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GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

MISCELLANEOUS

1948

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C

RICHARD A. MCBEE  
DIRECTOR OF CORRECTIONS



EARL WARREN  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

## Department of Corrections

CALIFORNIA STATE PRISON  
SAN QUENTIN

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE  
TO THE WARDEN

CLINTON T. DUFFY, WARDEN

January 29, 1948

ATTN: JOHN DOUGLAS SHORT

PLEASE REFER TO THE SEEKERS  
FILE NO.

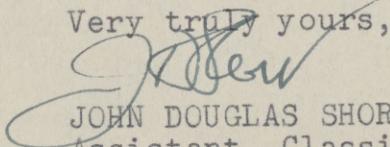
Wayne Collins, Attorney at Law,  
Mills Tower,  
San Francisco, California.

Dear Mr. Collins:

You will remember that we mentioned THE SEEKERS a long time ago at dinner one night at Bruce Porter's. At that time you indicated you might be willing to come over and talk to them (and listen to them). Professor Dorothy Thomas of Berkeley and Dick Nishimoto who wrote a book called SPOILAGE had planned to come over here to discuss the subject of the removal of the Japanese from California ~~and~~ the Relocation Centers. Dr. Thomas has been called East and we could not arrange the meeting. Would it be possible for you to come over here some Saturday to discuss this subject? It might be appropriate to ask Mr. Nishimoto to also attend and talk at the same meeting.

If you can spare the time to make such a visit and are inclined to be so generous, it would be greatly appreciated. We shall be happy to have you bring any friends who might be interested in attending such a meeting. If you can come you may name any Saturday you please as we have only a few meetings arranged for the future. We shall be pleased to have you arrive in time for lunch before twelve o'clock. We should appreciate very much hearing from you. We enclose a copy of a letter suggesting a similar program that might be of interest to you. (Pamphlet enclosed).

Very truly yours,

  
JOHN DOUGLAS SHORT  
Assistant Classification  
and Parole Representative

JDS/Vs.  
Encls: 2

RICHARD A. MCGEE  
DIRECTOR OF CORRECTIONS

EARL WARREN  
GOVERNOR



STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
**Department of Corrections**

CALIFORNIA STATE PRISON  
SAN QUENTIN

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE  
TO THE WARDEN

CLINTON T. DUFFY, WARDEN ATTN: JOHN DOUGLAS SHORT

January 28, 1948

THE SEEKERS

Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett  
1845 Fillmore Street,  
San Francisco, California.

PLEASE REFER TO  
FILE NO.

Dear Dr. Goodlett:

THE SEEKERS is an inmate group, the purposes of which are explained in the enclosed pamphlet. Many distinguished and generous men have attended their meetings to deliver talks and lead discussions. The meetings are held on Saturday afternoons at 12:45 and last about two hours.

It has been suggested that a meeting be arranged to discuss racial minorities and social and economic discrimination especially with reference to Negroes. One of our inmates wants to briefly discuss his attendance at a series of meetings held by a group in Paris during the war where these same subjects were discussed. At those meetings he says it appeared that quite similar problems had been met in France and that much had been done to accomplish satisfactory adjustments and understandings. It was felt that you might be willing to attend here and talk on these problems, which you will realize are very important in a prison. We have had similar meetings here attended by representatives of the Berkeley Interracial Committee. There are no doubt other persons who have worked with you that could also contribute much to such a discussion and if you could persuade them to join us we should be very happy to have them.

If you can spare the time to make us such a visit and are inclined to be so generous, it will be greatly appreciated. We shall be happy to have you bring any friends who might be interested in attending such a meeting.

January 28, 1948

Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett (Cont'd.)

If you can come you may name any Saturday you please as we have only a few meetings arranged for the future. We shall be pleased to have you arrive in time for lunch before twelve o'clock. We should appreciate very much hearing from you.

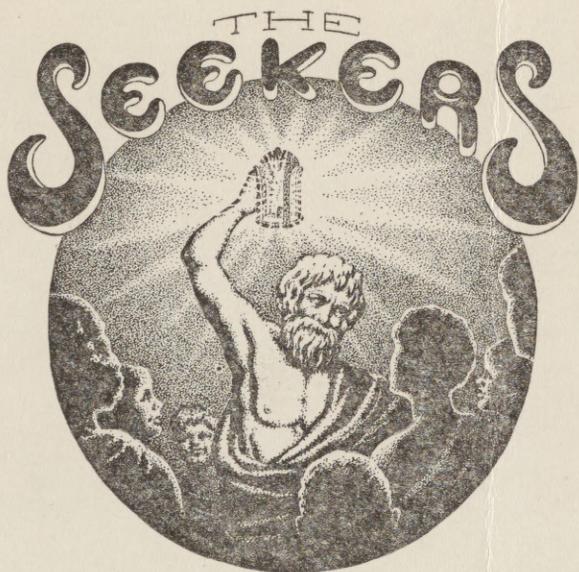
Very truly yours,

JOHN DOUGLAS SHORT  
Assistant Classification  
and Parole Representative

JDS/Vs.

Encl: Pamphlet

✓ cc Wayne Collins, Attorney at Law,  
Mills Tower,  
San Francisco, Calif.



**An Organization of Inmates of San Quentin Prison**

To exemplify the Golden Rule

To help one another and ourselves

To seek answers to problems of good

social living inside prison and outside

## THE SEEKERS

The Seekers is an organization seeking answers to such problems as: what are the conditions that cause a man to become antisocial, and what can he and society do to remedy the situation? Membership is open to any inmate who has a genuine interest in the solution of his and society's problems. The organization is democratically inspired and its activities are democratically administered; there is no distinction as to race, creed or color. It truly belongs to itself. It has no official head. Each weekly meeting is presided over by a chairman selected for that day by alphabetical rotation.

The officers of The Seekers are a Secretary and a Policy Committee. The Secretary keeps the records of the organization and conducts any correspondence authorized by the members as a body. The Policy Committee acts only in an advisory capacity. It arranges programs and carries out other assigned functions.

The group makes its own laws, and each member considers it his personal responsibility to see that the laws are respected. Every effort is directed toward making each member feel that he has a vital share in the organization, and a responsibility for its success. The procedure of the Seekers is an example of democracy in its simplest form.

## HISTORY

In the days of Oliver Cromwell there was a group of men who called themselves Seekers. They sought truth and a better way of life. John Milton and Sir Harry Vane were the outstanding leaders in the movement of that period. In our own country a similar movement was fathered by Roger Williams. These Seekers led the way in the American fight for freedom of religious worship and of political thought, race equality, and many other principles that are today considered settled, but, which, in their day, were considered radical. Much of the philosophy contained in the Declaration of Independence, and many of the principals incorporated in our Constitution can be traced back to early Seekers.

The San Quentin Seekers were organized in October of 1943. A small group of inmates informally discussed inmate problems, crime, prisons, mitigating social conditions; they observed the work of the Warden, the psychiatrist and other prison officials in quest of answers to these perplexing problems.

Finally they obtained permission to form an organization of their own: an organization of convicted men, devoted to the purpose of seeking the truth, no matter how that truth might reflect upon them personally. They hoped that by revealing the truth they could achieve both a personal and a social benefit.

The original group consisted of some ten inmates, but this number was soon expanded to about twenty-five. At first they worked principally at self-analysis, each concerned with his own separate problems. Men volunteered to be questioned by their fellows regarding the intimate details for their errors, in the hope of discovering basic causes for unsocial acts. Many felt they received great personal gain by this method. It seemed also that they were contributing towards the general solution of crime and its attendant problems.

This early movement attracted the attention of sympathetic officials: the ever alert Warden Clinton T. Duffy, Chief Psychiatrist Dr. David G. Schmidt, Parole Interviewer Douglas Short, Board Member George A. Briggs and several others within the prison's official family. These gave the group encouragement. The activities of The Seekers soon attracted the attention of public spirited men outside as well as inside the prison. Warden Duffy cooperated by permitting these outsiders to come in and observe the group in action. Many of the visitors took an active interest, and have aligned themselves with the organization as honorary members.

Among those invited to the early meetings were Mr. George Ososke, Chief Probation Officer for the San Francisco Juvenile Court and Mr. Edmund G. Brown, District Attorney of San Francisco, as well as various members of Mr. Brown's staff. These men were attracted to the Seekers because of their work in juvenile delinquency. In this study juvenile offenders were consulted from an unprejudiced point of view, and much valuable information compiled on the whys and wherefores of their unhappy careers. The findings of this study were submitted to the San Francisco Juvenile officials in the hope that it would contribute something to the solution of these problems.

In recent months the tendency of the Seekers has been to give less emphasis to self-analysis, though the practice has not been abandoned. The Seekers are always willing to discuss problems, and to render such personal assistance as they can. Not infrequently they take a worthy cause to the Warden and ask him to investigate. In most instances they find the Warden cooperative. None of those who have had the personal sponsorship of the Seekers have betrayed their trust.

Now both the Guidance Center and the Psychitric Department have set up at San Quentin a program of self analysis and group analysis administered by experts in psychology and sociology. Therefore the Seekers have begun concentrating on other activities, which it is hoped will implement the work of these two departments. The Seekers want to provide a social medium in which men may fulfill the needs and cultivate the qualities indicated by the studies and activities set forth below. Programs are being arranged for the accomplishment of this purpose.

## WHAT THE SEEKERS SEEK

1. To help each individual member discover himself, realize that he is now a part of a minority group, and develop the fortitude to make the best of his situation.
2. To cultivate a deeper appreciation for law, for democratic ideals, and for social institutions.
3. To afford practice in:
  - (a) Participating in group activities.
  - (b) Making and enforcing laws.
  - (c) Conforming to laws.
  - (d) Conducting public business under parliamentary rules.
  - (e) Thinking on one's feet and using democratic discussion to formulate opinions and discard unreasoned prejudice
4. To provide a medium through which free people may have some contact with inmates, learning about their problems, outlook, ambitions, purposes: in the hope that the gulf between inmates and free men may be narrowed.
5. To constitute this organization in prison as a growing institution for the benefit of future inmates who may become prisoners through failure to make the right social adjustments.
6. To advocate and practice race equality, helping in some small way to lessen antipathy and prejudice and so aid in advancement of world peace.

February 5, 1948

John Douglas Short, Esq.,  
Assistant Classification  
and Parole Representative,  
Department of Corrections,  
California State Prison,  
San Quentin, California.

Dear Mr. Short:

In re: The Seekers.

I must decline your invitation to discuss publicly the evacuation and detention of Japanese aliens and American citizens from the West Coast and the problems incident thereto. My reasons therefor are as follows: I am still attorney of record for several thousand of these mistreated persons in a series of cases pending before the U.S. District Court in San Francisco and the Third Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia. Until such time as the rights of these renunciants, aliens held under a claim of deportability under the Alien Enemy Act and aliens claimed to be deportable under our immigration laws and the rights of the Japanese abducted from Peru have been determined it would be improper for me to discuss these matters publicly. Among the legal issues involved is one testing the validity of the original evacuation.

