

16:14

SHIGEMURA, YUTAKO Nee YOSHIMURA

1957-1960

78/177

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QUESTIONNAIRE FOR STRANDEES

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

a. State your fully name. Yutaka Shigemura

b. Male?  Female?  Maiden Name? Yoshimura

c. Birth place? Ogden, Utah Birth date? Oct 31, 1922

d. Was your name ever registered with a Japanese Consulate for the purpose of reserving your Japanese nationality? yes

When? ? Where? ?

e. Have you ever renounced Japanese Nationality? none When?                     

Where?                     

1922  
18  
11

1. What schools did you attend in Japan? Kurushima-Mission School.

*I was called traitor as I had to discontinue my study at the Mission School as it was conducted in English*

Where? Shinjo-son, Yamagata Ken.

State the years you attended those schools. 1940 in Mission School 1940-1944

2. State the periods you visited Japan and the purposes of each visit. Shinjo Kajo - 1941-1942.

10/1939 - to present.

When did you last return to Japan? October, 1939

Why did you return to Japan? To attend school in Japan, and visit Japan.

3. Did you have a U.S. Passport at the time you last went to Japan? yes

Have you that passport now? no What became of it?

It was destroyed during the fire after the Atomic Bomb.

What other documents did you then have to establish your identity as a U.S. citizen? certified copy of birth issued by city of Ogden

Do you have those documents now? yes What became of them?

# 8961 - as Yutaka Yoshimura

Did you then have a visa from a Japanese consul? I forgot as Have you that visa now?                     

What became of it? My parent did all the paper work -

all my papers were destroyed after the bombing

4. Did you then have a Japanese passport? none Do you have it now?

What became of it?                     

5. Why were you in Japan when the war started on Dec. 7, 1941?                     

To visit relatives and study Japanese in Japan.

What was your occupation in Japan when the war started on Dec. 7, 1941?

Shiyo Kajo Gakko

Where were you then living in Japan? Mitaki-cho, Neruduma-shi, Japan

6. Are you married or single? married What is the name of your spouse  
(wife or husband)? Yoshikazu Shigenuma Where does your  
spouse (wife or husband) live? Mukaihara-cho, Nagata, Takata-gun,  
Hiroshima Ken, Japan  
When were you married? Nov 22, 1947 Where were you married?  
Nagata, Takata-gun, Hiroshima What is the citizenship of your spouse  
(wife or husband)? Japanese Where was your spouse  
(wife or husband) born? Mukaihara-cho, Nagata, Takata-gun,  
Japan  
Name and address of your father? Saburoji Yoshimura  
Box 215, Roy, Utah Of what country is he a citizen? now U.S. natural  
citizen  
Name and address of your mother? \_\_\_\_\_  
Tome Yoshimura-nee Taguchi Of what country is  
she a citizen? naturalized as U.S. citizen
7. Names, birthdates and birthplaces of each of your children? \_\_\_\_\_  
Satomi - 3/3/1947 at Japan;

RE: VOTING

8. Since returning to Japan have you voted in any elections? yes  
Where? Mukaihara-cho, Nagata,  
Takata-gun, Japan Years you voted? 1947 till 1953  
In what elections? all the elections  
Why did you vote in those elections? people called me "hikokumin"  
and pressured me to vote. Inasmuch as we were Kisei, we were  
constantly ostracized & looked upon with suspicion so I keenly  
felt the presence of the people as my deterrent.
9. Did you receive any instructions to vote? yes From what sources?  
printed instruction from "Yakuba" to vote Where the instructions printed?  
yes What Allied military officers told you to vote? none  
Did you vote because of  
printed instructions of the Army of occupation? \_\_\_\_\_  
What were you told would happen to you if you didn't vote? \_\_\_\_\_  
What did you believe would happen to you if you didn't vote? \_\_\_\_\_

10. What Japanese officials instructed you to vote? none  
Were those instructions printed ones? \_\_\_\_\_ Verbal? \_\_\_\_\_

11. State the names and addresses of the neighbors who told you to vote  
Itaru Kawasaki, my husband, all at Mutsukara-cho,  
Nagata, Takata gun, Hiroshima-ken, Japan.

What did they tell you would happen to you if you didn't vote? I will be  
viewed with suspicion and be ostracized by the people in my  
area

12. What did you believe or fear would happen to you if you didn't vote?  
same as we were farming (Lose ration card? \_\_\_\_\_)

RE: KOSEKI REGISTRATION

13. Was your name registered in a family Koseki in Japan? yes  
When? ? Where? ? By whom? \_\_\_\_\_

my father Did you personally apply to be registered  
in a Koseki? no When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_

Where did you go to apply to be registered? \_\_\_\_\_

When? \_\_\_\_\_ Why did you apply to be registered? \_\_\_\_\_

14. If someone other than you personally registered your name in a  
Koseki state who it was who registered you. Suburaji Yoshimura  
What relation is that person to you? father

Why were you registered in a Koseki? I do not know the reason

after my marriage my present husband placed my name  
into his family koseki to register the fact of my marriage to him.  
This was on or about 1943 - before he went to the Army.

