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AFFIDAVIT OF TULE LAKE DEFENSE COMMITTEE

1956

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TV sent

~~\$1500 at Santa Fe~~

Tanaka, Yoshio Henry 12/15/51 -

& pd \$1000~~00~~ at Bremach & \$2000~~00~~ on 2/24/52

please mail his affidavits & instructions to

4229 Moore St, Venice, California ) add name same

OK

Cur



Please mail These persons  
AFTER MARCH 4, 1954  
Paid

File

sent - XIII YAMAMOTO, KAZUO (1) Los Angeles

sent - XVI-M FUKUMOTO, KATSUMI W. Los Angeles

sent - XV FUKUDA, KENJI Fresno

sent - XIII YOSHIMURA, ARATA Pacoima

sent - XIII YOSHIMURA, TOSHI MRS. Pacoima

sent - XIII FUKUMOTO, TOMIKO W. Los Angeles

sent - XII Sakahara, Shizuto Acampo Bal \$200.00 Promise pay evry MO.

sent - VIII Takeshima, Juntaku Stockton

sent - XV KISHIYAMA, BEN Los Angeles

sent - XIII ITO, YOSHIHARU Los Angeles

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Dear Committeeman:

Enclosed find your copy of the Affidavit made by our committeeman concerning the origin of our Committee and of the creation of the renunciants litigation trust fund. The copy is for your personal records and should be kept by you as a permanent record.

If any government agent (or anybody else for that matter) asks you any questions about our Tule Lake Defense Committee or the renunciants litigation trust fund or about any matters connected therewith you can say that you made an affidavit about the Committee and the defense trust fund, that you signed it and swore to it before a notary public and that the statements in the affidavit are true. Beyond that you should refuse to answer any questions at all and should refer any such person to our office for any further information.

You should refuse to give the names or addresses of any of the committeeman to any government agent or to discuss the above-mentioned matters or to make any written statement about any such things and you can say that you will answer such questions only if you first are served with a subpoena and thereafter are required to testify to such matters in a court.

Further, if any government agent asks you about your own renunciation or that of anybody else you should refuse to talk about it or to answer any questions and refuse to make any written statement about it and you can say that you will answer questions about it only if and after you first receive a subpoena and thereafter are required to testify about such matters in a court.

If anybody tries to ask you any questions about any of the above matters please notify our office.

TULE LAKE DEFENSE COMMITTEE

By:

Enc.



A F F I D A V I T

Each of the undersigned, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

At all times hereinafter mentioned I was a member of the Tule Lake Defense Committee, a voluntary unincorporated non-profit association made up of persons of Japanese ancestry who had been excluded and evacuated from the Pacific Coast area during 1942 under military orders issued under authority of Executive Order No. 9066, and confined to the Tule Lake Segregation Center, Newell, Modoc County, California, under Executive Order 9102, and placed under the control of the War Relocation Authority, and including some internees who once were confined in the Alien Internment Camps at Bismarck, North Dakota, Santa Fe, New Mexico, Crystal City, Texas, and Bridgeton, New Jersey.

In the latter part of 1944 and the early part of 1945 while confined in the Tule Lake Segregation Center more than 5,000 native born citizens of the United States of Japanese ancestry renounced U.S. citizenship under the provisions of Title 8 U.S. Code, Section 801(i), and Title 8 of the Nationality Regulations, Sections 316.1 - 316.9, inclusive, and thereupon were interned in that Center as "alien enemies" under the provisions of the Alien Enemy Act, Title 50 U.S. Code, Section 21 et seq., and their custody passed from the War Relocation Authority to the Attorney General of the United States.

On July 14, 1945, President Truman issued Public Proclamation No. 2655 which authorized the Attorney General to remove interned alien enemies deemed dangerous to the peace and safety of the United States because of adherence to enemy governments or to the principles of enemy governments.



During July, August and September, 1945, an increasing number of those who had renounced citizenship in the Tule Lake Segregation Center grew anxious to prevent removal to Japan, wanted to be liberated from internment and be relocated and wanted to cancel their renunciations of citizenship. A number of them sought the advice, assistance and intervention of attorney Wayne M. Collins. In August of 1945 he advised that those who desired to do something first should write letters to the Attorney General of the United States stating that they withdrew their applications for renunciation of citizenship and requesting cancellation of their renunciations on the grounds that they had been the direct result of governmental duress and private coercion and undue influence. He prepared forms of such letters and advised that those who were interested should prepare such letters and mail them promptly to the Attorney General. He advised those who were interested to consult their own personal or family lawyers to help them.

In September, 1945, a group of renunciants containing a number who subsequently became members of our committee requested Tetsujiro Nakamura who was placed on the W.R.A. free list to go to San Francisco and contact the American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California, attorney Wayne M. Collins and other lawyers to consult them as to whether there existed ways and means of preventing the removals to Japan and of obtaining release from internment.

When attorney Wayne M. Collins was called to the Tule Lake Center in September, 1945, to advise a growing number of renunciants of their rights he advised that each should send a letter to the Attorney General cancelling his renunciation and that each contact his own personal or family lawyer to protect his rights, to take legal steps to get liberated from detention, to prevent removal to Japan and also to try to cancel the renunciation.



In September and in early October, 1945, when he returned to Tule Lake at the request of many renunciants he suggested to us that we could select a small committee of renunciants to act as trustees to manage and control any funds contributed to a common defense fund for the group desiring legal representation and the trustee committee could decide what attorneys should be obtained to represent them individually or in groups. He pointed out that litigation for so many persons would take a great deal of time and money and that there was no way of predicting what could be accomplished or how much time and money such proceedings might involve. We were given like advice by other counsel and by the American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California.

