

8:8 FUKUHARA, KATSUYE

1945

\* JUDGEMENT LIST

78/177

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3314-C

Newell, California

September 17, 1945

Department of Justice  
Alien Enemy Control Unit  
Washington 25, D.C.

Attention: Mr. Tom C. Clark, Attorney General

Dear Sir:

I am writing to you in regards to my renunciation. If at all possible, I would like to have it concealed or would like to be paroled so that I may leave this center to join my fiance who is now on furlough but is expected to be transferred to Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

My loyalties have always been and will always be with the United States. How can one be loyal to a country where one has never lived and know very little about? When I renounced, I would not have been in my right mind. Since I was only 20 at the time I took such a step, and I wasn't of legal age, I thought it best to do what my parents thought best. The main reason I did so was to keep peace in the home, but now I realize that this is no time to think of the family only.

As far as I know, I have never had dual citizenship nor have I ever registered with the Japanese Government. I have never signed expatriation papers. I know my name had been turned into the Spanish Consul as requesting for repatriation with the rest of the family, but I have never signed papers myself. Since my name was sent in with the rest of the family's, I wrote asking them to cancel it for me. Further more, I would never have gone to my hearing for renunciation had it not been for the Internal Security men who came to pick us up. If I had waited until July for my hearings, my papers would never have been signed, for by that time pressure from the family and the residents of our block had subsided considerably. I cannot tell you how greatly I had been influenced by the talk of the people in this camp. False rumors can cause so much damage, but I, like so many of the misled ones certainly had to pay a great price to discover it.

I would like to have your earliest attention on this matter as I have so little time to plan for my future. My fiance who has just returned from ten months of hard overseas duty in the European theater with the 442nd Infantry, is expecting to be sent to Japan as an interpreter as soon as he completes his training at Fort Snelling. I want to join him as soon as possible for God only knows



how long he will have to stay in Japan. I love my fiance dearly and I know life will never be complete for me without him. I am also very proud to think he is serving for his country. Please let me know as soon as you can, how I stand in this matter.

I have written to you before about two weeks ago, but as yet, I have not received an answer. With this letter I will enclose a copy of the last letter. If there is any other information you would like to know, please write or get in contact with Mr. Gunderson, the assistant Project director. Thanking you for your kind attention, I remain.

Sincerely yours,

Katsuye Fukuhara



Dear Sir:

I am writing to you in regard to a letter I wrote quite some time ago, about the cancellation of my fiancée's renunciation of United States citizenship. I am engaged to marry Katsuye Fukuhara of 3314 B, Tule Lake Center, Newell, California. I asked to have you reconsider the facts, as they were presented to you, after a great deal of consideration on her part. I also stated that we had plans, whereby my fiancée would join me as soon as her status was cleared with the Department of Justice, and we could be married as soon as possible, before I received another assignment. In shedding further light upon this very important situation which I find myself, I would like to bring the following facts to your attention:

When the war broke out between Japan and the United States, in December, 1941, my fiancée's father was interned soon afterward, in April, 1942. This was a terrible shock to the family, as they were very American, in action as well as thought. They still do not know why he was taken to an internment camp. The other members of the the family were evacuated from Tacoma, Washington, to the Tule Lake Relocation Center, after having been in Pinedale Assembly Center. During segregation, the Fukuhara family was transferred to the Minidoka Relocation Center in Idaho, in the hope that their father would be able to join them sooner. They were in Minidoka for approximately 8 months, and one day they received a notice saying that the father would be released to the Tule Lake Center, so the family came back to join him in Tule Lake. After the family arrived in Tule Lake, the pressure and influence on her parents was so great that, to keep peace at home and with the neighbors, she took the step of renouncing her United States citizenship. Of course, you can see that she did not do it of her



own free will, as she was also only 19 years of age at that time. Because she is not of legal age, it is not right that this renunciation business was allowed to happen. My fiancée is very Americanized and I know her loyalty has been, and always will be to the United States.

I have been in the service of the United States Army for the past four years, and have served on overseas duty in the European theater with the 442nd Infantry for the past ten months. At the present time, I am on furlough at Tule Lake, but expect to go back to Camp Beale, California. After being there a few days, I expect to be transferred to Fort Snelling, Minnesota, where I will complete my training as an interpreter and, in about 6 months I think I will be sent to Japan in the Army of Occupation.

After reviewing these facts, would you kindly reconsider the case of Katsuye Fukuhara, that she be released from the Tule Lake Center, in order that she may join me soon, and we can be married as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,



October 19, 1945

House of Representative  
Capital Hill, Washington D. C.

ATTENTION: Congressman George T. Miller

Dear Sir:

I, Ken Tanaka, was a soldier with the rating of P.F.C. #39375934, and was fighting with the 442nd infantry, before I received my honorable discharge about a week ago. I was in service since February 25, 1941, until October 7, 1945. I volunteered for overseas duty and I was in Europe for about ten months, fighting in Germany, France, and Italy. It was rather tough fightings at times, but I enjoyed serving for my country. I came back all the way by plane, and reached Florida July 27, because I volunteered to go to school and then go to the Pacific. Then I was shipped to Camp Beale, waiting for further orders to go to Fort Snelling, which I was more then willing to serve for my country, but due to the change in the point system, I was given my discharge.