15. Were you registered in a Koseki since your last return to Japan because  
if you were not registered you would not have been given a ration card?  
yes or would not have been given an address to receive  
mail? yes or would have been punished, and, if so, by whom?

I did not know what would happen?

Were you registered because of fear that if you weren't you would suffer  
in some form? yes such as would not be issued a ration card?

yes State what other reasons caused you to register. \_\_\_\_\_

I felt our marriage could not be considered legal.  
also my child would be considered illegitimate.

RE: CONSCRIPTION

16. Were you conscripted in the Japanese armed forces? no  
When? \_\_\_\_\_ In what branch of service? \_\_\_\_\_  
What was your address at the time you were conscripted? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ With whom were you then living? \_\_\_\_\_  
What was your occupation at that time? \_\_\_\_\_  
Name and address of your employer at that time? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Place where you then were working \_\_\_\_\_  
If you were attending school at that time state the name of the school \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ State type of school \_\_\_\_\_  
Were you then single? \_\_\_\_\_ Married? \_\_\_\_\_
17. What was the first notice you received that you had to register for the draft under the Japanese draft law? \_\_\_\_\_  
Was it a written notice? \_\_\_\_\_ Verbal notice? \_\_\_\_\_  
What was the date of that notice? \_\_\_\_\_ Have you that notice? \_\_\_\_\_  
(If so, attach it to this questionnaire). What did that notice instruct you to do? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
18. Where did you report to the draft authorities? \_\_\_\_\_  
Were those draft authorities civilians? \_\_\_\_\_ or Japanese military authorities? \_\_\_\_\_  
Were you given a medical examination by the draft authorities? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_  
What other notices did you receive from the draft authorities? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ State whether you received those notices by mail or whether they were personally delivered to you. \_\_\_\_\_
19. Did you inform the Japanese civilian draft authorities that you were a U.S. citizen? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_  
Who was present? \_\_\_\_\_

If you told that personally to a civilian draft officer state the name of the officer and his title \_\_\_\_\_

What is his present address? \_\_\_\_\_

What did he say to you when you stated you were a U.S. citizen? \_\_\_\_\_

Will he be willing to give you an affidavit stating those facts? \_\_\_\_\_

20. Did you inform the Japanese military draft authorities that you were a U.S. citizen? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_

If you told that personally to a Japanese military draft officer state the name of the officer and his grade or rank, \_\_\_\_\_

What is the present address of that officer? \_\_\_\_\_

Will he be willing to give you an affidavit stating those facts? \_\_\_\_\_

21. If you didn't tell the civilian or military draft officers that you were a U.S. citizen why didn't you do so? \_\_\_\_\_

What did you fear would happen to you if you told him (or them) you were a U.S. citizen? \_\_\_\_\_

Were you afraid to tell the conscripting civilian officers -- or military officers -- that you were a U.S. citizen? \_\_\_\_\_ Why? \_\_\_\_\_

22. Did you tell the civilian conscripting officers that you did not wish to serve in the Japanese armed forces? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

To what officers did you tell that? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ State their names and addresses \_\_\_\_\_

Will they be willing to give you affidavits stating that fact? \_\_\_\_\_

23. Did you tell the military authorities -- or civil authorities -- that you did not wish to serve in the Japanese armed forces? \_\_\_\_\_

When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_

To what officers? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ State their names and present addresses \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Who was present at the time? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Will any of them be willing to give you an affidavit stating the fact you notified those authorities you did not wish to serve in the Japanese armed forces? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you write any letters to the civilian or military draft authorities stating that you were a U.S. citizen and not subject to conscription in the Japanese forces? \_\_\_\_\_ Date of letter \_\_\_\_\_

(If you did, attach a copy of that letter to this questionnaire.)

