

2:9

Tule Lake Defense Committee

Correspondence

1948

78/177

C

January 20, 1948

Mr. Tex Nakamura,
1328 S. Glendale Avenue,
Glendale 5, California.

Dear Tex:

Enclosed find letter I have written to Toraichi Kono in care of the Rafu Shimpo. If you are able to locate him, I would thank you to deliver the enclosed copy and in addition to notify me of Mr. Kono's correct mailing address in Los Angeles.

Very truly yours,

WMC:cw

Enc.

January 22, 1948

Dear Wayne:

I have for the last two days ~~been~~ tried to find the address of Toraichi Kono, but without any success. I called the Rafu Shimpō, but he is not listed there as a subscriber. The editor there stated that Kono dropped by for a visit but did not tell where he resided. It is probable that he is staying somewhere in Hollywood with his Caucasian friend. I checked with Sasaki and few other issei in town, but they do not know his whereabouts.

However, I feel that we should have something in his file pertaining to the address of his son, who is attending UCLA. So please ask Chiyo to check the file in this regard.

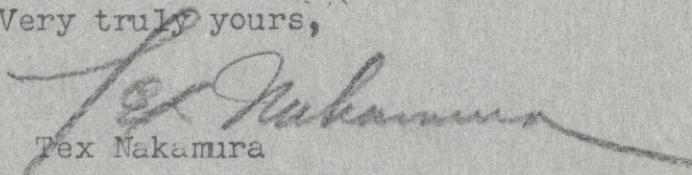
Another thing is Sasaki stated he applied for his first paper, but the naturalization officer here has not as yet received his entry record from the San Francisco office. Therefore in order to hasten matter he wanted you to call the Immigration officer and have his record transferred to Los Angeles office. His full name is Masami Sasaki. The date of entry was sometimes in 1906.

Meanwhile I shall try to contact some other source as to the whereabouts of Kono. Could you tell me if there is any other Seabrook alien released on parole now giving their forwarding address in Los Angeles? If we could find some we may be able to track him down. to some

I am enclosing an expense account, which is getting pretty old.

Adachi

Very truly yours,


Tex Nakamura

May 1, 1948.

Japanese American Community Council of L.A.,
268 East 1st Street,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Gentlemen:

Confirming statements made to you via telephone this morning please be informed that any Nisei who, under duress, renounced his U.S. nationality at the Tule Lake Center or any other WRA Center during the war who makes written request to me to be included in the mass suits I brought to cancel the renunciations of some 2,700 similar renunciants and to restore their U.S. citizenship will be included in said suits as a party plaintiff.

An interlocutory judgment has been granted restoring citizenship to those already in the suits and that judgment will become final in 90 days from April 29, 1948. The decision will cover any and all persons who are added as parties plaintiff within that time.

In order to be included in said cases the following information is necessary, viz., (1) the full name, (2) present address, (3) date of birth, (4) place of birth, (5) place where he or she renounced and (5) whether or not he or she received a letter from the Attorney General approving the renunciation.

Very truly yours,

WMC/W

WAYNE M. COLLINS
Attorney at Law
Nills Tower
220 Bush Street
San Francisco 4, California
GARfield 1-1218

May 4, 1948

Messrs. Tex Nakamura, Masami Sasaki, Harry Uchida,
Harry Takeuchi, Minoru Matsumoto, Isamu Myose,
Yoshio Shibata, Tomiji Shono, Yas Honda.

Gentlemen:

The JAQL's history is one of repeated and continuous betrayals of the best interests of the Nisei and Issei. It favored the evacuation from the West Coast and failed to protest against it. A number of its officers and members maliciously pointed the finger of suspicion at certain aliens and citizens and wrongfully accused them of being dangerous to this country. As a result a number of aliens were imprisoned for years in alien enemy camps and citizens were denied leave clearance and were imprisoned in WRA centers.

The JAQL refused to protest against the detention of these innocent persons in the Tule Lake and other Centers. Through Saburo Kido the JAQL refused to help Tetsujiro Nakamura and Masami Sasaki in their efforts to prevent Nisei from renouncing their citizenship at the Tule Lake Center. Neither the JAQL nor its stupid newspaper, the Pacific Citizen, has ever said a good word for the renunciants or the aliens.

The JAQL's attorney Al Wirin testified before the Dickstein congressional committee that all the renunciants should be deported to Japan. He and J. B. Tietz took a gross advantage of the Peruvian-Japanese group at Santa Fe and tried to do the same thing to the similar group at Crystal City. He connived to interfere with and jeopardize the suits I brought to liberate the interned renunciants and to cancel their renunciations. He and his group, with the connivance of Roger Baldwin of the New York American Civil Liberties Union, deliberately and willfully tried to shift the blame for the renunciations from the government to the members of the Hoshi Dan, Seinen Dan and Joshi Dan and thereby to prevent the members of those organizations from being restored to citizenship in my cases.

