Fen  
Nishimura Gun  
Tamibaya Mura  
Japan  
August 13, 1947

Mrs. Mayae M. Collins,  
220 Bush Street,  
San Francisco, Calif.,  
Dear Sir:

I have read of the Equity Suit you have undertaken in behalf of the unfortunate Misses who have renounced and want to reclaim their citizenship rights, the said suit now pending in the Federal <sup>District</sup> Court of San Francisco. I wish for you to include my name in the list of the close to 200 renouncers.



My brother:

Mrs. Henry Takitaya

Pt. 1. Box 360,

Selma, Calif,

My niece:

Mrs. Hodge (Amemiya)

1552 W 36 Place,

Los Angeles, Calif

will take care of all expenses for me so I would  
appreciate any and all help given me. My name is

Mrs. Jomeyo Tametani,

Born May 5, 1915 Fair Oaks, Calif,

Thanking you for your trouble and hoping  
my wish to come true, I remain, etc.

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Jomeyo Tametani.



1552 W. 36 Place  
Los Angeles 7, Calif.  
October 25, 1947

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
American Civil Liberties Union  
220 Bush Street  
San Francisco, California

Kamotani, Jimmy  
Added 9/11/47

Dear Mr. Collins:

I am enclosing herewith a letter received recently from my aunt who left Tule Lake for Japan December 28, 1945. She renounced her U.S. citizenship, since she was married to an alien and she was afraid they would be separated. She has three minor children, all born here in the U.S., the oldest of which will be 15 in December.

My aunt left the United States against her own wishes, and against the advice of her relatives here. However, her husband, being an alien, and who had both parents living, insisted that he was going to leave the United States. Thinking of the welfare of her children, my aunt believed at that time, that she could bear conditions, such as she had heard they were, in Japan. However, since going there she feels that the most important thing in the world is to bring her three children back to the U.S. - even if they must leave her husband there.



On behalf of my aunt, I would appreciate it very much if you will permit her to join our "Defense Group" to which both my husband and I belong. My uncle, Shiroyuki Taketaya, and my brother, Jim Shiroshi Taketaya are also members.

My former name and address:

Mary Chitani Taketaya  
4003-B-C, Lulu Lake, Calif.

My present name and address:

Mrs. Hajime Amemura  
1552 W. 36 Place  
Los Angeles 7, Calif.

My uncle's present address

Mr. Shiroyuki Taketaya  
5085 Amstrong Ave  
Encino, Calif.

If you are willing to take this case, kindly contact me at the address given above. If there is any further information which you desire, please write me at once.

Any attention and consideration you might give this letter will be greatly appreciated.

P.S. I am a subscriber to the Liberty News however if there are any new developments concerning our case, pending before the courts, I shall appreciate your informing me. There are a number of

Yours very truly,  
Mary Chitani Amemura

"Defense Groups" members who would like this information - particularly in view of the recent restriction of citizenship to + residents.



October 26, 1947.

Mrs. May C. Amemiya,  
1552 W. 36 Place,  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Mrs. Amemiya:

Your sister, Tomeyo Kamitani, will  
be joined in the equity suit.

I would thank you to inform me  
of her birthdate and place of birth. I assume that  
her children are minors and, if so, they are still  
U.S. citizens.

The equity suits have been sub-  
mitted to Judge Goodman for decision and I expect  
his decision from day to day.

Very truly yours,

W



Wakayama Gen.  
Nishimura Gen.,  
Femihaya & Mura.  
Japan.

February 19, 1948.

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

Dear Sir:

First, I wish to thank you  
for your kindness in behalf of  
all the unfortunate Pinanuees.

After receiving your heartening  
answer, mailed out Sept. 19, reach-  
ing me about a week later, I  
have counted the days with  
renewed hope, for a still  
better news from you. But  
as yet, I have received none,  
after the first one. I know  
that you are very busy, but



please, please let me know of the outcome of the trial. I am one of many from Japan who have asked you to include my name in the list for the trial pending in San Francisco and have been accepted.