Prior thereto and thereafter various renunciants and small groups of internees contacted various attorneys with requests that such attorneys intervene for them but none seemed willing to represent them. The American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California was willing to assist the renunciants. At one time it offered to act as trustee of any funds that might be raised by the internees for litigation purposes. However, individuals and the small committees and our own defense committee which finally was organized in camp and became known as the Tule Lake Defense Committee raised objections to having an organization act as a disclosed trustee of funds because many thought any funds the internees raised might be ordered blocked by the Alien Property Custodian or the Attorney General or that a bank might refuse to accept deposits of funds contributed by persons asserted to be alien enemies or might refuse to allow money once deposited to be withdrawn. If such a thing resulted there was a generalized fear that any litigation commenced on their behalf would be ended abruptly and they would be left at the mercy of the government which had classed them as alien enemies and that they would be removed forthwith to Japan under



the Alien Enemy Act and Public Proclamation No. 2655.

The Tule Lake War Relocation Center (which had become a Segregation Center) where evacuees were confined was divided into about 74 blocks of barracks, each block containing about 14 barracks for living quarters. A group of approximately nine blocks of barracks constituted One Ward. In this Center approximately 18,000 evacuees were confined pursuant to military orders. The camp was under the management of the War Relocation Authority and the renunciants in the Center were internees in custody of the Attorney General.

From discussions at meetings of the Block representatives, of the Ward representatives and of many internees whose rights were involved and who were interested in asserting their legal rights and remedies and from discussions with various members of the War Relocation Authority staff and personnel, the advice that had been given by Mr. Collins and other attorneys whose advice and services had been sought by a number of individual internees and by groups of internees, and the suggestions of the American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California it was generally understood by the renunciants that it was problematical what actually, if anything, could be accomplished toward preventing the continued confinement and threatened removal to Japan and of cancellation of the renunciations of those who had renounced their citizenship. It was believed by many internees that lawsuits would prove to be fruitless and that removal to Japan would ensue. It was also believed by many that lawsuits might prove productive of good results and that it was worth taking a chance on lawsuits. Mr. Collins was hopeful that something could be accomplished.

After renunciation and the advent of V-J Day, being faced with the threat of removal to Japan, the renunciants in each of the blocks who were interested in doing something about their status elected a Block representative to be a member of



a defense committee for the purpose of having their representatives consider ways and means of avoiding removal to Japan and of obtaining release from confinement and to take action thereon and to elect Ward representatives for such purposes. The Block representatives then held meetings and elected from their group Ward representatives. The Ward representatives then held a series of meetings and from this group elected an Executive Committee of five persons, Harry Uchida of Block 3717-D, Chairman, Yasuo Honda of Block 3405-D, Yoshiro Kaku of Block 8115-I, Fumio Masuoka of Block 5603-C, and George Tsuetaki of Block 4004-D. The Block representatives, including the Ward representatives, instructed the Executive Committee of five persons to negotiate for the legal services of attorney Wayne M. Collins.

The Executive Committee thereafter first verbally and later in writing was authorized by each of the renunciants in the camp who was interested in doing something about his status to negotiate for and obtain the legal services of attorney Wayne M. Collins upon such terms and conditions, verbal or in writing, as the Executive Committee might decide, in an effort to obtain their release from continued internment and the threat of removal to Japan and to cancel their renunciations of citizenship if possible. We requested him to come to Tule Lake Segregation Center.

The Executive Committee, pursuant to authorization from a large number of the internees who had renounced citizenship, negotiated for the services of Mr. Collins. He could not guarantee and we could not foresee whether lawsuits would have any success or what the Government might do or whether the court might do anything to prevent the removal of renunciants to Japan. There was no way to predict with any accuracy the contingencies that might arise in the immediate future. It was believed by the Committee that a comprehensive written agreement could not be entered into with Mr. Collins because of the problems that



existed and contingencies that might arise. We did not know and could not foretell whether class lawsuits would produce any results at all or whether individual suits might have to be filed which would involve prohibitive court costs, whether bonds would have to be posted and whether resort would have to be made to purchasing favorable publicity to help the cause. Mr. Collins could not give us positive answers on these points or tell us how long litigation might last. We were faced with the uncertainty of the amount of funds that could be raised for litigation purposes and what the overall costs, expenses and attorney fees might amount to. The number of internees who might desire representation was not known. We did not know what the court or courts would do or what the Government might do. All of these uncertainties made it too difficult if not impossible, under the circumstances, to embody specific provisions in a written agreement which would take all contingencies into consideration. The Committee therefore, after considering many proposals, and objections to various proposals, and the contingencies that might arise reached the conclusion that any agreement with him necessarily would have to be a verbal one that could be changed from time to time by mutual consent to meet whatever problems and contingencies might arise. Mr. Collins expressed his approval.

The Executive Committee, with the consent and approval of the Block representatives, therefore finally entered into a verbal agreement with Mr. Collins in October, 1945 whereby he agreed to file in court group class proceedings in equity seeking to cancel the renunciations and to prevent removal to Japan and to determine nationality and also class habeas corpus proceedings seeking liberation from internment on behalf of the renunciants who authorized or would authorize the Executive Committee to represent them in negotiating and entering into agreements with him upon the following terms and conditions:



The Defense Committee would receive from all pledging renunciants the amount each person pledged or would pledge or deliver to the Committee for the purpose of raising a common defense fund to commence and carry on the litigation so long as might be necessary and so far as would be possible for the class group. Our Executive Committee agreed to deliver the contributions it would receive from pledging renunciants to the defense fund to Mr. Collins as a trustee to hold and use for such litigation purposes. Our Executive Committee authorized Mr. Collins to pay from such fund all court costs and all expenses relating to such litigation, including salaries or wages for such a number of stenographers as might be required, all fees for services of such other lawyers as might be deemed by him necessary in connection with such litigation, translators' expenses, travel expenses, all stationery, printing and mailing expenses, any publicity expenses that might be necessitated, all telephone and telegraph charges, and any and all court costs and all other expenses necessary, incidental or relating to such litigation. We agreed that he was to draw from the defense fund a fee for himself of \$1,000 per month while the litigation progressed. We agreed that if the group litigation proved futile by reason of the Government arbitrarily removing the renunciants to Japan despite the class suits that any remainder of the funds then in his possession would be returned. We also agreed that in the event that he was successful in conducting or concluding the group cases satisfactorily any remainder of the fund left over was to go to him as additional fees for his services. If the defense fund was found to be insufficient at any time our Committee expressed a willingness to solicit additional contributions to the defense fund. Mr. Collins verbally agreed to represent the renunciants on such a basis and immediately entered into the performance of the duties required of him thereunder and left for San Francisco without waiting for any funds to be collected



by the Committee and to be delivered to him. He relied on our assurance that a substantial defense fund would be raised.

Our Committee having previously received pledges from interested renunciants then set about to collect the common defense fund and instructed each of the pledged and pledging renunciants who was interested in joining in the cases to obtain from the post office in Newell, California (which was the post office situated inside the Tule Lake War Relocation Center) a postal money order made payable to "Wayne M. Collins, Trustee" and to bring it to the Committee's quarters in Block 26. In the course of months each of the interested renunciants who was able financially obtained such a postal money order for the sum he was contributing to the defense fund up to \$100. A large number obtained such postal money orders made out for lesser sums. They brought the postal money orders and a few of them cashier checks and personal checks, all made payable to "Wayne M. Collins, Trustee", to the Committee's quarters where each signed a written authority to the Executive Committee authorizing the Executive Committee:

"upon such terms and conditions as they are able to obtain, to retain or engage the professional legal services of Wayne M. Collins, attorney-at-law... to represent the undersigned as a class as he, under the circumstances, may deem fit or desirable, in the commencement and prosecution, so far as practicable, in such court or courts of original jurisdiction as he may deem desirable or proper of such a class suit or suits at law or in equity or in special proceedings as he, in his discretion, may deem desirable or expedient, in an endeavor to obtain the discharge of the undersigned from the custody in which the undersigned presently are held and to avoid the deportation of the undersigned from the United States or in an endeavor to revoke the renunciations of U.S. citizenship, heretofore made by the undersigned while in such custody, in an effort to preserve the U.S. citizenship of the undersigned, and to authorize him as such attorney to select or to engage the services of such other attorneys or to associate such other attorneys with him in and about the same as he may desire, and we authorize said committee to enter into such oral and written agreements in connection with said matters with said Wayne M. Collins as may be necessary or expedient to obtain his services", etc.



Our Committee also accepted for inclusion in said agreement to receive the benefits of such litigation several hundred signatory renunciants whom our Committee deemed to be hardship cases who were financially unable to make any contribution to the common defense fund and also arranged to include therein renunciants who had been removed from Tule Lake and interned in the Alien Internment Camps at Bismarck, N.D., and Santa Fe, New Mexico, and later Crystal City, Texas, and Bridgeton, New Jersey. We advised the committeemen in the camps at Bismarck, Santa Fe and Crystal City to send whatever contributions were to be made to the defense fund by renunciant internees in those camps direct to attorney Collins' office and to have the contributions sent to him as trustee and this was done thereafter in 1946 through Harry Takeuchi, committeeman at Bismarck, and by Hayao Chuman and Isao Tokoshima from Crystal City, covering the contributions to the trust fund from renunciants at Santa Fe.

In the latter part of October when Mr. Collins returned to Tule Lake Center accompanied by attorney Theodore Tamba our Committee and he re-affirmed our verbal agreement and, in addition, our Committee signified its intention that in the event Mr. Collins died or became incapacitated that Mr. Tamba should take over the trust fund and carry on unless and until our Committee made other arrangements and Mr. Tamba assured us he would be willing to do so.

Our Defense Committee delivered to Mr. Collins the names of the persons who desired to have their rights litigated and who were signatories or were going to be signatories to said agreement with the Committee as they applied, in the form of lists of their names and questionnaires from them and also in supplying him with their names and data relating to them by relaying such information to him by mail and by telephone before the lawsuits were filed and thereafter covering those who subsequently applied to our Committee to be joined as parties thereto and were joined.



On November 13, 1945, Mr. Collins filed in the U.S. District Court at San Francisco, two mass class suits in equity and to determine nationality on behalf of approximately 1,000 renunciants, to prevent removal to Japan, to liberate from internment and to cancel the renunciations. The court numbers of said suits were 25294 and 25295 and entitled Abo, et al. v. Clark, et al., and Furuya, et al., v. Clark, et al. He also filed two mass class habeas corpus proceedings in that Court on behalf of the renunciants who had signified to our Defense Committee that they desired such representation. Their numbers were 25296 and 25297 and entitled Abo, et al., v. Williams, and Furuya, et al., v. Williams. He also later filed like proceedings in equity and to determine nationality for a later group of renunciants in that Court entitled Akata et al., v. Clark, et al., No. 28936. He obtained orders staying the removal of any of the plaintiffs and petitioners in the lawsuits from being removed from the Tule Lake War Relocation Center and caused the defendants and respondent in the various lawsuits to be served with copies of the complaints, petitions in habeas corpus and the staying orders. Thereafter, in course of time the number of internees who applied to our Committee to be joined in the litigation increased to 4754 persons.

