

15:6

YAMASAKI, IWAO

1949-1956

78/177

C

April 10 1949

Dear Mr. Collins

This is a notification of change  
of address.

Former address.

SANMIYOJI, TAKENO MURA UKIHARA  
GUN FUKUOKA KEN, JAPAN

New Address

MOTO KASHIKAN KURABU, HIRAKI,  
MATA, WAJIRO MURA, KASUYA GUN,  
FUKUOKA KEN, JAPAN

IWAO YAMASAKI  
Tsuruyo YAMASAKI,

Jameyok  
7/27/49

Feb. 1 1953  
Fukuoka Japan

Dear Mr. Collins

Since I came to Japan after war I have been working for U.S. Army force under Japanese government. But since Dec. 24 1952 I stopped work from the new Immigration and Nationality Act. now in Japan position are hard to find. I'm still looking for one. do you think that we can get over there by this summer? I have not yet made a apply to the U.S. Consul yet but they told us to have one in, what is your advice to us.

About first of January I've mailed a sum of \$300.00 in check to Tule Lake Defense Committee. I hope you received it. and I'm trying my best to send the balance of \$300.00.

I'm very sorry to ask a reply to above question but please write us a line.

Iwao Yamasaki  
Tsuruyo Yamasaki

Both active

ad  
OK ( Higashi-gunji NATA HIRAKI  
Wajino-mura KASUYA-gun  
Fukuoka-ken Japan

IWAO YAMASKI  
Tsuruyo YAMASKI  
Hiroki  
Higashi-gumi ~~Wata~~ Wata  
Wajiro-mura Kasuya-gun Fukuoka-ken



PAR AVION

AIR LETTER

航空

Mr. WAYNE M. COLLINS  
MILLS TOWER, 220 BUSH ST.  
SAN FRANCISCO 4 CALIF.,

この中には何物も封入できません

折込線

折込線

54  
May 30 1954

Dear Mr. Collins

I am enclosing a Affidavit  
all question filled which you sent  
me other day.

I wish to return U.S. after I  
received a passport.

I am very sorry to ask you about  
payment of fee to you, I can not  
send Japanese money order at present  
so I'll pay you with interest after  
my arrival to U.S. so kindly wait  
till then.

yours truly

III  
Iwao Yamasaki  
Tsuruyo Yamasaki

CROSS-REFERENCE

August 10 1954

FILE OF: YAMASAKI, Iwao

CLASSIFICATION: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

WIFE:  
REFER TO FILE: YAMASAKI, Tsuruyo, nee Tanigawa

\_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFICATION: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Dear: Mr. Collins

Aug. 23, 1954

About end of May my wife and myself have sent you Affidavit forms all questionnaires filled.

My friend who mailed his Affidavit form about a month later, he has answer back from you already. but my wife and I ~~we~~ did not get the answer or receipt of our Affidavit forms. I'm sure we mailed our forms by air mail.

will you please check at your office for our Affidavit forms have reached or not?

yours truly

both  
rejected

III IWAO YAMASAKI

IV Tsuruyo YAMASAKI

1781 Hiraki NATA

Wajiro-mura, Kasuya-gun

Fukuoka-ken

JAPAN

This space is also for correspondence.

このにも通信文を記載することができます

Mr. & Mrs. I. YAMASAKI  
1781 HIRAKI, NATA  
WAJIRO-MURA KASUYA-GUN add  
FUKUOKA-KEN send  
Japan



RECEIVED  
AUG 26 1954  
Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
Mills Tower 220 Bush St.  
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  
Nothing may be contained in or attached to this letter.

折込線

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This space is also for correspondence.

WAYNE M. COLLINS  
Attorney at Law  
Mills Tower, 220 Bush Street  
San Francisco 4, California  
GARfield 1-1218

August 27, 1954

*File*

Mr. and Mrs. Iwao Yamasaki  
1781 Hiraki Nata  
Wajiro-mura, Kasuya-gun  
Fukuoka-ken, Japan

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Yamasaki:

The proposed answers in the affidavits which you sent to me appear to me to be lacking sufficient information in certain respects. Due to the press of processing so many affidavits, I request you to await further instructions from me concerning the corrections you should make. I expect to send you additional information relating to this before October 1, 1954.

Very truly yours,

*rm*

10/25/54

To: WMC

Re: Iwao YAMASAKI  
Tsuruyo YAMASAKI  
(nee Tanigawa)

Both affidavits are rejects.  
You informed them in August that  
you would send further instructions.

They are now asking for the  
additional information.

DP

21 Oct. 1954

Dear Mr. Collins:

You probably have sent me the additional information on affidavits, which were lack of sufficient information I've sent in about last June.

Your expert to send me additional information relating this was before October 1, 1954.

but I haven't received till this date so please kindly check at your office I'm very sorry to rush like this but we wish to return to State soon as we can and pay your fees.

Very truly yours.

Mr. and Mrs. Jwao Yamasaki

*cell  
send* (1781 Hiraki NATA  
Wajiro-Mura, Kasuga-gun  
Fukuoka-ken, Japan)

This space is also for correspondence.

このにも通信文を記載することができます

Iwano Tsuruyo YAMASAKI  
1781 Hiraki WATA  
Wajiro-Mura Kasuya-gun  
Fukuoka-Ken

*add name*



Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
Mills tower, 220 Bush street  
SAN FRANCISCO 4, California  
U.S.A.

RECEIVED  
OCT 25 1954

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折込線

折込線

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This space is also for correspondence.

Re: Iwao Yamasaki  
& Tsuruyo Yamasaki

Their affidavits are rejects -  
they are writing to find out  
about status of their affidavits.

DP

Jan. 5 1955

Dear Mr. Collins

Since then how are our affidavits getting along. that we sent to you about June 1954 and said it was lacking sufficient information in certain respects, you expected to send me additional information before Oct. 1 1954. but we still haven't received yet. I've heard from my brother that his affidavits was rejected and his affidavits were mailed to you even month later than ours. so please kindly let us hear from you, I'm sure you are always busy but. yours truly

Iwao & Tsuruyo Yamasaki

1781 Hiraki Mata

Wajiro-mura, Kasuya-gun

Fukuoka-ken Japan

add  
name

AFFIDAVITS REJECTED  
BY WMC

This space is also for correspondence.

このにも通信文を記載することができます

I+T YAMASAKI  
1481 Hiraki Wata  
Wajiro-mura, Kasuya-gun  
Fukuoka-ken, Japan ) add  
name



AEROGRAMME

Mr. Wayne M. Collins

RECEIVED

Mills Tower, 220 Bush St.

JAN 10 1955

San Francisco 4.

PAR AVION

航空

Calif.,  
U.S.A.

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折込線

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This space is also for correspondence.

- JAPAN -

2/24/55

Dear Mr. Collins.

San Jose, Calif.

I am inquiring for a couple of your plaintiff renunciants in Japan, Irooo Yamasaki and Tsuruyo Yamasaki. Above person's sent you there affidavit August, 1954, and got a reply from you in October 1954, saying that there affidavit needed a little more fixing and that you would give them instructions. But never got ~~a~~ any reply from you so they wrote you a couple of times ~~by~~ but did not get any answer, so they wanted me to ask you how there case stands, if they have to send in a new affidavit please send them to me with instructions in how to fill them

and I will send it to them. Thank you

Yours  
Truly,

H. Tanigawa

P.S.

Enclosing a stamped envelope.

3-14-55  
San Jose, Calif.

Mr. Collins.

Dear sir:

YAMASAKI, IWAO } WIFE  
YAMASAKI, TSURUYO }

WMC  
REJECTS

About two weeks ago, I inquired about Iwao Yamasaki and Tsuruyo Yamasaki couple of your renunciant cases of Japan. They filled affidavit form and sent it in August ~~1945~~<sup>1954</sup> and got a reply in October ~~1945~~<sup>1954</sup> stating there affidavit needed little more adding and that you would give them instructions, but have not recieved any instructions as yet so are worried. They wanted me to inquire about it for them. I know this is not the way to inquire about such cases but am busy at the fair so would apriciate very much if you would let me know by letter about the above two cases, if there is a charge on matter's of this kind please let me know and will send you a check or if I have to call please let me know, ~~and~~ when to come

and he will come in to see you  
will you please let me know by return  
mail - Thank you

Yours  
Sincerely  
K. Tanigawa

KAZUO TANIGAWA

WMC REJECT

April 18, 1955

JAPAN  
Active -

Mr. Kazuo Tanigawa  
Route 2, Box 647  
San Jose, California

Dear Mr. Tanigawa:

In reply to your recent inquiry concerning Iwao Yamasaki and Tsuruyo Yamasaki, please be informed that their affidavits as sent to me were inadequate. Consequently, a lengthy questionnaire was sent to each of them to answer so that new affidavits may be prepared for them.

Very truly yours,

Wife: Tsuruyo Yamasaki

June 1, 1955

Mr. and Mrs. Iwao Yamasaki  
1781 Hiraki Nata  
Wajiro-mura, Kasuya Gun  
Fukuoka Ken, Japan

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Yamasaki:

Enclosed find your copies of the affidavits, the originals  
of which were sent via air mail. You should keep these  
copies for future reference.

Very truly yours,

Encs.

Wife: Tsuruyo Yamasaki

June 1, 1955

Mr. and Mrs. Iwao Yamasaki  
1781 Hiraki Nata  
Wajiro-mura, Kasuya Gun  
Fukuoka Ken, Japan

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Yamasaki:

I am returning herewith via air mail the originals of the affidavits which I have prepared for each of you from your answers to my questionnaire. I would thank you both to read the answers therein and if you find them to be true, each of you should take the original to a U.S. Consul in Japan and there sign and swear to it. Thereupon, you should both return it to me promptly for processing to the Justice Department.

Copies for both of you to keep for future reference are being sent via regular mail.

If either or both of you should make any additions or corrections in the affidavits, please inform me of the changes in a letter enclosing the affidavits.

Very truly yours,

Encs.

File

Aug 16 1955

Dear Mr. Collins

I am sending you my son's address which I promise you other day on the air mail. The affidavit you sent to us wife and myself, on the very last question, if any member of my family serving in the military or naval force of U.S.? at that time he wasn't serving so I am now sending you his name and address so please forward this information to Justice Department and necessary offices.

First son  
Relationship

Pvt. Hiroaki YAMASAKI  
NAME

Co. M 20th Inf. Regt.  
Branch of service

U.S. 56263814  
Serial Number

Fort Ord Calif.

Isuruyo + Iwao Yamasaki  
(Processed)

This space is also for correspondence.

ここにも通信文を記載することができます

Tsurugyo + IWAO YAMASAKI  
NATA Hiraki Wajiro Mura,  
Kasaya Gun, Fukuoka-ken  
Japan

RECEIVED

AUG 10 1955



AEROGRAMME

Mr. Wayne M. Collins

220 Bush street

SAN FRANCISCO 4,

CALIF., U.S.A.

PAR AVION

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折込線

折込線

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This space is also for correspondence.

WEB:CMR

146-54-3284

93-1-1320

COPY FROM  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
CIVIL DIVISION  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

cs

Lloyd H. Burke, Esquire  
United States Attorney  
422 Post Office Building  
Seventh and Mission Streets  
San Francisco 1, California

NOV 8 1955

Re: Iwao Yamasaki

Your ref: Abo, et al v. Brownell, et al.  
Furuya, et al v. Brownell, et al. (Consolidated  
actions - Civil Nos. 25294 and 25295).  
Renunciation of Citizenship, Title 8 USC 801(1).

Dear Mr. Burke:

This is in response to your letter of August 4, 1955, enclosing affidavit of the above-named subject for a determination as to whether his case may be considered as coming within the coverage of the ruling of the Court of Appeals in the case of Acheson v. Murakami, 176 F. 2d, 953, in accordance with a letter from this Department dated September 21, 1953, to Mr. Wayne M. Collins.

You are advised that an affidavit of this subject was previously submitted to this Department by the Department of State with a similar request for our views. On March 24, 1954, we advised that Department that in the event of litigation involving an issue of the validity of subject's renunciation, this Department would be unable either to stipulate that his affidavit be accepted as evidence in lieu of oral testimony, or to concede that his case comes within the coverage of the above decision. The reasons for the Department's position in this respect, among others, are:

This subject was born September 30, 1908, in the United States and resided in Japan from 1917 to 1924. He had the majority of his education in Japan. Pertinent records of the War Relocation Authority reflect that he gave negative answers to questions 27 and 28, of the Army-WRA registration form. He applied for repatriation on January 8, 1944 and again on September 25, 1945, after the cessation of hostilities. He was a member of both the Sokuji Kikoku Hoshi Dan and the Hokoku Seinen Dan, and an officer of the latter organization. He requested renunciation on the comparatively early date of November 16, 1944, and subsequently

File No. 146-54-3284  
93-1-1320

requested that action on his application be expedited. At his hearing, he affirmed that his loyalty was to Japan and that he desired to return to that country. In an interview with an officer of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, on July 5, 1945, he said he considered himself an enemy of the United States. He repatriated to Japan on December 29, 1945.

The reasons for renunciation as set forth in the subject's affidavit attached to your letter, fail to counter-balance the facts above-recited, and we therefore adhere to our position as set forth in our letter to the Department of State, that this subject's case may not be considered as coming within the coverage of the ruling of the Court of Appeals in the Murakami case.

In accordance with our above referred to letter of September 21, 1953, to Mr. Collins, we attach the original and three copies of the affidavit for return to Mr. Collins

Yours very truly,

WARREN E. BURGER  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Division

By:

Enoch E. Ellison  
Chief, Japanese Claims Section

Encl. No. 14862

Affidavit and 3 copies.

December 30, 1955

Mr. Iwao Yamasaki  
1781 Hiraki Nata  
Wajiro mura, Kasuya gun  
Fukuoka ken, Japan

Dear Mr. Yamasaki:

On November 8, 1955 the Department of Justice rejected your affidavits and denied you administrative clearance because it reached a conclusion that your renunciation of U.S. citizenship was not caused by fear, coercion or duress. It states that the reasons for its refusal to give you administrative clearance are as follows:

"This subject was born September 30, 1908, in the United States and resided in Japan from 1917 to 1924. He had the majority of his education in Japan. Pertinent records of the War Relocation Authority reflect that he gave negative answers to questions 27 and 28, of the Army-WRA registration form. He applied for repatriation on January 8, 1944 and again on September 25, 1945, after the cessation of hostilities. He was a member of both the Sokuji Kikoku Hoshi Dan and the Hokoku Seinen Dan, and an officer of the latter organization. He requested renunciation on the comparatively early date of November 16, 1944, and subsequently requested that action on his application be expedited. At his hearing, he affirmed that his loyalty was to Japan and that he desired to return to that country. In an interview with an officer of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, on July 5, 1945, he said he considered himself an enemy of the United States. He repatriated to Japan on December 29, 1945."

As soon as the processing of the affidavits of other renunciants in the cases has been completed your individual case can be scheduled for an individual court trial in the U.S. District Court in San Francisco and if you consent to have such a trial, a statement from the Clerk of the Court showing the approximate time of your trial will be sent to you to present to the U.S. Consul in Japan to enable you to return to the U.S. on a "Certificate of Identity" for your trial.