As I have written you previously, I have renounced and come to this country with my whole family only because I was led to believe that unless I did so, our family would be separated. It is all so preposterous when I think of it now, but please believe me when I say that at that time, it was very real to me.

At first we were bereft of all hope, but upon your kind



3.

letter informing me of being  
accepted on the list of names  
for the trial pending in San  
Francisco, I have received  
hope. Waiting for the news of  
its outcome is my only hope.  
We wish to go immediately upon  
the first chance, to America. As  
I have already informed you,  
I have three children, all  
citizens of America and we, my  
husband and I are frantic  
when we think of them grow-  
ing up in this country, these  
surroundings. We want them  
to grow up in Peace, into  
good citizens in their country,  
America! But I cannot have  
them parted from us. Our  
objection from the start, the  
cause of all our troubles, is



to stay united. So, it remains only for my regaining my citizenship rights and go back to America. I wish to state here that I have never applied for citizenship of this country and have never had anything to do with Politics of this country. Naturally, I have never voted. Upon the instant I am cleared, we, our whole family wish to go back to America.

I have previously stated my reason for renouncing, the date of our arrival here, the names, number and birth, birth-places, all the particulars which I trust you are telling.

May I hear at your earliest opportunity how things stand?



I am so anxious to know.  
And hope against hope that  
it shall be good news.

Even though you inform  
the Consulate here, please let  
me hear from you directly.  
I wish to know as soon as  
possible.

Thanking you for heeding  
a sympathetic ear, I remain  
as,

Yours very truly,  
Mrs. Jomeys Gametani.



February 28, 1948

Mrs. Tomeyo Kamatani,  
Wakayama Ken,  
Nishimuro Gun,  
Kamihaya Mura, Japan.

Dear Mrs. Kamatani:

You were heretofore informed that you have been included as a party plaintiff in equity suit No. 25294-G. The decision of Judge Goodman long has been expected but it has not yet been rendered. It is my hope that the decision soon will be rendered and so soon as it is the matter will be widely reported in the newspapers and in addition thereto you will be informed by a letter from me.

Very truly yours,

WMC:cw



James  
before  
leave  
your letter sent  
Makayama Ken  
Hoshimuro Gen,  
Fumihaya Mura.  
July 2, 1948.

Mr. Wayne M. Collins,  
Wells Tower, 220 Bush Street,  
San Francisco, 4, California.

Dear Sir:

I am the person who wrote you previously asking you to include my name on the list of Renouncers whose trial was pending there. I have been accepted. Now, after your every effort and perseverance I am overjoyed to find that you have won the case for us. I have written you previously stating my case but now, upon



hearing of particulars that  
are needed for the completion  
of this case, I send you  
these additional information.

My full name is:

Mrs. Torneyo Elizabeth  
Fernandez.

Born:

May 5, 1915 at Fair Oaks,  
California.

I renounced in:

Inland Center.

Received approval at:

Inland Center.

Now reside in:

Japan, Wakayama Pref  
Nishimuro Gun,  
Femikayo Mura.

Please let me know the  
actual outcome in my case



as soon as possible). My  
three children need American  
Education and I want them  
to grow up as Americans  
of Democracy. They are all  
awaiting the outcome of  
my case.

Waiting patiently for a  
quick reply, favorable to me,  
I remain as,

Yours very truly,  
Mrs. S. Gematani



From J. Yamatani  
Wakayama Ten  
Fukimuro Gun  
Fukuchigawa  
Japan

C.C.B. 1-3349  
OPENED BY

PAR AVION  
飛行郵便

Mr. Wayne M. Collins,  
Attorney at Law,  
Mills Tower, 220 Bush St.,  
San Francisco, 4  
California.

U.S.A.





MAILS MIL. CEN. - CIVIL MAILS

M

代  
米  
登  
金  
鎌

村  
養  
芳  
上

歌  
山  
影  
西  
半  
米



Mrs. Kanetani joined

9/11/47

"Nuremberg"  
alien

Wakayama Gen,  
Nishimuro Gen,  
Famikaya Mura, Japan.

July 17, 1948.