Many members of the Defense Committee at large and the Executive Committee and many of the renunciants, prior to the filing of the suits, and for a long time afterward, were worried about the possibility of the Alien Property Custodian seizing or tying up the funds they pledged themselves to deliver or had delivered to the Committee and thereby preventing them from maintaining the litigation. Many also were concerned that if the Alien Property Custodian did not take any adverse steps to seize or restrict the funds that any bank in which the litigation trust funds would be deposited might be blocked or frozen by the bank because the funds were to be used for the benefit of



renunciants who were asserted to be alien enemies by reason of their renunciations. Our Committee wanted to make sure no such thing would happen. Therefore our Executive Committee on October 30, 1945, with the approval of the Block representatives, executed a written special power of attorney to Tetsujiro Nakamura in the Tule Lake Center, under which Mr. Nakamura who was counselor in the camp legal aid office of the Project Attorney was instructed to carry out our intentions relating to deposits of the trust funds in a banking institution and instructed him, as they already had instructed Mr. Collins, to make certain the funds would not be deposited in any accounts which would disclose to the depository the fact that the funds were held by a trustee for renunciants who were deemed to be alien enemies which might cause the bank to block or freeze the funds and thus to bring to an abrupt end any litigation commenced on their behalf. He also was authorized by our Executive Committee therein to restrict the amount of any emergency expenditure that attorney Collins could make from the trust fund.

After the lawsuits were filed in court the funds that had been and were being collected by our Committee and delivered to Mr. Collins, as accumulated, were deposited in a commercial "Special Account", opened December 17, 1945, in the San Francisco Bank and in a savings account opened January 15, 1946, in that bank in his name in accordance with approval and instructions of our Executive Committee and of our authorized agent Tetsujiro Nakamura who handled the preparation of the deposit lists and who personally was present at the time and place of the creation of those bank accounts. Our Executive Committee had engaged Mr. Nakamura to go to Mr. Collins' office to carry out our policies, to keep us informed, and with instructions to assist Mr. Collins on behalf of our Committee on a salary which our Committee set at \$250 per month and had



instructed Mr. Collins to pay him that salary from the trust fund. Mr. Nakamura faithfully carried out his duties and sometime in 1947 voluntarily waived further compensation from the fund and obtained other employment although he continued to perform such services in his spare time until our Committee later placed him in charge of the office we opened in Los Angeles.

Thereafter Fumio Masuoka, treasurer of our Committee, was released from internment sometime about the end of January, 1946. He was instructed by our Executive Committee in February, 1946 to proceed to Mr. Collins' office in San Francisco to assist Mr. Nakamura, to keep us informed and to collaborate with Mr. Collins. We instructed Mr. Collins to pay him a salary of \$250 per month from the trust fund so long as he continued in such occupation. Mr. Masuoka also was instructed to turn over to Mr. Nakamura certain of our Defense Committee records. He proceeded to Mr. Collins' office in San Francisco, delivered the records to Mr. Nakamura and thereafter assisted Mr. Nakamura and collaborated with Mr. Collins in connection with the cases for a period of several months until he moved away from San Francisco.

Ever since 1945 I have been a member of the said Tule Lake Defense Committee and I state that all of the funds transmitted to Mr. Collins by and through the instrumentality of our Tule Lake Defense Committee, which has always been the only source of raising such funds, were funds our Committee transmitted to him and caused to be transmitted to him as trustee and authorized him as trustee to hold and use for litigation purposes of the above-mentioned lawsuits. The account in the San Francisco Bank maintained by him as a "Special Account" and the trustee savings account No. 792754 in his name "W. M. Collins, Trustee" opened by him on June 20, 1951, were opened and maintained by him with our knowledge, consent and approval. All deposits made therein for our active class group litigation constituted trust funds transmitted and caused to be delivered to him by and through the



instrumentality of our Committee on our drive to obtain contributions to the defense fund for the purpose of enabling him as an attorney to conduct the litigation for the renunciant contributors and as trustee to hold and to use said funds to carry on the active class group cases to a conclusion or so far as practicable.

It was verbally agreed by Mr. Collins and by our Committee and we confirmed to him that all the said funds to be delivered and transmitted to him and held by him as trustee were to be used by him to pay all the court costs of the litigation and all expenses in connection therewith, including the hiring of other lawyers to assist him, all salaries for stenographers, translators, all travel expenses, all telephone and telegraphic expenses, all printing and stationery expenses and all necessary and incidental expenses involved in and about the conduct of said litigation. Our Committee agreed that he was to draw from the trust fund the sum of \$1,000 per month as legal fees for him, in partial payment for his services, and authorized him to make such drawings and agreed that in the event the class group cases at any time were concluded leaving a remainder of said fund on hand, that such remainder would go to him as additional compensation for the legal services rendered by him. Our Committee assured him that if the funds were insufficient to litigate the cases to a final conclusion on the issue of citizenship that it would do its best to raise additional funds from the group to carry on and also to award him additional compensation. The stated monthly rate of legal fees our Committee authorized him to draw from the trust fund was not varied by the Committee until 1953 when we authorized it to be doubled.

In order to carry out the undertaking of our Committee to the renunciants who authorized us to represent them, the number of which ultimately reached some 4754 renunciants who in course of time were joined in the lawsuits and who originally



had been detained in Tule Lake War Relocation Center from which some had been removed to the Alien Internment Camps at Bismarck, N.D., Santa Fe, New Mexico, Crystal City, Texas, and Bridgeton, N.J., our Committee decided to open an office for their benefit. Accordingly we opened our office in Los Angeles where the largest number of the renunciants concentrated after liberation from internment and upon relocating, and placed our members Tetsujiro Nakamura and Toraichi Kono in active charge. Through that office as our headquarters our Committee has kept in contact with all the renunciants involved in said litigation, kept track of their changes of address, assisted them in complying with the laws relating to aliens, under proper types of protest forms, in collecting and assembling evidence for them for use in court and in connection with the administrative remedy made available to them, and in obtaining from them contributions to the common defense trust fund for the purpose of carrying on the active class group cases to a conclusion and in keeping them informed on all matters connected with the cases by personal contact through committeemen and by mail and by telephone. In December 1955 our Committee decided that inasmuch as the administrative remedy proceedings were well on the road to completion that there no longer was a necessity to maintain our office, the expense of which constituted a drain on the trust fund, and, in consequence, we closed the office and gave written notice thereof by mail to all the persons in the group whose cases were still active and also notified Mr. Collins.

