

11:7

KATO, Giichi

1948-1960

78/177

C



10 Sept. 1948.  
No. 6-2 chome Tamura cho  
Shiba Minato ku, Tokyo.

Attorney R. Collins,  
220 Bush St.,  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear sir,

I am one of those who have renounce our citizenship. Now lately it has come to my attention that we can get it back or that you are at present trying to regain our citizenship for us. By your kindness that your will include my name on your list I would greatly appreciate very much.

My circumstance is about same as the rest of the renouncees but one thing is that I was never in the North Dakota or New Mexico or have never joined any organization while in the camp. When I renounce my citizenship was at Tula lake Camp, and left U.S. on the second ship.

If you need any more information please contact my father who is located in this address. Mr. Frank N. Kato 2120 North Clark St., Chicago Illinois. I think to my best of knowledge that he will give all the assistance that you may need in regard to my case.

Respectfully yours,

Giichi Kato.

P.S.

SEP 27 1948

Return address.

Giichi Kato  
c/o Kosei Kogyo Co.  
No. 6-2 chome Tamura cho  
Shiba, Minato. ku,  
Japan.

CM (on 9/21/48)

(No record  
as of 9/20/48)



Wayne M. Collins  
Attorney at Law  
Mills Tower, 220 Bush Street  
San Francisco 4, California, U.S.A.

*7 lines from*

The Affidavits you sent to me are inadequate in certain particulars. Therefore, I would thank you to send to me immediately by air mail answers to the following questions.

1. Where were you living before your evacuation?
2. Were you living with your father?
3. What was your occupation before evacuation?
4. Where was your mother at that time?
5. Did you sign more than one application for repatriation to Japan?
6. In what camps were you when you (or your father) signed those applications for repatriation?
7. Did you and your father believe at the time you made each of the requests for repatriation that your father would be deported by the Govt. to Japan just because he was an alien?
8. What property did you and your father lose as a result of evacuation? What was its value?
9. Did you send a letter to the Attorney General or Justice Dept. for forms on which to renounce your citizenship before Dec. 19, 1944, when the WRA announced all the camps would be closed in a year or after that announcement appeared?
10. Did you know that the WRA made an announcement on January 29, 1945 that the Tule Lake Center would not be closed but would be kept open?
11. Did your father threaten or pressure you to send in the request for renunciation forms so that you would not be kept in camp and be forced to relocate in a community hostile to Japanese when he was deported to Japan? What did he say?
12. Did other persons threaten or pressure you to send for the forms?
13. What did they tell you would probably happen to you if you didn't send for the forms and didn't renounce citizenship? What were their names?
14. In what Blocks did they live? Were they Issei, Kibei or Nisei?
15. Did anyone tell you that if you didn't send for the forms and renounce citizenship you would never be released from camp unless you served a term in a U.S. jail for having given "No" answers to questions 27 and 28? Who told you that? What were their names?
16. After you got back to Japan in 1946 did you personally re-register in the family Koseki?
17. Did someone else have you registered? Who?
18. Were you registered just for the purpose of getting a ration card to prevent starvation and not for the purpose of becoming a Japanese citizen?

Very truly yours,



GIICHI K ato

The Affidavits you sent to me are inadequate in certain particulars. Therefore, I would thank you to send to me immediately by air-mail answers to the following questions.

~~where did you live before~~

1. Where were you living before your evacuation?
2. Were you living with your father ?
3. What was your occupation before evacuation?
4. Where was your mother at that time ?
5. Did you sign more than one application for repatriation to Japan? ~~if yes~~
6. In what camps were you were you (or your father) signed those applications for repatriation?
7. Did you and your father believe at the time you ~~made~~ <sup>sent it to</sup> made the ~~request~~ request for repatriation that your father would be deported by the Government to Japan just because he was an alien?
8. What property did you and your father lose as a result of evacuation? \_\_\_\_\_ What was its value ?
9. Did you send a letter to the Attorney General or Justice Department for forms on which to renounce your citizenship before Dec. 19, 194~~5~~<sup>4</sup>, when the WRA announced ~~that~~ all the camps would be closed in a year or after that announcement appeared ? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Did you know that the WRA made an announcement on ~~December 29, 1945~~ January 29, 1945, that The Tule Lake Center would not be closed but would be kept open ?
11. Did your father threaten or pressure you to ~~renounce~~



send in the request for renunciation forms so that you would not be kept in camp and be forced to relocate in ~~the hostile community~~ a community hostile to Japanese when he was deported to Japan ?

What did he say ?

12. Did other persons threaten or pressure you to send for the forms?

13. What did they tell you ~~would~~ probably happen to you if you didn't send for the forms and didn't renounce citizenship ?