Mrs. Wayne M. Sellins,  
Attorney-at-law,  
Mills Tower, 220 Bush Street,  
San Francisco, 4, California.

Dear Sir:

My husband was entered  
at the Port of Seattle, Washington,  
on Aug. 27, 1918 aboard the S. S.  
Manila Maru as affirmed by the  
Passport issued to him by the  
American Consulate in Kobe,  
Japan, dated, Aug. 6, 1918.

He has lived always in  
California. Working around



2) Stockton, Sacramento, Marysville and Vicinity. Farmed around Salinas, Watsonville, Monterey, San Juan Bautista and Vicinity as berry growers.

After leaving his stay there, from Aug. <sup>27</sup> 1918, until Dec. 25<sup>Japan</sup> 1945 when he came back to <sup>to</sup> see his aged parents, he has been law abiding as you can readily see by his clean record there.

Now, he wishes to accompany his wife and children back to the States. May he apply for Passport together with his wife and children?

I would appreciate an earliest possible reply at your convenience.

Thanking you from the bottom of my heart for your ~~gentle~~ kindness, I remain as  
yours very truly,  
Mrs. J. Donatelli.



from Mrs. J. Yamatani,  
Wakayama Iken,  
Nishimuro Gun,  
Famihaya Mura,  
Japan.



Mr. Wayne M. Collins,  
Attorney-at-law,  
718 1/2 Mills Tower, 250 Bush  
San Francisco,  
California.



OPENED BY

NEED BY

5043-1-0-0



- CIVIL MAILS

MIL. GEN. - CIVIL MAIL

鎌谷登米代  
上ノ歌  
山ノ影  
西ノ村  
米ノ



August 5, 1948

*Japan  
Active* — Mrs. Tomeyo Kamatani,  
Wakayama Ken,  
Nishimuro Gun,  
Kamihaya Mura, Japan.

Dear Mrs. Kamatani:

In reply to your letter of July 17th, please be informed that if your husband possesses a re-entry permit he doubtlessly will be permitted to return to the United States in due course of time by applying to the American consul at Yokohama or Kobe. It may be that the re-entry of aliens will be prohibited until such time as the army releases its control of Japan or until a formal peace treaty between the United States and Japan is entered into.

It is my suggestion that your husband keep in touch with the U.S. consul at Yokohama or Kobe and apply for permission to return to this country if he is in the possession of a valid re-entry permit.

For your information, equity suit No. 25294 in which Judge Louis E. Goodman set aside the renunciation of some 2700 renunciants including yourself, the judgment has not yet become final because the government has obtained a 30 days extension of time from the court within which to designate persons against whom it might wish to present further evidence in special hearings.

When the judgment becomes final you will be in a position to return to this country together with your children who are minors. You will be notified by a letter from me when that judgment becomes final.

Very truly yours,

WMC:cw



6 Sept 1951.

Return  
reply

file

Dear Mr. Collins:

First of all, I wish to thank you for your wonderful work in our behalf. We all appreciate it very much.

The world situation changes so rapidly and so often one never knows what to expect, does one?

Quite some months ago I just could not be still when everyone was trying so hard to be cleared to go back to the states that, I, too, put in a request for a passport. After 6 months checking by the State Department they informed me that I am blessed with the "Abo" or "Ahu Case". What does that mean? Could you kindly inform me what is the outcome, just what is the "Ahu Case"?

You have tried and have won our case to the last phase. How does it stand now? How does this Japan Peace Treaty affect me? I do hope, favorably.

Is there no way I could hurry my case? Does it make no difference that I did not actually undertake the step to renounce because I felt disloyal to my own country, the States?



2.

Does it make no difference that be-  
cause I was married to an Issei,  
that due to his loyalty to his  
country and for his wish to come  
home, that unless I renounced and  
came to Japan I would be per-  
secuted? Do those things make no  
difference?

I would so appreciate<sup>it</sup> if you  
would take time out and answer  
these questions of mine. I know  
you are very busy but I feel  
desperate by waiting so long.

Please keep up the good work.  
And may God bless you, sir.