Our Committee ever has been aware of the times and amounts of contributions to the defense fund obtained from the renunciants involved in said lawsuits. It has been our Committee alone without any outside help or assistance that has raised the funds that constitute the common defense trust funds and all the funds were contributed by renunciant parties to the



litigation and none from any outside source. A large number have never made any contributions to the fund because of poverty and the maximum contribution to the fund made by any one person is the sum of \$300 which figure was fixed and determined by our Committee.

Mr. Collins never attended any meetings of our Committee after the meetings we had with him in the Tule Lake War Relocation Center and never was invited to attend any of our meetings. He never had anything to do with our making of decisions or anything to do with any decision of our Committee to raise any funds or with the raising of any funds for the purposes of this litigation. On rare occasions, however, he consented to assist our Committee at our request in a very limited way.

Our Committee issued receipts to all the renunciants who made contributions to the common defense fund and we fixed the maximum contribution that any one person could make. We transmitted to Mr. Collins' office and caused to be transmitted to his office periodically the contributions received from contributing renunciants who were parties to the litigation and the names of such contributors. We also have kept him informed of their changes of address. Our Committee received from Mr. Collins' office periodically copies of all the bank deposit lists containing the data relating to banked sums, the type of remittances, the clearing house numbers, the amount contributed by each and the names of the remitters. In addition thereto, our Committee received from him annual itemized financial reports containing statements of the total amount of trust funds received and deposited, the deductions covering authorized operating expenses, salaries of stenographers, travel expenses, mailing expenses, court costs, printing expenses, stationery expenses, telephone and telegraph expenses, fees paid to other attorneys for services rendered in connection with the class group cases, the agreed monthly fees drawn by him, the sums returned to our Committee at our request for our own office operating expenses



(this being necessitated by reason of the fact that our Committee made it a policy and practice to request that contributions to the common defense fund be made out payable to Mr. Collins and not to our Committee) and a statement of the remainder of the defense fund on hand. Our authorized agent Tetsujiro Nakamura who is a member of our Committee each year audited the trust fund records and accounts in Mr. Collins' possession and kept us informed of the current financial condition of the fund.

The lawsuits resulted in staying the removal of the internees to Japan. They also resulted in "mitigation hearings" conducted in Tule Lake, Bismarck, and Santa Fe and as a result large numbers of internees were released from internment and were permitted to relocate and return to their homes. They also resulted in course of time in the parole of the remaining renunciants in Crystal City, Texas, and Bridgeton, New Jersey, into the custody of Mr. Collins and, in due course of time, into outright releases from internment for the remaining paroled internees and finally in the cancellation of the removal orders of the Attorney General which had commanded their removal to Japan. They included suits in the U.S. District Court, appeals and defense against appeals to the Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court. They also resulted in final judgments cancelling the renunciations of approximately 1,000. They also resulted thereafter in course of time in administrative remedies involving some 3500 persons which was agreed upon between the Attorney General and his staff of lawyers and Mr. Collins under which a great number obtained administrative clearance. To date more than 2,000 have had final judgments entered in their favor cancelling their renunciations of citizenship and declaring them to be native born citizens.



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

} ss.

On this 8th day of December, 1956, before me, Elmer S. Yamamoto, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared, Harry W. Uchida, Tetsujiro Nakamura, Toraichi Kono, Masami Sasaki, Hatsuto Okita, H.K. Takahashi, Yoshiro Kaku, Yoshio Shibata, Kouichi Matsuoka, Tomiji Shono, Yoshio Kiyohiro, Minoru Ueda, Kiyoshi Kimura, Tanemi Obatake, Hayao Chuman, known to me, to be the person whose names are subscribed to the within Instrument, and acknowledged that they executed the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal the day and year in this certificate first above written.

Elmer S. Yamamoto  
Notary Public in and for said  
County and State.

My Commission Expires Feb. 16, 1959



STATE OF CALIFORNIA,  
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

On this 11th day of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and fifty-six  
before me HENRY TAKETA a Notary Public in and for the County of Sacramento, personally  
appeared YASUO HONDA and KATSUMI MORISHIGE



known to me to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the  
within instrument, and they duly acknowledged to me that they  
executed the same.

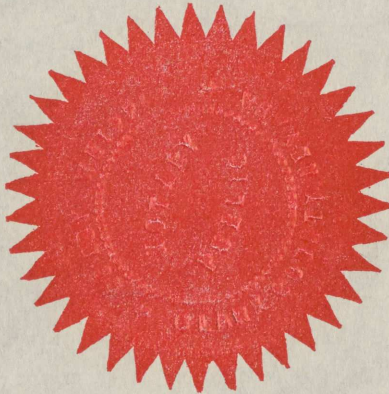
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed  
my Official Seal the day and year in this certificate first above written.

Henry Taketa  
Notary Public in and for the County of Sacramento, State of California

My Commission Expires May 28, 19 57



STATE OF ~~CALIFORNIA~~ <sup>NEVADA</sup> }  
County of ~~Los Angeles~~ <sup>CLARK</sup> } ss.



ON THIS 9 day of December, 1951, before me,  
LEROY WHIPPLE  
a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared  
HIROYUKI TAKEYAMA  
\_\_\_\_\_, known to me,

to be the person \_\_\_\_\_ whose name IS subscribed to the within  
Instrument, and acknowledged to me that \_\_\_\_\_ he \_\_\_\_\_ executed the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal  
the day and year in this certificate first above written.