I appreciate your interest in these matters and once these problems have been finalized I shall be delighted to discuss them.

Very truly yours,

WMC:cw

March 24, 1948

U.S. Government Printing Office,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Gentlemen:

I would thank you to send me a copy  
C.O.D. of "Impounded People" - Japanese  
Americans In The Relocation Centers.

Very truly yours,

WMC:cw

April 29-1948

Mr. Wayne W. Collins  
Attorney at Law  
Mills Building, San Francisco.

Dear Mr. Collins:

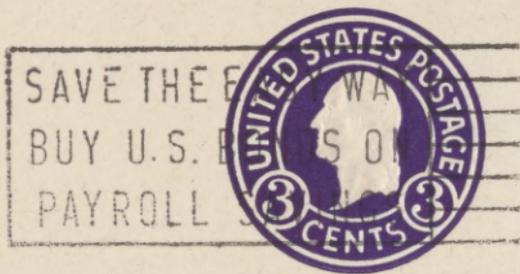
May I take this means of expressing my sincere appreciation, and congratulate you upon your success in winning the case which gravely concerned the future of our young boys and girls.

The time has come now when all the people of Japanese ancestry come to know how you have been sympathetic towards us and very capable in handling the unprecedented problem.

I thank you again. Sincerely yours,

K. Ikeda  
KIHEI

H. Meda  
933-7th Ave.  
Sacramento, Calif.



Mr. Wayne W. Collins  
Attorney at law  
Mills Building  
San Francisco, Calif.

VICTOR S. ABE

ATTORNEY AT LAW  
2209 PINE STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO 15  
FILLMORE 6-3403

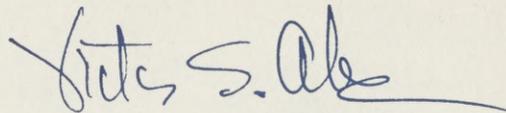
April 30, 1948

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
Mills Tower  
San Francisco 4, Calif.

Dear Mr. Collins:

Congratulations on your successful fight on behalf  
of the "renunciants."

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Victor S. Abe". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

ENGRAVERS

BOND

WAYNE M. COLLINS

ATTORNEY AT LAW  
MILLS TOWER, 220 BUSH STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO 4, CALIFORNIA

TELEPHONE GARFIELD 1218

May 6, 1948

Dear

Kindly inform me of your full name, present address, date of birth, place of birth, place of renunciation and whether or not you received a letter from the Attorney General approving the renunciation, and I will include you in the test cases.

Very truly yours,

WMC:ow

May 10, 1948  
1516 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sacramento, California

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
Mills Tower,  
220 Bush Street,  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Collins:

Congratulations to you upon your successful handling of the renunciants case. I spurred on by this recent favorable decision, I am writing this letter in order to find out whether I could do something for my two daughters in a similar predicament as the renunciants. My two daughters renounced their American citizenship while in Tulelake and subsequently applied for repatriation to Japan. They are in Japan, but ever since their arrival there they have expressed their desire for coming back to America. I couldn't help them in any way except to plead to the Department of Justice for their permission to have them returned. All have been in vain. Upon reading the recent court ruling it has given me the encouragement to try again to help them, but this time through you. However, as I have said before since my daughters repatriated to Japan several questions have been bothering me. Uppermost in my mind is whether a renunciant who has repatriated would be able to file suit and whether you would accept them. Also would the recent ruling apply to those that have repatriated? ~~Were~~ there by any chance any repatriates included in the group of 2700 who have already been ruled upon? If not, are there any possibility of filing a separate suit among the

repatriates?

I would appreciate it very much if you kindly answer my questions and give any other information that might help me in regards to the steps I should take. Your consideration for this letter will be greatly appreciated.

I thank you.

Yours truly,  
Koto Fukuda  
1516 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sacramento, California

May 13, 1948

Mr. Koto Fukuda,  
1516 4th Street,  
Sacramento, California.

Dear Mr. Fukuda:

If you wish to have your daughters included in Equity Suit No. 25294, kindly send me immediately the following information for the each of them:

1. Full name,
2. Complete Address in Japan,
3. Date of birth,
4. Place of birth,
5. Place of renunciation,
6. Whether or not each received a letter from the Attorney General approving the renunciation.

Very truly yours,

WMC:cw

*James*

May 15, 1948

Mrs. May Shibata,  
1114 Octavia Street,  
San Francisco, California.

Dear Mrs. Shibata:

Yesterday Mr. Charles Rothstein informed me when I telephoned him that he personally had disapproved your application for renunciation and as a result you are still a citizen of the United States.

I suggest that you write directly to the Attorney General of the United States, Department of Justice, Washington 25, D.C., attention of Charles Rothstein, Esquire, and ask him for confirmation of that fact.

Very truly yours,

WMC:cw

5/10/48

May Tatsuki Shibata, nee. Nakagawa.

Born Facts. 5/8/1922

Crabbed records - no letter.

Just  
discussed

room 1114 Octavia St.

57th No. 7-0808

No letter of approval.

Call Rothstein & ask if approved. ???

O.S. 1-1

Hqs 24th Infantry Division  
8th ACE Depot #3, APO 24  
c/o Postmaster,  
San Francisco, California  
2 June 1948

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
Attorney at Law  
Mills Tower, 220 Bush St.  
San Francisco 4, California

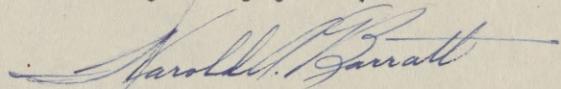
Dear Sir:

Recently a case, involving the citizenship status of Japanese-Americans interned during the war at Tule Lake, was closed by the United States District Court, San Francisco, California. A copy of the news item appearing in the Pacific Stars and Stripes is attached.

Several persons who renounced their citizenship and were repatriated from this camp are now employed by the Eighth Army Central Exchange. Many have asked me if this case would have any affect on the possibility of their reinstatement of American citizenship and return to the United States, and have given me your name and address as a source of advisement.

I have inquired for information from the American Consulate; however, he has received no change in policy from the Department of State as yet. Any information and advice you might be in position to give me by letter to pass on to these interested employees would be deeply appreciated.

Very truly yours,



HAROLD A. BARRATT  
Depot Accountant

1 Incl

COURT DECISION  
GIVES JAPANESE  
BACK CITIZENSHIP

---

San Francisco. April 30 (AP) - The United States District Court today ordered American citizenship restored to 2,300 Japanese-Americans who were interned during the war and renounced their citizenship in 1945.

Judge Louis E. Goodman criticized the Government for accepting the renunciations. He expressed doubt as to the constitutional authority for imprisoning these American citizens during the war year.

The court's decision climaxed years of litigations. The Japanese-Americans said they renounced their citizenship under duress from nationalistic Japanese interned with them at Tule Lake, Calif.

Judge Goodman said, "if a confession secured in a manner obnoxious to Congressional policy may not be used in a criminal case, it is equally true that a document releasing the priceless insignia of American citizenship should not be validated when executed in a like manner....It must be kept in mind that Tule Lake was a center purpose not for relocation, but for segregation of aliens who placed loyalty to Japan, Americans of Japanese ancestry suspected of disloyalty, and others of Japanese ancestry whose loyalty to the United States was not questioned.

June 14, 1948

Mr. Harold A. Barratt,  
Hqs. ACE Depot #3, APO 24,  
c/o Postmaster,  
San Francisco, California.

Dear Mr. Barratt:

All renunciants, whether in the U.S. or Japan, whose requests to be included in suit No. 25294, U.S. District Court, San Francisco, were received by me on or by May 27, 1948, were joined in that suit. The number protected by that suit is in excess of 3,000. Since then I have received in excess of 1200 additional requests from other renunciants in the U.S. and in Japan and each mail brings in like requests. These, together with future ones I receive, will be included in suit No. 25294 if the U.S. Attorney General will consent thereto and if he refuses I shall join them in another mass suit in the same court. The decision in such a suit undoubtedly will be the same as that rendered in suit No. 25294.

The written Opinion of U.S. District Judge Louis E. Goodman was rendered on April 29th cancelling the renunciations of all persons in the suit. The enclosed copy of printed letter I am sending to all persons who are protected by suit No. 25294 is enclosed. It explains the effect of the decision. When that judgment becomes final all renunciants in Japan who are in that suit will be authorized to return to the U.S. If another suit is filed by me the decision will be the same and the renunciants therein also will be allowed to return to the U.S. when the judgment becomes final.

Very truly yours,

WMC:cw  
Enc.

Hideaki Hirose  
24 W. Huron St.  
Chicago 10, Illinois

*Write*

June 6, 1948.

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
1721 Mills Bldg.  
San Francisco 4, Calif.

Dear Mr. Collins:

Can you tell me how the status of renunciants now residing in Japan is affected by the opinion handed down by Judge Louis Goodman in San Francisco on April 29, 1948, in the case of Tadayasu Abo, et al., etc. vs. Tom Clark, etc. et al.? Reference is made to those renunciants who were not members of the pro-Japanese organizations, not kibeis, and who accompanied their parents subsequent to renunciation.

As I understand it, there is still time (until July 29) for the remaining renunciants to secure the benefits of the suit by joining the 2300 plaintiffs. Can the renunciants in Japan avail themselves of this opportunity by supplying the necessary information?

Hoping for a clarification on this matter, I am,

Sincerely yours,

*Hideaki Hirose*

*Renun.  
File General*

September 2, 1948

R 7

Mr. Hideaki Hirose  
24 W. Huron St.  
Chicago 10, Illinois

Dear Mr. Hirose:

Inasmuch as several thousand additional persons have been joined to Equity Suit 25295, the court has granted the government 120 additional days within which to designate any of the plaintiffs against whom it wishes to present further evidence at special hearings. In consequence, the judgment will not become final until about the middle of January, 1949. Approximately 1200 renunciants who are in Japan have been joined in the case.

In order for them so to do, it is necessary for me to have their full names, present addresses, dates and places of birth, place of renunciation and whether or not they received a letter of approval from the Attorney General.

Very truly yours,

Yamaguchi Military Government Team, APO 317  
c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California  
8 June 1948

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
Mills Tower, 220 Bliss Street  
San Francisco 4, California

Dear Sir:

I have read and have heard from Nisei acquaintances here in Japan of your interest in and efforts on behalf of Nisei in America to recover the citizenship lost during and after the war. I wish therefore to make some inquiries of you as an individual and not officially as a Military Government officer.

In my 25 months in Japan I have had much contact with Nisei. They have been my mainstay as interpreters and translators, and I have found them dependable, trustworthy, and loyal.

I also am concerned about the future of the Nisei who have served me so well here. They are principally those who were in Japan during the war. Many of the women have already regained their citizenship and have returned to America or Hawaii. However, I have not yet heard of any man in this category who has gained recognition as a citizen yet. Are you interested also in helping these people?

I am principally concerned about the situation of one of my most valued employees, Miss Ruth K----- (I shall not give her full name until I know whether you are interested in her case). She has been denied the return of her citizenship because she voted in the 1946 Japanese elections and was honest enough to admit it when questioned by the American consul.