Now I am a civilian again, and can lead a normal life. I want to get married and settle down, but my fiancée, Katsuye Fukuhara, who is now at the Tule Lake Center is stopped because she renounced her American Citizenship, and the same with her younger sister, Akiko Fukuhara. I have known them a long time now, and I know that they are just as loyal to the United States as I am, or any other American citizen, but because of the various circumstances in this camp, were forced to renounce against their wishes. I want to take my fiancée's family out as soon as possible so they can get away from all the pressure and influence and be able to lead a free and normal life. Although they asked for renunciation, and the notices came asking them to go for the hearing, they weren't planning to go, but on the very last day, just before the Department of Justice hearing officers concluded holding hearings, the Internal Security came to their home and made them go to the renunciation hearing. They are not of legal age yet, and they also haven't got dual citizenship, so I think that they should be given a chance to think for themselves now, and make there own choice. "I didn't go over to fight," thinking I had to come back and face a problem like this. "I went to fight for my country so I can prove the loyalty of the Nisei's." The reason for them taking such a step was because



they couldn't have any freedom in camp, and also because of pressure of various groups. They have shown and proven to me, that they are just as loyal to this country as any American citizen.

I am here at the present time visiting my fiancée for thirty days, and know the terrible circumstances they are under. I have heard about the terrible things that have happened to people of the Tule Lake Center, and now I am here to experience it myself and know how it is. How could one do as he wishes under such great pressure as in this center.

I love my fiancée very dearly, and would like to take her out of here as soon as possible. Her family is more than willing to go out and relocate, but because of the two girls that are unable to go out, they are held back from doing so. I have written and they have also written a few times to the Attorney General, but neither they nor I have received a reply. I thought I would write to you, asking for your help, so that I may know as soon as possible as to what can be done in my case. I have heard that you have championed both the cause of the servicemen and the cause of minorities and I do not know of anyone else to turn to. If my fiancée or I had the money, we would hire an attorney and try to bring the case to court, but I have just come out of the army after four years and eight months service and she has been living in this camp for three and a half years and so we don't have the money.

Any suggestions, or help that you might be able to give me will be greatly appreciated. Please send me a reply at your earliest convenience, so that I may make my plans for the future.

Very truly yours,

Ken Tanaka



Date November 26, 1945

Honorable Tom C. Clark  
Attorney General of the United States  
Department of Justice Building  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

On March, 1945, I signed an application for renunciation of United States nationality form at the W. R. A. Segregation Center situated at Tule Lake, Modoc County, California, at a perfunctory appearance before a government official, and I have received a letter dated April 17, 1945, from Mr. Herbert Wechsler, Assistant Attorney General, approving the same.

I hereby repudiate, withdraw, retract, and revoke the said renunciation upon the following grounds and for the following reasons:

(1) The circumstances under which said renunciation form was signed by me did not constitute a fair and impartial hearing and was a denial of my constitutional guaranty of due process of law and of the equal protection of the laws;

(2) I was not a free agent at the time when and the place where said renunciation form was signed but was then and there held in duress and was the victim of fraud, menace and undue influence and mistake of law;

(3) I then and there was and continuously from May 19, 1942, had been detained in the said W. R. A. Segregation Center by official authority and was deprived of substantially all my constitutional rights, liberties, privileges and immunities as an American citizen by birth and by choice and was thusly discriminated against solely by reason of the Japanese nationality of my ancestors;

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

Because of the foregoing reasons the said renunciation and approval thereof were, and each of them is, invalid, null and void.

I am not a citizen or subject of Japan and I do not and never have owed or given that country or nation any allegiance. I am not an alien enemy. I am a native American by birth and also by choice. I recognize as my sovereign the United States of America and I give and ever have given the United States my undivided loyalty and allegiance. I have no dual citizenship. ~~(XXXXXX) dual citizenship then say: I have no dual citizenship through any act or acceptance upon my individual part. (I have served in the U. S. military services and have an honorable discharge.)~~

Therefore I demand that you withdraw, recall, cancel, and revoke your approval of said renunciation form.

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

I respectfully request your immediate consideration of this urgent matter.

Very truly yours,

*Katsuyo Fukuhara*

Name Katsuyo Fukuhara  
Address 3314 B-O  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California



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

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

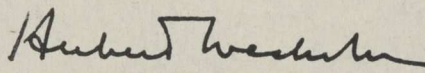
WASHINGTON, D. C.

NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF RENUNCIATION OF UNITED STATES NATIONALITY

To: Katsuye Fukuhara  
(born Jan. 11, 1925, Tacoma, Washington)  
3314-B-C  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California

You are hereby notified that, pursuant to Section 401(i) of the Nationality Act of 1940, as Amended, and the regulations issued pursuant thereto, your renunciation of United States nationality has been approved by the Attorney General as not contrary to the interests of national defense. Accordingly you are no longer a citizen of the United States of America nor are you entitled to any of the rights and privileges of such citizenship.