LeRoy Whipple  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public in and for said County and State.



STATE OF CALIFORNIA, }  
County of San Joaquin, } ss.

On this 11th day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and fifty-six before me, Joseph I. Omachi, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, residing therein, duly commissioned and qualified, personally appeared

Takeshi Kosugi, Arata Hayashida and  
Ben Watanabe

personally known to me to be the person s described in and whose names are subscribed to the within instrument, and the y acknowledged to me that the y executed the same.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Official Seal at my office in the County of San Joaquin, the day and year in this certificate first above written.

Joseph I. Omachi  
Notary Public, in and for the County of San Joaquin, State of California

ACKNOWLEDGMENT—GENERAL

QUINN'S --- OFFICE SUPPLIES • EQUIPMENT • BOOKS --- 330 E. WEBER AVE., STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA



STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA } ss.

On this 12<sup>th</sup> day of DECEMBER in the year one thousand nine hundred and FIFTY-SIX  
before me, Shigeru Yamaichi a Notary Public in and for the

County of Santa Clara, State of California, residing therein,  
duly commissioned and sworn, personally appeared

MASARU YAMAICHI

known to me to be the person whose name subscribed to the within instrument  
and acknowledged to me that he executed the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal  
in the county of Santa Clara the day and year in this  
certificate first above written.

Shigeru Yamaichi

Notary Public in and for the County of Santa Clara, State of Calif.

Acknowledgment—General.

My Commission Expires Oct. 5, 1959



State of California }  
County of Contra Costa } SS



GENERAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

My Commission Expires

November 19, 1958

FORM NF26X-1 FICA Oakland, Calif.

On This 12th day of December in the year One Thousand  
Nine Hundred and fifty six before me Luna M. Wendt  
a Notary Public in and for the County of Contra Costa State of California, residing  
therein, duly commissioned and sworn, personally appeared  
Minoru Matsumoto

known to me to be the person described in and whose name is subscribed  
to the within instrument,

and he acknowledged to me that he executed the same

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Official Seal, the day and  
year in this certificate first above written.

Luna M. Wendt NOTARY PUBLIC  
In and for said County of Contra Costa State of California



INDIVIDUAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

State of California

County of Contra Costa

} SS.

On this 12th day of December, 1956, before me,

Frances J. Winton, a Notary Public in and for said Contra Costa County,

(SEAL)

personally appeared Mikio Toyota

known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged that he executed the same.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

Frances J. Winton  
Notary Public in and for said Contra Costa County and State

My commission expires My commission expires 2-16-19



STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

County of Placer

} ss.

On this 11th day of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and fifty six

before me, Elmer D. Powers, a Notary Public in and for the

County of Placer, State of California,  
residing therein, duly commissioned and sworn, personally appeared

Masayuki Yego

known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument,  
and acknowledged to me that he executed the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal  
in the County of Placer the day and  
year in this certificate first above written.

Notary Public in and for the County of Placer  
State of California.

Feb 3, 1960



STATE OF CALIFORNIA,  
City and County of San Francisco } ss.

On this *thirtieth* day of *December* in the year One Thousand Nine Hundred and fifty *six*

before me, MICHI OKA ONUMA, a Notary Public in and for the City  
and County of San Francisco, personally appeared .....

*Iwao Shimizu, Isao Nakamura,*  
*Shigeyuki Isari, Edward F.*  
*Masuko and Takao Yamamoto*

known to me to be the persons whose names *are* subscribed  
to the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that *they* executed  
the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed  
my Official Seal at my office in the City and County of San Francisco, the  
day and year in this certificate first above written.

*Michioka Onuma*  
.....  
Notary Public in and for the City and County of San Francisco,  
State of California




My Commission Expires March 25, 1957



STATE OF ILLINOIS )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF COOK )

On this 15th day of December, 1956, before me, Vivian Crowe, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared, George F. Tsuetaki and Roger Narimatsu, known to me to be the person whose names are subscribed to the within Instrument, and acknowledged that they executed the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal the day and year in this certificate first above written.

  
Vivian Crowe  
Notary Public in and for said  
County and State.



## INDIVIDUAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

STATE OF California }  
COUNTY OF Santa Clara } ss.:

On this 20th day of December, 1956, before me personally  
came Larry Kataoka, to me known, who, being by  
me duly sworn, did depose and say that he resides in Redwood City;  
that he is the individual described in and who executed the foregoing instrument and he duly acknowledged to me  
that he executed the same.



Eugene Yamauchi

Notary Public

My Commission expires Oct. 5, 1959



STATE OF CALIFORNIA, }  
County of Sacramento } ss.

On this 22nd day of December in the year One Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty-six

before me, S. MIYAMOTO, a Notary Public in and for the County of Sacramento, personally appeared

\* \* \* KOICHI UYENO \* \* \*

known to me to be the same person whose name is subscribed to the within  
instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Official Seal,  
at my office in the County of Sacramento, the day and year in this certificate first above written.

(General)

Notary Public in and for the County of Sacramento, State of California.



~~My Commission Expires October 6, 1954.~~  
My commission expires Oct. 6, 1958



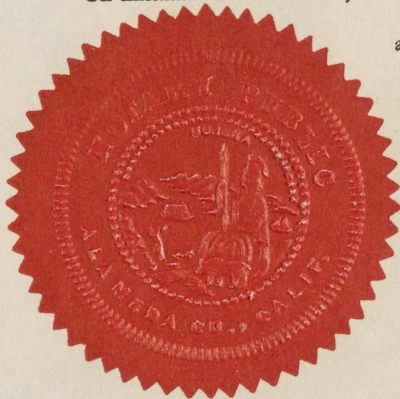
STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
County of Alameda } ss.