It is useless for Miss K----- to protest that she voted under duress, that she was compelled by the Chonai-kai to vote. Yet anyone who has served in Japan knows the absolute power which the Chonai-kai exercised even as late as 1946. A person who was dependent on the Japanese ration system for the necessities of life simply did not defy the orders of the Chonai-kai. So Miss K----- who is as essentially American as you or I, is denied her citizenship because she did not risk her livelihood and that of her family.

I should appreciate hearing from you and learning whether you are interested in taking the cases of those Nisei still in Japan to attempt to regain for them the citizenship they have already paid so dearly for.

Sincerely,

*Alfred P. Robertson*  
Alfred P. Robertson  
Major, Infantry

July 8, 1948

Major Alfred P. Robertson, O-247936,  
Yamaguchi Military Government Team,  
APO 317, c/o Postmaster,  
San Francisco, California.

Dear Major Robertson:

I am unable to ascertain from your letter whether or not the young lady you mention is a renunciant who renounced her nationality under duress in one of our camps in the United States during the war or that she is a citizen who was in Japan and there committed an act deemed to constitute an act of expatriation while abroad. Title 8 U.S. Code, Section 801 orders that "voting in a political election in a foreign state or participating in an election or plebiscite to determine the sovereignty over foreign territory," constitutes an act of expatriation.

However, it is my opinion that if the alleged act of expatriation was one committed under duress, coercion, intimidation, menace or undue influence that there is a likelihood that the courts would void the act of expatriation and restore citizenship. Obviously such a case would depend entirely upon proof of any one of the various forms of duress. I am not familiar with the nature or the activities of the Chonai Kai. However, if the young lady would be able to demonstrate the duress in court what must be presumed to be an act of expatriation probably could be set aside.

If she is desirous of recovering her U.S. citizenship and a consular officer in Japan denied her permission to return to the United States on the grounds that she voted in an election in Japan, it would be necessary for her to bring suit. Such a suit would be commenced in the United States District Court in the judicial district in the United States in which she claims her residence, the suit to be brought against the head of the agency which denied her the right to return to the United States which, I presume to be the Department of State, and probably the

U.S. District Attorney and the District Director of Immigration. Upon the filing of a suit she could apply to the American consul at Yokohama or Kobe and would fill out an affidavit form showing that the said suit was commenced in good faith and thereupon she would be permitted to return to this country, contingent upon the fact that if the suit was finally resolved against her, that she would return to Japan.

I am willing to help any strandeers who have not committed any act of expatriation together with those who are deemed to have committed an act of expatriation but who assert that such act of expatriation was the product of any of the various forms of duress. It would be necessary for me, however, to be acquainted with the facts under which the claim of duress arises.

Very truly yours,

WMC:cw

2143 Pacific Avenue  
Alameda, California  
June 22, 1948

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
Mills Tower  
220 Bush Street  
San Francisco, California

*[Handwritten signature]*  
*OK*  
*[Handwritten initials]*

Dear Mr. Collins:

Although Mr. Hiroshi Murakoshi has written to you with respect to regaining his U. S. citizenship, I am duplicating the information in case you have not received his letter from Japan.

1. NAME: Hiroshi Murakoshi
2. ADDRESS: 194 Araya, Odawara-Shi  
Kanagawa Ken, Yokohama  
Honshu, Japan
3. DATE OF BIRTH: June 24, 1921
4. PLACE OF BIRTH: San Leandro, California  
(Eden)
5. RELOCATION CENTER: Tule Lake
6. To the knowledge of Hiroshi Murakoshi, he has not received a letter from the Attorney-General approving his renunciation.

Very truly yours,

*Tomio Hashimoto*

Tomio Hashimoto

Murakoshi  
HIROSHI

Make Card + add

22 May 1948

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
Mills Tower  
220 Bush Street  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mr. Collins:

Enclosed is a letter from my fiancé which is self-explanatory.

I will greatly appreciate it if you can give him your assistance in order that he may regain his U. S. citizenship and join me in the States.

Please let me know what day will be convenient for you to see me. I expect to be home by the 10th of June. My address is:

2143 Pacific Avenue  
Alameda, California

Sincerely,

Tomiko Hashimoto (Miss)

Cam

194 Araya Odawara-shi  
Kanagawa-Ken  
Yokohama, Japan.  
22nd May, 1948

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
Mills Tower  
220 Bush Street  
San Francisco, California.

Dear Mr. Collins

I am a renuncer who returned to Japan in 1946, accompanying my parents.

I've heard that you were acting as attorney on these cases. I would like to have you act as my attorney and join in the suit to be restored to citizenship.

The renouncing of my citizenship was not of my own accord. I did not wish to return but my parents insisted that I accompany them back. I resented to renounce but was forced to do so in order to satisfy them. Not only my parents but also the pro-Japanese group who were there influenced me and was threatened to do so.

Since my return I became engaged to a Nisei who came over seas as a Department of the Army

civilian. We filed an application to get married but it was rejected under a certain War Department circular which states that allied persons cannot marry persons who are eligible for U. S. citizenship. My fiancee will be returning to the Bay Area about mid June and will drop in to see you to take care of whatever expense are involved. I wish to join her as soon as possible so that we can be married.

I have a sister Mrs. Roy Kitashima who is residing at 1761 East 93rd Street Cleveland 6, Ohio. She may be of some help to you in case you need some information concerning me.

The following is for your information.

NAME: HIROSHI MURAKOSHI

ADDRESS: 144 ARAYA ODAWARA-SHI HANAGAWA-KEN  
YOKOHAMA, JAPAN.

DATE OF BIRTH: JUNE 24, 1921

PLACE OF BIRTH: SAN LEANDRO, CALIF. (EDEN TOWNSHIP)

To my knowledge I have not received a letter from the attorney general approving the renunciation.

I do hope you will assist me in filing suit to regain my U. S. citizenship. Your kindness will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Hiroschi Murakoshi

September 2, 1948

Miss Tomiyo Hashimoto  
2143 Pacific Ave.  
Alameda, California

Dear Miss Hashimoto:

I would thank you to telephone me at your  
convenience concerning the status of your  
fiance, Hiroshi Murakoshi.

Very truly yours,

September 2, 1948

Mr. Hiroshi Murakoshi  
194 Araya, Odawara-Shi  
Kanagawa Ken, Yokohama  
Honshu, Japan

Dear Mr. Murakoshi:

Your letter of May 22 requesting inclusion in Equity Suit 25295 was received and thereafter you were entered as a party plaintiff in said action pursuant to your request. I am enclosing a copy of a letter which, when printed, will be sent to you and to each of the 1200 odd renunciants who are in Japan, which letter explains your legal status in some detail. It is my present belief that you will be permitted to return to this country sometime during January, 1949, as explained therein, at which time you will be free to marry your fiancée, Tomiyo Hashimoto.

I am informed that recently a suit in San Francisco to determine nationality had been filed by a Hiroshi Murakoshi who was in Japan, said suit being filed by Al Wirin, Kido, Okrand, Purcell & Ferriter. If you are the person for whom they brought that suit and consented thereto, I wish you to inform me thereof immediately inasmuch as it is improper for you to be protected by two suits. I have been informed that Mr. Wirin commenced that suit for the purpose of getting publicity in this country and in order to interfere with the mass suit brought on your behalf and on behalf of 5500 other renunciants. If you have been unwittingly drawn into that suit, you must make an immediate election whether you desire to remain in my suit or to have them proceed on your behalf. I would thank you to air mail to me your answer immediately.

Very truly yours,

*9/8/48 Miss Hashimoto Blount 10507 phoned & said she begged Wirin to sue for Murakoshi as that is his only way to decide to stay in or withdraw from 25294.*



A. F. W. SIEBEL  
ARTHUR F. SIEBEL

TELEPHONE  
ANDOVER 1535

SIEBEL & SIEBEL  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
ONE NORTH LA SALLE STREET  
CHICAGO 2, ILLINOIS

June 29, 1948

Mr. Wayne Collins,  
Attorney at Law  
Mills Tower  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Collins:

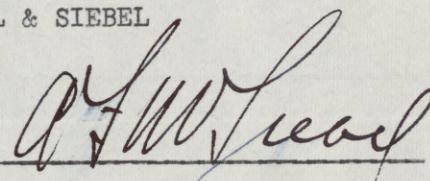
Some time ago I noticed by the newspapers that you filed a petition on behalf of certain Japanese in your vicinity for restoration to citizenship. I am interested in a similar case and I wonder if you have a copy of your petition together with the briefs. If so, I would be very pleased if I could get a copy of either or both.

Thanking you, I am

Yours very truly,

SIEBEL & SIEBEL

By

  
\_\_\_\_\_

July 3, 1948

Siebel & Siebel,  
Attorneys at Law,  
One North La Salle Street,  
Chicago 2, Illinois.

Attention: A. F. W. Siebel, Esq.

Gentlemen:

In reply to your letter of June 29th, I wish to inform you that I have only one copy of my lengthy petition and one copy of the type-written brief filed on behalf of some 3400 renunciants. Substantially all of the remaining renunciants totalling some 1800 persons are to be included in a new mass action to be filed here within a week.

It is entirely possible that the person whom you are representing may have been included in that suit at his or her request within the past two and one-half years. If you wish me to check the name I would thank you to inform me of the name of your client.

Very truly yours,

WMC:cw

A. F. W. SIEBEL  
ARTHUR F. SIEBEL

TELEPHONE  
ANDOVER 1535

SIEBEL & SIEBEL  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
ONE NORTH LA SALLE STREET  
CHICAGO 2, ILLINOIS

July 6, 1948

Mr. Wayne M. Collins,  
Attorney at Law  
220 Bush Street  
San Francisco 4, California

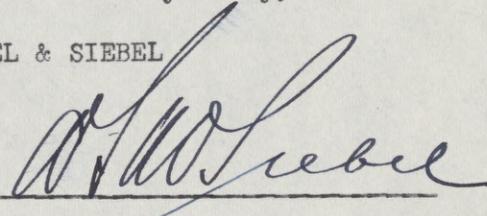
Dear Sir:

I have yours of the 3rd instant in answer to my letter of June 29th. Thanks very much. I am sure my client is not amongst the individuals remaining in your list of renunciants. Thanks just the same.

Yours very truly,

SIEBEL & SIEBEL

By

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'A. F. Siebel', written over a horizontal line.

AFWS:AJ

# The University of Chicago Law Review

Office of the Editor

August 4, 1948

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
1921 Mills Tower  
San Francisco 4, Cal.

Dear Mr. Collins:

In *Tadayasu Abo v. Clark*, <sup>76</sup>77 F. Supp. 806, in which you represented the Japanese-Americans who had renounced their citizenship, the court gave the government ninety days in which to contest the decree with respect to individual appellants.

Mr. Kushida, of the local Japanese-American Citizens League, suggested to me that you might be able to give me information concerning whether the government has taken any action on this decree. I am also interested in learning whether the government has decided to appeal the court's decision altogether.