Awaiting your reply most  
anxiously, I am,

yours very truly,  
Mrs. S. Kametani

KAMETANI, TOMIYO (In Japan)

joined

9-11-47

Native



Mrs. Tomeyo Kamatani  
c/o 3007 - 12th Ave.  
Los Angeles 18, Calif.



Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
Attorney at Law  
Mills Tower  
220 Bush Street  
San Francisco 4, California





JR3189

L2427 OSAKA 36 20 1345

LT MR WAYNE COLLINS MILLS TOWER 220 BUSH STREET  
SANFRANCISCO CALIF

WORKING SECURITY FORCES PD HAVE JAPANESE CITIZENSHIP IN  
MAIDEN NAME ONLY DOES MCCARRAN ACT HARM MY REINSTATEMENT  
PD WIRE IMMEDIATE ANSWER BROTHER EDWARD TAKETAYA PAYS  
KAMATANI

*KAMATANI, Tomeyo, Mrs. -  
(active)*

CFM L2427 220

*Osaka Station, R.T.O.  
Osaka, Japan.*

BR 433

*Feb*





Ronan

9 April 1952.

Dear Mr. Collins:

I first gave my reason for renouncing as: to accompany my husband to Japan to see his aged parents. That is not true, I gave the reason as that, because my husband cajoled, threatened to leave me and my three small children penniless if I did not. I renounced by the will of my husband.

My children<sup>and</sup> I have suffered so much, still am, but the hope that you are working on our case has given me hope, kept me going. But it has been so long - yes, we have suffered, my children and I, we have become better citizens because of it. We know more than ever how precious life, liberty and freedom to pursue happiness is.

I did not give my real reason for my renunciation because I had not hated my husband so much as I do now. I do so now because I hate him with all my heart. He is completely worthless has not even tried to help out in our struggle for survival. I hate him so much we have been separated for over 6 months. If possible, I wish to get a divorce from him right away. Is it possible? And my reason, my real reason for renouncing, does it make a difference in my case?

Please help <sup>me</sup>. I truly appreciate your every help. May I hope for an early answer?

ACTIVE LIST

KAMATANI, TOMEYO Mrs

Yours very truly,  
Mrs. S. Kamatani

P.S. Of course I promise to pay you the \$300 retainer which I am able to get back to the states. It is impossible for me to do so at this time.



Mrs. S. Kametani,  
Osaka-Fu, Sayono-gun,  
Sayonaka-Ku, Shionai-machi,  
Shutochi, Japan.

AIR LETTER



PAR AVION

航空

Mrs. Wayne M. Collins  
220 Bush Street  
San Francisco  
California  
U.S.A.

この中には何物も封入できません

折込線

折込線



File

June 18, 1952

Mrs. Tomeyo Kamatani  
Osaka-Fu, Toyono-Gun  
Toyonaka-Ku, Shionai-Machi  
Shutoshi, 184, Japan

Dear Mrs. Kamatani:

Heretofore I informed you that the Court of Appeals had re-opened your case to enable the government to introduce evidence against you if it has any. At the present time I am negotiating with the Attorney General's office in the hope that your renunciation may be cancelled as a result of negotiation. If not, I probably will be able to clarify your status by the taking of affidavits. If not, in due course I shall arrange for you to return to the United States on a certificate of identity for the purpose of having a hearing before a court where I believe we can prove that you renounced solely as a result of duress.

In the meantime if you will apply to the nearest U.S. consul in Japan for a U.S. passport and there fill out the application form, together with the special affidavit which is required of renunciants, the consul will forward the same to the State Department in Washington, D.C., which in turn will communicate with the Justice Department which will examine its records. If no evidence develops against you the passport will be issued to you and thereafter the Attorney General will consent that a judgment be entered in your favor. Therefore I suggest that you immediately apply to the nearest U.S. consul for a passport, and I would thank you to notify me of the decision which is made thereon by the State Department.

Very truly yours,



24 June 1952.

Dear Mr. Collins:

First of all, may I thank you for the wonderful work you are doing in behalf of us who are underprivileged. You are the only person we can really count on.