On this 26th day of December A.D. 1956 before me Frank T. Yamasaki

a Notary Public in and for the said County and State, residing therein, duly commissioned and sworn,  
personally appeared Roy Shiraishi

known to me to be the person... whose name is subscribed to the within instrument,  
and acknowledged to me that ...he... executed the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal the day  
and year in this certificate first above written.



My Commission expires Jan. 5, 1960

*General Acknowledgement*

Frank T. Yamasaki  
Frank T. Yamasaki

*Notary Public in and for said County and State*



We, the undersigned, constitute the members of the  
Tule Lake Defense Committee and sign this affidavit each on  
behalf of himself and on behalf of all renunciant litigants  
in the lawsuits mentioned herein.

<u>Harry W. Uchida</u>	<u>Samy Takeuchi</u>
<u>Tetsujiro Nakamura</u>	<u>Takeshi Kosugi</u>
<u>Paruchichi Kano</u>	<u>Osato Haganishi</u>
<u>Masami Suzuki</u>	<u>Ben Watanabe</u>
<u>Wataru Ohta</u>	<u>Yasuo Honda</u>
<u>Al Tanaka</u>	<u>Katsumi Horishige</u>
<u>Goshio Kaku</u>	<u>Masayuki Uye</u>
<u>Goshio Shikata</u>	<u>Mikio Toyota</u>
<u>Tomiji Shono</u>	<u>Minoru Matsumoto</u>
<u>Kornets Wateada</u>	<u>Masaru Yamashita</u>
<u>Goshio Kujohira</u>	<u>Iwao Shimizu</u>
<u>Minoru Ueda</u>	<u>Iwao Kamekawa</u>
<u>Kujoshi Kinura</u>	<u>Shigeyuki Iwami</u>
<u>Janemi Ohtake</u>	<u>Edward F. Masuka</u>
<u>Hayao Chumang</u>	<u>Takeo Yamamoto</u>
<u>Shinichi Takaya</u>	<u>George F. Tsutaki</u>
<u>Samy Kato</u>	<u>Roger Kunita</u>
<u>Ray Shiraishi</u>	<u>Koichi Uye</u>



STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

County of ~~Los Angeles~~ FRESNO

} ss.



ON THIS 10<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1956, before me,

J. R. Hiraka  
a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared

Harry Akouchi, known to me,

to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within  
Instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal  
the day and year in this certificate first above written.

J. R. Hiraka  
Notary Public in and for said County and State.

My commission expires Feb. 15, 1958 0077



Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8 day of  
December, 1956 by Harry W. Uchida, Jeteiji Nakamura,  
Toraichi Kono, Masami Sasaki, Hatsumi Okita,  
H.K. Takahashi, Yoshino Kaku, Yoshio Shibata,  
Kouichi Matenoka, Tomiji Shono, Yoshio Kujohara,  
Masaru Ueda, Kujohi Kimura, Garen Obataki,  
and Nagao Chuman

whose names are subscribed to the above affidavit.

Eileen S. Yamamoto  
Notary Public in and for the County  
of Los Angeles, State of California.  
My Commission Expires Feb. 16, 1959

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10<sup>th</sup> day of  
December, 1956 by Harry Takeuchi

whose name is subscribed to the above affidavit.

J. R. Leraoka  
Notary Public in and for the County  
of Fresno, State of California.  
My Commission expires Feb. 15, 1958

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 11<sup>th</sup> day of  
December, 1956, by Takechi Kosugi  
Arata Hayashida and Ben  
Watanabe

whose names are subscribed to the above affidavit.

Joseph J. Ormachi  
Notary Public in and for the County  
of San Joaquin, State of California.



Subscribed and sworn to before me this 11th day of December,  
1956 by Yasuo Honda and Katsumi  
Morishige

whose name is subscribed to the above affidavit.

Nancy Sakata  
Notary Public in and for the County  
of ~~Alameda~~ Sacramento, State of California.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12 day of December,  
1956 by Minoru Matsumoto

whose name<sup>is</sup> ~~are~~ subscribed to the above affidavit.

LUNA M. WENDT Luna m. Wendt  
Notary Public in and for the County  
of ~~Sacramento~~ Contra Costa, State of California.  
My Commission Expires Nov. 19, 1958

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 13th day of December,  
1956 by Iwas Shunji, Iwas Naomikawa, Shigeyuki  
Iseri, Edward F. Masuoka and Takeo  
Yamanoto

whose names are subscribed to the above affidavit.

Michi Oka Okumura  
Notary Public in and for the City and  
County of San Francisco, State of  
California.  
My Commission Expires March 25, 1957

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12th day of December,  
1956 by MASARU YAMAICHI

whose name is subscribed to the above affidavit.

Shigemasa Yamaichi  
Notary Public in and for the County  
of Santa Clara, State of California.  
My commission expires  
Oct. 5, 1959



Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12th day of December,  
1956 by Miki Toyota

whose name is subscribed to the above affidavit.

Frances J. Winters  
Notary Public in and for the County  
of Contra Costa, State of California.  
My commission expires 2-16-59

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9 day of December,  
1956 by HIROYUKI TAKEYAMA

whose names are subscribed to the above affidavit.

LeRoy Dwyer  
Notary Public in and for the County  
of CLARK, State of California.  
NEVADA

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15 day of December,  
1956 by George F. Tsutakawa & Roger Katsunatsu  
whose name is subscribed to the above affidavit.

Virgil Crowe  
Notary Public in and for the County  
of Cook, State of Illinois.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 11th day of December  
1956 by Masayuki Yego whose name is subscribed to the above  
affidavit.