Therefore, please wait patiently until you receive the next letter from me.

Very truly yours,

P.S. If your wife is a U.S. citizen or a renunciant whose citizenship has been restored or who obtains a U.S. passport you thereby become eligible to apply to a U.S. Consul in Japan as an alien for a "Nonquota immigrant visa" and if it is issued to you by the Consul, you thereupon would be able to return to the United States as an alien for permanent residence purposes provided you withdrew from the pending mass class equity suits. If you were to obtain a "nonquota immigrant visa" and return to the United States as an alien for permanent residence purposes you would become eligible for naturalization as a U.S. citizen.

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

Telephone GARfield 1-1218

December 30, 1955

Mr. Iwao Yamasaki  
1781 Hiraki Nata  
Wajiro mura, Kasuya gun  
Fukuoka ken, Japan

Dear Mr. Yamasaki:

Enclosed find a Questionnaire form which I would thank you to fill out in pencil or ink and return to me as promptly as possible. This Questionnaire is for my own personal use and is confidential so do not hesitate to give full, true and correct answers and to mention names. The giving of names will assist me and will not do any harm either to you or the persons you name.

The answers you give to the Questionnaire will enable me to judge the sufficiency of the answers you propose to make to the supplemental affidavit forms for administrative processing.

Very truly yours,

Dear Mr. Collins

March 6 1956

I and my wife want to thank you very much for restore her U.S. citizenship. for many year ~~you~~ <sup>you</sup> have fought for us. we are greatly appreciate your effort. and we don't know how to thank you.

now I have sent application of nonquota ~~immigrant~~ immigrant to immigration in U.S. to accompany with my wife and return to U.S. as an alien.

I am very sorry that we didn't pay you the balance of your case fee soon but we will pay you soon as we get there.

I do not know exactly when we depart Japan and where we will settle in U.S. now but. I will write again as soon as date is set.

very truly yours

Iwao Yamasaki  
Tsuneo Yamasaki.

Revised  
Final  
Judgment

This space is also for correspondence.

ここにも通信文を記載することができます

IWAO YAMASAKI  
Hiraki Wata Wajiro-mura  
Kasuya-gun Fukuoka-Ken  
Japan

RECEIVED  
MAR 12 1956



Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
Mills tower, 220 Bush st.  
San Francisco 4 Calif.,  
U. S. A.

PAR AVION  
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折込線

Disminyo  
Nepidun

Sept. 13 1956

Dear Mr. Collins

I came to this country about  
month ago and I am now  
working farm as soon as I  
earn enough money to pay your  
fees I'll send you check of balance  
I owed you. My former address  
in Japan was

1781 NATA Hiraki  
Wajiro-mach Kasuya-gun  
Fukuoka-ken

and

P.S. I came with my wife as  
non quota visa to this country

Yuzo Tanasaki #15044  
Japan Regis -  
wife: Tsunyo  
Hude Judgment

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Wayne M. Collins  
Attorney at Law  
1300 Mills Tower  
San Francisco 4, Calif.  
GARfield 1-5827  
Attorney for Plaintiffs.

ORIGINAL  
FILED

OCT 4 1956

Clerk, U. S. Dist. Court  
San Francisco

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT  
OF CALIFORNIA, SOUTHERN DIVISION

TADAYASU ABO, et al., etc.,  
Plaintiffs,  
-vs-  
HERBERT BROWNELL, JR., etc., et al.,  
Defendants.

No. 25294  
Cons. No. 25294-G

DISMISSAL OF IWAO YAMASAKI AS A PARTY PLAINTIFF

Iwao Yamasaki, born September 30, 1908, who heretofore was  
joined as a party plaintiff herein on July 23, 1947, hereby  
withdraws as a party plaintiff in the above-entitled cause, and  
the above-entitled cause is dismissed as to him without prejudice.

Dated: October 4, 1956.

/s/ Wayne M. Collins

Wayne M. Collins  
Attorney for Plaintiffs.

SO ORDERED:

October 4, 1956.

LOUIS E. GOODMAN

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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ADMISSION OF SERVICE

Receipt of a copy of the dismissal of Iwao Yamasaki as a party plaintiff hereby is admitted this 4th day of October, 1956.

GEORGE COCHRAN DOUB, Assistant Attorney General.  
LLOYD H. BURKE, United States Attorney.  
ENOCH E. ELLISON, Attorney, Department of Justice.  
PAUL J. GRUMBLY, Attorney, Department of Justice.

By: /s/ Charles Elmer Collett

Assistant U.S. Attorney  
Attorneys for Defendants.



Smooth-Erase  
Onionskin  
RAG CONTENT

# AFFIDAVIT

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PREPARATION OF AFFIDAVIT

This affidavit should be specifically addressed to the circumstances of your particular case and should not consist of generalities. When you are uncertain as to matters related in your affidavit write "uncertain". Where you claim that any action was taken by you as the result of fear, you should state in each instance, with the greatest possible particularity, what was feared and why. If it is claimed that the fears were caused by threats from individuals or groups of individuals, the nature of the threats, the names of the individuals making them, if known, and the time, place and occasion for the making of the threats should be given.

If more space is needed for answers to particular questions, separate sheets of plain white paper should be used. Each separate sheet so used should be plainly marked with the number of the question being answered and your name.

1. Name <b>Iwao, YAMASAKI</b>	Date of Birth <b>September 30 1908</b>
2. If born prior to December 1, 1924	(A) Have you ever renounced Japanese nationality? <b>Yes</b>
	When <b>1924</b>
	Where <b>Japanese consul in San Francisco Calif. USA.</b>
3. If born since December 1, 1924	(A) Was your name ever registered with a Japanese Consulate for the purpose of reserving your Japanese nationality? <b>None</b>
If so, did you thereafter renounce your Japanese nationality?	When
	Where
4. State periods of visits to Japan and purpose of each visit:	
Date	Purpose
From <b>Nov. 1917</b> To <b>March 1924</b>	<b>Accompanied parents</b>
<b>Sept. 1935</b> To <b>Dec. 1935</b>	<b>Visit Parents.</b>
5. Give details concerning any formal education in Japan:	
School	Period of Attendance
<b>Primary school</b>	From <b>Nov. 1917</b> To <b>March 1924</b>
Specify subjects studied (attach additional sheet if necessary). <b>I received the general course in Japanese grammar school but this fact did not depend on my own decision but on my parents purpose. My parents sent me to school in Japan in order to prepare me for future opportunities in relationship between the US and Japan, which could necessitate familiarity with the language, culture, customs, and tradition of Japan.</b>	
6. Have you ever made application for repatriation to Japan? <b>Yes</b> If so, give date <b>About June 1944</b> and your reasons for so applying: <b>It was my belief at that time that the US Government deprived me of my US citizenship when I was forced into the camp surrounded by the barbed wire fence and that it was going to deport me to Japan with or without my consent. In the meantime, there was the many threats and acts of violence in the camp such as beating and assaults and the murder which occurred at Tule, and then I was forced to sign my repatriation form simply for reasons of my personal security and the security of my family. If I did not apply for repatriation it might have endangered me and my family, I feared. I had nowhere to go to go to in the US where we were regarded as an alien enemy.</b>	
7. (A) Have you ever expressly indicated that you would not swear unqualified allegiance to the United States? <b>Yes</b>	Have you ever declined to answer when asked whether you would swear unqualified allegiance?
Or have you ever given a qualified answer to such question asked at War Relocation Centers?..... If so, give your reasons: <b>Because I had already been treated differently by the US Government, that classified us an alien enemy, simply because of my Japanese ancestry and I was deprived of my US citizenship.</b>	
(B) If your answer to any of the questions in (A) is affirmative, then did you ever subsequently change your mind and express your willingness to swear unqualified allegiance or would you have been willing to do so if an opportunity had been afforded you? <b>Yes</b> If so, state when you changed your mind and your reasons therefor: <b>I would have been willing to take such an oath to swear unqualified allegiance to the US if the Government had not discriminated against me and if I had believed that both I and my family could have been relocated in the US without danger to me and my family or that I could have been free from the terror and the fear that arose from the camp condition.</b>	

(C) Did you ever indicate that you would not swear unqualified allegiance to the United States either expressly or by refusal to answer, or a qualified answer, knowing that by so doing you would be sent to the WRA Segregation Center at Tule Lake? Yes If so, give reasons:

Because I had no place to go to settle since the government had repudiated me of my US citizenship and the appropriate legal protection could not be sought and the strong hostile feeling against us were prevailing everywhere outside the segregation center. Therefore, I thought it is the best way to go to Tule Lake, where I could be kept united with my wife and children, who they believed had been scheduled by the government to be sent to Japan.

8. (A)	Answer		Period of Membership
	Yes	No	
WERE YOU EVER AT ANY TIME A MEMBER OF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:			
Black Dragon Society (Kokuryu Kai)			
Central Japanese Association (Beikoku Chuo Nipponjin Kai)			
Central Japanese Association of Southern California			
Dai Nippon Butoku Kai (Military Virtue Society of Japan or Military Art Society of Japan) (Hokubei Kai)			
Heimuska Kai, also known as Hokubei Heieki Gimusha Kai Zaibei Nihonjin, Heiyaku Gimusha Kai, and Zaibei Heimusha Kai (Japanese residing in American Military Conscripts Assoc.) Heimusha Kai			
Hinode Kai (Imperial Japanese Reservists)			
Hinomaru Kai (Rising Sun Flag Society—a Group of Japanese War Veterans)			
Hokubei Zaigo Shoko Dan (North American Reserve Officers Association)			
Japanese Association of America (Zaibei Nihonjin Kai)			
Japanese Overseas Central Society (Kaigai Dobo Chuo Kai)			
Japanese Overseas Convention, Tokyo, Japan, 1940			
Japanese Protective Association (Recruiting Organization)			
Jikyoku Iin Kai (Current Affairs Association)			
Kibe Seinen Kai (Association of U. S. Citizens of Japanese Ancestry who have returned to America after studying in Japan)			
Nanka Teikoku Gunyudan (Imperial Military Friends Group or Southern California War Veterans)			
Nichibe Kogyo Kaisha (The Great Fujii Theatre)			
Northwest Japanese Association			
Sakura Kai (Patriotic Society or Cherry Association—composed of Veterans of Russo-Japanese War) (Cherry Blossom Society)			
Shinto Temples			
Sokoku Kai (Fatherland Society)			
Suiko Sha (Reserve Officers Association Los Angeles)			
Hokoku Seinen-Dan	X		6 months
Hokoku Joshi Seinen-Dan			
Sokoku Kenkyu Seinen-Dan			
Sokuji Kikoku Hoshi-Dan	X		11 months

(B) Give reasons for becoming a member:

At the time when I became a member I believed that the organization in the Camp was lawful and that it was not organized for or not engaged in any improper or illegal activities and the government approved it and wanted to join it. My consideration is that it was the best way for me to become a member in order to maintain the security of not only mine but of my family in the center, avoiding all the trouble, such terrors and fears arose among the evacuees in the Camp Center.

(C) State nature of your activity and offices you held:

I was selected or named as an officer without my knowledge or consent. Therefore, I did not perform any duties or not worked for such organization and did not participate in its meeting.

(D) If you voluntarily discontinued membership in any of the aforementioned organizations, give approximate date and reasons for so doing:

After I became a member I learned that the organization had developed into an unlawful or despoiled organization, so I did not attend its meeting and stopped taking part in its activities or demonstrations but I could not discontinue membership since I thought of my family's security.

(E) If you claim that your membership in any of the aforementioned organizations, your activities therein, or your acceptance of an office was due to misunderstanding of the purpose or nature of the organization, explain fully:

At first, I did not know the purpose of "Dan" and was simply told that we all Japanese alien had to become its membership and I was forced to join the group. Later that I feared that I was going to be deported to Japan without my consent and I believed that it would be best that I would join it order to be trained and prepared physically or mentally by the organization to start to life in Japan.

(F) If you at any time wished to discontinue membership, activity, or office and were prevented from so doing, explain fully:

From the time when I heard that the organization had developed into an unlawful or disloyal organization and the Justice Department accused it of unlawful activities, I became suspicious of its purposes and activities, so I had a wish to discontinue my membership but I was afraid my resignation would endanger my family.

9. (A) When did you decide to apply for forms upon which to renounce your United States citizenship? Give reasons for so doing:

About December 1944.

Before the war I spent many years peacefully as a good citizen and participated in the presidential voting, always abiding by the US laws and registered myself with the local draft office immediately when the draft laws went into effect, (1940 or 1941). My selective service card was taken away at the Bismark Camp North Dakota about in July 1945, thus I indicated my loyalty to the US government but the US government forced me into the camps surrounded by barbed wire fence and made me believe that I was deprived of my US citizenship only because of my Japanese ancestry and that I should be eventually deported to Japan without my consent.

(B) If reasons given in answer to preceding question differ from reasons given to officer who held renunciation hearing, give your explanation for difference:

I had been coached to give such answers by the pressure group at the hearing office and I also feared that if the Government did not accept my renunciation it would have resulted in my separation from my family, who they believed were to be deported to Japan.

(C) If you claim that your renunciation was caused by fear, you should explain fully why such fear extended from the time of the application for renunciation papers until the date of actual renunciation:

I believed it was necessary for me to renounce US citizenship to make sure I would not be forced by the closing of WRA camps to relocate in communities hostile to us but would be permitted, by renouncing, to remain in the camps in the protective security of the Justice Department. If I had been forced to relocate in the US without funds and without the ability to support myself and my family which cause our starvation I feared that my and my family safety would be endangered. I was expected that I would be removed to Japan because I feared our government was going to deport me to Japan simply because I was alien.

(D) If the fear did not extend from the date of application to the date of approval by the Attorney General, you should state whether you made any effort to withdraw your application, and if not, explain fully:

If I made any effort to withdraw the application for my renunciation I feared that my security and the security of my family would be endangered by the reprisal from any of the pressure group of other family members. I also feared that, by doing such a thing, I might be forcibly relocate and thus separated from my family whom I believed were to be deported to Japan. There was another fear that both I and my family might be compelled on closing of the camp to be relocated without funds and in communities hostile to us and without the ability to support myself and my family.

(E) If, after approval, you requested the Attorney General to withdraw his approval of your renunciation or to cancel your renunciation, give the reasons for the delay in making such request:

After I was sent to Japan I heard that the mass suits and joined it at once. In fact, I did not know the mass suits until my friend in United States let me know about it.

(F) If there are any other facts which influenced your action in renouncing your United States citizenship, state fully below or on a separate sheet if necessary. It was my believe at that time that the US Government deprived me of my US citizenship when I was forced into the camp surrounded barbed wire fence and classified and trialed as an alien enemy simply because of my Japanese ancestry. I was willing to serve for the US Government but the Government refused to let me serve. At that time there were many influencial propogandas initiated by the pressure groups what we called "Hoshidan" existed in the camp and its activities and influences reached their height. I was given the blank form, which seemed to be printed by some member of the pressure group and then I was obliged to write down on it about the renunciation of my citizenship.