What did you fear would happen to you if you refused to be conscripted?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

24. Did you fear you would be punished by the Japanese civil authorities for refusing to obey the draft law? \_\_\_\_\_ What penalty or punishment did you fear you would be subjected to if you refused? \_\_\_\_\_

25. Did you fear also that the Japanese military authorities would punish you if you refused to be conscripted? \_\_\_\_\_ What punishment did you fear they would subject you to? \_\_\_\_\_

26. Did you apply for a deferment, postponement or delay of your conscription?  
\_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_  
To what office? \_\_\_\_\_ Did you do this verbally? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ in writing? \_\_\_\_\_ (If in writing attach a copy of that letter or memorandum to this questionnaire.) If you haven't a copy state the language and contents of that letter or memorandum \_\_\_\_\_

Were you afraid to apply for a deferment, postponement or delay in your conscription? \_\_\_\_\_ Why? \_\_\_\_\_

What did you fear would happen to you if you did? \_\_\_\_\_

What answer were you given to this request? \_\_\_\_\_

Was it a verbal answer? \_\_\_\_\_ Was it a written answer? \_\_\_\_\_

(Attach a copy of your written answer to this questionnaire.) If you haven't a copy state the substance of that answer \_\_\_\_\_

27. Did you make a second request for deferment, postponement or delay? \_\_\_\_\_

When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_

To whom and to what office? \_\_\_\_\_

What answer did you receive? \_\_\_\_\_

Was this answer verbal? \_\_\_\_\_ written? \_\_\_\_\_ (Attach the letter or copy of the answer you received.)

28. What date were you conscripted (drafted) into the Japanese armed forces? \_\_\_\_\_

Where were you conscripted? \_\_\_\_\_

What was your first rank or grade in the armed forces of Japan? \_\_\_\_\_

29. Were you required to take an oath of allegiance to Japan at the time of conscription? \_\_\_\_\_

Where did you serve in the Japanese armed forces? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you receive any promotions in the Japanese armed forces? \_\_\_\_\_

When? \_\_\_\_\_

To what rank or grade? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you take an oath of allegiance to Japan at the time of promotion? \_\_\_\_\_

How long did you serve in the Japanese armed forces? \_\_\_\_\_

When were you released from services in the Japanese armed forces? \_\_\_\_\_

While in the service did you participate in any skirmish or battle against the U.S. armed forces? \_\_\_\_\_

Against what other Allied armed forces did you participate in any skirmish or battle? \_\_\_\_\_

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

In what battles? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you surrender and were you a prisoner of war? \_\_\_\_\_

When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_

To what U.S. or Allied troops? \_\_\_\_\_

When were you released from detention? \_\_\_\_\_

Where were you when released? \_\_\_\_\_

RE: APPLICATION TO RETURN TO U.S.

30. Before or after war first broke out on Dec. 7, 1941, did you apply to a U.S. Consul or the U.S. Embassy in Japan to return to the U.S.? no.

When? My friend left just after the war, & he had

To what consulate or embassy? returned to Japan. I was planning to finish school in Japan.

Did you apply to the Swiss, Swedish or other consular or diplomatic office to send you back to the U.S.? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_

Where? \_\_\_\_\_ To what office? \_\_\_\_\_

What answer did you receive? \_\_\_\_\_

31. Before war broke out on Dec. 7, 1941, or afterward, did you apply for boat passage to return to the U.S.? sure When? \_\_\_\_\_

Where? \_\_\_\_\_ To what company or office did you apply for transportation to return to the U.S.? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you make that application orally? \_\_\_\_\_ Did you make it in writing? \_\_\_\_\_ (If it was in writing attach a copy of your letter or application for such passage to the U.S.)

Did you receive booking on any boat that was to take you to the U.S.? \_\_\_\_\_

On what date were you to sail? \_\_\_\_\_ From what port? \_\_\_\_\_ Name of ship? \_\_\_\_\_

If you didn't apply for passage to return to the U.S. state why you didn't do so. \_\_\_\_\_

RE: APPLICATION FOR INTERNMENT

32. Did you apply to the Japanese authorities during the war to be interned as a U.S. citizen? sure When? \_\_\_\_\_

Where? \_\_\_\_\_ To what office did he apply? \_\_\_\_\_

What answer did you receive to your request? \_\_\_\_\_

Was the answer a verbal one? \_\_\_\_\_ Was it in writing? \_\_\_\_\_

(If in writing, attach the letter or memorandum to this questionnaire.)

If you do not have a copy of the letter or memorandum, state in substance what the writing stated. \_\_\_\_\_

RE: REGISTRATION AS ALIEN IN JAPAN

33. Before, during or since the war have you been registered as a U.S. alien in Japan? none When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_
- Were you registered with a U.S. Consul or U.S. Embassy in Japan as a U.S. citizen? none When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_
- Were you required to report to the Japanese police? \_\_\_\_\_
- When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_ How often? \_\_\_\_\_
- Did the police visit you? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_
- Where? \_\_\_\_\_ How often? \_\_\_\_\_