I trust that you have received the letter I wrote you over a month ago in which I stated my true reason for renunciation? Did that change my story so drastically that it takes so long for the wait, for its outcome? I hope it makes a difference, a difference in a better way. I was misguided, mis-treated so long - I feel like a slave set free. Because the influence of my husband was so powerful he controlled my every thought and action, I was like a robot I acted only upon his wish. He made me renounce by his will, threatening to leave me and my three children penniless if I did not do as he wished. Even after I realized I made a grave mistake he resorted to coercion and threats to keep me from revealing the true facts for clearing myself, I hope it is not too late, that I have a chance.

Because I have suffered I have become a better person, a person really worthy of the rights of an American citizen. It is so precious to me, the American life is the only life worth living. Now I write in anguish, to have myself understood not only for myself but for my three children. I promise you, solemnly, that I will never now abuse my privileges again. I promise you that as soon as I go over - I will pay you back fully for your services. Please write and let me know what will be my answer. Let me



1. When I wrote to you (the one before this) I gave my address as the Japanese one, but have

know if I have a chance or not. I hope and pray with all my heart that I can hear from you real soon. I shall be counting the minutes, the seconds until I do.

Please keep up the good work. I and of countless others, appreciate your efforts with all my heart.

About my divorce, now does it mean that since I have no rights, that I do not need to abide by the American law,

折込線

航空

AIR LETTER

From Mrs. T. Kamatani,  
Osaka Station, R.T.O.  
Osaka, Japan

PARAVION



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

U.S.A.

この中には何物も封入できません

折込線

2. found my nieces' letter floating around all over Japan so am giving you this station one.

3. that I am free of my marriage, that is, that I need not be bound by law that does not recognize it, itself? I am not bound by the laws of this country (Japan), at all. It is as if I am not even married to my husband. May I ask how this works. If my marriage was recognized here, I could get a divorce here I have heard. Please let me know the true facts.

I shall be waiting for an answer soon.

ACTIVE LIST

KAMATANI, Toneyo

Yours very truly  
Mrs. T. Kamatani



*add power*  
Osaka -Fu, Toyono -Gan  
Shionai - Cho,  
Sudoshi #184  
c/o Shomoto Post Office

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

Dear Sir:

Have just received your letter and wish to thank you from the bottom of my heart for working so hard for our cause. The case seems to be going along fine, the young people who were under twenty one (21) years of age at the time of Renunciation has been re-instated. Now there are still people like myself that still must fight.

I have applied for a Passport previous to your letter and have been informed by the American Consulate that I am classed in the Abo Case (whatever that is) and have told me that my Passport Application has been submitted to the State Department, disapproved and must now await further developments on my case which is being handled by you. My application for the Passport was made on October 17 1950 and after almost a year later received a letter from the Consulate that it has been disapproved as I have stated above. It was so long ago, going on two (2) years.

Now they tell me (the Consulate) that in order for me to work this out is to have you send to the Consulate here in Kobe, a copy of Court Complaint in which case they will make out a Certificate of Identity for me to appear in court in person to testify in my own trial. So would you please do this for me at once?

As a matter of information, my son has applied for Enlistment in the Armed Forces and will be in active service three weeks from today.

You have written me to write you of the outcome of my Passport. Now I have and may I hope that I may go back over to appear in my trial?

Awaiting most anxiously, I remain as,

Yours very truly,

*Mrs. L. Kamatani*

*KAMATANI, TONEYO MRS.*

ACTIVE LIST



From Mrs. Tomeyo Kamatani  
Osaka Fu, Toyono Gun,  
Shonai Cho, Sudoshi #184,

c/o Shomoto Post Office



PAR AVION

AIR LETTER

航空

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
Attorney At Law  
Mills Tower, 220 Bush St.,  
San Francisco, 4, California.

U.S.A.

この中には何物も封入できません

折込線

折込線



WAYNE M. COLLINS  
Attorney at Law  
Mills Tower, 220 Bush Street  
San Francisco 4, California

August 7, 1952

Mrs. Tomeyo Kamatani  
Osaka Fu, Toyono Gun  
Shonai Cho, Sudoshi #184  
c/o Shomoto Post Office

Dear Mrs. Kamatani:

By circular letter I informed you sometime ago that the Court of Appeals had ordered your case reopened to enable the Attorney General to introduce additional evidence against you. If he introduces such evidence we shall be able to offer counter evidence in your favor.