Wirin and his group brought unnecessary immigration suits in Salt Lake City months after I had obtained an agreement from the Justice and Immigration Departments postponing the deportation of immigration law violators until my immigration cases were determined by the Supreme Court. He and Baldwin of the New York Civil Liberties Union steadily have been opposed to the interests of the renunciants, the aliens held in detention as though they were dangerous to our security, the Peruvian-Japanese and those aliens

who entered the country unlawfully or lost their status by reason of the war and were ordered deported. Officers of the JACL followed the same line. The Pacific Citizen, an organ of the JACL, published articles attacking the renunciants and the cases I brought to cancel renunciations.

In consequence, I have absolutely no use whatever for the leaders of the JACL, Al Wirin and his group, Roger Baldwin and the New York American Civil Liberties Union, for each of whom I have the utmost contempt, all and each of whom I charge with having betrayed the interests of the Nisei and Issai in this country. Some of the said groups and persons still are trying to exploit the Nisei and Issai for personal profit and to get cheap publicity for themselves.

I am aware of the activities of a Los Angeles group which has been and now is endeavoring to stir up cases and litigation in renunciation cases. If any attorney or attorneys in Los Angeles either directly or indirectly solicit renunciation cases they violate the law and the canons of ethics by which attorneys are bound.

In my opinion the filing of other cases by renunciants might do injury to the mass suits in which I have already been successful. Wirin's suits, which arose in the questionable manner with which you are familiar, were designed to blame the Hoshi Dan, Seinen Dan and Joshi Dan and thereby injure the rights of the 2,700 who are protected in my mass suits. In my opinion any renunciant who knows of the past and present activities of the JACL, Al Wirin and his crowd, and Roger Baldwin and his ilk would have nothing to do with any of them.

As I heretofore informed you, in order to protect the renunciants from being exploited by racketeers, I am still accepting the requests of renunciants to be joined in my suits which already have been won. The judgment is interlocutory and will become final in 90 days from April 29, 1948, that is to say, on July 29, 1948. That judgment will cover and protect any and all persons now in the suits and also all those whose names are added thereto within that time. I will accept the names of any renunciants who request me to add their names to the suits. In order to be included in the cases the following information must be supplied to me, viz., (1) the name of the renunciant, (2) his or her present address, (3) place of birth and (5) place where he or she renounced. However, I will not accept any requests from the JACL or any of its officers, Al Wirin, Saburo Kido, Frank Chuman, Fred Okrand, J. B. Tietz, Arthur Garfield Hays, Osmond K. Fraenkel, or anyone connected with their offices, or from Roger Baldwin or anyone connected with the New York Civil Liberties Union because of their questionable activities, sordid purposes and steady betrayal of the rights of the Nisei and Issai.

Very truly yours,

W. M. Collins

1842 Fort Street
Honolulu 23, Hawaii
May 19, 1948.

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

Sir:

I wish to offer you my heartiest congratulation for the decision given by Federal Judge Louis E. Goodman stating that all renunciants will restore American citizenships.

Its credit all goes to you as you have given us helps kindly when we were interned at Tulelake Center.

My wife and I returned to Hawaii from Crystal City on May 1, 1946. We have in mind of paying the balance \$50.00 each, but I was unable to do so as I was in poor health most of the time. We both have paid \$50 each at the time of registration. Now I feel I should pay up what we both owe to you, so I am enclosing \$100, \$50 balance of each of us.

Takaichi Sakai No. 2060
Sato Sakai No. 2059

Thanking again for your kind assistance in this matter.

Yours very truly,

Takaichi Sakai

Hotel Clark



*In Downtown
Los Angeles*

426 SOUTH HILL STREET
LOS ANGELES 13, CALIF.

October 4, 1948

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

Dear Mr. Collins;

Thanks again for the wonderful time
you gave me on my last trip up there.

"Tex" and I are anxiously waiting
for the list you are having made up for
us. Please send it to me as soon as
you are able to, so we can get busy on
it.

Please give my best regards to Mrs.
Collins. I hope that I shall be able to
to see you again soon.

Sincerely yours,

T. Kono

Oct 13, 1948.

Dear Wayne:

I shall be in San Francisco sometime next week - I expect to leave around Tuesday - October 19th.

I am planning to settle the leave matter on my house on Bush Street, as my sister & her family will be coming to Glendale.

I shall take the completed I 55 forms at the same time.

Very truly yours,

Jef.

October 13, 1948

Mr. Toraishi Kono
c/o Hotel Clark
426 South Hill Street
Los Angeles 13, Calif.