Considering the circumstances of inside and outside the camp, I was compelled to do so as they forced me to do. Because there was fear that the camp would be closed out and that I would be forced to relocate in the US communities hostile to me and my family where our safety would be endangered and I had no money and no place to go to settle in the US since I had already, I thought, been reprivd of my US citizenship as an alien enemy by the US Government.

10. (A) If you now are in Japan, give your reasons for having returned to Japan.

My US citizenship had already been deprived of and was compounded in the camp, which I feard would be soon closed up. Being extremely poor, I had no place to go to settle in the US communities hostile to me as an alien enemy. There was also the prevalent rumor that we were to be driven out of the center, thus I had no alternative way to do excepting to go to Japan.

(B) If you are in Japan, have you since you returned to Japan taken any action to resume or acquire Japanese citizenship? No  
If you have, state nature of action taken and reasons therefor. Answer Yes or No

11. (A) If you have served or are serving in the military or naval forces of the United States fill in the following:

I enlisted (or was drafted) on \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_; my Serial number is \_\_\_\_\_;  
State the date State the Branch of Service

I still am in such service \_\_\_\_\_; I was released from active duty on \_\_\_\_\_ and received my Discharge  
Answer Yes or No on \_\_\_\_\_

(B) If at any time while in a war relocation center or since then you volunteered for military or naval service but your offer of service was rejected state the time when and the place where you volunteered.

(C) State why your offer of such service was rejected, if the reason was made known to you.

(D) If you were rejected for military or naval service by your Local Draft Board since your release from a war relocation center state the reason for the rejection if known to you.

12. If any member of your family has served or is serving in the military or naval forces of the United States state the relationship of such person to you, the name of such person, the branch of service and serial number of such person:

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_ Serial Number \_\_\_\_\_

Japan }  
Prefecture of Fukuoka }  
City of Fukuoka }  
Consulate of the United States of America }

*Iwao Yamasaki*  
Iwao Yamasaki  
(Signature in full of applicant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 28th day of May, 19 54

Service No. 5946



*Matthew D. Smith, Jr.*  
Matthew D. Smith, Jr.  
American Vice Consul

# AFFIDAVIT

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PREPARATION OF AFFIDAVIT

This affidavit should be specifically addressed to the circumstances of your particular case and should not consist of generalities. When you are uncertain as to matters related in your affidavit write "uncertain". Where you claim that any action was taken by you as the result of fear, you should state in each instance, with the greatest possible particularity, what was feared and why. If it is claimed that the fears were caused by threats from individuals or groups of individuals, the nature of the threats, the names of the individuals making them, if known, and the time, place and occasion for the making of the threats should be given.

If more space is needed for answers to particular questions, separate sheets of plain white paper should be used. Each separate sheet so used should be plainly marked with the number of the question being answered and your name.

1. Name <u>Iwao Yamasaki</u>	Date of Birth <u>September 30, 1908</u>
2. If born prior to December 1, 1924	(A) Have you ever renounced Japanese nationality? <u>Yes</u>
	When <u>1924</u>
	Where <u>Japanese Consul San Francisco, Calif.</u>
3. If born since December 1, 1924	(A) Was your name ever registered with a Japanese Consulate for the purpose of reserving your Japanese nationality?
If so, did you thereafter renounce your Japanese nationality?	When
	Where

4. State periods of visits to Japan and purpose of each visit:

Date		Purpose
From	To	
<u>Nov. 1917</u>	<u>March 1924</u>	<u>Accompanied parents</u>
<u>Sept. 1935</u>	<u>Dec. 1935</u>	<u>Visit parents</u>

5. Give details concerning any formal education in Japan:

School	Period of Attendance	
	From	To
<u>Primary School</u>	<u>Nov. 1917</u>	<u>March 1924</u>

Specify subjects studied (attach additional sheet if necessary).

I took the regular primary school subjects. My parents sent me to the primary school hoping to get me prepared for future opportunities and thought some knowledge of Japanese language might help me in business world.

6. Have you ever made application for repatriation to Japan? Yes If so, give date About June 1944, and your reasons for so applying: in Tule Lake Center and we had to sign something about Nov. 1945. We were living in Mt. Eden, Calif. As we had to leave home and go to Tanforan and then Topaz and Tule Lake we lost just about everything. I was forced into the camp surrounded by barb wire fence together with my wife, Tsuruyo and our children, Hiroaki who was over 7 yrs. old and Kei, who was over 2 yrs. old. We believed that we were all deprived of our U.S. citizenship. We heard the Govt. consider all person who answer "No" to questions 27 and 28 are disloyals and we have to make decision of signing for repatriation or else we will be sent to outside and rumors were flying around we will be sent to Japan if we like it or not. So we did it to stay together and be safe.

7. (A) Have you ever expressly indicated that you would not swear unqualified allegiance to the United States? Yes, at Topaz.

Have you ever declined to answer when asked whether you would swear unqualified allegiance?

Or have you ever given a qualified answer to such question asked at War Relocation Centers?.....If so, give your reasons:

See attached sheet.

(B) If your answer to any of the questions in (A) is affirmative, then did you ever subsequently change your mind and express your willingness to swear an unqualified allegiance or would you have been willing to do so if an opportunity had been afforded you? Yes.....If so, state when you changed your mind and your reasons therefor: I would have been willing to take such an oath to swear unqualified allegiance to the U.S. if the Govern't had not discriminated against me and if I had believed that both I and my family could have been relocated in the U.S. without danger to me and my family or that I could have been free from the fears that arose from the camp conditions. I would of done it in Hayward in Oct. 1940 when I registered for Army but the draft board made me 3-A and wouldn't take me. Finally it sent me a 4-C when I was in Tule Lake.

(C) Did you ever indicate that you would not swear unqualified allegiance to the United States either expressly or by refusal to answer, or a qualified answer, knowing that by so doing you would be sent to the WRA Segregation Center at Tule Lake? Yes If so, give reasons:

Because I had no place to go to settle since the U.S. Government had repudiated me of my U.S. citizenship and the appropriate legal protection could not be sought and the strong hostile feeling against us were prevailing everywhere outside the segregation center. Therefore, I thought it is the best way to go to Tule Lake where I could be kept united with my wife and my children.

8. (A) WERE YOU EVER AT ANY TIME A MEMBER OF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:	Answer		Period of Membership
	Yes	No	
Black Dragon Society (Kokuryu Kai)		X	
Central Japanese Association (Beikoku Chuo Nipponjin Kai)		X	
Central Japanese Association of Southern California		X	
Dai Nippon Butoku Kai (Military Virtue Society of Japan or Military Art Society of Japan) (Hokubei Kai)		X	
Heimuska Kai, also known as Hokubei Heieki Gimusha Kai Zaibei Nihonjin, Heiyaku Gimusha Kai, and Zaibei Heimusha Kai (Japanese residing in American Military Conscripts Assoc.) Heimusha Kai		X	
Hinode Kai (Imperial Japanese Reservists)		X	
Hinomaru Kai (Rising Sun Flag Society—a Group of Japanese War Veterans)		X	
Hokubei Zaigo Shoko Dan (North American Reserve Officers Association)		X	
Japanese Association of America (Zaibei Nihonjin Kai)		X	
Japanese Overseas Central Society (Kaigai Dobo Chuo Kai)		X	
Japanese Overseas Convention, Tokyo, Japan, 1940		X	
Japanese Protective Association (Recruiting Organization)		X	
Jikyoku Iin Kai (Current Affairs Association)		X	
Kibei Seinen Kai (Association of U. S. Citizens of Japanese Ancestry who have returned to America after studying in Japan)		X	
Nanka Teikoku Gunyudan (Imperial Military Friends Group or Southern California War Veterans)		X	
Nichibei Kogyo Kaisha (The Great Fujii Theatre)		X	
Northwest Japanese Association		X	
Sakura Kai (Patriotic Society or Cherry Association—composed of Veterans of Russo-Japanese War) (Cherry Blossom Society)		X	
Shinto Temples		X	
Sokoku Kai (Fatherland Society)		X	
Suiko Sha (Reserve Officers Association Los Angeles)		X	
Hokoku Seinen-Dan	X	X	6 Months
Hokoku Joshi Seinen-Dan		X	
Sokoku Kenkyu Seinen-Dan		X	
Sokuji Kikoku Hoshi-Dan	X		11 Months

(B) Give reasons for becoming a member: Many persons persuaded and partly threatened us to become members. We lived in Block 66. The leaders in the Block were Kimura, Kuratomi, Kato and Narutomi. They and the members Akashi and Yokoyama said the govern't officers allowed them and wanted all of us in the camp to become members. They said the best way for us to do is join and by doing so we would get prepared for our lives in Japan when the gov't send us there. And they said that by being members we would avoid hatred and insult from members in the Center. What I was told from them was if the gov't decide to make us relocate the gov't would not protect us against people that was hostile to us and we could not get any support from other Japanese and that if we joined the organization would try to keep us all from having to relocate during the war. They said the result will be that your life will be exposed to danger and you could not find any place to go to live. They said if the Gov't deport us all Japanese to Japan you will get in trouble with the Jap. Gov't and will be called informer or traitor to the neighbors and then could not find any place to live unless you became a member. I was a member of the Hoshi Dan but some member of the Hoshi Dan told me when the regular members were interned to other camps that my name was transfer to young man's organization named Seinen Dan but I didn't say anything about this because I didn't want no trouble and I don't know if my name is transfer as I am not

(C) State nature of your activity and offices you held: a younger man.

I did not perform any duties or work for these organizations. I did not goto their meetings or exercise or march around the Center. I was too sick with stomach trouble I couldn't work at Tule Lake but stayed with the children as wife worked in Block 66's mess hall.

(D) If you voluntarily discontinued membership in any of the aforementioned organizations, give approximate date and reasons for so doing:

After I was made member organization turned out different from what I believed. People like from Manzanar and Poston group talk big and threaten. I hear all sorts of story and do not know what I must believe. I talk it over with friends and they say maybe it is not safe to say anything. So I tell my wife we just won't have nothing to do with organization but don't say anything about it.

7.(A)

Because I had been treated differently by the Government from other citizens. Because of my Japanese ancestors I was deprived of my citizenship rights but person of German and Italian ancestors had their citizenship rights. Because of the evacuation trouble was stirred up against Japanese and nobody wanted to let us live anywhere and we heard of many Japanese being physically harmed. And the rumor was if you didn't give "No" answer you would be made to go outside where communities were hostile to person of Japanese ancestors and our family would be exposed to dangers. Another saying of the people was you were going to be deported to Japan whether you like it or not so if you give a "Yes" answer you will get in trouble with the Japanese government when you land in Japan. Everybody seemed so afraid of these things I got frightened worrying about what may happen to me, my wife and two young children and gave answer "No" to that question. And we the Nisei asked to the Army officer about the effect of the Questionnaire at Topaz but he could not give clear answer. Hitsuji Araki, Sanae Akashi, Taketa and Sakata said if give "Yes" answer we could stay in Center and not have to go out where it is not safe for Japanese.

8.(F)

I told Yuzo Kato and Sanae Akashi I didn't like what was being done and don't want anything to do with the organization because I heard some member of Hoshi Dan and Manzanar group attack and put somebody in hospital. The word got around I was not cooperating and wanted to withdraw. Yuzo Kato, Narutomi, Yokoyama and Masukawa visit me and say if I do all the members of the organization will regard and treat me and my family as informer or traitor by unfair means causing me and my family a lot of trouble. They told about some persons being beat up for trying to withdraw membership. They say with all the assault and beating prevailing in the center you should realize what can happen to you and your family. They say when we consider all things about you, our judgment told us you better not to drop membership so that you might keep yourselves safe and it is best way for you and your family not to do so in this situation. They say also that you should realize another trouble which might happen if you are deported to Japan or if you must relocate among people hostile to Japanese. So I think I better not do anything more if I want to be safe with my family. So I got a fear that both I and my family would be harmed by the groups if I tried anything more to resign and I was afraid of the accusations of the group. Then I got the thought that we will be deported to Japan without our consent as an enemy alien so I remained as a membership against my mind.

9.(A)

I think it was after Christmas.

I don't remember who gave me the form but somebody brought it. I didn't want to sign away my citizenship. So I didn't do nothing at first. Because we don't want to do it all the members of the Hoshi Dan refuse to talk to us and even the children they did not played together. at the mess hall the members call us Kokuzoku, Inu and Coward and everything else and wouldn't serve us and wouldn't give us enough meal to the children. They won't talk to us except to call names. Mr. Kato, Hieda, Narutomi, Kuwano, Hagio, Hajimoto, Nakai and Kikuchi keep calling me such names for not wanting to sign away citizenship. The members came and scare us with their talk. Yuzo Kato, Sanae Akashi and Narutomi in Block 66 were not working. They came to us and say the government treat you like enemy alien, make you leave home and lose everything and stick you in camp like alien enemy. It take away your citizenship. Then it consider you disloyal for answer "No" to questions No. 27 and 28 so it either make you relocate from Center with nothing and nowhere to go and communities are hostile to Japanese and you get exposed to dangers. If you give up citizenship it can't make you go out of Center but keep you till war end because it can't make aliens go outside. They say these are reason why it is necessary for you to decide to renounce citizenship. I and my wife are greatly worried for us and our children. Yuzo Kato, Sanae Akashi Narutomi, Sakaniwa and Kikuchi who are Issei in our Block 66 say if I do not renounce maybe I may even have to go in army and with no one to look out for wife and children and then wife may be sent out with children to some strange place with nothing and where peoples are hostile to people like us of Japanese ancestors so I get a great fear of separation from my family. And they tell us there is big danger of separation from family if I don't renounce so I get more worried what will happen to us. And then Mr. Kato, Narutomi, Nukai, Sakaniwa in our Block 66 say it is not wise to go against the Dan's orders, that everybody must renounce as persons who do this will not get hurt and those who go against Dan will get hurt. And we think about Mr. Shibata who did not do as he was told and got beat and put in hospital. And Mr. Hitomi who was murdered. And some people got beat with clubs and struck with knife for not doing what Dan leader like Akashi and Tachibana and Wakayama want. So we think about this and we are afraid what is going to

9.(A) Continued:

happen to us and children when such things is done. And when Mr. Kato, Mr. Narutomi, Mr. Masukawa and Mr. Sakaniwa told us to watch ourselves at dark at night and they say there are 15 day of dark night in month and we better watch out at dark night. And they say we get deported anyway. They talk and say if we don't renounce citizenship the Hoshi Dan will let the Japanese government know about it and have us put in jail after we get send to Japan and all our clothes will be taken away from us and we will be made to work as slave laborer. Mr. Akashi, Mr. Hieda emphasize this result. And it is rumor in the camp that foreigners were either treated bad or killed in Japan. As so many person like Hagio, Kato, Narutomi, Bingo, Waki, Akashi, Nukai, Masukawa Shimotani and Okada question us about have I applied for renunciation and check at block manager's office we get great fear and do it, as we thought it was the only thing to do for family safety.