I would greatly appreciate it if you can give me this information which will be very useful in connection with a Law Review note on the renunciant case.

Very truly yours,

*Marvin Green*

August 9, 1948

Mr. Marvin Green  
The University of Chicago Law Review  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Green:

Re: Tadayasu Abo vs. Clark  
76 F. S. 806

I have not been informed by any agent of the Government yet whether the Government intends to appeal from the decision of U. S. District Judge Louis E. Goodman.

On April 29 the Court rendered its written opinion canceling the renunciations and restoring U. S. nationality to the plaintiffs on the grounds that they were executed as a result of governmental duress, to which the private duress exerted by pressure groups in the camp was an incident. The Government has obtained a thirty-day extension of time within which to designate any of the plaintiffs against whom it might desire to introduce further evidence at special hearings.

Very truly yours,

WMC:dp

535 San Julian Street  
Los Angeles, Calif  
August 15, 1948.

No.

Mr. Wayne M. Collins,  
220 Bush Street.

San Francisco, 4, Calif.

Re: Minoru Nakamura

Dear Mr. Collins;

In acknowledgement of your letter dated Aug 10th, regarding Minoru Nakamura case in Japan wishes to return to U.S. The previous corresponding by Mr. Morito Ogata of 40 Valley St. Pasadena, Calif, in informing consequences of his (Minoru Nakamura) case.

I, within attached copies of his own letter to American Consulate in Yoko.

hama, dated Aug. 16, 1946, and other is a  
affidavit of Yokohama branch, dated Feb. 5, 1946  
which it may help restore his case.

No.

Please let me know, if there are hope  
for his gain U. S. citizenship or not. What-  
ever his cases may arise, and what proceed-  
ure to <sup>take</sup> up.

At any cases, please return both of these  
copies by return mail.

Hoping to hear from you at convenience  
date).

Yours very truly,  
Harichi Nakamura, (Parent)

September 10, 1948

Mr. Kanichi Nakamura  
535 San Julian Street  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Mr. Nakamura:

In reply to your letter of August 15, 1948, I wish to inform you that I cannot answer your question with accuracy because of lack of information in the copy of your son's letter which was sent to the American Consul at Yokohama on August 16, 1946. If your son is able to send me a copy of the instructions on the recovery (Kaifuku) of Japanese nationality published by the Nisei Rengo-Kai Society, I might be able to determine his present status. From that letter, I draw the conclusion that your son's application for recovery of Japanese nationality may have constituted an act of expatriation whereby he lost U.S. citizenship. It is possible that if the Japanese law did not regard his action as one whereby allegiance to the U.S. was surrendered and allegiance to Japan acquired, it might be possible for him to file a suit here to determine his nationality. It is also possible that if his action in making that application was under duress that it could be set aside in a Japanese court and thereupon a suit to determine his nationality here could be brought.

I am enclosing a copy of an article I have written concerning Nisei in Japan which you might read and then send to your son inasmuch as it explains the significance of acts of expatriation according to U.S. law. It may be that under the expatriation statute that his acts did not constitute acts of expatriation.

If your son will write to me and send a copy of that document, together with a brief statement of facts under which the U.S. Consul at Yokohama has refused him a certificate of identity, I will be able to advise him of his rights.

In the interim, until I hear from you or your son, I will hold the copies of the letters which you have sent to me.

Very truly yours,

3  
Submitted Tuesday  
Aug. 20, 1946

248, Sugita-cho, Isogo,  
Yokohama.

August 16, 1946

American Consulate, Yokohama  
Mr. Meredith Weatherby

Dear Sir,

On the day of my interview with you I was terribly discouraged again at your statement that my U.S. status was in a doubtful condition as a result of reinstatement. However you have been very gracious with me and I realize that you are giving me every opportunity in re-establishing myself.

Herewith at your kind suggestion I shall endeavor to present to you my case as to the reasons which led me to reinstate myself in the Japanese census register. If I am at all to be justified and I shall not relinquish my American status which is one of my most prized of possessions until I have exerted my utmost effort in its re-establishment, I feel that a consideration on your part of the circumstances with which I was confronted while in Japan during the war and which eventually forced me into reinstating myself despondently though it was, will invite your acknowledgement that this was the only alternative that I had. For without a consideration of this difficult situation of mine I believe it is impossible for you to pass a fair judgement on my qualifications for re-establishment of my American status.

Before starting out on the theme of my case, I believe the picture which I am about to present to you will not be complete without a brief comment on my activities a little before the beginning of war. I shall try to follow the events as closely and as truthfully as I can remember.

When I was graduated from the Roosevelt High School in Los Angeles on June 20, 1935 it was my original intentions to enter UCLA to take a course in chemistry. My parents suggested however that I take a trip to Japan before I entered the university to see it and if possible to do a little studying there. I accepted on the condition that I would enter the university after I returned from Japan. Although I was reluctant to come at first I arrived in Yokohama on November 3, 1935 accompanied with my mother. My father remained in the U.S.

Upon arriving in Japan I found myself completely bewildered as I could not speak, read nor write the Japanese language. In Hiroshima where I was taken to immediately I had some courses tutored to me until I enrolled in the Sanyo Middle School in April of the following year.

As I had arrived in Japan with my Japanese nationality I was soon confronted with the problem of military examination. The question was clearly self-evident and it required no decision to have it expunged from the records. Consequently I was able to remain in Japan and continue in my studies. Shortly afterwards my mother seeing that I was taken care of left for the U.S. again.

I became very engrossed in my studies as I was making rapid strides in the Japanese language. In order to keep myself close in touch with America I had several magazines sent to me of which the Time and the Reader's Digest magazines proved invaluable to me as a source for English study.

After going to Sanyo Middle School for 1 year, I decided to enter a technical college because I was always interested in chemistry and I was getting behind. A college diploma would afford me with about 2 years credit in America and they were offering 3 year courses which was rather short and which was just the thing for me.

The following March (1938) I went to Tokyo and tried to gain entrance into a technical college but discovered the insuperability of these schools. Realizing the difficulty of getting into a suitable college I decided to return to the U.S. When my relatives heard of my plans they persuaded me that as long as I was in Japan and the possibility of my ever returning again was uncertain I should make every effort to get into some school. I agreed with them but the situation was impossible for me. They thereupon asked a friend of theirs who was intimate with the director of the Nihon University in Tokyo, to have the director help me get into the university. I realized that this was my final opportunity so I decided to take one more chance before I returned to America.

I finally got into the university the following April (1939) climaxing my success in winning the director's favor after sustained and tedious efforts in pleasing him. I had a choice of a 5 year and a 3 year course in chemistry. I chose the latter as I was only interested in getting a diploma and I wanted to get out of Japan as quickly as possible so I could get into the University of California as soon as possible.

In the summer of my second year at college a friend of mine who was to graduate the following spring took a trip the U.S. I wanted to go along with him very badly but I was in the midst of my examinations and as much as I wanted to return to see America and my parents even for a little glimpse I had to console myself in the thought that I would be returning for good in another year and a half and to be patient for a little while longer.

Because of the fact that I was taking an engineering course and because of my lack of knowledge in the Japanese language I had to apply myself incessantly in my studies. There were no social recreations or pleasures for me. Besides the social conditions were so different here. Because I was an American born I was always taken lightly of. Americanism was severely criticized. I was getting very impatient and tired of Japan.

As the days drew nearer to my graduation many radical changes began to take place. The relationship between the U.S. and Japan became very constrained. The war in China became more and more aggravated. As a result graduation was speeded up by 3 months for technical colleges in order to supply faster to the military forces and industries the much needed engineers. This was a god send to me. It meant that I would be graduated sooner and that I would get back to America sooner.

The advancement notice of graduation came to us in September. The list of the names of the firms and companies specified by the government and to where employment was restricted for technical graduates were handed us towards the end of October. Everybody in my class went wild over making applications and seeking positions. I went to the classroom and watched the others as there was nothing for me to do. As a student I became very curious and thought it would be a good experience to have. I had never in all my life had the experience of an interview for a position and since I was qualified, I ventured to apply to several companies. First I tried for a position in Radio Tokyo but was disposed of at the door. Then I went to another company in Tokyo but failed. Finally on November 15 I went to the Japan Victor Company

and met success. I was accorded an interview as well as a position as a chemist. Naturally I was made very exuberant and happy at the thought of the success and I began to hope that the situation between the U.S. and Japan would come to a quick solution. I made several trips back and forth to the company and finally was given a chance to lookover the plant. The chemistry section to where I was assigned was but a dump in the corner of the plant and there were no research facilities whatsoever. It was research work that I would be interested in and this place I saw was not the sort of a laboratory I had expected. Obviously this was no place for me to work. I became very discouraged and waited for the day of my graduation to come.

These were busy days for me however. With the question of the interview settled I began to realize that graduation was near at hand and it would be very soon now when I would be leaving Japan. I felt the grief in having to part with Japan but there was more of the happiness I would find in returning to America and in the reunion again with my parents and friends whom I had not seen for such a long time. I realized again that I would have to start to make preparations in getting back to America, but there was the final and the last big examinations just ahead of me which I was making preparations for and which I was greatly absorbed in. Although ships were quite few and restricted in those days I received ample assurance that I would have a boat when the notice was made the latter part of November that the Tatsuta Maru would sail on December 4 and the sailing of this ship actually made me feel foolish to even venture to broach the subject of war between the U.S. and Japan which was prevalent in those days. On the contrary it aroused in me the confidence that there would be a ship for me at about the time of my plans and that I would be able to get back to America safely.

Thus on that memorable day December 8, 1941 I was startled from my sleep in the early morning and thrown into confusion and chaos. The news was beyond all expectations and it was terrible to even think about it. It was absurd, the Tatsuta Maru had just left a week ago, there must be something wrong, I thought. But even with all my reasoning and wishful thinking the news was true. For the war was confirmed by the premier that noon and everything seemed to be true.

After I had realized the actuality of the existence of a state of war I began to think about my ownself as to what would happen to me and what I would have to do in order to keep myself alive. As a student I had never owned anything except for books and a few clothing and aside from this I had absolutely nothing because I was planning to return after graduation and I had been depending on my parents for my subsistence. Obviously there would be no pecuniary aids now. My parents had never allowed me any lump sum of money for fear that I might fall prey to temptations. Fortunately however I sighed relief in that I had always kept in reserve my boatfare and this with what I had at hand would keep me going for sometime. But in view of the rising prices and my acute conditions I was terribly worried and afraid of the future. Thus in as much as I had not the inclination to work at the Victor Company, I realized that I had to have some means of making a living and though the pay was poor for another thing I knew the impossibility of obtaining a position somewhere else because of my lack of nationality and because I would be looked upon with suspicion I reluctantly turned to the Victor Company after I was graduated. But perhaps this was for the better because from the very beginning to the very end of the war I was kept in inactivity and leisure.