I am negotiating with the Justice Department at the present time with a view toward obtaining the consent of the Attorney General to a cancellation of your renunciation. If he consents thereto judgment in your favor cancelling your renunciation and declaring you to be a U.S. citizen will be entered. If he does not agree thereto it is likely that I shall be able, as a result of negotiations, to submit additional evidence to the Justice Department on your behalf to convince the Attorney General that your renunciation, in justice, should be cancelled. If these negotiations fail I shall inform you thereafter and then instruct you to apply to a U.S. consul in Japan for a certificate of identity to enable you to return to the United States to have an individual trial. I hope, however, to be able to clear your status as a result of negotiations. In due course I will inform you of the progress made in this respect.

Very truly yours,



Osaka Fu  
Teyene Gun  
Shenai Cho  
Sudoshi #184  
c/o Shemote  
Post Office  
1 Sept 1952

*mark hardship  
on soon &  
golden &  
file*

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
Attorney at Law  
Mills Tower, 220 Bush St.,  
San Francisco, 4, California

*Active  
Hardship*

Dear Sir:

You will never know how happy your letter made me. You are doing a remarkable and tremendous job. If it were not for you none of us unfortunates would be understood and helped. You are undertaking a humane job, a job that would be salvation possible only by a great man such as you. We were very lucky to have you handling our case. Now I have only to await the outcome of my particular case. You have promised to advise me as soon as progress has been made.

Now I must inform you of a shameful fact. It seems I had taken it for granted my two brothers and nieces, and nephew would help me out in paying at least my retainer fee to you. When I wrote them to pay the \$300.00 I owe you, none of them would actually say they would pay for me. It is only temporarily. When I go over I will work hard and pay them back in no time. I have repeatedly told them so, they knew it and yet they are that way. I had believed they would take care of my debt to you, I thought so until the other day, when they suddenly wrote me that they could not. They know more than anyone that in this country I am having a hard time to make a living, supporting my three children. After receiving that letter from my brother I have been trying to raise that much money but all my friends are poor like me. Just what would you advise me to do?

I promise upon my word of honor that I will pay back what I owe as soon as I get over there. If only there was a way.

Sincerely hoping you can give me advice and a solution to my problem, I remain as,

Yours very truly,

*Mrs. Samoy. Kamatani*



From: Mrs. Teneye Kanatani  
Osaka Fu, Toyono Gun  
Shonai Cho, Sudeshi #184  
c/o Shonete Post Office



Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
Attorney at Law  
Mills Tower, 220 Bush Street,  
San Francisco, 4, California.

U . S . A .

PAR AVION  
航空

この郵便物には何物も封入又は添附できません

折込線

折込線



19 December 1952

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
Millers Tower, 220 Bush St.  
San Francisco, California

Dear Sir:

Just yesterday, 18 Dec 1952 was the first time I knew of this new Directive that came out on 12 Dec 1952. I will type a true copy to let you read the actual wordings:

"A/CP 230

12 December 1952

SUBJECT: American Citizens Employed by Foreign Governments

TO: See Distribution

1. Under the provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, which becomes effective midnight December 24, 1952 (December 25, 1952 2:01 P.M. Japanese time), American Citizens who perform services under any foreign government or subdivision thereof will automatically forfeit their claim to United States citizenship if they also possess the nationality of the foreign government for which they work.

2. Since these persons utilized by the U.S. Security Forces under the Master Labor Contract are hired and paid by the Japanese Government, they would fall within this category and are considered employees of a foreign government.

3. Inasmuch as the retention of certain individuals American citizenship is directly affected, immediate dissemination of the foregoing will be made to all personnel on yen payrolls. Emphasis will be placed on the fact that determination of citizenship status and decision as to whether or not employment under the Master Labor Contract is desired, is the sole responsibility of the individual concerned.