RE: EXPATRIATING ACTIONS

34. Have you ever filed with any office in Japan any affidavit or statement claiming or stating that you were a Japanese citizen? none
- When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_
- For what purpose did you file that? \_\_\_\_\_
- Have you ever applied for or received any benefit or right in Japan that is granted only to Japanese citizens? none When? \_\_\_\_\_
- Where? \_\_\_\_\_ What was the right or benefit you were applying for? \_\_\_\_\_ Did you receive that right or benefit? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_
35. Have you ever applied to a Japanese government office or officer for a Japanese passport? none When? \_\_\_\_\_
- Where? \_\_\_\_\_ Did you receive it? \_\_\_\_\_

When? \_\_\_\_\_ For what purpose did you use it? \_\_\_\_\_

What became of that Japanese passport? \_\_\_\_\_

36. Have you, since returning to Japan in 1946 been naturalized as a Japanese citizen? none If so, what steps did you take to become naturalized as a Japanese citizen? \_\_\_\_\_

To what office did you make that application? \_\_\_\_\_

When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_

Were you naturalized? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_

What document did you receive showing you were naturalized? \_\_\_\_\_

Date of that document? \_\_\_\_\_

37. Have you, since returning to Japan been employed by the Japanese Government or any agency of the Japanese Government? none

If so, name the office by which you were employed and the dates of your employment \_\_\_\_\_

RE: SERVICE TO U.S.

38. Have you worked for the United States Government or Allied Military authorities while in Japan? none For what service? \_\_\_\_\_

In what capacity? \_\_\_\_\_ Where did you perform your work? \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of your employment \_\_\_\_\_

39. Have you ever served in the armed forces of the U.S.? \_\_\_\_\_

In what branch? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_

Period of service \_\_\_\_\_

Where did you serve? \_\_\_\_\_

Date you received an Honorable Discharge \_\_\_\_\_

Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ What other members of your family

(father, children, brothers, or sisters) served in the armed forces of

the U.S.? Takeo Yoshimura, Daichi, Yoshimura, Sauji

Yoshimura,

40. State their names, relationship and branch of the armed forces in which they served or are serving brothers - Takuo in US Navy & Daichi & Sanji in US Army

RE: OTHER DATA

41. What is your occupation now? assist my husband at the farm  
Where do you work? Mukaibara-cho, Nagata, Takata gun, Niushima-ken, Japan  
What property do you own in Japan? husband's name, rice field, mountain & residence  
Nature of that property? rice field, mountain & residence  
Estimated valuation of that property? 4

42. Name of your nearest relative in the U.S. and address father - Saburoji Yoshimura - Box 215, Kay, Utah  
To what address do you intend to return to in the U.S.? to above address.

43. Have you filed an application with a U.S. Consul in Japan for a U.S. passport? yes When did you file it? 1956/1955  
With what U.S. Consul did you file it? Kobe, Japan.  
(Attach a copy of the application you filed with the U.S. Consul)  
What reasons did the U.S. Consul give you for refusing to issue you a passport? I was asked to present a certificate that I had not voted, and I have not furnished anything to them.  
(Attach the letter of refusal the U.S. Consul sent to you.)

44. Did you take an appeal from the Consul's refusal? no.  
When? \_\_\_\_\_ (Attach a copy of that appeal to this questionnaire.) What decision was made on that appeal? all I received at Kobe was an instruction from Kobe to vote.  
(Attach a copy of that decision to this questionnaire.)

Date: June 26, 1957

Yutake Shigemura  
Signature

Mukaibara-cho, Nagata,  
Takata-gun, Niushima-ken,  
Japan  
Address

none  
Telephone Number

Takuroji Yoshimura

Ex. 4-4421

Daiichi ✓

~~Ex. 25-7632~~

~~Ex. 339~~

Box 215, RA 1,

Roy, Wash

Remnant of H  
& children

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Sabusiya <sup>(?)</sup> Yohanna

Bur 215,

Roy <sup>(?)</sup>

That

For long called with the alien  
of direct room nearby

Wuth is U.S.  
citizen  
page

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

November 13, 1957

Mr. Yutaka Shigemura  
Mukaibara-cho, Nagata,  
Takata-gun, Hiroshima-ken  
Japan

Dear Mr. Shigemura:

The U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, D.C., recently heard re-arguments it had ordered to be made in three cases pending before it testing the law passed by Congress which provided that service by a U.S. citizen in a foreign army was an act of expatriation costing such persons loss of U.S. citizenship. A final decision and opinion probably will be handed down by the Supreme Court within the next three months time.

It is possible that the Supreme Court may decide in those cases that the U.S. law which provides that service in a foreign army costs a U.S. citizen his U.S. citizenship may be void on its face or as applied for being contrary to the U.S. Constitution. It is also possible that it may decide that a U.S. citizen who was drafted into the armed forces of Japan during the war did not obey voluntarily but only under the compulsion and duress of the draft law of Japan which provided for punishment for violations of that draft law.