Coupled with this incapacity of self-sustenance, I became fearful of the police and the army. The police were to me a symbol of torture and arrogance and I had never before been involved with them, but shortly after the declaration of war I was summoned to the district police whence I was warned that I was regarded as an enemy national and will be put under restrictions and surveillance. This was the first experience that I had ever had with any police and as such I was terrorized at the experience. Ever since that day I felt as though I was being tracked and my every move and action watched which of necessity had profound effects on my mental bearing because subsequently I was checked every so often and I have had certain experiences with them. The fear of the army swept like an apparition of death upon me when I heard of the declaration of war and has haunted me like a spectre the entire duration of war. Since I discovered this war to be of a colossal nature never before experienced by mankind I feared that the Japanese military would resort to irrationally extreme and unprecedented measures. Every male on this island I thought would be called to war and in such an event I would be disregarded as an American citizen because of my physical features, since anything is liable to happen as have happened in a situation of war. I had always regarded the Japanese army and navy as suicidal organizations, organizations where once pulled into you never came out alive. Thus even before the war I had regarded the Japanese army and navy as such and it would have been for this reason and for this reason alone that I would never have elected to remain in Japan under a situation of war had I had the choice. Thus it remained for me to dodge and elude this suicidal catastrophe while always haunted by the uncertainty of the future and always trying to keep alive at the same time. Never for a moment have I ever felt safe from it. It is truly amazing and unbelievable now that there were no such unprecedented measures of my nation's contrivance ever taken and I have knelt in prayer with a sigh of relief at the news of the surrender. But the idea of fighting for Japan is simply unreasonable. I had nothing to fight for and was not accustomed and simply not indigenous to this country. Thus from the very outset of war I was so perverted and distorted by these fears and I was always vulnerable to them that throughout the duration of war my mind became so hardened and inelastic that I was often forced to deviate from the normal and ordinary course. There was also the handicap of not being able to understand the Japanese and their language properly. I was often unable to apprehend the true nature of things and not being able to fathom or gauge an event nor to see its possibilities was often thrown into confusion and detriment.

There was nothing for me to do at the Victor Company. The chemistry section existed in name only. I sat in the dusty and noisy room all day reading books or listening to records. Fortunately we had a small record testing room and this leisure has helped me to get acquainted with many of the masterpieces. But as a matter of fact the room was not meant for chemical work at all. They were mixing powders, black and white for making records. I soon became tired and bored of my work because I was eager to get some experience in chemistry. If this kept on I would forget it. But there were reasons why I could not give up the company. One was that I had gotten into the company without my Japanese nationality and now with the war I was sure that most other companies would not allow this now especially for engineers. I would have to seek some work for which I was unqualified and which would further reduce my income. Victor had said nothing about my nationality so it was best for me to keep it as dormant as possible. The other was that Victor was strictly a peace-time factory and was not actively engaged in war-time production. I realized the restrictions imposed upon me as an American. Consequently it was best for me to remain satisfied with my work.

On the 13th of April, 1942, Japan experienced her first air attack. I was able to witness the raid and three of the planes on this particular day. It was no pleasant feeling to watch them as they flew overhead but I felt a tingle of exhilaration as I watched them fly in open defiance to the conceit of the warlords.

About a week later after watching for further developments I decided to take a trip to Hiroshima where my relatives were as a precautionary measure to evade future air raids which I believed was about to start. The raids were terribly belated as I had expected them to start a lot earlier.

I remained in the country for about a month, about 3 weeks more than the leave I had asked for. But seeing that no raids occurred and realizing that the vacation had been quite a drain on my purse I reluctantly turned back to the company again.

On the way back I was confronted with a man who became unduly personal with me. After being led to reveal myself as a Nisei, I was asked about my destination, occupation etc. and finally whether I was registered with the police. Realizing that he was no ordinary person I became terribly frightened because on this particular occasion I had not gone to the trouble of obtaining a permit of travel as I had suddenly decided to make the trip for the above mentioned reasons. But fortunately I carried with me my residence permit and showed it to him immediately hoping he would not ask for my other permit but which he did. As a result I was forced to acknowledge to fact that Japan was in constant danger of being spied upon and after listening to his admonitions I was forced to play upon his magnanimity to pardon me. He became very fatherly when he had granted me his pardon but told me that he regretted and could not understand why I was willing to have myself registered with the police when it was useless for me to remain an American and I was by virtue of blood Japanese as no doubt it must entail a lot of trouble for me and bring upon myself such troubles as this.

As events are apt to happen in rapid succession under adverse conditions I was called by the director soon after I returned to the company. I had been feeling very uneasy because of my long absence when the director called for me and I was terribly worried since a person of such a high position does not ordinarily talk to a lowly employee in Japan. Could it be about the police or was I going to be fired because I had stayed away so long. But contrary to my expectations and to my surprise I was to be sent to the Tokyo Shibaura Electric Company laboratory to study and to learn how to grow Rochelle Salt crystals so that I could grow them when I returned again to the company for use for phonograph pickups because magnets had become hard or impossible to obtain. But unfortunately it was a time when spy scare had terrified the country. The Taiyo Maru which was loaded with top Japanese officials and engineers and which was heading for the occupied territories in the south had been sunk on the 8th of that month (May) just off the coast of Japan and the disaster was alleged as that of the work of spies. Because of the importance of the cargo and since this was the first heavy disaster to visit upon Japan everybody was alerted for spies. Thus the director finally told me frankly that in view of the rising danger of spies and because the military was becoming very fussy about foreign nationals working in Japan he felt the need for my Japanese nationality and asked me to get it as soon as possible.

Although I could understand very well the director's situation and point of view it also confronted me with a grave problem because

Japanese nationality to me meant military service which would automatically nullify my American status as well as put my life at stake. Obviously this was too much for me to assent to under any circumstances. Yet on the other hand rejection meant deprivation of my means of existence for jobs were no easy matter to obtain in Japan except for those where I could use my English knowledge but even these I knew required Japanese nationality. I became so befuddled I did not know what to think or do. Nevertheless the permit with the police was about to expire and even in this distressful situation I went to the police to have it renewed.

It was about this time that I obtained a copy of the instructions on the recovery (Kaifuku) of Japanese nationality published by the Nisei Rengo-kai Society. I read this very carefully and discovered 3 facts which was of prime interest to me. First that I was exempted from military obligations. Second that recovery of Japanese nationality in my case was not naturalization but recovery of my original status. Third that I was under the presumption of having withdrawn my American citizenship according to the act of 1940. As I contemplated these questions I found that kaifuku did not infringe the meaning of expatriation which according to Webster meant to withdraw from one's native country and become the citizen of another, since the Japanese Government did not regard kaifuku as naturalization. There was no oath of allegiance or renunciation of my native country which are essential factors to naturalization. To further assure me that I was not taking any oath of allegiance I was exempted from military service. I had proven that my Japanese nationality was not of any intrinsic value to me and by having it expunged while in Japan proved that I had not come here for permanent residence. Thus I felt that in view of my present crucial circumstances and since I was not legally involved or bound I would be allowed this expedient. If I had to formally renounce myself and take an oath of allegiance to Japan and if further I had to comply to military obligations this would then be entirely a different matter. As it was it seemed to me but a formality. I began to arrange my papers but I could not carry it out. However much safe I felt I also felt that it was not right and proper. Thus it was only natural that I was hesitant and not enthusiastic about the matter. Then again it occurred to me that by going to the Tokyo Electric laboratory the question might become dormant because the director of the chemical laboratories might by chance not request me for my nationality and at least for the specified period I might be able to escape the situation by my absence at the Victor Company.

I went to work at the Tokyo Electric Company from the first of July. I had come here to study and to learn but to my surprise I discovered that though they had far more equipment than the Victor Company they had hardly any knowledge of growing crystals of Rochelle Salt and the reason for my dispatch here was I found to fill the place of the person who had been in charge because he was sick and who subsequently died of this sickness. Engineers had become hard to obtain and they were forbidden by law to change around without authorization from the labor bureau. I had been doing nothing at the Victor Company and so was borrowed for the time being.

The object of the work was to find a method of growing crystals of Rochelle Salt satisfactorily and the nature of the work was purely experimental. In either case it was better than to remain at the Victor Company but the work was hampered because no one had any experience and about 2 years after I left, the place met the fate of the B-29s.

It was on the very first day when I went to the laboratory and met the director of the chemistry department that I was asked whether I had gotten my Japanese nationality since the start of war when on the spur

of the moment I inadvertently answered in the affirmative. I had come herein the hopes that he would be unconcerned about the matter since I was not an employee of the Tokyo Electric Company. Unfortunately the director knew that I was a Nisei for he was the man who had interviewed me when I had gone to the Victor Company for the first time. I did not know then that the Victor Company was a subsidiary of the Tokyo Electric Company and that he was a sort of a chemical advisor to the Victor Company. I had met him on several occasions when he visited our chemistry room but I hardly had any opportunity to speak to him except for exchanging courtesies. He must have seen me at leisure and it was he that had asked the director while I was away in the country to borrow me. Nevertheless I was questioned again suspiciously when I was forced to explain that I was in the process of its recovery.

Thus I gave up all hopes of evading this question and though I felt unscrupulous as an American I also felt the urgent need to do something in self-preservation. So with the assurance and relief that I was not renouncing myself as an American and that I would not be putting myself into an inimical position against the U.S., I reluctantly began to take active steps for reinstatement, I had an application written by a scrivener on the 14th of August 1942 and had a permit for reinstatement granted by the Home Ministry on the 17th of September 1942. It is very difficult for me to picture to you just how disinclined and unenthusiastic and recalcitrant I was about this matter but fortunately I have the evidence that although I was required to enter myself into the koseki register within 10 days after approval from the Home Ministry to consummate reinstatement it was not until 10 months later that I had myself entered which I did on the expiration of my permit with the police the latter part of June 1943. This deference I believe would not have been possible had not the director of the department gone on a tour of the southern occupied regions starting about the middle part of October and ending about March of the following year. However it must be said that it was out of indifference rather than deference that I was unmindful to commit myself to the consumation of reinstatement until finally I found no alternative. In the meantime I had obtained certain discouraging and forbidding information concerning the conditions of the Niseis on the American mainland and the antagonism of the American people against them from repatriates on the first exchange boat. Perhaps I was too quick to grasp at the conclusions but for a long time thereafter I became lost in despair when finally I became indifferent to the plight of myself as a Nisei. I lost all hopes of ever returning to America again which depression has been instrumental in the consumation of my reinstatement as well as in my marriage though a result of acute circumstances which perhaps may give you the impression of my intentions for permanent residence here. It would have meant tremendously had the news been otherwise consoling and encouraging in my darkest and most delicate of moments.

I remained at the main plant of the Victor Company for about a year after ending my period of study at the Tokyo Electric laboratory when I was again transferred to Kiryu in view of the imminence of the air-raids. From this day on until the surrender my activities at the Victor Company became once again that of idleness and indiligence with the consequence of dismissal from the company soon after the surrender. Thus as a reprisal I was forsaken by the company in a dire moment-dire because all activity came to an abrupt standstill and the future was veiled with a pale of uncertainty. Thus out of dire necessity I became an interpreter and since the 20th of September have been working with the U.S. Army.