4. Further information may be obtained from the American Consul General, American Embassy, Kobe, Japan.

BY ORDER OF COLONEL HUDSON:

/s/ Frank A. Weiner  
/t/ FRANK A. WEINER  
1st Lt. AGC  
Ass't Adjutant

I did not know this until recently, but it so happens that when I was born, 5 May 1915, my father had my name entered in his family Register of Japan (Kosek Tohon). That means I have citizenship of Japan. But, it was in my maiden name Tomeyo Taketaya. Since I found out this fact, I have tried to cancel the said citizenship but the law of Japan says unless I have another country's citizenship they cannot do that for me. Does this apply to me, when, since then I have married in Sacramento, California and became Tomeyo Kamatani?

At present, I am working as an indigenous employee for the Security Forces of Japan. Would the Directive apply when the pay is actually coming from the American Army even though it passes through the Japanese Government? I understand the Army has made a contract with the Japanese Government to pay us who is working for the Security Forces. Besides, the Directive says "Duals" and I am not dual, yet, due to the fact that my rights of American Citizenship has not been restored to me. So, even if I have Japanese citizenship (without wishing so) it would not make me a dual, would it?

What I am trying to say is this: I am an employee of Camp Kobe, Osaka Branch Transportation Office and I must continue to work in order to support my family. Some people have tried to tell me that if I work (when I have Japanese citizenship) when the case you are working on for me wins and my American rights are restored, my continuing to work for the Security Forces







1/22/53 File

January 23, 1953

Mrs. Tomeyo Kamatani  
Osaka Fu, Toyono Gun  
Shonai Cho, Sudoshi # 184  
c/o Shomoto Post Office

Dear Mrs. Kamatani:

On January 9th I sent you a letter by air mail advising you not to do certain things because they might constitute acts of expatriation by which you might lose U.S. citizenship.

Our appellate courts have never precisely decided that the registration of a child in the Koseki by a parent gives the child dual nationality insofar as American law is concerned. However, the fact of dual nationality nevertheless has been recognized by our courts and has been assumed to constitute a true legal status.

Our courts might well hold that registration in the Koseki by a parent might have given you dual citizenship. In such an event if you worked for the Japanese government after Dec. 24, 1952, you would lose U.S. citizenship under the Walter-McCarran Act, the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952. This would be true if you are employed by the Japanese government even if the payment of your salary is made to you by the Japanese government from funds it receives from the U. S. Army under a contract with the Japanese government.

The fact of your marriage in Sacramento did not affect your citizenship even though your name was changed from Taketaya to Kamatani. If your renunciation finally could not be set aside or you lose American citizenship by any other act of expatriation you thereupon would become a Japanese national and as such would be able to apply to an American consul to enter the United States on the quota list.

I am negotiating with the Justice Department lawyers at the present time with a view to clearing your case if possible. I shall notify you in due course of the results of these negotiations.

Very truly yours,



WAYNE M. COLLINS  
*Attorney at Law*  
MILLS TOWER, 220 BUSH STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO 4, CALIFORNIA

TELEPHONE: GARFIELD 1-1218

APR 15 1955

Dear Plaintiff-Renunciator:

In 1954 I sent to you certain affidavit forms, memoranda and a letter relating thereto. You were requested to fill out the affidavit forms, have the original sworn to before a U.S. Consul and then return the affidavits to me. You were instructed that I would have them processed through the Justice Department. You were informed by me that if the Justice Department, after reviewing the affidavits and its own records, became convinced your renunciation of U.S. citizenship was caused by fear, coercion or duress it would clear you so that you could obtain in Japan a U.S. passport from a U.S. Consul and thereafter return to the U.S. as a U.S. citizen. I informed you also that if you received such clearance a judgment thereafter could be entered in your favor declaring you to be a U.S. citizen and cancelling your renunciation. You also were informed by me that if you were not successful in being cleared through this administrative procedure that your case then could be set down for an individual court trial in the U.S. District Court in San Francisco to have your citizenship status determined and that, to enable you to return to the U.S. for such a trial, you thereafter could obtain a Certificate of Identity from a U.S. Consul to return to the U.S. for such purpose.