Elmer D. Powers  
Notary Public in and for the County  
of Placer, State of California.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th  
day of December 1956 by Larry Kataoka  
whose name is subscribed to the above  
affidavit

Shigen Yamashiro  
Notary Public in and for the County of  
Santa Clara, State of California.

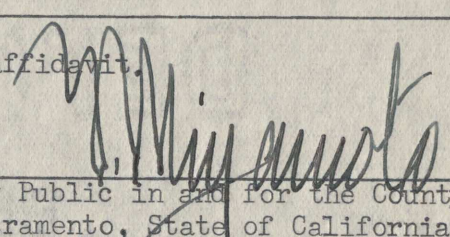
my commission expires Oct. 5, 1959



Subscribed and sworn to before me this 22nd day of December,  
1956 by KOICHI UYENO

whose name is subscribed to the above affidavit.

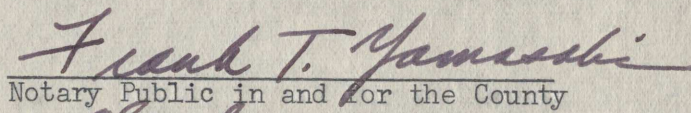
( S E A L )

  
Notary Public in and for the County  
of Sacramento, State of California.  
My commission expires Oct. 6, 1958

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 26th day of December,  
1956 by Roy Shiraishi

whose name is subscribed to the above affidavit.

( S E A L )

  
Notary Public in and for the County  
of Alameda, State of California.  
My commission expires Jan. 5, 1960



(COPY OF 1ST PAGE OF AGREEMENT REFERRED  
TO ON PAGE 8 OF AFFIDAVIT OF THE COMMITTEEMEN OF THE  
TULE LAKE DEFENSE COMMITTEE)

The undersigned native-born Americans and claimants to U.S. citizenship, presently detained at the War Relocation Center (Tule Lake Center) near Newell, Modoc County, California, hereby jointly and severally authorize a committee composed of the following named persons, to-wit: Harry Uchida, Blk. 3717-D; Yasuo Honda,

Blk. 3405-D; Yoshiro Kaku, Blk. 8115-I; Fumio Masuoka, Blk. 5603-C;  
and George Tsuetaki, Blk. 4004-D

upon such terms and conditions as they are able to obtain, to retain or engage the professional legal services of Wayne M. Collins, attorney-at-law, 1721 Mills Tower, San Francisco, California, to represent the undersigned as a class as he, under the circumstances, may deem fit or desirable, in the commencement and prosecution, so far as practicable, in such court or courts of original jurisdiction as he may deem desirable or proper of such a class suit or suits at law or in equity or in special proceedings as he, in his discretion, may deem desirable or expedient, in an endeavor to obtain the discharge of the undersigned from the custody in which the undersigned presently are held and to avoid the deportation of the undersigned from the United States or in an endeavor to revoke the renunciations of U.S. citizenship, heretofore made by the undersigned while in such custody, in an effort to preserve the U.S. citizenship of the undersigned, and to authorize him as such attorney to select or to engage the services of such other attorneys or to associate such other attorneys with him in and about the same as he may desire, and we authorize said committee to enter into such oral and written agreements in connection with said matters with said Wayne M. Collins as may be necessary or expedient to obtain his services, it being understood and agreed between the undersigned and said committee that in the event any member of said committee fails to act as a member thereof or is removed from the WRA camp aforesaid or is unable to act as such a member for any other reason whatever a majority of the remaining members of the committee may appoint a substitute for such committeeman simply by sending written notice to the said Wayne M. Collins.

In witness whereof we have signed our names hereto this  
\_\_\_\_ day of October, 1945, at Tule Lake Center, California.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Block Number</u>
1. Hiroyuki Taketaya	8007-I
2. Hatsuto Okita	4417-E
3. Masaru Yamaichi	2704-D
4. Minoru Sasaki	1603-C
5. Hideo Konishi	2217-C
6. Chiyoko Doris Murano	3015-B



The signatures of the committeemen of the Tule Lake Defense Committee appearing on page 17 of their affidavit are as follows:

Harry W. Uchida	Harry Takeuchi
Tetsujiro Nakamura	Koichi Uyeno
Toraichi Kono	George R. Tsuetaki
Masami Sasaki	Roger Narimatsu
Hatsuto Okita	Iwao Shimizu
H. K. Takahashi	Iwao Namekawa
Yoshio Kaku	Shigeyuki Iseri
Yoshio Shibata	Edward F. Masuoka
Kouichi Matsuka	Takeo Yamamoto
Tomiji Shono	Masaru Yamaichi
Yoshio Kiyoshiro	Minoru Matsumoto
Minoru Ueda	Mikio Toyota
Kiyoshi Kimura	Masayuki Yego
Tanemi Obatake	Yasuo Honda
Hayao Chuman	Katsumi Morishige
Hiroshi Taketaya	Takeshi Kosugi
Larry Kataoka	Arata Hayashida
Roy Shiraishi	Ben Watanabe

The notaries public who administered their oaths are as follows:

Elmer S. Yamamoto	- Los Angeles County, Calif.
Y. R. Hiraoka	- Fresno County, Calif.
Joseph I. Omachi	- San Joaquin County, Calif.
Henry Taketa	- Sacramento County, Calif.
Luna M. Wendt	- Contra Costa County, Calif.
Michi Onuma	- San Francisco County, Calif.
Shigeru Yamaichi	- Santa Clara County, Calif.
Frances J. Winton	- Contra Costa County, Calif.
LeRoy W. Nepple	- Clark County, Nevada
Vivian Crowe	- Cook County, Illinois
Elmer Power	- Placer County, Calif.
Shigeru Yamaichi	- Santa Clara County, Calif.
S. Miyamoto	- Sacramento County, Calif.
Frank T. Yamasaki	- Alameda County, Calif.