9.(B)

I told the lady who was hearing officer something like the Government deprived me of my U.S. citizenship and forced us to camp surrounded by barb wire fence and we lose everything and it made me believe we would be deported to Japan without our consent because of my Japanese ancestor. Yuzo Kato, Mr. Narutomi, Mr. Nukai, Mr. Sakaniwa and Mr. Kikuchi coach me to give such answer. The lady who was hearing officer said something like I do not have to renounce my citizenship if I am going to Japan. I couldn't believe that is true after what I heard in camp and I was so worried if it is not accept what will happen to us. If I told that I did it under fear of pressure groups in the center that groups might treat us as traitor or disloyal by the Japanese ancestor people in center as well by the Japanese government, I worried hearing officer will not accept. I was feared to go either to Japan or into the outside world in the State if the group heard I told about them.

9.(E)

We didn't know this could be done for sure. We heard rumors that the Attorney General might not approve some, cancel some and that there was no chance to cancel. We didn't really know what we could do. But we didn't want to leave the Center and go outside as the public was against us and we had nothing. But I was sent away to Bismarck up in No. Dakota around July 1945, and I was scared I would be sent off to Japan and my wife and children would be sent out of Tule Lake with no place to go and and get hurt or would starve.

After we were sent to Japan we heard about the mass law case when a friend in the United States sent a letter and let us know about it.

(E) If you claim that your membership in any of the aforementioned organizations, your activities therein, or your acceptance of an office was due to misunderstanding of the purpose or nature of the organization, explain fully: When they made us a member I believed it was like they said the gov't wanted all us in camp to become members. I thought being members we would not have to leave camp during war and experience hardship and be exposed to dangers and won't get insulted and if we are sent to Japan we will not get in trouble. They talked that members would learn about Japan, how to live there. Afterward it didn't look like they was so interested in such things but more like the leadrs want to do as they please & treat us like subjects. ~~But things got bad and we were scared and we don't want trouble & have children hurt.~~

(F) If you at any time wished to discontinue membership, activity, or office and were prevented from so doing, explain fully:

See attached sheet

9. (A) When did you decide to apply for forms upon which to renounce your United States citizenship? Give reasons for so doing:

See attached sheet

(B) If reasons given in answer to preceding question differ from reasons given to officer who held renunciation hearing, give your explanation for difference:

See attached sheet

(C) If you claim that your renunciation was caused by fear, you should explain fully why such fear extended from the time of the application for renunciation papers until the date of actual renunciation: I think the hearing was about in February 1945. I believed it was necessary to go to hearing when I was called because the condition was pretty much the same. I hear much talk about whether our camp is going to be closed up. We didn't dare take no chances of being made to go out of camp in our condition with two children and no money and we didn't want to be separated as we feared it would mean starvation to death and our childrens safety would be in danger. People talk in the boiler room and latrines about awful things what happened to Japanese who went outside camps, how they got beat, stoned and homes burnt up. Living so long among members of the pressure groups I had been always stirred up my mind into the desparation, thereby I was caused to do it. We did not get any good information about outside the camp so I thought it is only safe way to do to keep together with my wife and children. Some members were taken to other camp for making most trouble. When we have hearing Kobayashi, Waki, Narutomi, Kato and Kawahata were around and in our block there was Yuzo Kato, Narutomi, Masukawa and Sakaniwa and we were afraid of them.

(D) If the fear did not extend from the date of application to the date of approval by the Attorney General, you should state whether you made any effort to withdraw your application, and if not, explain fully:

(E) If, after approval, you requested the Attorney General to withdraw his approval of your renunciation or to cancel your renunciation, give the reasons for the delay in making such request:

See attached sheet

(F) If there are any other facts which influenced your action in renouncing your United States citizenship, state fully below or on a separate sheet if necessary. I believed the U.S. Government deprived me of my U.S. citizenship when I was forced into the camp and made an alien enemy because of my Japanese ancestors. I was doing my duties while I was living as good citizen always abiding by the U.S. laws faithfully. I was willing to go into army and act as good soldier in 1940 when I registered at my local draft board. When I was sent to the Centers I notified the board where I am. My efforts to become good citizen are not regarded since the government forced me into camp like alien enemy. Considering the circumstances of inside and outside the camps Topaz and Tule Lake I was made to do as they forced me to do. Because of fear the camp would be closed and I would be forced to locate in the U.S. in place where communities is hostile to me and my family and where we would not be safe and I had to do it. Being extremely poor we didn't have no money and no place to go to settle and I thought I have been deprived of my U.S. citizenship because Japanese are considered as an alien enemy by the U.S. Government.

10. (A) If you now are in Japan, give your reasons for having returned to Japan.  
 My U.S. citizenship had already been deprived of when I was in Tule Lake Center which I feared would be soon closed up. Being very poor I had no place to go to settle in the U.S. communities which is hostile to me as alien enemy. There was also the rumors floating around that we were to be driven out of the Center and thus I had no alternative ways to do excepting to go to Japan. I was separated from my wife and children about July, 1945, when I was sent to Bismarck and this made us more scared than ever of family separation.

(B) If you are in Japan, have you since you returned to Japan taken any action to resume or acquire Japanese citizenship? No  
 Answer Yes or No  
 If you have, state nature of action taken and reasons therefor.

11. (A) If you have served or are serving in the military or naval forces of the United States fill in the following:  
 I enlisted (or was drafted) on ..... in the .....; my Serial number is .....;  
 State the date State the Branch of Service  
 I still am in such service .....; I was released from active duty on ..... and received my Discharge  
 Answer Yes or No  
 on .....

(B) If at any time while in a war relocation center or since then you volunteered for military or naval service but your offer of service was rejected state the time when and the place where you volunteered.

(C) State why your offer of such service was rejected, if the reason was made known to you.

(D) If you were rejected for military or naval service by your Local Draft Board since your release from a war relocation center state the reason for the rejection if known to you.

12. If any member of your family has served or is serving in the military or naval forces of the United States state the relationship of such person to you, the name of such person, the branch of service and serial number of such person:

..... Relationship	..... Name
..... Branch of Service	..... Serial Number

*Junzo Yamashiki*  
 (Signature in full of applicant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of June, 1955

Japan  
 Prefecture of Fukuoka  
 City of Fukuoka  
 Consulate of the United States of America



*Arthur B. Corcoran*  
 ARTHUR B. CORCORAN  
 Vice Consul of the United States  
 of America

Service # 8042

## PERSONAL QUESTIONNAIRE

Please read this questionnaire carefully and then print, type or write your answers legibly to the following questions.

- a. State your full name. IWA O YAMASAKI
- b. Male? Yes Female? \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden Name? \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Birth place? Near Aromas Monterey Co. Calif. Birth date? Sept. 30 1908
- d. Present address: 1781 Hiraki NATA Wajiro-machi Kasuya-gun Fukuoka-ken

### PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS

1. Where did you live before evacuation? P.O. Box 27 Mt. Eden Alameda Co. California
2. What was your occupation before evacuation? Laborer
3. Who, if anyone, was wholly or partially dependent upon you for support at the time you were evacuated? Tsuruyo (wife) Hiroaki & Kei (sons)
4. Where did your father and mother reside at the time of evacuation? Residing in Japan Mimata Enami-mura Ukiha-gun Fukuoka-ken Japan  
Were they aliens? Yes  
What were their ages at the time of evacuation? Father 73 Mother 71  
Were your parents both evacuated also? None Was either of them in ill health while in a WRA Center? \_\_\_\_\_ Was either of them hospitalized while in a WRA Center? \_\_\_\_\_  
If so, when and in what Center? \_\_\_\_\_
- Were you or any other members of your family in ill health while in a WRA Center? Yes  
If so, state who was, and, if hospitalized, state when, for what period of time, and in what Center? I had stomach trouble so did not worked while we were in Take lake center (from sept 1943 till we left for Japan)
5. When and where were you married? JAN. 29 1933 Box 1534 Winton Rd. Hayward Calif.  
What is the name of your spouse? Tsuruyo YAMASAKI  
Is your spouse (wife or husband) a U. S. citizen, a renunciant or an alien? RENUNCIANT
6. What are the names, birthdates and birthplaces of your children?  
Hiroaki YAMASAKI 5 Dec 1934 Box 1534 Winton Rd. Hayward Calif.  
Kei YAMASAKI 23 Aug 1939 P.O. Box 27 Mt. Eden Calif.
7. What members of your family were evacuated with you? Tsuruyo (wife) Hiroaki (son) & Kei (son)
8. State what members of your family (spouse, mother, father, brothers, sisters or children), were in Japan during the war? Father, mother ~~brother~~ & 3rd sister

9. Who of them, if any, were U. S. citizens? None
10. Did any of them serve in the Japanese armed forces? None
11. State what members, if any, of your spouse's family (your father-in-law, mother-in-law, sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, or step-children) were in Japan during the war and whether they are U. S. citizens or Japanese aliens?
12. Did you suffer any property losses by reason of your evacuation? Yes Did you file a claim to recover losses you suffered by reason of your evacuation? No For what amount did you file your claim? None What amount did you receive in settlement of your claims? Did your parents suffer any property losses by reason of evacuation? If so, for what amount did they file claims? What amount did they receive in settlement of their claims?
13. State whether your husband, father or any other member of your family was interned as an alien enemy after the outbreak of war in an Alien Enemy Internment Camp, for removal to Japan, and, if so, in what camp? None
- When and where were you reunited with such member of your family?

**Re: LEAVES**

14. Did you apply for "short term", "seasonal work", "indefinite leave", "student's leave" or "relocation" while you were in a WRA Center? No
- When did you make that application?
- In what camp were you at that time?
- Were you denied leave? By whom?
- What reasons were given to you for denying your application?
15. Did you go out for seasonal work or on any leave clearance? No When and where did you go and for what period of time?
- What type of work did you do?
- Did you experience any discrimination or persecution while on leave? If so, state the experience.
- To what Center did you return?

16. State the names of any members of your family or any of your friends who went out on leave or relocation and experienced discrimination or persecution. ....

What happened to them? .....

When and where did the occurrences take place? .....

From whom or what sources did you hear or learn those things? .....

Did you know or learn of any other persons on leave having been subjected to discrimination or persecution? ..... What were their names? .....

What happened to them? .....

When and where did the occurrences take place? .....

**Re: APPLICATIONS FOR REPATRIATION**

17. To what Assembly Center were you evacuated? *Tanforan Assembly Center*

18. To what WRA Center were you next transferred? *Topaz, Utah*

19. In what Block did you live there? *Block 10 Barrack 6 Room D*  
With whom did you share quarters there? *None*

20. In what Camp were you when you applied for repatriation to Japan? *Tule Lake Camp*

21. Did you make that application *before* or *after* you answered the Army Questionnaire in February or March, 1943? *After*

When did you make that application? *About MAR 1944 + Sept 1945*

Did you personally make that application? *Yes* If not, who did? .....

Did any of the following persons also make applications for repatriation to Japan? .....

Your husband? ..... wife? *Yes* ..... father? ..... mother? ..... brothers? .....

sisters? ..... father-in-law? ..... mother-in-law? ..... brothers-in-law? ..... sisters-

in-law? ..... When and in what Center were they at the time they did this? *Tule Lake Center*

Did they then fear that the government intended to deport all aliens to Japan? *Yes* ;

that it intended to deport all Kibei to Japan? *Yes* ; that it intended to deport all Nisei to

Japan? *Yes* .....

22. Did you make more than one application for repatriation to Japan, and, if so, when and where did you do so? ~~Yes~~ Yes, About in March 1944 in Tule Lake Center and About Sept. 1945 Bismark North Dakota
23. What members of your family pressured you into applying for repatriation to Japan? None  
What did they say to you to get you to apply for repatriation?
24. Did anyone else, not a member of your family, pressure you into applying for repatriation to Japan? Yes Name the persons who did and state whether they were Issei, Kibei, or Nisei. SANAE Akashi, Tashima Sakata All are Issei  
Uzo, Kato Nakamura  
If those persons were leaders or members of any organization state the name of the organization. Hoshidan member + Akashi was leader  
What did those persons tell you to get you to apply for repatriation? (C)
25. <sup>separate sheet</sup> What did you then believe would happen to you if you did not make an application for repatriation to Japan? I believed what they told me on # 24(C) (disclosed on separate sheet) # 24(C)  
Were you fearful that if you did not apply for repatriation you would be separated from your husband? wife? Yes children? Yes mother? father? brothers? sisters? or other persons?  
Were those persons in the same Center with you at the time you applied for repatriation? Yes If any of them were not, state who was not and where they were at the time.
26. Did you believe that if you didn't apply for repatriation to Japan that sooner or later you would be forced to relocate in the U. S.? Yes; in an area hostile to Japanese? Yes; that you might be drafted into the armed forces? NO; that you would be separated from alien members of your family you believed would be deported to Japan? Yes
27. Did you make application for repatriation because you believed the Government had no use for you and intended to deport you to Japan because you were a Kibei? ~~NO~~; or that it intended to deport you to Japan because your parents were there? NO; or because your parents were aliens here and that it intended to deport them on an exchange ship to Japan simply because they were aliens?; and that they wanted you to be with them and not be separated from them?

## Re: QUESTIONS 27 AND 28

28. In what WRA Center were you at the time you answered the Army Questionnaire containing Questions Nos. 27 and 28? Topaz Utah Center

Was the Questionnaire you answered the Army Questionnaire or the WRA Application for Leave Clearance, if you remember? Army Questionnaire

29. Did you give a negative answer to Question No. 27? Yes; to Question No. 28? Yes.  
Did you refuse to answer Question No. 27? No; Question No. 28? No.

30. Did any members of your family pressure you or threaten you into giving a "No" answer to Questions Nos. 27 and 28 or into refusing to answer those questions? No. Who were the family members who did this? .....

What did they say to you to get you to answer "No" to those questions or to refuse to answer those questions? .....

Did you give a "No" answer to those questions or refuse to answer them because your father? ..... mother? ..... brothers? ..... sisters? ..... or other family members? ..... were in Japan at the time and you feared they might get in trouble with the Japanese government if you were willing to serve in the U. S. Army? ..... or were willing to swear allegiance to the U. S.? ..... Did you give "No" answers to those questions or refuse to answer them because your father? ..... mother? ..... brothers? ..... sisters? ..... or other family members? ..... were in the U. S. but you believed they were to be deported to Japan and that they would get in trouble with the Japanese Government when they arrived there if you had answered "Yes" to those questions? ..... Did you give a "No" answer to those questions because you believed that eventually you would be deported to Japan and you feared that if you gave a "Yes" answer to those questions you would get in trouble with the Japanese Government when you arrived in Japan? Yes.

31. Did any other persons pressure or threaten you into giving "No" answers to those questions or into refusing to answer those questions? Yes. What are the names of those persons and state whether they were Issei, Kibei, or Nisei and the Blocks in which they lived and the organization, if any, of which they were members? Hitsuji Araki, cannot recall the block, Sanae Akashi, Sakata, Taketa, All are Issei

What did those persons say to you to get you to give "No" answers to those questions or to refuse to answer those questions? .....

*separate sheet (B)*

32. What did you fear would happen to you if you didn't give "No" answers to those questions or you didn't refuse to answer them? .....

33. What did you fear would happen to other members of your family if you didn't give "No" answers to those questions or you did not refuse to answer them? .....

34. Did you refuse to answer those questions because you already had applied for repatriation to Japan and you understood that if you already had applied for repatriation you did not have to answer those questions? No.