Date: April 17, 1945

  
Herbert Wechsler  
Assistant Attorney General  
War Division



5234 Victor Ave  
apt 2-F  
Richmond, Calif

CONFIDENTIAL

Committee No. 3145

(For Use Only of My Attorney)

Atty. No. \_\_\_\_\_

Name (type or print) Katsuye Fukuhara

Block No. 3314-BC

Sex: Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female x

Age: 20 years Date of Birth: Month: Jan Day: 11 Year: 1925

Place of Birth: (City) Tacoma (County) Pierce State) Wash.

Permanent residence address at time of evacuation: \_\_\_\_\_

1531 1/2 Fawcett Ave. Tacoma Washington

Occupation at time of evacuation: Student

Have you "dual citizenship"? no

Did you ever have "dual citizenship"? \_\_\_\_\_

If you have or have had dual citizenship, who registered you as

a dual citizen: \_\_\_\_\_ When: \_\_\_\_\_

Where: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you ever take any steps to cancel dual citizenship? \_\_\_\_\_

When: \_\_\_\_\_ Where: \_\_\_\_\_

What steps were taken to cancel it? \_\_\_\_\_

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

Month: March Day: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: 1945

Were you under 21 years of age at the time you signed that

renunciation form? yes

Was there a hearing officer present when you signed? yes

What was his name? Mr. Rothstein

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

Did anyone represent you at that appearance or hearing? no

If so, who? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you attend that hearing alone? yes If not, who went with you? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you received a letter approving your renunciation? yes

If you have, what date does it bear? April, 17, 1945.

On what date did you receive the letter of approval? Aug 2, 1945

Who signed that letter of approval? Herbert Wechsler

\_\_\_\_\_. (Attach the letter of approval and the envelope.)

Did you write a letter revoking your renunciation before you received a letter approving your renunciation? no



If you did, what date did you send that letter in the U. S. mail? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you a copy of that letter? \_\_\_\_\_

(If you have, annex it to this form)

Since receiving a letter from the Attorney General's office approving your renunciation, have you sent a letter to that office or to the Attorney General revoking your renunciation? yes

What date did you send that letter revoking your renunciation of U. S. citizenship? September 17, November 26, 1945

(If you have a copy of that letter revoking your renunciation, annex it to this form.)

Have you served in our military forces? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, what date did you enroll? \_\_\_\_\_ When were you discharged or released from military service? \_\_\_\_\_

What type of discharge did you receive? \_\_\_\_\_

What was your last draft classification? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you refuse to be drafted? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you or have you ever been a member of the Hoshi Dan, the Hokoku Dan, Seinen Dan or similar organizations while in camp, either becoming such by intimidation, coercion, or otherwise? no, I withdrew Aug, 1945

Are your parents U. S. citizens? no

What are their names: Mitsuo Fukuhara (father) Sachi Fukuhara (mother)

Have they been released from detention? \_\_\_\_\_

Have they been relocated? Father is going to Japan. Mother relocated

What members of your family, if any, are serving or have served in the military forces of the U. S.? My husband, Ken Tanaka.

Have you registered as an "alien" under the Alien Registration Act of 1940? yes When: About October 18, 1945

Where: Tule Lake Processing Building Who was present with you at that time, if anyone? nobody Were you represented by

anyone at that time? \_\_\_\_\_

Was any hearing given to you at that time? no

Who registered you, if you know? not known

Did you protest registering as an alien? no

Did you write your protest on the form? no

Did you file a letter of protest with the registering officer?

no, but I will today. (If so, annex a copy of the letter to this form.)



Have you signed non-repatriation form asking to stay in U.S.? yes

Have you filled out a Department of Justice Repatriation form asking to be sent to Japan? no If you did, when? \_\_\_\_\_

Where: \_\_\_\_\_ Before whom did you appear to sign that repatriation form? \_\_\_\_\_

Did anyone represent you at that time or were you alone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Were you given a hearing by anyone on the question of signing the repatriation form? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, by whom? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you protest signing that Repatriation form? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you write the protest on the form? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you file a letter of protest with the registering officer at the time you signed it? \_\_\_\_\_

What was the name of the officer present when you signed, if you know? \_\_\_\_\_

When, if ever, did you fill out a repatriation form for W. R. A.

Social Welfare? I do not know, for my father filled it out

When did you send a letter cancelling that request? about Aug, 1945

Do you own any agricultural land, a home, or commercial property in the U. S.? no If so, where? \_\_\_\_\_

The following space is for any remarks you care to write:

~~I am married. My husband is discharged from the army and he is in San Francisco. I wish to join him as soon as possible.~~

Date: December 17, 1945

Katsuyo Fukuhara

Katsuyo Fukuhara.  
(Name)