Therefore, until the U.S. Supreme Court decides the cases now pending before it and which it has taken under submission it is best that no immediate steps be taken by you to obtain a U.S. passport. If the Supreme Court decides the cases favorably it is possible that a U.S. Consul thereafter may issue a U.S. passport to you without further complications. Therefore, I suggest that you wait patiently until the Court decides those cases and I will notify you promptly of its decision and of its effect on your citizenship status and if it then becomes necessary for you to take legal steps to have your U.S. citizenship determined I shall inform you and proceed to take the necessary steps.

Very truly yours,



May 13, 1958

Mr. Yutaka Shigemura  
Mukaibara-cho, Nagata,  
Takata-gun, Hiroshima-ken  
Japan

Dear Mr. Shigemura:

On March 31, 1958, the U. S. Supreme Court held in the case of Perez v. Brownell that an American citizen who votes in a "political election" in a foreign country loses his U.S. citizenship if he voted voluntarily even though he did not know he would lose his citizenship by so voting. However, if the voting was caused by duress, coercion or undue influence it was involuntary and would not cause him to lose U.S. citizenship.

To prove that your voting was involuntary the State Department will require evidence that you voted under duress, coercion or undue influence. It will require a statement from you, under oath, stating the reasons why you voted. Affidavits from other persons having knowledge of the fact that you were forced to vote and that you voted because of fear of punishment if you didn't can be used to support your statement.

If you voted because you were notified or heard that General MacArthur or SCAP or the U.S. or Allied military officers had ordered all residents in Japan to vote and you believed and feared that if you didn't vote that you would be punished for violating military orders your voting was involuntary. (The State Department also may take the view that voting in Japan while it was occupied by the Allied Powers did not constitute voting in a "political election" in a "foreign state".) If you voted because Japanese municipal officers notified you and you believed and feared that you as a resident must vote or be punished under Japanese law or by order of the Occupation authorities, your voting was involuntary. If you voted because you were notified by the Occupation authorities, or by Japanese civil authorities or by Japanese neighbors that you would be deprived of a ration card if you didn't vote and you believed and feared you would be deprived of a ration card and might starve if you didn't vote your voting was involuntary. If you were notified to vote and you voted because of other fears of what would be done to you or what would happen to you if you failed or refused to vote your voting was involuntary.

If you already have applied to a U.S. Consul in Japan for a U.S. passport or you are about to do so it will be necessary for you to make a complete statement to the Consul, under oath, revealing the reasons why you were compelled to vote. In that statement you must explain the fears that drove you to vote in order to prove to the Consul that you were under threats or mental pressure to vote

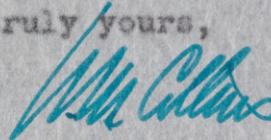
and that your voting was involuntary because it was caused by your fear of some form of punishment being inflicted upon you if you didn't vote, such as punishment by the Occupation military authorities, or by the Japanese police or other civil authorities, or by the loss of some right such as being deprived of a ration card.

You must keep a written copy of any statement you make or have made to the U.S. Consul which explains the reasons why you voted and you should send a copy of it to me.

If the U. S. Consul and the State Department can be convinced by your own statement, under oath, supported if possible by affidavits of other persons acquainted with the facts, that you voted because of your fear of punishment in some form from the Occupation authorities or from the Japanese authorities or your fear of the loss of a ration card the State Department should hold that you did not lose your U.S. citizenship and should issue a U.S. passport to you. (If the State Department denies you a U.S. Passport an application thereafter can be made for a Certificate of Identity to enable you to return to the U.S. to have a U.S. District Court decide whether or not you lost your citizenship by voting in Japan.)

I would thank you to let me know by return mail whether you have applied for a U.S. passport and, if so, what decision the Consul has made on it.

Very truly yours,



WMC:ss

COPY

July 25, 1958

Mrs. Yutako Shigemura  
Mukaibara-cho, Nagata,  
Takata-gun, Hiroshima-ken  
Japan

Dear Mrs. Shigemura:

Enclosed find an original and two copies of an affidavit that I have prepared for you which I would thank you to read and to make any corrections thereon that may be necessary. If you make any corrections I would thank you to send the affidavit back to me with the corrections noted thereon so that I may prepare a new affidavit for you.

However, if the affidavit I have prepared for you contains a true recital of facts you should take it to the nearest U.S. Consul and there sign it and have it sworn to before the U.S. Consul and request him to have the same attached to the application for a U.S. passport that you heretofore made. The U.S. Consul will request you to obtain a certificate from the election officials showing the elections in which you participated.