35. Did you give "No" answers to those questions or refuse to answer them because you resented being evacuated, confined to a WRA Center and treated like an alien? Yes.

36. Did you give "No" answers to those questions or refuse to answer them because you already had applied for repatriation and believed that if you gave "Yes" answers your application for repatriation would be cancelled and you might be drafted into the armed

- forces? .....; or be forcibly relocated in the U. S. while the war still was going on? ..... Did you fear that if you were to be drafted you would be discriminated against and be persecuted in the armed forces? No Did you fear that if you were drafted? No or relocated? Yes you would be permanently separated from members of your family who were to be repatriated to Japan? .....; from what family members did you fear to be separated? Tsuruyo (wife) Hiroaki + Kei (sons)
37. Did anyone else, not a member of your family, pressure or threaten you into giving "No" answers to those questions? Yes What were their names and state whether they were Issei, Kibei or Nisei and the names of the organizations to which they belonged? .....  
Hitsuji Araki, Sawae Akashi, Sakata, Taketa
38. Did you fear that if you gave "Yes" answers to those questions that you would have to stay in camp and be separated from your parents or other family members who were to be deported to Japan because they were aliens or because they had asked to be sent to Japan and you did not want to be separated from them? Yes From what parent or family members did you fear separation? wife and sons
39. Did you fear that if you gave "Yes" answers to those questions you eventually would have to relocate in this country during the war and would be in danger from hostile Caucasians? Yes  
Who told you that this might happen to you? Sawae Akashi, Okayama who moved together with us from Tanforan Assembly Center
40. Did you fear that if you gave "Yes" answers to those questions that it would mean you might be drafted into military service where you would be discriminated against or be persecuted by fellow soldiers or that you might be used as cannon fodder just because you had Japanese ancestry? Yes Who told you that this might happen to you? Hitsuji Araki, Sawae Akashi, Sakata, Taketa
41. Did you fear that if you gave "Yes" answers to those questions that you might be attacked and harmed by groups of Issei, Kibei or Nisei in camp? Yes Name the group and its leaders or members from whom you feared this danger? Sakata, Tashima, Araki, Akashi
- Did you give "No" answers to those questions as a protest against the mistreatment of evacuation and confinement to a camp? Yes
42. Were you, or any member of your family, or any friend or anyone else attacked by members of the pressure groups in that Center for showing loyalty to the U. S.? Yes or opposition to the pressure groups? Yes or for giving "Yes" answers to Questions Nos. 27 and 28? ..... If so, state the names of the persons who were attacked.  
Furihara, Nakano, and Yoshida were beaten up  
When were they attacked? April 1943 By whom were they attacked? cannot recall their names but they were Kibeis + Niseis
43. Did you then believe that if you gave a "No" answer to those questions that you would be allowed to stay in the Center for the duration of the war and in this way you and your

family would be free from danger of persecution by Caucasians? Yes Who told you this? Hitsuji Araki, JANAE AKASHI, Sakata

44. Did you give "No" answers to Questions Nos. 27 and 28 or refuse to answer those questions because you had been informed by the WRA or understood that because you already had applied for repatriation to Japan that you did not have to answer those questions? ..... Who told you this? .....

45. Did you ever give a "Yes" answer to Question No. 27? NO; to Question No. 28? NO; Did you change your answer to Question No. 27 or 28 to "No" at any time? ..... Did you change your answer to Questions Nos. 27 and 28 to "No" or refuse to give "Yes" answers to those questions by July 31, 1943, because you knew that "No" answers or a refusal to answer those questions would mean that you would be sent to Tule Lake or be segregated there with alien members of your family from whom you did not want to be separated? .....

46. When and where did you first register for the draft? Oct 1940 Hayward, Calif.

What classification did you first receive? 3A Did you ever receive a 4-C (alien enemy) classification? Yes When did you receive that 4-C classification? After we were moved to Tule Lake center Cannot recall the date I received

In what Center were you when you received it? Tule Lake Center

Did you receive that 4-C classification *before* you answered the Army Questionnaire in February or March of 1943 while you were in a WRA Center or did you receive it *afterward*? Afterward

47. While you were in any WRA Center did you sign a petition addressed to the Attorney General, the President, the Army, the WRA or other governmental agency or agent stating in substance that if you were freed and returned to your home you would fight for the U. S. and give your life if necessary for this country? NO In what Center were you at the time? Did not sign a petition but we the Disci asked to the Army officer when they were at Topaz Center for Army Questionnaire but did not get the clear answer

Did you sign such a petition before you answered the Army Questionnaire in February or March, 1943 or afterward? NO Did you sign such a petition before you made a request for repatriation to Japan or afterward? NO When were your parents first placed on the free list or notified that they could be relocated? .....

Were any other members of your family placed on the WRA free list for relocation purposes and, if so, who were they and when were they placed on the free list? none

48. Would you have been willing to swear unqualified allegiance to the U. S. while you were in a WRA Center if the Government had allowed you to return to your home as a free citizen? Yes Would you have been willing to return to your home alone? Yes; without the citizen members of your family likewise being freed from detention? Yes; without the alien members of your family also being freed? ..... Would you have been willing only if the Government would assure you that you would be relocated safe from harm from

Caucasians? Yes; that the citizen members of your family would be relocated safe from harm? Yes; and that the alien members of your family would be relocated safely? Yes. Were the alien members of your family willing to return to their homes during the war if the Government would allow them? ..... Were they willing to be relocated elsewhere in the U. S.? .....

49. Did you keep in touch with your Local Draft Board while you were in a WRA Center? Yes. Did you report to your Draft Board after you were released from camp? ..... To what Draft Board? ..... What draft classification did you finally receive? ..... After your release from camp did you volunteer for service in our armed forces? ..... Were you drafted into the armed forces? ..... When .....; into what branch? .....; what period of time did you serve? .....; where did you serve? .....; what was your Serial Number? ..... Have you received an Honorable Discharge from such service? .....; what is the date of that Discharge? .....

#### Re: MEMBERSHIP IN ORGANIZATIONS

50. Were you at any time a member of the Hoshi Dan? Yes; Seinen Dan? Yes; or Joshi Dan? .....; at the Tule Lake Center? Yes. When did you become a member? Dec 1943  
How long were you a member? About year and half  
When did you stop being a member? July 1945  
In what Block did you live at the time you became a member? Block 66 Tule Lake  
What was the name of your Block Manager? NAKAMURA  
With whom did you share living quarters at the Tule Lake Center? None  
.....  
What organizations were active in that Block? Hoshi dan  
.....  
What were the names of the leaders of the organizations in your Block? Kimura, Kuratomi, Kato, Narutomi, Yokoyama
51. Was your father? ..... or mother? ..... a member of any organizations? .....  
.....  
Did they persuade you to become a member? ~~Yes~~ ..... What did they say to you to persuade you to become a member? .....  
.....  
.....  
What other members of your family were members of the Hoshi Dan? Tsuruyo (wife);  
.....;  
Joshi Dan? Tsuruyo (wife);  
.....;  
Seinen Dan? .....;  
.....  
Why did they become members? .....
52. What are the names of the persons other than members of your family who persuaded or threatened you into becoming a member and state whether such persons were Issei, Kibei or Nisei? Kato, Narutomi, Yokoyama, Akashi (Issei)

53. What did they tell you to persuade you to become a member? .....

*Separate sheet (A)*

What did they say would happen to you if you did not become a member? .....

*Separate sheet (B)*

54. What did you believe would happen to you if you did not become a member? *I believed that what they told me would happen to me if I did not become a member (stated on 2<sup>nd</sup> question of # 53)*

55. What office, if any, did you hold in the organization? *None*

What duties did you perform? *None*

How did you become an officer? .....

When did you become an officer? .....

From whom did you receive notice that you were an officer? .....

What duties did you perform as an officer? .....

As a member did you attend any morning calisthenic exercises? *Yes* Approximately how often did you join in the calisthenics? *I had stomach trouble so did not attend often*

Did you attend any of the organization's lectures? *None* Approximately how many lectures did you attend? *None* What was the nature of those lectures? *Unknown*

Did you participate in any of their marching demonstrations? *NO* If so, how many?

Did you attend any other meetings of the organization? *NO* Where and how often?

56. Did you tell anyone you wanted to drop membership? *Yes* State the names of the persons you told you wanted to drop membership. *SANAE AKASHI, UZO KATO*

Did anybody warn you that you could not withdraw from membership? *Yes* Who gave you such a warning? *SANAE AKASHI, UZO KATO*

What did they tell you would happen if you dropped your membership or tried to drop membership? .....

*Separate sheet (C)*

Had you learned that anyone who tried to drop membership had been threatened or had been beaten up for trying to drop membership? *Yes* Who, if you know, was beaten for trying to do it? *I can not recall his name but he went to hospital for treatment.*

What group did you hear was responsible for beating persons who tried to withdraw from membership? *Hoshi dan + MANZANAR gang*

57. Were you in fear that you would be attacked and beaten up by members if you tried to drop membership? *Yes* What groups did you fear might do this? *MANZANAR gang and Hoshi dan*

58. Were you told that if you tried to drop membership the organization would report this matter to the Japanese Government and that when you were deported to Japan you would get in trouble with the Japanese Government? Yes Who told you this? Yuzo Kato Narutomi and Yokoyama, Masukawa

Did you fear that if you dropped membership you would get in trouble with the Japanese Government when you were deported to Japan? Yes

59. Were you told that if you tried to drop membership the organization leaders would report this matter to the Japanese Government and that your alien parents would get in trouble with the Japanese Government when they were sent to Japan for not being able to control your actions? Yes Who told you this? Sanae Akashi, Narutomi, Kato, Hieda

Did you fear that if you dropped membership your parents who were to be sent to Japan would get in trouble there? .....

60. Did you have your hair cut short or shaved? Yes Did you wear any insignia of the organization and, if so, what insignia? None

61. If you or any member of your family was placed in the "Stockade" at Tule Lake Center state who was, for what period of time and for what reason None

62. What was the nature of your employment and where did you work while you were in Tule Lake? Was ill so did not work while I was in Tule Lake Center

What were your working hours? ..... Were you working while you were a member of any organization at Tule? ..... What were the names of some of your fellow workers?

63. Were you, or any member of your family, or any friend attacked by any members of any of the pressure groups at Tule Lake? Yes Who was? Shibata,

When? Cannot recall By whom? Manzanar gang + Hashi dan member

I became Hokoku Seinen dan member after a group of 650 members were sent to Bismark. pressure groups wanted me to be in Seinen dan. Till then I was in Hashi dan member. My period of Seinen dan was from Feb to July 1945.

**Re: REQUESTS FOR FORMS UPON WHICH  
TO RENOUNCE CITIZENSHIP**

64. When did you send a letter to the Attorney General or the Justice Department asking for forms upon which to renounce your citizenship? About 26 Dec. 1944 But did not receive form

(Note: On December 19, 1944, General Pratt removed the ban on the return of Japanese to the West Coast. On December 21, 1944, the Newell Star, the Tule Lake Center newspaper, announced that all the WRA camps would be closed in about one year. Notices of this also may have been posted in the block manager's offices, the mess halls and other places in camp.

Therefore, if you sent a letter to the Attorney General or the Justice Department before December 21, 1944, asking for forms upon which to renounce citizenship you probably were not then in fear of the camp being closed and of being forced to relocate in a hostile area without funds or a home to which you could go. If you sent such a letter between December 21, 1944 and January 29, 1945, you probably were in fear of being relocated in such circumstances. On January 29, 1945, the WRA announced that Tule Lake would be kept open and that there would not be any forced relocations. If you sent your letter after January 29, 1945, the Justice Department will be inclined to believe you were not then in actual fear of being forcibly relocated in a hostile area without funds or a home to which you could go unless you convince it that you did not believe the January 29, 1945, announcement that the Tule Lake Center would be kept open and that no one would be forced to relocate.)

65. Did you send that letter to the Attorney General or to the Justice Department *before* that December 21, 1944 announcement that all the WRA Centers will be closed within a year? No Did you send it *between* December 21, 1944 and January 29, 1945? Yes

66. Did you send it *after* the announcement of January 29, 1945, that the Tule Lake Center would be kept open? .....

If you sent in your letter to the Justice Department *after* the WRA's announcement of January 29, 1945, that the Tule Lake Center would be kept open and that there would not be any forcible relocations you probably did not send that letter requesting forms upon which to renounce your citizenship by reason of fear that the Tule Lake Center would be closed and that you and your family would be forced to relocate and therefore, you should answer the following questions:

(a) From what source did you learn about that announcement of January 29, 1945: In the Newell Star? .....; from a notice on a bulletin board? .....; from the Block Manager? .....; from what other persons? .....

(b) Did you believe the announcement? ..... If not, state why you did not believe the announcement. ....

(c) Did anyone tell you that you could not trust that announcement? ..... If so, state who told you not to rely on that announcement and what they said to you to make you disbelieve it. ....

67. If the announcement of December 21, 1944, that all Centers would be closed within a year and the announcement of January 29, 1945, that Tule Lake Center would be kept open and there would not be any forcible relocations did not have anything to do with your decision to renounce your citizenship did you send the letter to the Justice Department asking for forms upon which to renounce citizenship because of any of the following fears, namely:
- (a) fear of separation from *alien members* of your family, such as father? ..... mother? ..... father-in-law? ..... mother-in-law? ..... step-father? ..... step-mother? ..... other aliens? ..... who you believed were to be deported to Japan? .....; (b) fear of

being separated from *citizen members* of your family, such as your wife? Yes husband? ..... children? Yes who you believed would have to relocate in the U. S.? ..... or who you believed would be deported to Japan? Yes; (c) fear of being deported yourself because you had given negative answers to Questions Nos. 27 or 28 and were considered a disloyal person? Yes; (d) fear of threat or harm to yourself? Yes or your wife? Yes or husband? ..... or children? Yes or mother? ..... or father? ..... or other members? ..... of your family from gangs in the Center? Yes; (e) fear of mistreatment or physical harm from the Government or its agents? Yes.

68. Did the announcement of December 21, 1944, that all the WRA Centers would be closed within a year cause you to send that letter to the Justice Department? Yes Did you read that announcement in the Newell Star? .....; from a bulletin board? Yes; or learn about it from the Block Manager? Yes; or from other persons and, if so, name the persons: .....

69. Did you send the letter to the Justice Department asking for forms upon which to renounce your citizenship because you feared that December 21, 1944, announcement meant that you and the citizen members of your family would be forcibly relocated without money, a home or job in an area where people were hostile to Japanese while the war still was going on unless you renounced your citizenship? Yes Were you afraid of being relocated because you had heard that jobs were scarce? Yes; that employers did not wish to hire Japanese and you might not get work to support yourself and your family? Yes; that the public was hostile to Japanese and you feared mob violence? Yes. If you had been forcibly relocated what members of your family would you then have had to support? wife & Two sons

Had you heard of any relocated persons being discriminated against? Yes; refused work? Yes; being insulted? Yes; being attacked? Yes; being shot at? .....; being persecuted? .....; whose homes had been burned? ..... When and where had these incidents taken place? Do not know when & where but I have learned in the boiler rooms & in latrines.