Dear Mr. Kono:

Thanks for your letter of October 4th. The lists of names with the birth dates and the addresses that were supplied to me are now ready and as soon as they have been re-checked, a copy will be forwarded to you and to Tex.

I am very grateful for your interest in this matter.

Very truly yours,

*cc
to Mr Collins*

Alien Internment Camp
Crystal City, Texas

October 15, 1946

Mr. J.L. O'Rourke
Officer in Charge
Crystal City, Texas

Dear Mr. O'Rourke:

In view of the prevailing uncertainty of our future in this camp we have come to a decision at this time as indicated in the attached tentative letter to Mr. Wayne M. Collins.

I ask you therefore to release the trust fund for the sum of \$510.06, the balance of the trust fund of Renunciant Group from Santa Fe Detention Station, which is now in your care.

Thanking you for the past courtesy and hoping that this request be complied with.

Very truly yours,

Hayao Chuman
Hayao Chuman (Committee)

Isao Tokoshima
Isao Tokoshima (Committee)

Alien Internment Camp
Crystal City, Texas

October 15, 1946

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

Dear Mr. Collins:

Enclosed please find postal money orders for the sum of \$528.61. This fund is the accumulation of donations from the renunciants from Santa Fe Detention Station.

We the undersigned remaining committee of four original committee members respectfully request you to add the sum to the trust fund of renunciant case.

This decision was arrived at in view of eventual dispersion of major portion of renunciants at this camp.

Hoping that this fund to be useful in defraying even a minor portion of the expense and with our sincere thanks for your good work.

Yours very sincerely,

Hayao Chuman
Hayao Chuman (Committee)

Isao Tokoshima
Isao Tokoshima (Committee)

Alien Internment Camp
Crystal City, Texas

October 21, 1946

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

Dear Mr. Collins:

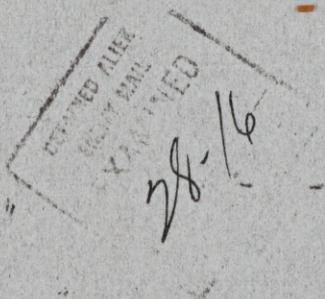
After our letter dated October 15, 1946 was written, it has developed that postal order fee \$1.25 was required for money order fee after the signed letter was typed.

Now therefore, the actual sum of the money order was reduced to \$527.36 from the original sum \$528.61.

Hoping that the variance of remittance may be understood.

Truly yours,

Isao Tokoshima
Isao Tokoshima (committee)



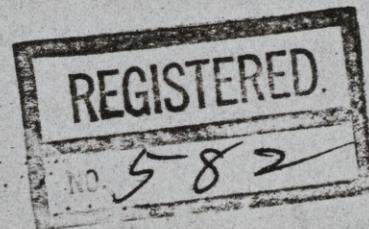
Isao Tokoshima
Alien Internment Camp
Crystal City, Texas



Registered

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

Business



October 27, 1948

Dear Wayne:

Last night Harry Akhida called the meeting of the Zulalake Defense Committee, and then approval was received on the matter of collecting additional fund for the Zulalake case. The committee decided to give Mr. Saraki and myself full responsibility to collect the fund. I have explained roughly the relationship of Mr. Kono to Mr. Saraki, and an understanding has been found in concerting all available resources to finish this drive for funds.

I requested that the committee members pitch in on their available times, & they have readily accepted such term.

I have made arrangements to open an office at Saraki's hotel on the 3rd floor, as some central point is necessary in communicating with all the renunciant. It will be just for a very brief time so I felt it desirable to open such an office.

The committee members sought to use the Japanese papers to get all the addresses of the original Zulakers, as most of them have never informed you of their change of addresses.

By way of information - through reliable sources -
found out that Lavine received only \$20,000 for the
defense of Kawakita. Kawakita's property in California
was under A. P. Vesting order as his son was in Japan.
Then his son returned to have it released. Lavine is to
handle this case providing he turn in a verdict
of acquittal for his client. In the end it usually
ends up to the same story - that they do not have
a great deal of funds available for the defense of
their children.

I shall keep you informed of the progress on the
drive for this fund.

Very truly yours,
Lex Nakamura.

Nov 1, 1948

Dear Wayne;

Enclosed please find the printed letters
to be mailed to all the renunciants.

We have not as yet received the complete
list, & cannot proceed with our work.
We are now in the stage of organizing our work
so that we shall not lose any time at all.

Very truly yours,

Tex

TULE LAKE DEFENSE COMMITTEE

ROOM 302, 117 NORTH SAN PEDRO STREET
LOS ANGELES 12, CALIFORNIA
MICHIGAN 9376

November 4, 1948

Dear Wayne:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of 2 copies of list, which had the names of those who entered the suit after the decision.