It is my opinion that the U.S. Consul and the State Department will excuse your having voted in the years 1946 and 1947 and probably up to the time that the peace treaty was entered into in 1952, but that it will not excuse you for participating in any elections in the year 1953 unless you can convince the U.S. Consul and the State Department that your voting was coerced or under duress. If your voting in 1952 and 1953 after the peace treaty came into effect was forced upon you by your husband, an affidavit from your husband to that effect certainly might well convince the U.S. Consul and the State Department that he coerced you to vote and, therefore, might not hold your voting in those years against you. If it is true that your husband did coerce you to vote and he is willing to make an affidavit to that effect on your behalf, I would thank you to let me know. If Itsuo Kawasaki told you in 1952 and 1953 that you must vote or be subjected to some form of punishment, an affidavit from him to that effect also will help you. If you were actually still on rations in 1952 and 1953 and food was scarce and you needed a ration card to obtain essential foods and you were informed in 1952 and 1953 that if you did not vote you would lose your ration card and your right to essential foods, that fact also will help you in obtaining a U.S. passport. (The U.S. Consuls and the State Department, however, have the view that food was not scarce in 1952 and 1953 and that rationing had ceased.)

Very truly yours,

WMC:fd  
Encs.

Typed 7/24/58 AS

~~A~~  
AFFIDAVIT OF YUTAKO SHIGEMURA

My name is Yutako<sup>7</sup> Shigemura, nee Yoshimura. I live at Mukaibara-cho, Nagata, Takata-gun, Hiroshima-ken, Japan, with my husband, Toshikazu Shigemura, ~~born on~~ ~~November 22, 1917~~ and daughter ~~Shizuko~~ ~~Satomi~~ and my daughter Satomi, a minor. My mother and father live in the United States. I was born in Ogden, Utah, on October 31, 1922, and fall into the classification of a dual citizen of the United States and of Japan.

Hiroshima, for a visit  
I was taken to Japan in October of 1939 and was placed in ~~school~~ the Hiroshima Mission School 1940 -1941 ~~and~~ but had to discontinue that school because I was called a disloyal and a traitor by the neighbors because it was a school conducted in English. Then I was placed in the Shinjo Kojo Gakko during 1941-1942. We were then living in Mitaki-cho, Hiroshima.

I voted in elections in Japan from ~~1945~~ 1947 to 1953 at ~~Mukai~~ <sup>Nagata</sup> Mukaihara-cho, Nagata, Takata-gun. The reasons were that in the years following the end of the war it was publicized that the Allied Occupation Powers wanted all the residents to <sup>Allied</sup> vote and the/military authorities advised everyone to vote during the time Japan was an occupied country and right up to the time the peace treaty was signed. The municipal authorities ~~said~~ stated that SCAP required the residents to vote and informed us that all ~~citizens of Japan~~ ~~and~~ the residents whether just Japanese citizens <sup>of</sup> dual citizens must vote and that we might ~~be~~ lose our ration rights if we didn't vote. Also the neighbors considered me and called me a "hikokumin" which means a disloyal or traitorous person because of my being an American citizen and put pressure on me to vote. Being a Nisei and constantly being ostracized during and after the war by neighbors who

were suspicious of me because of my being an American citizen and who shunned and avoided me and my family and ostracized us because of my birth in the United States and the fact that our family had lived in the United States I felt the hostility and pressure of the neighbors all the time in our district. I received printed instructions issued by the yakuba (local officers) to vote. Itsuo Kawasaki and many others told me I ~~must~~ must vote. My husband said I must vote and he put pressure on me to do it saying that even though I was born in the U<sub>n</sub>ites States and was a U. S. citizen I was also a Japanese national under Japanese law and that I must vote as SCAP required everyone to vote who was a resident. Even after the peace treaty became effective, my husband told me I had to vote, <sup>as it was required by law and that</sup> and that ~~as he was the head of the family~~ <sup>as he was the head of our family</sup> I must obey his orders or I'd bring disgrace on him, so he pressured and forced me to ~~vote~~ <sup>vote</sup>. He ~~didn't want a wife who refused to vote, and~~ <sup>didn't want a wife who refused to vote, and</sup> ~~he didn't want to incur the suspicion or enmity of the neighbors, or have a wife who~~ <sup>he didn't want to incur the suspicion or enmity of the neighbors, or have a wife who</sup> ~~refused to vote.~~ <sup>I didn't know that voting would affect my U.S. citizenship.</sup>

*Yutaka Higashimura, nee Yoshimura*

My brother Goichi Yoshimura and Sanji Yoshimura served in the U.S. Army and my brother Tokuro Yoshimura served in the U.S. Navy.

*Yutaka Higashimura, nee Yoshimura*

April 18, 1960  
*Strandee*

Dear Mr. Collins,

Thank you so much for your  
letter of April 13, 1960.