What were the names of the persons who had been mistreated and state what it was that happened to them. Do not know the names but Kato who lived in our block was talking to everybody in boiler room

70. Did you send that letter because you believed that if you sent for the forms and renounced your citizenship that you would be interned by the Justice Department and could stay in camp until the war ended and then be safely relocated when public hostility to Japanese died down? Yes Who told you that this could be done? Tuzo Kato, Narutomi

71. Did any members of your family fear or tell you that you would be forcibly relocated and run the risk of danger from hostile Caucasians unless you sent that letter and renounced your citizenship and, if so, what members of your family told you this? .....

72. Were any members of your family in fear of what might happen to you or to them if you did not send such a letter and, if so, state of what or of whom they were in fear? .....

73. Did you fear that if you did not send the letter and request forms upon which to renounce your citizenship that you would be separated from alien members of your family? .....; and, if so, from what alien members? .....  
 .....  
 or from citizen members? Yes, and if so, from what citizen members of your family?  
wife & sons children
74. Name the members of your family who told you that you would be separated from your family if you did not send for the forms and renounce your citizenship? .....
75. Name other persons, not members of your family, who told you that you would be separated from your family if you did not send for the forms and renounce your citizenship and state whether they were Issei, Kibei or Nisei. Yuzo Kato + sanac Akashi, Narutomi, Nukai, Kikuchi. All are Issei.
76. What members of your family were in the Tule Lake Center at the time you sent that letter to the Justice Department? Just our family wife myself + two sons  
 .....  
 What members of your family pressured, threatened or persuaded you to send that letter?  
 .....  
 What did they fear or say to you to get you to send that letter? .....
77. Did your husband? ..... wife? ..... father? ..... mother? ..... brothers? ..... sisters? ..... in-laws? ..... force you to send a letter requesting forms on which to renounce your citizenship so that you wouldn't be separated from them by being forced to relocate while they remained in camp or finally were deported to Japan? If such person or persons were citizens of the U. S. state whether they already had sent for forms upon which to renounce their citizenship? None  
 What did such person or persons say to you to force you to renounce your citizenship?  
None
78. Did you send that letter requesting forms upon which to renounce citizenship because you heard that alien members of your family who had requested repatriation to Japan would have to stay in the Center until they could be exchanged or removed to Japan and that you ultimately would have to be relocated in this country and thus be separated from them unless you applied for renunciation? ..... Who told you this might happen if you didn't renounce your citizenship? .....
- What alien members of your family already had asked for repatriation to Japan at the time you sent that letter? .....

Were the alien members of your family on the WRA free list and eligible to relocate at the time you sent your letter to the Justice Department asking for forms upon which to renounce your citizenship? Yes - Kato, Murakami, Akashi

79. Did you fear that if you didn't send for the forms and didn't renounce your citizenship that you, nevertheless, would be deported to Japan along with the alien members of your family because you had asked for repatriation to Japan and that you would get in trouble with the Japanese government when you arrived there? ..... Name the persons who told you this. ....
80. Did you decide to apply for forms upon which to renounce your citizenship because you believed your life was being frittered away uselessly in camp? Yes; that you feared that you might be confined to camp until the war ended? Yes; which might take many years? Yes or that if the war did not come to an end you would be kept in camp forever? Yes or that when and if the war ended the Government might deport you to Japan? Yes and that you wanted to get away from camp life? Yes and feared that you had to go or be sent somewhere or anywhere, even to Japan, just so long as you were made a free man? Yes.
81. Did you send a letter to the Justice Department asking for the forms upon which to renounce because you were afraid that the Government had no use for you and didn't care what happened to you and that you were afraid this was true because it had deprived you of citizenship rights by evacuating you and putting you into a WRA Center behind barbed wires and then had armed troops guard you? Yes; and then didn't give you any protection in the Tule Lake Center from the threats and violence of gangs? Yes; and because the police didn't give any protection to the residents? Yes; and you were scared by the soldiers moving in and driving the residents around and searching their quarters? Yes; and no protection was given against such things as the murder of Mr. Hitomi, the knifing of Mr. Terasawa and others, and the clubbing and beatings of many persons; and that the Government didn't punish the soldier who shot Mr. Okamoto? Yes and that you thought these things clearly meant the Government had no use for you and didn't want to give you any protection and that, to avoid all this violence and trouble, you had to renounce citizenship to insure your own safety? Yes and the safety of your wife? Yes, husband? ....., father? ....., mother? ....., children? Yes, brothers? ....., sisters? ....., other members of your family? .....
82. Did you decide to send the letter asking for forms upon which to renounce your citizenship because you feared that you were going to be deported to Japan because you had given "No" answers to Questions Nos. 27 and 28 or had refused to answer those questions and were considered disloyal to the U. S. and that it was necessary for you to send that letter to the Justice Department and renounce your citizenship otherwise you would get in trouble when you arrived in Japan? Yes. What trouble did you think you would get into in Japan if you didn't renounce U. S. citizenship? .....

*Separate sheet*

State what members of your family told you this. Name

Name the Issei, Kibei and Nisei who told you this and state in what Blocks they lived at Tule Lake and the name of any organizations to which they belonged? Yuzo Kato, Narutomi Nukai, Akashi, Sakaniwa, and Kikuchi all are Issei and Block 66

83. Did you fear that if you didn't send for the forms and renounce your citizenship that you eventually might be drafted into our armed forces while you were in the Center and thus be separated from your citizen wife? NO; citizen children? NO; or other citizen members of your family? ..... who were in the Center? ..... Did you fear that if you didn't send for the forms and renounce citizenship that you eventually would be relocated and then might be drafted into our armed forces and then be separated from your wife? Yes, your children? Yes, other family members? ..... who would have relocated with you? Who told you these things might happen if you didn't renounce your citizenship? Kato, Narutomi, Nukai, Sakaniwa and Kikuchi
84. Did you fear that if you didn't send for the forms and renounce your citizenship that you eventually might be drafted into the army while you were in the Center or after you were forcibly relocated which would result in separating you from alien members of your family who were to be sent to Japan because they had asked for repatriation to Japan and wanted to go there? ..... or because they believed they would be deported to Japan after the war ended because they feared the Government intended to deport all alien Japanese to Japan? ..... Who told you this would happen? .....
85. Did your alien parents fear that if you didn't send for the forms and renounce your citizenship that you eventually might be drafted into the army and be separated from them when they were sent to Japan? ..... Did they tell you this? ..... Name other persons who told you this. ....
- Did your parents fear that if you served in the armed forces that they would get in trouble with the Japanese Government when they arrived in Japan? ..... Did they tell you this? ..... Name other persons who told you this. ....
86. Did any person or persons or group of persons tell you or spread the rumor that if you didn't send for the form and renounce your citizenship you would get into trouble with the Japanese government when you were deported to Japan? Yes. Name the persons who told you these things, the Blocks where they lived and the organizations to which they belonged. Kato, Narutomi, Nukai, Sakaniwa and Kikuchi Block 66
87. Name the other members of your family whom you believed would get in trouble there if you didn't renounce your citizenship and state whether they were in the Center with you. Wife & sons in center with myself
88. If any members of your family were in Japan at the time, did you fear that they might be punished by the Japanese government if it learned that you did not renounce your U. S. citizenship? Yes. What members of your family there did you fear might get in such trouble? Father Mother & sister

89. With what agents of Japan did you think you or your family members would get in trouble if you did not renounce your citizenship?.....

(The Japanese police? Yes; Kempeitai? Yes; Army? Yes; Neighborhood Associations? Yes; other agencies? suicide squadron.)

What did you fear would happen to you or to them? Punished by Japanese government and I could not get any place to live and no support from government

Did you believe that you or they would be put in prison? Yes; internment camp? .....; be forced to work as slave laborers? Yes; or what else did you fear would happen to you or to them? Neighborhood troubles and they would take all our clothes + everything AWAY from us and won't have no place to stay

90. If anyone else told you to send that letter, name the persons who did and state whether they were Issei, Kibei or Nisei and the Blocks in which they lived or where they worked at Tule Lake Center. Akashi, Narutomi Kato of Block 66 + 74 (Issei)  
they weren't working at all

(B) separate sheet What did they tell you would happen to you if you didn't send that letter? .....

Were those persons leaders or members of any of the organizations in Tule Lake, and, if so, state the names of the organizations. Member of the organization Hashi dan  
Leaders were Akashi, Wakayama + Tachibana Kai, Kuratomi

Who were the Issei leaders of those organizations? Akashi, Wakayama, Tachibana

The Kibei leaders? Yoshiyama, Inouye

The Nisei leaders? can not recall

91. Were any groups of leaders or members of the Seinen Dan or Hoshi Dan moved away to Santa Fe before you sent in that letter? NO. If so, what groups? .....

Were any groups of leaders or members of the Seinen Dan or Hoshi Dan removed to Santa Fe before you sent in that letter? NO. If so, what groups? .....

(Note. The first group of 70 Issei and citizens belonging to the Hokoku Seinen Dan were taken away to Santa Fe on December 27, 1944. Renunciation hearings started on January 11, 1945. The next group of 144 citizens and 27 aliens, including 50 officers of the Hokoku Seinen Dan, was taken to Santa Fe on January 26, 1945. The next group of about 650 members of the Hokoku Seinen Dan was removed to Bismarck on February 11, 1945. The next group of 125 persons was taken to Santa Fe on March 12, 1945. About June, 1945, some 400 more were removed to Santa Fe and in July, 1945, a few more were taken to Bismarck. Therefore, if you had your hearing after these groups had been removed you were not in fear of them at that time.)

92. Were you in fear that if you didn't send for the forms and renounce your citizenship that your name would be put on the organization's black-list and would be reported to the Japanese government and you would get in trouble with the Japanese government when you arrived in Japan? Yes. Who told you this would happen? Yuzo Kato, Akashi, Narutomi, Masukawa, Kikuchi

Were you in fear of the leaders of any of the organizations at Tule? Yes. Were you in fear of the members of any of the organizations? Yes. Of what organizations were you in fear? Hoshi dan Seinen dan & Manzanar gang

of what leaders were you in fear? AKashi, Tachibana ~~do not know the Manzanar leader~~ also Wakayama

of what members were you in fear? Hoshidan, Manzanar gang strong arm gang  
Hazemoto, Morimitsu

Why were you in fear? At the time there were murder, knifing, clubbing and beating were prevailing in the camp by these leader and gangs for not doing what pressure group

Were any other members of your family in fear of them or their organizations and, if so, state the names of your family members who were in fear of them? wife & children <sup>wanted</sup>

93. If you or any member of your family or any friends were attacked by any of the leaders or members of any of the pressure groups for not doing what the pressure group leaders wanted state the names of the persons who were attacked, the time and place where attacked and by whom. None

94. Were you in fear of being attacked and beaten up by them or their organizations if you did not send for the forms and renounce your citizenship? Yes. Had any of them threatened you? Yes. If so, what were their names and state what they said to you. Kato, Warutomi Sakamura, They told me that they are going to report to the Japanese government and have us put in jail after we go to Japan, also told us there are 15 days of dark nights in month.

95. Were you in fear that members of your family might be attacked and physically harmed if you did not send that letter, and, if so, state what members of your family you feared might be harmed by them. Wife & sons

96. Were you in fear that if you did not send that letter that you might be harmed by the leaders or members of any of the following organizations, namely: Hoshi Dan? Yes; Seinen Dan? Yes; Joshi Dan? .....; Manzanar gang? Yes; the Poston gang? Yes; Jerome gang? Yes; San Pedro gang? Yes; the Tiger gang? .....; the Black Dragon Society gang? .....; or other gangs? .....; or strong arm groups? Yes. Name the leaders, members, groups or gangs of which you were in fear. Can not recall the names of every leaders but was fear in above mentioned gangs Akashi, Tachibana Wakayama Ide, Yoshiyama, Tsuda

97. While you were in Tule were you ever called an inu? Yes; a spy? .....; a stooge? .....; an informer? Yes; a White Jap? .....; a traitor? Yes; kokuzoku? Yes; or other names? Yes, for not doing what the organizations wanted you to do? Yes. What names were you called? Inu, Kokuzoku, Coward

Were you in fear of being called such names? Yes. What were the names of the persons who called you such names? Kato, Warutomi, Nukai, Kitachi, Masakawa, Kawano, Hajemoto, Hagio

98. How many persons called on you or spoke to you and asked you if you had sent for the forms upon which to renounce your citizenship? 11. What were their names? Kato, Narutomi, Akashi, Bingo, Nakai, Hajemoto, MASUKAWA, WAKI, Shimotani, Okada, Hagio, there are more but can not recall their names.

Did anyone check up on your mail in the block manager's office to see whether or not you had sent such a letter or had received an answering letter from the Justice Department? Yes

State the names of the persons who checked up on you in this manner. Mrs. Sugita was the assistant block manager, Narutomi, Kato, Kai, MASUKAWA was checking from her

Did anyone take down your name as being a person who did not send such a form or was late in sending for such a form? Yes. State the names of the persons who did this and whether they were Issei, Kibei or Nisei: Kato, Narutomi, they are Issei's

99. Were any members of your family or friends attacked, beaten or threatened for not sending for the forms? No. Name the persons who were attacked or beaten. None

Were you ostracized for not sending in such a letter promptly? Yes. Did friends shun or avoid you or refuse to talk to you because you had not sent for the forms? Yes. Was your spouse? Yes; your children? Yes; or other members of your family? ..... mistreated for your delay in sending such a letter? Yes. What mistreatment did they suffer and from whom? All the members of organization refuse to talk to us, they even served us little meals in the mess hall and they called us ~~sp. Tokuzaky~~ coward and everything else.

100. While you were in a WRA Center did the U. S. Immigration Service commence any deportation proceeding against your husband? .....; wife? None; father? .....; mother? ....., for a violation of any immigration law? Did you fear that the member of your family against whom deportation proceedings had been started would be deported from the U. S. to Japan because such person was illegally in the U. S.? ..... Did you fear separation from such person and did the fear that such person would be deported cause you to apply for the forms upon which to renounce citizenship so that you would not be separated from such person?

#### Re: RENUNCIATION HEARING

101. Name the members of your family besides you who had a hearing on an application for renunciation of citizenship. Husband? .....; wife? Yes; brothers? .....; sisters? .....; other family members? .....

Did you have your hearing *before* the renunciation of your wife? .....; husband? .....; brothers? .....; or sisters? ..... Did you have it on the same day as your wife? Yes;

husband? ..... On what date did you have your renunciation hearing? About early Feb. 1945-

Was your hearing officer a man? .....; a woman? Yes. Did you have an interpreter at your hearing? No. Did you need one? Asked for interpreter but did not have one

102. At your renunciation hearing did you tell the hearing officer that you wanted to renounce because you were loyal to Japan, or that you wanted Japan to win the war, or that you were against the U. S. or make other statements indicating loyalty to Japan or disloyalty to the

U. S.? NO... What, in substance, did you tell the hearing officer as reasons why you wanted to renounce your citizenship? Government deprived me of my US citizenship and forced to the camp surrounded by barbed wire fence and made me believe that we would be deport to Japan without our consent because of my Japanese ancestry

Name the persons who coached you and told you what you were to say at your hearing to make certain your renunciation would be approved and state whether they were Issei, Kibei or Nisei. Yuzo Kato, Narutomi, Nukai, Kikuchi, Sakanawa  
All are Issei

103. Did the hearing officer tell you that you did not have to renounce your citizenship in order to go to Japan? Yes Did you believe this? NO Were you in fear of the hearing officer? Yes Why? I was in fear of hearing officer because I didn't think she was saying the truth  
Did you fear to tell the hearing officer the real reasons why you were renouncing your citizenship? Yes What did you think would happen if you had told him the real reasons?