To date, however, you have not sent the affidavits to me and you have not communicated with me. In consequence, it appears that you no longer are interested in recovering your U.S. citizenship or in trying to recover it. If you are not interested in regaining your citizenship or in trying to regain it in these mass class equity lawsuits, administratively or by court trial, and you wish me to discontinue my efforts on your behalf I would thank you to inform me of your decision by filling out and signing the enclosed Japan air-mail letter and mailing it to me so that your name can be dropped from the list of plaintiffs in the mass class equity suits and you can be dismissed as a plaintiff from said lawsuits.

However, if you still are interested in recovering your U.S. citizenship or in trying to do this in these mass class equity lawsuits kindly fill out one of the affidavit forms I sent to you, typing or writing in the answers you propose to give. Use it as a sample, send it to me promptly so that I shall receive it before July 1, 1955. If I find that the proposed answers you give in the sample affidavit form appear to be satisfactory or that they need correction I will let you know and thereafter a set of the affidavit forms can be prepared for administrative processing.

If I do not receive from you by July 1, 1955, either the affidavit forms I sent to you or one of them as a sample containing your proposed answers or a letter, postcard or other written notice from you stating that you wish me to continue my efforts to regain your citizenship I shall conclude from your inaction and silence that you do not wish me to try further to recover your U.S. citizenship. I will treat a failure on your part to send me such a notice as a request from you to dismiss you from being a plaintiff in these lawsuits. I will be compelled to do this because if your individual case is set down for trial and you were not to appear in person or by counsel at the court trial a judgment would be entered against you by default or your individual case then be dismissed.

Therefore, if you do not wish me to dismiss you from being a plaintiff in these lawsuits I must receive from you either the affidavit forms filled out and signed by you or one of them filled out as a sample with your proposed answers or a letter, postcard or other written notice from you by July 1, 1955, stating that you do not wish to be dismissed from these lawsuits.

Very truly yours,

*Wayne M. Collins*

Enc.



To: Wayne M. Collins  
Attorney at Law  
Mills Tower, 220 Bush St.  
San Francisco 4, California

Dear Sir:

I do not wish you to proceed further to have my U. S. citizenship status determined either administratively or by court decision. Therefore, I authorize you to drop my name from the list of plaintiffs in Abo, et al., v. Brownell, etc., et al., lawsuit Numbers 25294-5, now pending in the U. S. District Court in San Francisco, California, and to dismiss me from being a plaintiff in said mass class lawsuits.

My reasons for this are as follows:.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Dated:.....

My name is:.....  
(Please sign your full name)

My birthdate is:.....

My address is:.....

.....

.....



ここにも通信文を記載することができます

This space is also for correspondence.

To: Wayne M. Collins  
Attorney at Law  
Mills Tower, 220 Bush St.  
San Francisco 4, California

Post ZIP:

I do not wish you to enclose further to have my U.S. citizenship

折込線

PAR AVION  
航空

WAYNE M. COLLINS  
Attorney at Law  
Mills Tower, 220 Bush St.  
San Francisco 4, California, U.S.A.



AEROGRAMME

Date:

My name

My address

My telephone

この郵便物には何物も封入又は添附できません  
Nothing may be contained in or attached to this letter.

折込線

ここにも通信文を記載することができます

This space is also for correspondence.



File FJ

September 8, 1955

Mrs. Tomeyo Kamatani  
c/o 3007 12th Avenue  
Los Angeles 18, California

Dear Mrs. Kamatani:

I have not been able to correspond with you for some time due to the fact that the several addresses listed for you, both here in the States and in Japan have become outdated or were inaccurate.

A Judgment Order was recently entered for you here in the U.S. District Court which cancels your renunciation of U.S. citizenship and declares you to be a U.S. citizen entitled to all the attendant rights of citizenship. However, I do not wish to forward this judgment order to you until I receive some communication from you informing me of your present address, as the chances of having the order lost in the mails are too great for me to risk.

Should this letter reach you, I would advise you to inform me immediately of your correct present address.

Very truly yours,