As far as we know at  
present. Mrs. Yutako Shimimura  
is in hospital due to sickness  
she has stated she really  
didn't know how long she would  
be in hospital, and the expenses  
are beyond what she could pay.

We really do not know whether  
she is planning on coming back  
to states or not. If, she does  
plan on coming, we will be  
sure to let you know. Until  
further notice from her we

will take it for granite  
his health is not permitting  
him to come back.

Thanks again for your  
kind letter.

Most Sincerely,  
Takuroji Yashimura

## AFFIDAVIT OF YUTAKO SHIGEMURA

COPY

My name is Yutako Shigemura, nee Yoshimura. I live at Mukaibara-cho, Nagata, Takata-gun, Hiroshima-ken, Japan, with my husband, Yoshikazu Shigemura, and my daughter Satomi, a minor. My mother and father live in the United States. I was born in Ogden, Utah, on October 31, 1922, and fall into the classification of a dual citizen of the United States and of Japan.

I was taken to Hiroshima, Japan, in October of 1939 for a visit and was placed in the Hiroshima Mission School 1940-1941 but had to discontinue that school because I was called a disloyal and a traitor by the neighbors because it was a school conducted in English. Then I was placed in the Shinjo Kojo Gakko during 1941-1942. We were then living in Mitaki-cho, Hiroshima.

I voted in elections in Japan from 1947 to 1953 at Mukaibara-cho, Nagata, Takata-gun. The reasons were that in the years following the end of the war it was publicized that the Allied Occupation Powers wanted all the residents to vote and the Allied military authorities advised everyone to vote during the time Japan was an occupied country and right up to the time the peace treaty was signed. The municipal authorities stated that SCAP required the residents to vote and informed us that all the residents whether just Japanese citizens or dual citizens must vote and that we might lose our ration rights if we didn't vote. Also the neighbors considered me and called me a "hikokumin" which means a disloyal or traitorous person because of my being an American citizen and put pressure on me to vote. Being a Nisei and constantly being ostracized during and after the war by neighbors who were suspicious of me because of my being an American citizen and who shunned and avoided me and my family and ostracized us because of my birth in the United States and the fact that our family had lived in the United States I felt the hostility and pressure of the neighbors all the time in our district. I received printed instructions issued by the yakuba (local officers) to vote. Itsuo Kawasaki and many others told me I must vote. My husband said I must vote and he put pressure on me to do it saying that even though I was born in the United States and was a U.S. citizen I was also a Japanese national under Japanese law and that I must vote as SCAP required everyone to vote who was a resident. Even after the peace treaty became effective my husband told me I had to vote as it was required by law and that I must obey the law. He also said that as he was the head of our family I must obey his orders or I'd bring disgrace on him and trouble for us so he pressured and forced me to vote. He didn't want a wife who refused to vote and didn't want to incur the suspicion or enmity of our neighbors. I didn't know that voting would affect my U.S. citizenship.

My brothers, Doichi Yoshimura and Sanji Yoshimura, served in the U.S. Army and my brother, Tokuo Yoshimura, served in the U.S. Navy.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Yutako Shigemura, nee Yoshimura

Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1958.

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

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

January 22, 1959

Mrs. Yutako Shigemura  
Mukaibara-cho, Nagata  
Takata-gun, Hiroshima-ken  
Japan

Dear Mrs. Shigemura:

On July 25, 1958, I sent to you an original and two copies of an affidavit suggesting that you take the original to the nearest U.S. Consul and there sign and swear to it before the U.S. Consul. It is my belief that the affidavit will result in your recovery of U.S. citizenship.

I would thank you to let me know the date that you filed that affidavit with the U.S. Consul in Hiroshima. If the State Department and the Consul have made a decision on that statement and your application for a U.S. passport, I would thank you to let me know what decision they made.

Very truly yours,

WMC:ss

Unionist  
RAG CONTENT

(VIA AIRMAIL)

April 2, 1959

Mr. Toraichi Kono  
301 Wada Building  
Nakajo-machi  
Hiroshima, Japan

Dear Mr. Kono:

I would thank you to contact the following named strandeas in Japan and find out from them whether they filed the affidavits I prepared for them with the U.S. Consul in Japan and if so, the decisions that were rendered by the U.S. Consul:

<u>Name and Address</u>	<u>Date Affidavit Forwarded</u>
HADA, Isamu 6923 Nakano-mura, Aki-Gun Hiroshima Ken, Japan	July 28, 1958
KISHI, Toshikazu Ben 4-chome, Minami-no-cho Nakanotana Wakayama-shi, Japan	Aug. 25, 1958
NISHIMOTO, Mrs. Asaye Matsuye-cho, Nishi 236 Banchi Wakayama-shi, Japan	July 24, 1958
✓ SHIGEMURA, Yutako Mukaibara-cho, Nagata Takata-gun, Hiroshima-ken Japan	July 25, 1958