Separate sheet

104. Did you fear that if you did and your renunciation was not accepted that you would get in trouble with your parents? .....; other family members? .....; who were in Tule Lake? .....; or in some other internment camp? ..... Were you then in fear of being forcibly relocated in a dangerous area? Yes (If your hearing took place after the January 29, 1945, announcement were you still in fear of eventual relocation in a hostile area? .....) Were you then in fear of being drafted? NO Were you then in fear of separation from members of your family? Yes From what members?  
wife & sons

Were they in Tule Lake? Yes; or in what other Center? .....  
Were they on the WRA "free list" and eligible for relocation at the time? NO Had they applied for relocation before the day you had your renunciation hearing? NO Were they still expecting to be sent to Japan? NO Did they still want to go to Japan? Yes Had they cancelled their applications to go to Japan? NO

105. Were you in fear that if your renunciation was not accepted you would be in danger of harm from any of the leaders or members of any of the pressure groups at the time you had your renunciation hearing? Yes Had the leaders or members been removed to other camps at the time you had your hearing? NO Were some leaders and members still in camp at the time you had your hearing? Yes What were the names of those who were still in camp? Bingo, Kobayashi, Waki, Narutomi, Kato, Kawahata

.....; in your Block? Yuzo Kato, Narutomi, Masukawa Sakanawa  
Were you in fear of them? Yes

106. Were you removed from Tule Lake Center to Bismarck? Yes; Santa Fe? .....; When? July 1945; with what groups: the 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th groups? 6th group  
What members of your family remained at Tule Lake? Tsuruya (wife), Hiroaki & Kei (son)

What other members of your family were removed from Tule Lake Center to Bismarck?  
None  
to Santa Fe? ..... When? .....

Were they removed from Tule Lake before you had your renunciation hearing? None or after you had your hearing at Tule Lake? None

State when and where you were re-united with them? About Dec 29 1945 on U.S.S. Gordon

Name the other members of your family who renounced citizenship. (Wife) Tsunayo

107. Did you give such answers because other members of your family had been removed from Tule Lake and you thought that by so doing you would be re-united with them? ..... Did you fear that those family members would be deported to Japan and that if you gave such answers you would be re-united with them and be deported along with them? .....

108. If you applied for relocation in the U. S. after your renunciation state when you did so. ....

**Re: MITIGATION HEARING**

109. Did you have a "mitigation hearing" between December, 1945, and April, 1946? ..... In what Center did you have this hearing? ..... Was your hearing officer a man? ..... ; a woman? ..... At this hearing did you tell the hearing officer that you were loyal to Japan or disloyal to the U. S. or words to such an effect? ..... If you did, state why you did this. ....

Were the members of your family with you in the same Center at the time of this hearing? ..... From what members of your family were you then separated? .....

Where were those members of your family at the time of your mitigation hearing? .....

Were they then on the WRA or Justice Department free list and eligible for relocation? ..... Had they relocated? ..... If they had, state when. ....

Did you then fear that members of your family in other camps were to be deported to Japan? ..... Was it because of your fear that those members were to be deported to Japan that you gave such answers to the mitigation hearing officer so that you would be allowed to rejoin those members and not be separated any longer from them? .....

What members of your family, if any, were removed to other internment camps after you had your renunciation hearing? .....

When and where were you re-united with them? .....

When were you released from detention? ..... In what camp were you when you were released from detention? ..... If any of your family members were sent to Japan, state when they sailed for Japan? ..... From what port did they sail? ..... What other members of the family accompanied them to Japan? .....

When were you placed on the "free list"? ..... If your parents, spouse or other family members were placed on the free list, state when they were placed on that list and the camp from which they relocated. ....

Date: May 7 1955, .....

Jinzo Yamasaki  
Signature

1781 Hiraki Wata Wajiro-mura  
Kasuya-gun Fukuoka-ken Japan  
Address

.....  
Telephone Number

#  
24-C

What I was told was this: One of them was that centers would be closed in a near future and if you did not apply for repatriation to Japan you might be forced to relocate in a area hostile to Japanese with out money and ability to support your family. Another was that the U.S. government intended to deport you to Japan. If you, therefore, did not do so, you might be treated as informer or traitor by the Japanese government causing you and your family to lose any place to go to live in Japan. In the meantime, it was the circumstance in the center that beating and assaults and murder were prevailing and these accident forced me to do apply repatriation to Japan.

# 31-B

They told me like this, At the time there was a rumour in the center that all centers would be closed with in a year. And government had treated us as an alien, depriving us of our citizenship. That was why we were all brought together here in the center surrounded by the barbed wire, If you did not give "No" answers you would be forced to relocate in communities hostile to Japanese ancestors and that might expose yourself and your family to dangers. Another saying was that the government intended to deport you to Japan whether you wanted or not, therefore if you gave a "Yes" answer to the question you would get in trouble with the Japanese government when you arrived in Japan. Therefore I was forced to give "No" answers for that questions.

# 53-A

They urged me to become a member telling me that the organization in the camp was a lawful and it was neither organized for nor engaged in any insproper or illegal activities and that the government allowed and wanted all of us in the camp to become it's members.

Persuading or partly threatening me to become members, they told me that the best way for us to do now is to join the organization by doing so. we could be able to avoid hatred and insuld arising among ourselves in the centers.

# 53-~~A~~B

What I was told from them was this: If you did not want to become the member of a lawful organization, it would oust you and your family from the organization by unfair means, and then you had to live in among their hatred and insult to you. In case of being relocated in the area hostile to Japanese ancestors, you could not get any support of the other Japanese member as well as the U.S. government. The result was that your life would be exposed to danger and could not find any place to go to live.

In another case, if the government deport us all Japanese ancestor to Japan you would get in trouble with the Japanese government and would be called informer or traitor by the neighbours, and then could not find any place to go to live.

# 56-C

If you did so you might be ousted from the group of the organization and all other members would regard and treat you as informer or traitor by unfair means causing you and your family to bring a lot of troubles, beating and assault and murder prevailing in the center at that time. you should realize another trouble which might happened when you deported to Japan or when you relocated in the area hostile to Japanese ancestor.

When we considered all thing about you, our judgement told us you not to drop membership so that you might keep your life in safe.

and it is the best way for you and your family not to do so in this situations.

# 82

Somebody brought the forms which was made copied with a memiograph and I was obliged to fill the forms upon which to renounce my citizenship.

At that time they told me that you were considered disloyal to the U.S. government are going to deport you to Japan because you had given "No" answers to questions No. 27 and 28. That is the reason why it was necessary for you to send that letter. Considering on the above mentioned information, I was urged to come to such conclusion to do so.

Another fear was that I would be punished by the Japanese government if it learned that I did not renounce my citizenship and that I could not find any place to live in and can not get any support from the Japanese government as well as the neighbours.

90-B

What I was told was this: That the U.S. government intended to deport you to Japan. If you, therefore, did not do so, you might be treated as informer or traitor by the Japanese government causing you and your family to lose any place to go to live in Japan. In the meantime, it was the circumstance in the center that beating and assaults and murder were prevailing and those accidents forced me to do apply for repatriation to Japan.

# 103

If I told the hearing Officer that my application for renouncing citizenship was submitted against my will under duress of the pressure groups in the center. That groups might treat me and my family as traitor or disloyal for the Japanese ancestor in the center as well as for the Japanese government. When I was forced to go either to Japan or to the State, I would be isolated from the any group concerned, I feared.

Iwao Yamasaki

9/30/00

extra copy Type small piece

UNRECORDED BY THE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

I took the regular primary school subjects. My parents sent me to the primary school hoping to get me prepared for future opportunities and thought some knowledge of Japanese language might help me in business world.

6. Yes About June 1944 in Tule Lake Center and we had to sign something about Nov. 1945.

We were living in Mt. Eden, California. As we had to leave home and go to Tanforan and then Topaz and Tule Lake we lost just about everything. I was forced into the camp surrounded by barb wire fence together with my husband, ~~Iwao Yamasaki~~ who had stomach trouble and our children, Hiroaki who was over 7 years old and Kei, who was over 2 years old. We believed that we were all deprived of our U.S. citizenship. We heard the Government consider all person who answer "No" to questions No. 27 and 28 are disloyals and we have to make decision of signing for repatriation or else we will be sent to outside and rumors were flying around we will be sent to Japan if we like it or not. So we did it so we be sure family stay together in camp where we feel safer than to be outside.

wife Tsuyama and

7. (A) Yes. *At Topaz.*

Because I had been treated differently by the Government from other citizens. Because of my Japanese ancestry I was deprived of my citizenship rights but person of German and Italian ancestors had their citizenship rights. Because of the evacuation trouble was stirred up against Japanese and nobody wanted to let us live anywhere and we heard of many Japanese being physically harmed. And the rumor was if you didn't give a "No" answer you would be made to go outside where communities were hostile to person of Japanese ancestry and our family would be exposed to dangers. Another saying of the people was you were going to be deported to Japan whether you like it or not so if you give a "Yes" answer you will get in trouble with the Japanese government when you land in Japan. Everybody seemed so afraid of these things I got frightened worrying about what may happen to me, my ~~husband~~ and two young children and gave answer "No" to that question. *And we the Wasei, asked to the*

*Army office about the effect of the questionnaire at Topaz but he could not give clear answer. Hironji Akaki, Iwao Akaki and Sakata said if we give yes answer we could stay in Center and not have to go out where it is not safe for Japanese.*

than, to be, outside, x, x, x,

7.(B) Yes

I would have been willing to take such an oath to swear unqualified allegiance to the U.S. if the Government had not discriminated against me and if I had believed that both I and my family could have been relocated in the U.S. without danger to me and my family or that I could have been free from the fears that arose from the camp conditions.

*I would have done it in Hayward in Oct. 1940 when I registered for army but the draft board made me 3A and wouldn't take me. Finally it sent me a 4C which I received at Tule Lake.*

7.(C) Yes

Because I had no place to go to settle since the U.S. Government had repudiated me of my U.S. citizenship and the appropriate legal protection could not be sought and the strong hostile feeling against us were prevailing everywhere outside the segregation center. Therefore, I thought it is the best way to go Tule Lake where I could be kept united with my ~~husband~~ *wife* and my children.

S(A) Guy Affidavit

8.(B)

Many persons persuaded and partly threatened us to become members. We lived in Block 66. The leaders in the Block were Kimura, Kuratomi, Kato and Narutomi. They and the members Akashi and Yokoyama said the government officers allowed them and wanted all of us in the camp to become members. They said the best way for us to do is join

and by doing so we would get prepared for our lives in Japan when the government send us there. And they said that by being members we would avoid hatred and insult from members in the Center. What I was told from them was if the government decide to make us relocate the government would not protect us against people that was hostile to us and we could not get any support from other Japanese and that if we joined the organization would try to keep us all from having to relocate during the war. They said the result will be that your life will be exposed to danger and you could not find any place to go to live. They said if the Government deport us all Japanese to Japan you will get in trouble with the Japanese government and will be called informer or traitor to the neighbours and then could not find any place to live.

I was a member of Hoshi Dan but some member of the Hoshi Dan told me my name was transfer to ~~Seinen~~ Seinen Dan ~~member~~ but I didn't say anything about this because I didn't want to get in no trouble.

8.(C)

I did not perform any duties or work for organization. I did not go to <sup>their</sup> meetings or exercise or march around the Center. My work was dishwasher in Block 66 Mess Hall 8 hours a day. When I get away from work I took care of my children.

8.(D)

After I was made member organizations turned out different from what I believed. People like from Manganar group talk big and threaten. I hear all sorts of story and do not know what I must believe. I talk it over with workers in Mess Hall 66 and they say maybe it is not safe to say anything. <sup>So I tell my wife we just must have</sup> nothing to do with organization but don't say nothing about it.

8.(E)

When they made us a member I believed it was like they said the government wanted all us in camp to become members. I thought being members we would not have to leave camp during war and experience hardship and be exposed to dangers and won't get insulted and and if we are sent to Japan we will not get in trouble. They talked that members would learn about Japan how to live there. Afterward it didn't look like they was so interested in such things but more like the leaders want to as they please and treat us like subjects. But things got to be so bad that we were scared to say anything about not wanting to be member as we didn't want to get in no trouble or have our children hurt.

8.(F)

I told Uzo Kato and Sanae Akashi I didn't like what was being done and don't want anything to do with the organization. The word got around I was not cooperating and wanted to withdraw. Uzo Kato, Narutomi, Yokoyama and Masukawa visit me and say if I do all members of the organization will regard and treat me and my family as informer or traitor by unfair means causing me and my family a lot of trouble. They told about some persons being beat up for trying to withdraw membership. They say with all the assault and beating prevailing in the center you should realize what can happen to you and your family. They say when we consider all thing about you, our judgment told us you better not to drop membership so that you might keep yourselves safe and it is best way for you and your family not to do so in this situation. They say also that you should realize another trouble which might happen if you are deported to Japan or if you must relocate among people hostile to Japanese. So I think I better not do anything more if I want to be safe with my family. So I got a fear that both I and my family would be harmed by the groups if I tried anything more to resign and I was afraid of the accusations of the group. Then I got the thought that we will be deported to Japan without our consent as an enemy alien so I remained as a membership against my mind.

~~Then nobody will talk  
in play with our  
children.~~

And everything else

me and wouldn't give

9.(A) I think it was after Christmas.

I don't remember who gave me the form but somebody brought it.