When I came out of my hiding place in the mountains to work in Yokohama with the American forces I was taken by utter astonishment to see Nisei soldiers. I could hardly believe my eyes when I saw them - I was so thoroughly imbued with the information I had obtained from the first repatriates and news propaganda. Lest I should be mistaken I gradually approached

these soldiers and little by little gathered information from which I have found that my impressions were not altogether unfounded, though one aspect of which I discovered I was entirely unaware of - that the Niseis were put on probation in the later stages of the war and they had proven themselves so amazingly loyal that they were eventually enfranchised. Thus about the middle of October 1945 I ventured to go to the American consulate in Yokohama but found that the gates were closed. Then in November I got access to see the consular and found that preparations were underway to accept registration. In the meantime I had tried for enlistment into the U.S. Army but was referred to you. Thus my interview with you on the 12th of June.

I have been delineating all along only the lost and despondent picture of myself but as a final gesture allow me to present to you a more human and a rosier sidelight to show you that this was not all that characterized my life during the war. At the same time it will also serve to show you of the nature of the work I was doing. It is an act of kindness trivial in nature and in scope which I have always been happy and contented to keep to myself. I have never regretted the act because it was purely human although it was an act of kindness to an enemy of Japan though not necessarily mines. I do not mean by this to ask you to be more lenient with me but to show you that I was not necessarily altogether contemptful of America when I should have been but rather that I was more contemptful of the war.

It was about the latter part of September 1943. I had been at leisure at the Victor Company and I was always looking for something to do. It was a time when soy sauce had terribly degraded in quality and I had been thinking about how to improve its taste. Aji or glutate was the thing I wanted and every body else wanted for that matter but there was none to be found in the markets. Fortunately I knew of a friend who had a surplus of wheat flour and did not know what to do with it. As I was a little trained in chemistry I knew that this was the raw material for glutate. Thus a proposition was made between my friend and myself that I would try to make him some glutate if he would give me some flour. I got about a pound or so of flour from him but warned him that the theoretical yield was only about a 100 grams and since I was inexperienced he might have to be satisfied with for less glutate. The deal was made. Thus I began to investigate the processes of manufacturing glutate but I discovered that I was lacking in many of the chemicals and the yield was so poor that I began to feel that it was a shame to waste a pound of wheat flour for a tiny bit of glutate in view of the food dearth. As I was making my investigations a fellow worker happened to inquire what I was up to and when he learned of my plans told me that he knew a friend who was working at the Ajinomoto factory in Kawasaki so if we asked his friend we might be able to get a better picture of the process and further we might be able to get some of the real "Aji". Thus shortly afterwards we went to see his friend in Kawasaki. We met his friend, learned the various manufacturing processes and received a small bottle of Aji besides. We were also shown the actual plant. As we went in and out of the plants I noticed an American prisoner of war. He seemed to be as busy and as unconcerned as I was wandering about here and there. We went through the plants still further and while my friends were still inside of one of the buildings I happened to go out myself for a little personal business. I lit a cigarette and executed my mission when the same prisoner whom I had seen before came by and started to make signs for a cigarette. I looked about myself quickly and cautiously and in the near distance could be seen other prisoners of war working with Japanese laborers. I handed him a cigarette and lighted it for him. I believe I gave him another cigarette for extra measure. I had seen many prisoners at work in the freight yards or being carried on trucks but this was the first but the last time I had come so close to one. I still have a sample of this glutate which I had finally never used because it was so dear.

In the foregoing statements I have endeavored to show you my situation before the advent of war and that after and during the war. I have tried to show you that the sole purpose of my staying in Japan prior to the war was in the simultaneous acquisition of the Japanese language and the diploma in chemistry. The fact that I had myself deleted from the census records and that my parents were and still are residing in the U.S. should serve to show you that I was anxious to return to the U.S. and that my parents were waiting for me because I had repeatedly told them of my plans of entering a university upon my return to America and consequently I had not come here for permanent residence.

With the advent of war you might have questioned my loyalty in my remaining in Japan. I have tried to show you with respect to this that I have been very inactive during the war and by successfully evading military service I have not put myself in an inimical position against the U.S. Again this effort on my part should prove to you that I was in no way anxious to become a subject of this country nor to be attached to it. Though motivated out of indifference I can say now with full assurance that I have not in any ways been traitorous to the U.S. But not knowing how long this world conflagration was to continue and with myself in a very insecure situation I began to take steps, fully aware of what I was doing when I encountered discouragement which has made me lethargic throughout the rest of the war. I was certainly in want of consolation and encouragement. Had there been but a bit of this I am sure I would not have thrown myself into this present jeopardy with its attendant difficulties. Nevertheless the Japanese law does not look upon reinstatement (kaifuku) as naturalization and it seems to me also that this is not naturalization because first military service was not required of me. Second I was not required to renounce my American citizenship and third there was no oath of allegiance necessary. Thus the question remains with you for decision. But finally and apart from the above the real cause of my reinstatement lies in the inconsistency of the American government. In view of the unconstitutionality now of certain of the orders against the Niseis am I to be blamed for becoming apathetic and careless?

No effort has been spared in the preparation of this statement. I have been very outspoken and frank with you. I would like to call to your attention once again that I had ample time and opportunity to reconsider my application and that I have given you evidence that I was not at all in earnest about my reinstatement. If you are willing to treat me fairly and justly I am sure you will reconsider my case.

Very truly yours,

Minoru Nakamura

Copy of Original

YOKOHAMA BRANCH  
OFFICE OF THE U. S. POLITICAL ADVISER

Military address, c/o HQ 8th Army, APO 349  
Local address, American Consulate Building,  
Yamashita-cho No. 6, Minami-ku, Yokohama  
Telephone, octagon 2-0835 or Yokohama 2-0835

February 5, 1946

MEMORANDUM: Registration requirements for persons of Japanese Ancestry  
Resident in Japan during the war.

Every person resident in Japan who claims American citizenship is urged to establish his claim by making formal application for registration. Until such time another American Foreign Service posts may be opened in Japan, this is the only office accepting applications for registration. The applicant must appear in person at this office and must bring with him all the necessary items listed below. This office is open for business on regular week-days from 8,30 to 5,00, on Saturdays from 8,30 to 12,30, and is closed on Sundays.

Before coming here and only after he is sure that he has assembled all the necessary items, the applicant should write or telephone this office for an appointment. It is usually impossible to take the application of a person who appears here without an appointment, or who arrive late for an appointment.

While the requirements for making an application for registration cannot be determined in advance in each individual case, it is believed that the following list will, in the majority of cases of persons of Japanese ancestry who were resident in Japan during the war, be found sufficient, thus obviating the necessity of more than one personal appearance here;

ok 1. Four recent passport style photographs. These should be not more than 3 by 3 and not less than 2½ by 2½ inches in size, unmounted, printed on thin paper on a light background, and showing full front view of face; they should be trimmed to the correct size before coming here.

2. Evidence of citizenship in one of the following forms;

ok A. An American passport, whether current or expired, issued in the name of the applicant, or one in which he has been included. (Note that by a passport is meant only that document issued by the Department of State or an American Consulate in the form of a small book with green or maroon covers.)

Issued Sept 12  
1935  
Maroon

B. Letters or other documents issued by an American Consulate or the Department of State which indicate that the applicant has been previously registered at an American Consulate or has had an American passport. (In the event an applicant has no evidence of citizenship but is certain that he was formerly either registered or issued a passport by the Consulate General at Tokyo or by the Consulate at Yokohama, it may be possible to verify the fact in the files of this office. It should be noted, however, that these files are not complete and in any case contain records of only the Tokyo and Yokohama offices; records from the offices at Kobe, Osaka, Nagoya and Nagasaki are not at present available in Japan.)

not  
registered

c. A certified copy of the applicant's birth certificate issued by the official custodian of birth records at the place where the applicant was born.

3. Evidence of identity in one of the following forms;

ok

- a. A passport, current or expired.
- b. A "Certificate of Citizenship--Hawaiian Islands". (This is small card bearing photograph, issued prior to the applicant's leaving Hawaii by the U. S. Immigration authorities.)
- c. An affidavit of birth and identity, executed by the applicant or by his parent before a Notary Public prior to his leaving the U. S. and bearing the applicant's photograph and/ or fingerprints.
- d. Lacking other evidence of identity, the applicant should obtain a Certificate of Identity (shashin shomei) bearing his photograph from the Japanese police, and should also be accompanied here by an identifying witness. This witness must be a person who has known the applicant for a long time and who is either able to show evidence of American citizenship (a member of the U. S. Armed Forces would be satisfactory) or is an alien known to this office.

4. A certified copy of the Japanese Census Register of his family (kosaki tohon), whether or not his name appears therein; this must be a full copy and not an extract (kosaki shohon) and must have been issued within the past 12 months. If the applicant has opened a new Register with himself as family-head, this too is required. If applicant is a married woman she should present the Register of both her father's family and her husband's family; the same applies to a married man who has entered the family of his wife.

Reinstated  
June 1943

ok

5. Evidence in the form of letters from employers and/ or school authorities which will conclusively establish everything the applicant has been doing from 1941 to date, including the exact details of any war-time service (such as "kinro-hoshi" or "teishintai" or "shoyo") which has been performed, whether voluntarily or involuntarily. To be satisfactory these letters must state the inclusive dates of employment or schooling. If the applicant was unemployed during any part of this period, he should be prepared to establish that fact in some way.

Genin-chuyo  
(collectively  
forced by  
government)  
the body in  
company  
automatically  
registered into  
war effort.

6. If the applicant has had any employment whatever under any branch or organ of the Japanese Government or other foreign government (including employment by the national, prefectural or municipal governments, and by such governmental agencies as the public schools, railways, health services, etc., etc.); he must present a certificate from the appropriate governmental authorities stating that his position was not one for which only a Japanese subject was eligible and that a non-Japanese could have occupied the same position, and also stating what Japanese law or regulation determines the nationality requirements of the position he held.

non whatever

ok

7. In the case of a male, evidence that he has not served in any way in the Japanese Armed Forces, or incontrovertible proof that any such service was performed under protest and because of duress.

was not  
inducted

8. If available, evidence of registry as an American with the Japanese police during the war, such as an Alien's residence permit (taise kyokasho) or a Residence Certificate (iju shomeisho).
9. Applicant should likewise fill out in full the attached affidavit (supplement to Form 213) and present it at time of making application here. Particular attention should be paid to those sections concerning places of residence and places of employment or schooling; be sure to give the full address of each residence and the inclusive dates of each period of residence, employment or schooling.
10. An applicant may include minor children, brothers or sisters in his registration, but only provided they too have a claim to American citizenship and are less than 16 years of age. Such persons should be included in a group photographs with the applicant (item 1, above); they should appear here with the applicant and bring evidence of their own citizenship (item 2) and identity (item 3). If an applicant desires to include a minor child who was born in Japan and whose birth has never been reported to an American Consulate, it will be necessary for him to execute a report of birth at this office. For this purpose he should if possible present a certificate of the attending physician or hospital concerning the birth, or otherwise some other document establishing the place and date of birth and parents' names (an Expectant Mother's handbook, "nimpu-techo", will generally be found satisfactory). He should also present evidence of the marriage of the child's parents. When making an appointment with this office the applicant should state the number of births he desires to report, in order that sufficient time be reserved for him.
11. Each applicant should be prepared beforehand to supply this office with the following items of information:
- dates of residence in U. S.
  - dates of residence in Japan.
  - when he expects to return to U. S. for permanent residence
  - date of marriage.
  - place and date of birth of husband or wife.
  - place and date of birth of father and of mother
  - dates of residence in U. S. of father and of mother
  - place and date of birth of children and brothers and sisters
  - Names and full addresses of two persons in U. S. who can furnish information concerning applicant's identity and who have personal knowledge of the place and date of applicant's birth.
  - name of each school attended in U. S. and during what years it was attended.