I am enclosing today \$100.00 in cashiers check to be credited to Hideshi Sameshima - Immigration case.

Also could you have the girls work on the other lists, ~~which~~ as we wish to mail all the letters out to the renunciants. We had some response to our mail, but I feel we must go out in the field. Kono is working hard with me & sends his regards.

Very truly yours,

Tex Nabam

TULE LAKE DEFENSE COMMITTEE

ROOM 302, 117 NORTH SAN PEDRO STREET
LOS ANGELES 12, CALIFORNIA
MICHIGAN 9376

November 18, 1948

Dear Wayne:

We installed a phone as the hotel phone
does not give us privacy.

Thenphone number is Michigan 4728.) *noted*

Every thing is going fine--and I will send
you in the near future the next batch of deposits.

Very truly yours,



STRATHMORE BOND

OPAQUE

100% COTTON CONTENT U.S.A.

November 24, 1948

Mr. Tex Nakamura,
Room 302,
117 No. San Pedro St.,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Tex:

Please send me a check for \$80.00 out of your committee funds to reimburse me for funds advanced on November 10, 1948, out of your first collection covering funds you and Kono used for committee purposes so that my records will be straight.

We found the receipts for Muraji Kobata and Zenkuro Sumi in our files. I will have the checks made out to you by the Clerk which you can endorse over to them.

Very truly yours,

WMC:cw

COMMITTEE

Y. HONDA
Y. KAKU
T. KONO
J. KIMURA
Y. KIYOHIRO
K. MATSUOKA
I. NAMEKAWA
T. NAKAMURA
H. OKITA

TULE LAKE DEFENSE COMMITTEE

ROOM 302, 117 NORTH SAN PEDRO STREET
LOS ANGELES 12, CALIFORNIA
MICHIGAN ~~9376~~ 4728

COMMITTEE

T. OBATAKE
M. SAKAKI
Y. SHIBATA
I. SHIMIZU
H. TAKETAYA
P. TSUETAKE
H. TAKEUCHI
H. UCHIDA
M. YAMAICHI

November 29, 1948

Dear Wayne:

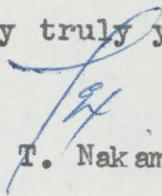
This will acknowledge receipt your letter of 24th.

On the matter of \$80.00, I wrote the check out on the 15th, and mailed it to you. I did not write any letter or note ~~of~~ with the check.

I believe I posted bonds for 2 or three other person, and their receipt might be in the files. If there should be any person coming into the office: please ask Chiyo to check the files.

I shall write to Sumi that the receipt was found, and that I will mail him the bond money.

Very truly yours,


T. Nakamura

December 18, 1948.

Mr. Tex Nakamura,
117 North San Pedro Street, Room 302,
Los Angeles, 12, Calif.

Dear Tex:

Enclosed find S.F. Bank cashier's check
No. 309231, dated Dec. 18, 1948, drawn payable to
my order and endorsed by me payable to your order
as an advance to the Tule Lake Defense Committee
which now makes the total sum advanced amount to
\$5,000.

Very truly yours,

WMC/W

Y. R. HIRAOKA

ATTORNEY AT LAW
1435 FRESNO STREET
FRESNO, 1, CALIFORNIA
PHONE 4-2078

December 30, 1948

Wayne M. Collins, Esq.,
Attorney at Law,
1701 Mills Tower, 220 Bush Street,
San Francisco 4, California.

Dear Wayne:

This is just to let you know that the Hiraoka family hope that you and yours spent a nice Christmas and that the New Year finds you in good health and happiness.

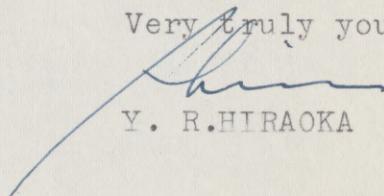
I didn't intend to talk shop, but that always creeps in somehow. After recording all those papers for the Kitaharas I forwarded them the bill for the costs, but there has been no answer yet. They are slow in getting around to paying but I feel that they will send the money to us.

There is a matter which I want you to keep to yourself as confidential matter, Wayne. I heard from a friend of the Kitaharas that a divison of the moneys and properties has been made, without changing of the titles to the properties. The old man is still in control of the properties, I understand, with Kei and Toru taking a cash settlement and George taking 40 acres in his own right. I do not know which 40 and I do not intend to ask George what the family has done, Wayne, because they seem to want to do things their way, which eventually leads into some sort of problem.

There have been only two deportee matters here and I have been wondering whether to hold on to them for a little while longer with expectation that others will come in, or whether to send what I have on to you. You can inform me of your wishes at any time at your convenience.

Again, Wayne, a verry, verry Happy New Year to you and the family is our wish.

Very truly yours,


Y. R. HIRAOKA