~~I cannot remember who it was but somebody brought the form which was made copies with a photograph.~~ I didn't want to sign away my citizenship. So I didn't do nothing. <sup>at first</sup> Because we don't want to do it all the members of the Hoshi Dan refuse to talk to us and even the children they did not played together. At the mess hall the members

call us Kokuzoku, Inu and Coward and wouldn't serve enough meal to the children. They won't talk to us except to call names. ~~Mr.~~ Kato, ~~Mr.~~ Hieda, ~~Mr.~~ Narutomi, ~~Mrs.~~ Kurano, ~~Mrs.~~ Nakai and ~~Mrs.~~ Kikuchi keep calling me such names for not wanting to sign away citizenship. Then members came and scare us with their talk. Yozo Kato, Sanae Akashi and Narutomi in Block 66 were not working. They come to us and say the government treat you like enemy alien, make you leave home and lose everything and stick you in camp like enemy alien. It take away your citizenship. Then it consider you disloyal for answer "No" to questions No. 27 and 28 so it either make you relocate from Center with nothing and nowhere to go and communities are hostile to Japanese and you get exposed to dangers. If you give up citizenship it can't make you go out of Center but keep you till war end because it can't make aliens go outside. They say these are reason why it is necessary for you to decide to renounce citizenship. I and my ~~wife~~ <sup>children</sup> are greatly worried for us and our children. Yuzo Kato, Sanae Akashi, Narutomi, Sakaniwa and Kikuchi who are Issei in our Block 66 say if ~~my husband do not~~ <sup>do not</sup> renounce maybe ~~he will have to go in army and leave Center and I will be left behind in Center with no one to look out for me and children and then I may be sent out with children to some strange place with nothing and where peoples are hostile to people like us of Japanese ancestor so I get a great fear of separation from my family.~~ <sup>they tell us</sup> And ~~Mrs. Nakai and Mrs. Hieda tell me~~ there is big danger of separation if I don't renounce so I get more worried what will happen to us, ~~me and the children if I was taken away from us.~~ And then Mr. Kato, Narutomi, Nakai, Sakaniwa and Kikuchi in our Block 66 say it is not wise to go against the Dan's orders, that everybody must renounce as persons who do this will get hurt. And ~~we~~ think about Mr. Shibata who did not do as he was told and got beat and put in hospital. And Mr. Hitomi who was murdered. And some people got beat with clubs and struck with knife for not doing what Dan leader like Akashi, Tachibana and Wakayama want. So we think about this and we are afraid what is going to happen to us and children when such things is done. And when Mr. Kato, Mr. Narutomi, Mr. Masukawa and Mr. Sakaniwa told us to watch ourselves at dark at night. ~~and say we get deported anyway.~~ They talk and say if we don't renounce citizenship the Hoshi Dan will let Japanese government know about it and have us put in jail after we get send to Japan and all our clothes will be taken away from us and we will be made to work as slave laborer. And it was rumored in the camp that foreigners were either treated bad or killed in Japan. As so many person like ~~Mr.~~ Kato, ~~Mr.~~ Narutomi, ~~Mrs.~~ Akashi, ~~Mrs.~~ Nakai, ~~Mrs.~~ Masukawa and ~~Mrs.~~ Shimotani and ~~Mrs.~~ Okada question us about have I applied for renunciation and check at block manger's office ~~I was and I~~ get great fear and do it, as we thought it was the only thing to do for family safety.

Hagio,  
Hagiwara

do not

they tell us

Bingo, Waki

Hagio

Mr. Akashi,  
and Mr.  
Hieda  
emphasize  
this result

They say there are 15 day of dark night in month and we better watch out at dark night. And they say we get deported anyway.

9.(B)

I told the lady who was hearing officer something like the Government deprived me of my U.S. citizenship and forced us to camp surrounded by barb wire fence and we lose everything and it made me believe we would be deported to Japan without our consent because of my Japanese ancestor. Yuzo Kato, Mr. Narutomi, Mr. Nukai, and Mr. Kikuchi coach me to give such answer. The lady who was hearing officer said something like I do not have to renounce my citizenship if I am going to Japan. I couldn't believe that is true after what I heard in camp and I was so worried if it is not accept what will happen to us. If I told that I did it under fear of pressure groups in the center that groups might treat us as traitor or disloyal by ~~for~~ the Japanese ancestor people in center as well as by Japanese government I worried hearing officer will not accept. I was feared to go either to Japan or into the outside world in the State ~~as we would be separated from any group concerned.~~

*if the group heard I told about them.*

9. (C)

I think the hearing was about in February 1945. I believed it was necessary to go to hearing when I was called because the conditions was pretty much the same. I hear much talk about whether our camp is going to be closed up. We didn't dare take no chances of being made to go out of camp in our condition with two children and no money and we didn't want to be separated as ~~we~~ ~~and~~ I feared it would mean starvation to death and ~~our~~ children safety would be in danger. Living so long among members of the pressure groups I had been always stirred up my mind into the desperation, thereby I was caused to do it. We did not get any good information about outside the camp so I thought it is only safe way to do to keep together with my ~~wife~~ and children. Some member were taken to other camp for making most trouble. When we have hearing Kobayashi, Waki, Narutomi, Kato and Kawahata were around and in our block there was Yuzo Kato, Narutomi, Masukawa and Sakaniwa and we were afraid of them.

*People talk in the boiler room and latrine about awful things what happened to Japanese who went outside camps how they got beat, starved and houses burnt up.*

1. (E) (F)

We didn't know this could be done for sure. We heard rumors that the Attorney General might not approve some, cancel some and that there was no chance to cancel. We didn't really know what we could do. But we didn't want to leave the center and go outside as the public was against us and we had nothing. ~~But I was~~ sent away to Bismarck up in No. Dakota around July 1945 and I was scared ~~he~~ would be sent off to Japan and the children ~~and I~~ would be sent out of Tule Lake Center with no place to go and we would starve ~~if we were separated from Ima.~~

~~on get hurt.~~ After I was ~~sent~~ <sup>me</sup> after I was sent to Japan I heard about the mass law case when a friend in the United States sent a letter and let ~~us~~ <sup>me</sup> know about it.

~~Steve the Pilot~~

*When I saw  
sent to the Center I  
was faithful to the board  
where I am.*

9(F) I believed the U.S. Government deprived me of my U.S. citizenship when I ~~was~~<sup>was</sup> forced into the camp ~~as~~<sup>and</sup> made an alien enemy because of my Japanese ancestors. I was doing my duties while I ~~was~~<sup>was</sup> living as ~~an~~ good citizen always abiding by the U.S. laws faithfully. I was willing to go into army and act as good soldier in 1940 when I register at ~~my~~<sup>my</sup> local draft board. ~~My~~<sup>My</sup> efforts to become good citizen are not regarded since the govern ent forced me into camp like alien enemy. Considering the circ~~u~~mstances of inside and outside the camps Topaz and Tule Lake I was compelled to ~~do~~ do as they forced ~~me~~ to do. Because of ~~the~~<sup>fear</sup> the camp would be closed and I would be forced to locate in the U.S. in place where communities is hostile to me and my family where we would not be safe I had to do it. Being extremely poor we ~~we~~ didn't have no money and no place to go to settle and I thought I have been deprived of my U.S. citizenship because Japanese are considered as an alien enemy by the U.S. governm~~e~~nt.

*Tule Lake Center*

10.(A) My U.S. citizenship had already been deprived of ~~and was~~<sup>when I was</sup> ~~deprived~~ in the camp, which I feared would be soon closed up. Being extremeley poor, I had no place to go to settle in the U. S. communities hostile to me as an alien enemy. There was also the prevalant rumor that we were to be driven out of the Center and thus I had no alternative way to do excepting to go to Japan. *I was separated from my wife and children about July 1945 when I was sent up to Bessant and this*

*made me more scared than  
ever of family separation.*

10.(B) — No.

~~Keep to sample~~

SUPPLEMENTAL AFFIDAVIT TO BE SUBMITTED WITH  
PASSPORT APPLICATIONS OF JAPANESE "RENUNCIANTS".

Instructions for the Preparation of Affidavit.

Submit affidavit in DUPLICATE. The affidavit should be specifically addressed to the circumstances of your particular case and should not consist of generalities. Although you should so state when you are uncertain as to matters related in your affidavit, normal inaccuracies of memory will not necessarily cause it to be disregarded. Where you claim that any action was taken by you as the result of fear, you should state in each instance, with the greatest possible particularity, what was feared and why. If it is claimed that the fears were caused by threats from individuals or groups of individuals, the nature of the threats, the names of the individuals making them, if known, and the time, place, and occasion for the making of the threats should be given.

If more space is needed for answers to particular questions, separate sheets of plain white paper should be used. Each separate sheet so used should be plainly marked with the number of the question being answered and your name.

1. Name IWAO YAMASAKI Date of Birth Sept. 30 1908

2. If born prior to December 1, 1924.

(a) Have you ever renounced Japanese nationality? Yes

When 1924 Where Lost Japanese nationality by naturalization  
To U.S.A.

3. If born after December 1, 1924.

(a) Did your parents cause your name to be registered with a Japanese Consulate for the purpose of reserving your Japanese nationality? \_\_\_\_\_ If so did you thereafter renounce your Japanese nationality? \_\_\_\_\_ When \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_

4. State periods of visits to Japan and purpose of each visit:

Date		Purpose
From <u>1917</u>	To <u>1924</u>	<u>Accompanied parent and stayed with relative</u>
<u>Sept. 1935</u>	<u>Dec. 1935</u>	<u>Visit parents</u>
<u>JAN. 1946</u>	<u>to present</u>	

5. Give details concerning any formal education in Japan:

School	Period of Attendance
<u>Grammar school</u>	<u>1917 to 1924</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____

Subjects Studied \_\_\_\_\_

6. Have you ever made application for repatriation to Japan? Yes

If so give your reasons for so applying: Expecting that I will be deported involuntarily as I answered NO to 27 and 28 in DSS form 304A  
And if deported I have no chance of returning to the U.S.A. according to rumors. To see how parents are getting along in Japan.

And there was very little opportunity of staying in U.S. due to financial difficulties  
no where to settle, no assistance, fear of discrimination and fear of violence if we did rebeate

And expecting that I will

7. (a) Have you ever expressly indicated that you would not swear unqualified allegiance to the United States? Yes  
Have you ever declined to answer when asked whether you would swear unqualified allegiance? Yes Or have you ever given a qualified answer to such question asked at War Relocation Centers? Yes If so, give your reasons: Answered No but it did not mean that I

Have registered to selective service Am against U.S.A. And if I wasn't treated as I was alien enemy I will be glad to swear unqualified allegiance before the warbreakout I have voted for presidential election and did donations like other citizens

(b) If your answer to any of the questions in (a) is affirmative, then did you ever subsequently change your mind and express your willingness to swear an unqualified allegiance or would you have been willing to do so if an opportunity had been afforded you? Yes If so, state when you changed your mind and your reasons therefor:

I was willing to change my mind and express willingness to swear an unqualified allegiance to the U.S.A. if opportunity had been afforded me then I answered No

(c) Did you ever indicate that you would not swear unqualified allegiance to the United States either expressly or by refusal to answer, or a qualified answer, knowing that by so doing you would be sent to the WRA Segregation Center at Tule Lake? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, give reasons: \_\_\_\_\_

8. (a) Were you ever at any time a member of any of the following organizations:

Answer Yes or No.		Period of Membership
<u>No</u>	Black Dragon Society (Kokuryu Kai)	_____
<u>No</u>	Central Japanese Association (Beikoku Nipponjin Kai)	_____
<u>No</u>	Central Japanese Association of Southern California	_____
<u>No</u>	Dai Nippon Butoku Kai (Military Virtue Society of Japan or Military Art Society of Japan) (Hokubei Kai)	_____
<u>No</u>	Heimusha Kai, also known as Hokubei Heieki Gimusha Kai Zaibei Nihonjin, Heiyaku Gimusha Kai, and Zaibei Heimusha Kai (Japanese residing in America Military Conscripts Association) Heimusha Kai	_____

Answer  
Yes or No

Period of  
Membership

<u>No</u>	Hinode Kai (Imperial Japanese Reservists)	
<u>No</u>	Hinomaru Kai (Rising Sun Flag Society - a group of Japanese War Veterans)	
<u>No</u>	Hokubei Zaigo Shoke Dan (North American Reserve Officers Association)	
<u>No</u>	Japanese Association of America (Zaibei Nihonjin Kai)	
<u>No</u>	Japanese Overseas Central Society (Kaigai Dobo Chuo Kai)	
<u>No</u>	Japanese Overseas Convention, Tokyo, Japan, 1940	
<u>No</u>	Japanese Protective Association (Recruiting Organization)	
<u>No</u>	Jikyoku Iin Kai (Current Affairs Association)	
<u>No</u>	Kibei Seinen Kai (Association of U.S. Citizens of Japanese Ancestry who have returned to America after studying in Japan)	
<u>No</u>	Nanka Teikoku Gunyudan (Imperial Military Friends Group or Southern California War Veterans)	
<u>No</u>	Nichibei Kogyo Kaisha (The Great Fujii Theatre)	
<u>No</u>	Northwest Japanese Association	
<u>No</u>	Sakura Kai (Patriotic Society or Cherry Association - composed of veterans of Russo-Japanese War) (Cherry Blossom Society)	
<u>No</u>	Shinto Temples	
<u>No</u>	Sokoku Kai (Fatherland Society)	
<u>No</u>	Suiko Sha (Reserve Officers Association Los Angeles)	
<u>Yes</u>	Hokoku Seinen-dan	Feb 1945 - Dec 1945
<u>None</u>	Hokoku Joshi Seinen-dan	
<u>No</u>	Sokoku Kenkyu Seinen-dan	
<u>Yes</u>	Sokuji Kikoku Hoshi-dan	MAN 1944 Feb 1945

6M

11

(b) Give reasons for becoming a member:

*I became a member because I feared I would be deported to Japan and that I believed the authorities in charge wished me to become a member of that organization so that I would learn the Japanese language, culture and customs and so be prepared for life in Japan when I would be deported and that I did not know the organization had any other purposes.*

(c) State nature of activity and offices held: None

*I became a member of seinen-dan when regular members had interned to other camp*

(d) If you voluntarily discontinued membership in any of the above-mentioned organizations, give approximate date and reasons for so doing:

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(e) If you claim that your membership in any of the above-mentioned organizations, your activities therein, or acceptance of an office was due to misunderstanding of the purpose or nature of the organization, or if you at any time wished to discontinue membership, activity, or office and were prevented from so doing, explain fully:

*I became member of the Hokoku Seinen Dan due to Misunderstanding of purpose of the same*

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9. (a) When did you decide to apply for forms upon which to renounce your United States citizenship? 1944

Give reasons for so doing:

*Expecting to be removed to Japan involuntarily I feared that the Japanese in Japan would take reprisal against me if I had not renounced U.S. nationality before arrival there. I had been discriminated against put into a camp with out reasonable opportunity and treated as a alien solely because of my Japanese ancestry. I felt that if I did not renounce my U.S citizenship before going to Japan the Japanese government and people would take reprisal against me. It was also said that if we did not renounce our U.S citizenship we would be unable to repatriate and would then be forced out of camp without aid, money or place to live*

(b) If reasons given in answer to preceding question differ from reasons given to officer who held renunciation hearing, give your explanation for difference:

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- (c) If you claim that your renunciation was caused by fear, you should explain fully why such fear extended from the time of the application for renunciation papers until the date of actual renunciation:

*It was rumored in the camp that the foreigners were either killed or treated badly in Japan*

- (d) If the fear did not extend from the date of application to the date of approval, you should state whether you made any effort to withdraw your application, and if not explain fully:

- (e) If, after approval, you requested the Attorney General to withdraw his approval or cancel the renunciation, give the reasons for the delay in making such request:

FOREIGN APPLICATIONS

10. Give your reasons for returning to Japan:

6-9  
*Expecting that I will be deported involuntarily as I answered NO to 27 and 28 in DSS form 304A and if deported I have no chance of returning to U.S. According to rumor: And there was very little opportunity, wanted to know how parents were in Japan staying in U.S. due to financial difficulties no where to settle no assistance fear of discrimination and fear of violence if we did relocate*

11. Have you since your return to Japan taken any action to resume or acquire Japanese citizenship? NO  
If so, state nature of action taken and reasons therefor:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Iwao Yamasaki  
(Signature in full of applicant)

Aug 6 1945

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_