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216 N. W. Third Avenue  
Portland, Oregon  
April 14, 1942.

Mr. N. A. Yorichi  
803 Franklin Street  
Oakland, California

*Copied*

Dear Mr. Yorichi:

I wish to thank you for your letter of April 10th, and for the favorable stand that you have taken with regard to my action. I sincerely appreciate the support that you are giving me and moreover, appreciate the favorable publicity that you are attempting on my behalf. However, the matter is not a personal one, for I feel that my stand in my case is not only in defense of the constitutional and inalienable human rights of a Japanese-American citizen but every American citizen. I feel that every American deserving to be called an American citizen would be willing and eager to fight in defense of those rights which he holds sacred.

My feeling in regard to this matter is that only he who loves liberty and is willing to fight to defend such liberties is deserving to have them. It is felt that the present is the only time to make a definite stand in regard to the preservation of these rights, and that the attitude of the J.A.C.L. in postponing such a stand is detrimental not only to our people but to the people of the United States in general. That although we have pledged our cooperation to the President of the United States nevertheless we have pledged our allegiance to the United States of America and to the principles for which that country stands. We have pledged ourselves to preserve and defend the Constitution of the United States, and that to me is just as sacred an obligation as to obeying the dictates of one man, unless it can be indisputably proven to me that such man is always inalterably correct in his decisions. And it is submitted that no human being is ever perfect; that if I can be wrong in my stand then surely any other man can also afford to be wrong.

I feel that I have always conducted myself as a loyal American citizen, and I am willing and ready at any time to fight in defense of this country. That my stand is in effect in the defense of this country. That fighting for the preservation of those fundamental rights I have always taken into consideration that I may have an unfavorable decision against me in the courts, but nevertheless, I have always maintained my faith in the American form of government and that my very stand is but proof of such faith. However, if such faith be unjustified, I am prepared to lose all that for which I have worked and all that which I have and if necessary to spend time in the Federal Penitentiary.

Although I have received considerably unfavorable publicity, I feel that all that which I have accomplished is nothing for which I feel shame or guilt. The fact that I was an employee of a foreign power is certainly no crime. At the time when my services were rendered I had complied with the laws of the United States in registering as such agent. Immediately upon declaration of war I tendered my resignation to the Japanese Consulate and wired to the Headquarters of the 2nd Military Area of the State of ~~Japan~~ Oregon offering my immediate services as a volunteer to fight in the defense of my country. All that I have done during the past few months has been done openly, and as a citizen. Surely nothing subversive or any actions can be imputed to me.

There are a great number of major issues herein involved, but time does not permit me to discuss in full particular all of my concepts in regard to this. However, I am sure that in general your views will coincide with mine. I trust that I may count on you for cooperation in fighting for the preservation of our fundamental rights, without jeopardizing the common interests of all Americans.



Mr/ N.A. Yorichi-- 803 Franklin Street, Oakland, California page 2.

Very truly yours,

Minoru Yasui

MY:rs



*Legal  
Min. 1/1/42*

## Violator of Curfew *Examiner - Mar. 31, 1942* Agent for Japan

PORTLAND (Ore.), March 30.  
—(INS)—Demands for a legal test of the Federal curfew test by Minoru Yasui, Hood River Japanese attorney, sounded a sour note today when Department of Justice agents revealed that Yasui had been a paid agent of Japan until the fateful December 7 when Japan blasted Pearl Harbor.

Yasui, who holds a lieutenant's commission in the United States Army, deliberately violated the curfew regulations and voluntarily went to Portland police Saturday night to submit himself to arrest.

In tracing Yasui's career, FBI agents reported that Yasui was a graduate of the University of Oregon's Law School and that after passing the bar he obtained employment as a secretary and public relations man for the Japanese consul general at Chicago.

Yasui's father, Masuo Yasui, an alien leader of the Hood River colony, was arrested on the day war broke out as a dangerous alien. He is now held at Fort Missoula, Mont.

*S. F. Examiner  
3/31/42*



Legal  
minor Yasui  
case

## TESTS ALIEN LAW



MINORU YASUI, Japanese-American attorney of Hood River, Ore., who violated the alien curfew law in Portland, surrendered to police in order to create a test case.

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S.F. EXAMINER

3-30-42



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**JAPS IN U. S. ARMY.** *Apr. 7, 1942*

*To The San Francisco Examiner:*

International News Service under date of March 30, 1942, reports in part as follows:

Minoru Yasui, Japanese, who holds a commission in the United States Army (that of a lieutenant) was arrested for deliberately violating regulations.

Department of Justice agents revealed that Yasui had been a paid agent of Japan until the fateful day when Japan blasted Pearl Harbor.

It may be interesting to note that many Japanese hold both commissions and serve as soldiers in the United States Army. Their loyalty to this country must be questioned inasmuch as their dual citizenship is prime evidence of their subservence to their Emperor. If conditions were reversed and an American (God forbid) were in the armed service of Japan and committed an overt act, I am sure the generous Japanese would not wait for the proverbial sunrise to liquidate him.

I am not suggesting that any inhuman measures be adopted in this particular instance but I do suggest that all Japanese in the armed service of Uncle Sam be sent to same camps that aliens are sent.

In closing let me add that Yasui took the advantage of an American education, going to the University of Oregon, and paid that back with the usual Japanese treachery. And to that may be added that the lieutenant's father, Masuo Yasui, was arrested the day war broke out as a dangerous alien. He is now held at Fort Missoula, Mont. A fine family! Let us protect ourselves against any further repetition of this kind by sending ALL Japanese aliens or pseudo Japanese citizens to internment camps.

ROSE N. BLATT,  
San Francisco.

S.F. Examiner  
4-7-42



*Legal Post  
Minor Yasui*

### Decision Near In Curfew Test Case

PORTLAND, Ore., June 19 (UP) — A decision was believed near today in the case of Minoru Yasui, 26, American born Japanese who made a test case of the alien curfew order, contending it is unconstitutional.

Yasui, a Hood River, Ore., attorney, deliberately violated the curfew order as means of bringing it before a court.

The defendant's attorney, Earl F. Bernard, said the order deprived Yasui of liberty without due process of law. He said the regulation was discriminatory in that it applied to American citizens of Japanese ancestry and to no others.

Special Assistant Attorney General Charles S. Durbell said in his final argument for the prosecution that war powers granted the Government and Army under the constitution legalized Lt. Gen. John L. DeWitt's alien curfew order.

Federal Judge James Alger Fee took the case under advisement.

*Berkeley Gazette  
6/19/42*



Legal Problems?  
Minor Yasui?

### Curfew Legality To Be Argued

PORTLAND, Or., June 13 (AP)—Arguments by several lawyers called into the case by a Federal Judge will be heard Thursday in Minoru Yasui's test of the constitutionality of the military curfew for Japanese.

Yasui, 25, Hood River, Or., Japanese-American, contended yesterday that the curfew could not rightfully be applied to a citizen. He remained on the streets after hours March 28 and deliberately sought arrest to provoke a test. He holds a reserve commission as a Second Lieutenant as result of his ROTC training at the University of Oregon.

SF Chronicle  
6/14/42