I forwarded the affidavits to each of the above-named persons with instructions to each of them to take the affidavit to the nearest U.S. Consul and there sign and swear to it and also make an application for U.S. passport. I have written each of them several letters asking them whether they have filed the affidavits and what decision the State Department or the U.S. Consul have made upon them. Therefore, I would thank you to contact each of them and ascertain whether they have filed the affidavits and what decision the State Department and the U.S. Consul have made. I would thank you also to obtain the address of each of them if any of them have returned to the United States.

Very truly yours,

WMC:ss

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

September 2, 1959

VIA AIRLETTER

Mrs. Yutako Shigemura  
Mukaibara-cho, Nagata  
Takata-gun, Hiroshima-ken  
Japan

Dear Mrs. Shigemura:

On July 25, 1958, I sent you an original and two copies of an affidavit that you were to sign and swear to before the U.S. Consul and file it with him together with an application for a U.S. passport. I also instructed you that if Itsuo Kawasaki would prepare an affidavit showing that you were coerced to vote or be subject to some sort of punishment, that such an affidavit would be of material assistance to you and that such affidavit should also be filed with the U.S. Consul.

I would appreciate your informing me whether or not you have filed your affidavit and any other affidavits with the U.S. Consul along with an application for a U.S. passport.

If you have not done so you should do so immediately. When the U.S. Consul makes a decision thereon I would thank you to let me know the decision.

Very truly yours,

WMC:ss  
cc: Hashimoto  
Kono

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

September 2, 1959

VIA AIRLETTER

Mrs. Yutako Shigemura  
Mukaibara-cho, Nagata  
Takata-gun, Hiroshima-ken  
Japan

Dear Mrs. Shigemura:

On July 25, 1958, I sent you an original and two copies of an affidavit that you were to sign and swear to before the U.S. Consul and file it with him together with an application for a U.S. passport. I also instructed you that if Itsuo Kawasaki would prepare an affidavit showing that you were coerced to vote or be subject to some sort of punishment, that such an affidavit would be of material assistance to you and that such affidavit should also be filed with the U.S. Consul.

I would appreciate your informing me whether or not you have filed your affidavit and any other affidavits with the U.S. Consul along with an application for a U.S. passport.

If you have not done so you should do so immediately. When the U.S. Consul makes a decision thereon I would thank you to let me know the decision.

Very truly yours,

WMC:ss  
cc: Hashimoto  
Kono

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

October 20, 1959

VIA AIRLETTER

Mr. Toraichi Kono  
301 Wada Building  
Takajo-machi  
Hiroshima, Japan

Dear Mr. Kono:

I prepared affidavits for the following strandeds and sent the affidavits to them on the dates indicated:

<u>NAME AND ADDRESS</u>	<u>DATE AFFIDAVIT SENT</u>
✓ KISHI, Toshikazu 4-chome, Minami-no-cho Nakanotana Wakayama-shi, Japan	8-25-58
MORINO, Uichi 2-chome 81, Kazayo-cho Higashi, Sumiyoshi-ku Osaka-shi, Japan	7-25-58
SHIGEMURA, Yutako Mukaibara-cho, Nagata Takata-gun, Hiroshima-ken Japan	7-25-58

Each of them had been registered in a Koseki and Shigemura also had voted. If each of them will take the affidavit I sent to them to the nearest U.S. Consul and there sign and swear to it and return it to me, I believe that I may be able to obtain administrative clearance for them. Toshikazu Kishi also renounced his citizenship and I sent to him an affidavit which he should sign before a Consul and return it to me.

Very truly yours,

WMC:ss

April 13, 1960

Mr. Saburoji Yoshimura  
Rt. 1, Box 215  
Roy, Utah

Dear Mr. Yoshimura:

In July of 1958, I prepared for Mrs. Yutako Shigemura whose address is Mukaibara-cho, Nagata, Takata-gun, Hiroshima-ken, Japan, an affidavit which I instructed her to take to the nearest U.S. Consul and there sign it and return to me and to file the same with the U.S. Consul along with an application for a U.S. passport.

I have sent to her a number of letters requesting her to inform me whether or not she had filed the affidavit with the U.S. Consul and what decision the U.S. Consul has made thereon. To date, however, she has not answered any of my letters. I would be grateful if you would inform me of the present address of Mrs. Yutako Shigemura and also if you know whether she intends to return to the United States.

Very truly yours,

WMC:ss

cc: Daichi Yoshimura