*Registered as  
American  
until June  
1943*

*(Have permit to reside  
until June 1943)*

*Child not  
included at  
application for  
registration*



facsimile

Supplement to Form 213 or 213a

AFFIDAVIT

(Cross out words not applicable. If additional space is needed use the reverse.)

I, Minoru Nakamura, do solemnly swear that I arrived in Japan on or about Nov. 3, on board the SS Taiyo Maru

That I (did) (did not) apply for and receive an American passport before leaving the United States, the number of which was 14590, issued at San Francisco on Sept. 12, 1935, and that I (did) (did not) apply for and receive a Japanese visa from the Japanese Consulate at \_\_\_\_\_ on or about \_\_\_\_\_, and that I (~~did~~) (did not) show my passport to the Japanese authorities at the port of arrival, which was Yokohama

That at the time of my arrival in Japan I (did) (~~did not~~) also have Japanese nationality, and that after my arrival in Japan my name (~~was~~) (~~was not~~) entered in a family census register (Koseki); was not

That I (~~did~~) (did not) register as an American citizen with the American Consulate at \_\_\_\_\_ on or about \_\_\_\_\_ and that my registration was approved on or about \_\_\_\_\_ and was renewed on or about \_\_\_\_\_, as evidence of which I exhibit the following documents;

That I (did) (~~did not~~) register as an American citizen under the Japanese Alien Registration Law with the Japanese police at Kanagawa Pref. Toke Police, as evidence of which I exhibit the following documents;

Aliens Permit for stay in Japan; Residence Certificate (Good until June 1943)

That I did not register as an American citizen under the Japanese Alien Registration Law because;

did not renew permit because I reinstated.

~~That I did not register as an American citizen under the Japanese Alien Registration Law because;~~

That the following is a true and complete record of all the places of my residence since I last left the United States (give full addresses and inclusive dates of residence at each address);

ADDRESS

Nov. 1935-April 1938	Hiroshima-shi, Ebamachi, 721 %Yamada Hisaichi
May 1938-Dec. 1941	Tokyo-to, Shibuya-ku, 7 %Sugazawa Saburo
Jan. 1942-Oct. 1942	Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa-ku, Takashimacho, 1-1 Fukujuso
Nov. 1942-Aug. 1943	Tokyo-to, Omori-ku, Arai-juku, 2-1705 %Higasa Masae
Sept. 1943-April 1944	Tokyo-to, Omori-ku, Umagomecho, Higashi 2-1060 %Abe Shigezo
May 1944-Aug. 1944	Tokyo-to, Omori-ku, Arai-juku, 2258 Kokusai Apts.
Sept. 1944-June 1945	Gunma-ken, Kiryu-shi, Honcho 4 chome 77 %Kudo Utako
July 1945-Aug. 1945	Gunma-ken, Seta-gun, Azumamura, Oaza Ogiwara %Maehara, Michizo
Sept. 1945-Dec. 1945	Yokohama-shi, Nishi-ku, Momijizaka, 2 Momijizaka Hotel
Jan. 1946-Present	Yokohama-shi, Isogo-ku, Sugita-cho, 248
Dec. 1945	

3. April 1939-Dec. 25, 1941 Nihon Univ. College of Eng. Industrial Chemistry  
Kanda-ku, Surugadai, Tokyo

4. Jan 6, 1942-Aug. 1945 Japan Victor Phonograph Co. Research Dept. Chem. Sect.  
No. 12, 2 chome, Moriyasu, Kanagawa-ku, Yokohama  
Research work on growing Rochelle Salt Crystals  
Genin-choyo from Dec. 13, 1943

5. Sept. 1945-Present 8th Army, Eng. Sect. Interpreter.

facsimile

Supplement to Form 213 or 213a

AFFIDAVIT

(Cross out words not applicable. If additional space is needed use the reverse.)

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That I (~~did~~) (did not) register as an American citizen with the American Consulate at \_\_\_\_\_ on or about \_\_\_\_\_ and that my registration was approved on or about \_\_\_\_\_ and was renewed on or about \_\_\_\_\_, as evidence of which I exhibit the following documents;

that I (did) (~~did not~~) register as an American citizen under the Japan Alien Registration Law with the Japanese police at Kenagawa Pref. Toke Police, as evidence of which I exhibit the following documents;

Aliens Permit for stay in Japan; Residence Certificate (Good until June 1943)

Dec. 1935  
Sept. 1935-Dec. 1935  
July 1935-Sept. 1935  
Sept. 1935-Jan. 1936  
Jan. 1936-July 1936  
Sept. 1936-July 1937  
Nov. 1937-Jan. 1938  
Jan. 1938-Sept. 1938  
Feb. 1938-Dec. 1938

that the following is a true and complete record of all my activities since leaving the United States (give full details of names, addresses and dates of schools attended and places employed; include all employment, full-time, part-time, paid, volunteer, "kinro-hoshi", "teishintai", "choyo" or any other type);

1. April 1936-July 1936 Sanyo Japanese Language Training Course  
Sanyo Middle School, 381 Takaramachi, Hiroshima
2. Sept. 1936-July 1937 Sanyo Middle School
3. April 1939-Dec. 25, 1941 Nihon Univ. College of Eng. Industrial Chemistry  
Kanda-Ku, Surugadai, Tokyo
4. Jan 6, 1942-Aug. 1945 Japan Victor Phonograph Co. Research Dept. Chem. Sect.  
No. 12, 2chome, Moriyascho, Kanagawa-ku, Yokohama  
Research work on growing Rochelle Salt Crystals  
Genin-choyo from Dec. 13, 1943
5. Sept. 1945-Present 8th Army, Eng. Sect. Interpreter.

that the following is a true and complete record of all organizations and societies in Japan of which I am now or have been member or officer (include all societies and organizations, whether secular, political, social or religious, giving full addresses, dates of membership and any offices held);

*Nisei Rengokai Member for 1942 only, Social*

That I (~~have~~) (have not) taken an oath or made an affirmation or other formal declaration of allegiance to Japan or any other foreign state;

That I (~~have~~) (have not) voted in a political election in Japan or any other foreign state;

That I (~~was~~) (have not) been summoned for examination under the Japanese Military Conscription Law, and (~~was~~) (was not) examined at \_\_\_\_\_ on or about \_\_\_\_\_ and classified as \_\_\_\_\_, and (~~was~~) (was not) inducted into the Japanese (Army) (Navy), the reason being as follows;

*Persons acquiring Japanese nationality after attaining Conscription Age (20) are not eligible for examination*

That I did register under the U. S. Selective Service Proclamation with Local Board No. \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ on or about \_\_\_\_\_, and received a permit to depart from the United States issued by \_\_\_\_\_ on or about \_\_\_\_\_ as evidenced by the following documents;

Thus I did not register under the U. S. Selective Service proclamation because;

*I was in Japan*

That I (~~was~~) (have not) in any way whatsoever) been employed under a foreign government or political subdivision thereof, and, if so, I give on the reverse of this sheet the full and exact details of the position held and the evidence submitted by me to show that the position was not one for which only nationals of such state are eligible.

I further do solemnly swear that I have not entered or served in any way in the armed forces of Japan or any regimicr country under the control of Japan or of any other foreign country, and that I have not accepted or performed the duties of any office, post or employment under the government of Japan, or any government or regime under the control of Japan, or of any other foreign country or of any political subdivisions thereof, for which only nationals of such state are eligible.

*Minoru Fukamura*  
(Full signature of applicant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me at Yokohama, Japan, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_.

*This Application for Registration was made ~~May~~ <sup>June</sup> 12, 1946 at Yokohama. My Statement was submitted subsequently on Aug. 20, 1946.*

Foreign Service Officer of the United States of America



*Air Mail*

*Attorney Wayne Collins  
San Francisco*

*Mills Bldg  
Calif.*

Vesalia Calif  
Aug 24, 1948.

Attorney Wayne Collins  
San Francisco:

Dear Sir.

The Jap sympathizers seem  
to still be on the job - Why  
the hell the inmates of Tule  
Lake and others of like intentions  
should be re-established  
to citizenship in these United  
States I can't feathare! You know  
and I know that that bunch  
of perverted fanatics can't make  
good citizens along the side  
of true Americans. Most  
of us haven't forgotten quite  
so soon, the price ~~of~~ we  
paid - to free the world of the  
Jap menace. Now some of our  
slayer americans are happy to  
junk the past and take crown  
them with olives. disagree  
M. S. Fisher

P. S. I believe the Sons of Golden West  
petitioned you not to reestablish  
these traitors to citizenship

WAYNE M. COLLINS

ATTORNEY AT LAW

MILLS TOWER, 220 BUSH STREET

SAN FRANCISCO 4, CALIFORNIA

TELEPHONE GARFIELD 1218

August 30, 1948

Mr. M. S. Parker  
Visalia, Calif.

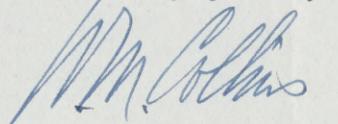
Dear Mr. Parker:

I have received your letter of August 24th and was astounded that you should have addressed such a communication to me.

I do not know what occupation you pursued during the course of this war or whether you contributed any services of any nature whatsoever to the defense and welfare of this country. For your information, permit me to inform you that all the persons who were confined to Tule Lake were citizens of the United States who had been unconstitutionally and illegally confined there under duress by our government; and who thereafter for a period of years were subjected to constant coercion, intimidation, undue influence and duress. While so laboring under those conditions, they renounced U.S. nationality solely by reason of those facts. Fortunately, our courts which are the repositories of the national conscience have set aside those renunciations and restored their nationality. For your information, in excess of 1500 had served in the Army and in addition a total of 2500 have contributed their services to our Armed Forces.

Inasmuch as your letter exhibits to me persistent ignorance upon your part and a deeply rooted prejudice which is quite un-American in and of itself, I suggest sometime that, if you are literate enough, you read the Constitution of the United States, as well as the Declaration of Independence, so as to learn what the rights of citizens are. It is unfortunate that a few persons in the United States are like yourself -- who, being given the benefits of this country, exhibit your unworthiness to those benefits by the type of letter you addressed to me.

Very truly yours,



## Takai Realty Co.

August 30th, 1948

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
220 Bush Street  
San Francisco, 4, California

Dear Mr Collibs:

I would appreciate if I could get more pacific imformation of Judge Goodman's ruling in restoration of citizenship for renunciants. The first group who signed up to retain their citizenship, "Does this mean they still retain their citizenship? or do they have to wait 120 days in which the government has a right for appeal to the court action?"

I read an article in the Pacific Citizen but it was very vague. I was told that you was the attorney who handled this case and was unable to get definite imformation elsewhere.

Thanking you in advance for this courtesy

Sincerely Your's

*Roy Takai*

*Renun  
File General*

September 2, 1948

Mr. Roy Takai  
Takai Realty Co.  
2636 W. Jefferson Blvd.  
Los Angeles 16, Calif.

Dear Mr. Takai:

Inasmuch as the number of renunciants who have become parties plaintiff in Equity Suit 25295 has been increased to a number in excess of 5500, the court has granted the government 120 days from and after the time I file an interlocutory decree canceling the renunciations and restoring their U.S. nationality within which to designate any of the plaintiffs against whom it may desire to introduce further evidence. In view of that fact, the decision probably will not become final until about January 15, 1949.

Consequently a renunciant should not purchase real property until the judgment restoring his or her citizenship becomes final and conclusive. Each renunciant in the case will be informed by me of his or her status when and as the judgment becomes final.

However, any citizen member of a renunciant's or alien's family can safely acquire, own and possess real property.

The Pacific Citizen staff seldom reports any matters concerning the renunciants' cases with any accuracy. You would do much better to rely upon the HOKUBEI MAINICHI, or the NICHIBEI TIMES or the RAFU SHIMPO.

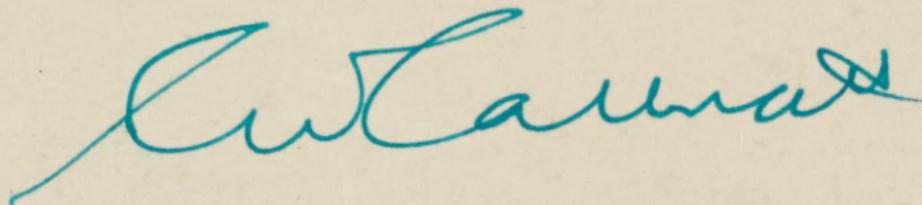
Very truly yours,

Dear Mr. Collins:

The Naturalization service has asked me if the following Japanese are included in Civil cases Nos. 25294-25295-25296- and 25297. Would you mind telling me if they are and in what case Number, viz:

Mitsuaki Akira Yabumoto  
Frenk Kazuo Ogino  
Masamori Matsuoka  
Teruo Hiromoto

Many thanks:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'L. L. L.', is written in a cursive style across the bottom right of the page.

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

October 5, 1948

Mr. C. W. Calbreath  
Clerk, U.S. District Court  
Northern District of Calif.  
Post Office Box 707  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mr. Calbreath:

In reply to your communication of October 4th, please be advised that the following persons were included as party plaintiffs in the respective cases set after their names on the dates indicated.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Case No.</u>	<u>Date</u>
YABUMOTO, Mitsuaki Akira	25294	May 24, 1948
OGINO, Frank Kazuo	25294 25296	Nov. 13, 1945
MATSUOKA, Masamori	25294 25296	Nov. 13, 1945
HIROMOTO, Teruo	25294 25296	Nov. 13, 1945

Very truly yours,

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

ITHACA, NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT

BOARDMAN HALL

October 13, 1948

Mr. Wayne Collins,  
Attorney-at-Law,  
Mills Tower,  
220 Bush Street,  
San Francisco 4, California

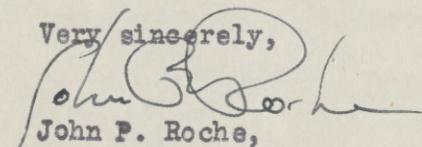
Dear Mr. Collins:

I am writing you at the suggestion of Mike Masaoka of the JACL. I wrote him in Washington asking for information about the status of the so-called "renunciant cases", and he told me that you have been handling the legal end of these cases.

I am writing a doctoral dissertation on Loss of United States Citizenship, and am particularly interested at the moment in the application of the penalty provisions and renunciation sections of the Nationality Code. I have been keeping track of the cases you have participated in, and I wonder if you would be good enough to supply me with the briefs (copies) that you have drawn up.

I wrote my ~~Masters~~ thesis on the Evacuation of the Japanese-Americans: a Constitutional Analysis two years ago and at that time I encountered the problem of renunciation under duress in its incipient stage. I have been delighted to see that so far the Federal Courts have been going along with your contentions.

Very sincerely,

  
John P. Roche,  
Assistant in Government

# ILLINOIS LAW REVIEW

Northwestern University School of Law  
357 EAST CHICAGO AVENUE  
CHICAGO 11, ILLINOIS

25 September 1948.

Wayne M. Collins  
Mills Tower  
San Francisco, California.

Dear Sir:

We are contemplating publishing a note on the district court decision in Tadayasu Abo v. Clark. In connection with this, if it is at all possible, could you send us a copy of your briefs presented during that suit, or any other material that might be pertinent?

If you are able to send anything, please address it to:  
William K. Bachelder  
710 Lakeshore Drive  
Chicago, Illinois.

We realize this is putting you to a lot of trouble and wish to express our thanks for anything you are able to do.

Yours gratefully,

*W. K. Bachelder*

WAYNE M. COLLINS

ATTORNEY AT LAW  
MILLS TOWER, 220 BUSH STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO 4, CALIFORNIA

TELEPHONE GARFIELD 1-1218

October 21, 1948

Mr. William K. Bachelder  
710 Lakeshore Drive  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Bachelder:

Enclosed find copy of my brief in the habeas corpus cases entitled Tadayasu Abo et al. vs. Clark. I would be grateful if you would return it to me when you finish with the same inasmuch as it is the only copy I have available.

I expect in due course of time to have copies of my brief in the similarly entitled cases which were brought in equity to cancel renunciations and to determine nationality as soon as copies of that brief have been typed.

Very truly yours,

NOTE: DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
STATED HER APPLICATION TO  
RENOUNCE WAS DISAPPROVED  
ON JULY 8, 1946

Murakami, Mary  
Chizuko

1286 Pine Ave

San Jose 10, Calif

July 1<sup>st</sup> 1948

Attorney Wayne M. Ballida  
Mill Beyer, 220 Bush St  
San Francisco, Calif

Dear Mr. Ballida:

In 1945, at Tule Lake  
Center, I renounced my American  
citizenship. Fortunately, I was one of  
those couple hundred renunciants  
whose renunciations were not  
approved. Since my renunciation  
has never been approved by the Attorney  
General to this date, I have always  
considered myself as an American  
citizen as I always have been in  
the past before my renunciation.

In the last month's  
papers, I have read where every re-  
nunciants, regardless of their renunciations  
approved or disapproved, by the  
Attorney-General, who wishes to cancel  
their renunciation and be restored

to citizenship in the equity suits, which has been won in the U. S. District Court in San Francisco must read in a request to be joined in the above suits. Therefore, I am informing you with the following facts.

1. Name - <sup>(Mrs)</sup> Mary Chizuko Murakami
2. Address - 1586 Pine Ave, San Jose 10, Calif.
3. Date of birth - Oct. 12, 1905
4. Place " " - Alviso, Calif. Santa Clara Co.
5. Place of renunciation - Tule Lake Center

6. I have not received a letter from the Attorney-General approving my renunciation.

Very truly yours,  
Mrs. Mary Chizuko Murakami

P. S. I was naturalized in the Superior Court, San Jose Calif, Santa Clara Co. in Sept 1931.

October 29, 1948

Mrs. Mary Chizuko Murakami  
1286 Pine Ave.  
San Jose 10, California

*Justice ltr. re her  
filed with OSADA,  
TAKESHI (joined 9/14/48)*

Dear Mrs. Murakami:

In regard to your status as a renunciant about which you inquired in July, I have been informed by the Department of Justice that your renunciation was disapproved by the Attorney General, and therefore you did not lose your citizenship. Consequently your name was not entered as a party plaintiff in the suit to restore citizenship.

Very truly yours,

P.S.

In view of the foregoing, I suggest that you immediately write to the Attorney General, Department of Justice Building, Washington 25, D.C., to the attention of Mr. Charles M. Rothstein, Director, Alien Enemy Control Unit, and ask him to verify that fact.

Mary Chizuka Murakami  
1286 Pine Ave

San Jose 10, Calif.  
Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>, 1948.

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
Attorney at Law  
Mills Tower, 220 Bush St  
San Francisco 4, Calif.

Dear Mr. Collins:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of Oct. 29, 1948 in regard to my status as a renunciant. I was certainly very happy and pleased to be informed that my renunciation was definitely disapproved by the Attorney General. Due to the fact that I have not received the approval paper for my renunciation; to the day I received your letter, I was confident that I did not lose my U.S. citizenship, but, still at the same time, very doubtful about my

status, as I did not receive any verification of the disapproval from the Attorney General. But, ever since I have received your letter, I just feel as though that a big burden is off of my shoulder, and has relieved all my doubtful thoughts, which has been annoying me for the last few years. Certainly gives me great relaxation.

In your letter, you also suggested that I should immediately write the Attorney General, Department of Justice Building, Washington 25, D. C., to the attention of Mr. Charles M. Rothstein, Director, Alien Enemy Control Unit, requesting him to verify the above fact. But, Mr. Collins, do you think it is necessary for me to do that, as, I have never been called for Alien registration like the other many thousands approved renunciants? If you still think that it is important,

I will do so, therefore will you kindly let me know what you think I should do at your earliest convenience?

Furthermore, at the time of my renunciation hearing, the Interviewer took my one and only Naturalization papers I possessed. Now that my status is cleared as a Citizen of United States, I certainly do like to get it back. Therefore, will you kindly write to the Attorney General, and get the papers back for me. I would be very glad to send you in advance your service fee, if you would let me know by return mail, and also for your last service if there is any fee due you.

I wish that I could meet and talk the above matters personally with you, but I regret very much that my time does not

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permit me as I wish, since I  
am working everyday.

Thanking you again for  
your past services and also wish  
to thank you in advance for  
your next service.

Trusting to hear from  
you at your earliest convenience.

I remain,  
Very truly yours,  
Mary Bezik Murakami

November 29, 1948

*Never joined*

Mrs. Mary Chizuko Murakami  
1286 Pine Ave.  
San Jose 10, Calif.

Dear Mrs. Murakami:

In reply to your letter of November 26th, I should like to again advise you, as a matter of official record in the event any question should ever arise, that you immediately write to the Attorney General, Department of Justice Building, Washington 25, D. C., to the attention of Mr. Charles M. Rothstein, Director, Alien Enemy Control Unit, and ask him to verify the fact that your renunciation was disapproved.

In regard to your naturalization papers, I suggest that you write for a certified copy thereof to the Superior Court, San Jose Calif., Santa Clara County, where you were naturalized.

Very truly yours,