13. What were their names ?

14. I <sup>at</sup> what blocks did they live ?

15. Were they Issei, ~~the~~ Kinei or Nisei ?

16. Did anyone tell you that if you didn't send for the forms and renounce citizenship you would never be released from camp unless you served a term in a U.S. jail for having given No. Answers to questions 27 and 28 ?

Who told you that ? \_\_\_\_\_ What were their names ?

17. After you got back to Japan in 1946 did you personally re-register in the family Koseki ?

18. Did someone else have you registered ? Who ?

19. Were you registered just for the purpose of getting a ration card to prevent starvation and not for the purpose of becoming a Japanese citizen ?

Very  
187



Sept., 27th, 1954.

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
1701 Mills Tower  
220 Bush Street  
San Francisco 4, Calif.

NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Gentlemen:

I wish to inform you that I have changed the address  
as following:

*noted  
9/30/54  
mm* ← New Address: No. 1192, 5-chome Ogumachi,  
Arakawa ku, Tokyo, Japan  
Old Address: No. 6, 2-chome Tamura cho  
Shiba Minato ku, Tokyo, Japan.

I will appreciate very much if you will change as above and  
forward all my correspondent to the new address.

Thanking you in advance for your cooperation, we remain.

Very truly yours,

*Giichi Kato*  
Giichi Kato.



KATO, GIICHI

December 10, 1954

AIR LETTER

Dear Mr. Kato:

The Affidavits you sent to me are inadequate in certain particulars. Therefore, I would thank you to send to me immediately by air mail answers to the following questions.

1. Where were you living before your evacuation?
2. Were you living with your father?
3. What was your occupation before evacuation?
4. Where was your mother at that time?
5. Did you sign more than one application for repatriation to Japan?
6. In what camps were you when you (or your father) signed those applications for repatriation?
7. Did you and your father believe at the time you made each of the requests for repatriation that your father would be deported by the Government to Japan just because he was an alien?
8. What property did you and your father lose as a result of evacuation? What was its value?
9. Did you send a letter to the Attorney General or Justice Dept. for forms on which to renounce your citizenship before Dec. 19, 1944, when the WRA announced all the camps would be closed in a year or after that announcement appeared?
10. Did you know that the WRA made an announcement on January 29, 1945, that the Tule Lake Center would not be closed but would be kept open?
11. Did your father threaten or pressure you to send in the request for renunciation forms so that you would not be kept in camp and be forced to relocate in a community hostile to Japanese when he was deported to Japan? What did he say?
12. Did other persons threaten or pressure you to send for the forms?
13. What did they tell you would probably happen to you if you didn't send for the forms and didn't renounce citizenship? What were their names?
14. In what Blocks did they live? Were they Issei, Kibei or Nisei?
15. Did anyone tell you that if you didn't send for the forms and renounce citizenship you would never be released from camp unless you served a term in a U.S. jail for having given "No" answers to questions 27 and 28? Who told you that? What were their names?
16. After you got back to Japan in 1946 did you personally re-register in the family Koseki?
17. Did someone else have you registered? Who?
18. Were you registered just for the purpose of getting a ration card to prevent starvation and not for the purpose of becoming a Japanese citizen?

Very truly yours,



12/22/54

Re: Gichi Kato

He writes answers to your  
questionnaire.

Folder not located.

DP



Dec., 17th, 1954.  
No. 1192, 5-chome,  
Ogumachi, Arakawa-  
ku, Tokyo.

JAN 10

Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
Mills Tower  
220 Bush Street,  
San Francisco 4,  
Calif., U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Collins:

First I wish to thank you for your kind consideration of my case. I know that it is a long drawn out but you are not forgetting the under dogs and I am going to have the same staunch heart as you are. I also know that you are handicap by insufficient funds but soon as I can earn little more dollars, I will surely give forth with all I can.

Now I would like to state answers to your questionnaires:

- ✓ 1. Where were you living before your evacuation?

I was living in Wilmington California and I do not recall the exact address but it was on State Highway 101 and 4 blocks south of Avalon Blvd., or toward Long Beach.

- ✓ 2. Were you living with your father?

Yes, I was living with my father.

- ✓ 3. What was your occupation before evacuation?

I was clerk in vegetable market.

- ✓ 4. Where was your mother at that time?

My mother died in 1929 in 1929.

5. Did you sign more than one application for repatriation to Japan?

I think there was twice, First was in 1943 when I asked with my father and second was just before I was to be shipped out from Tule Lake, which was in 1945.

- ✓ 6. In what camps were you when you (or your father) signed those applications for repatriation?

First request was in Santa Anita Camp and second was while in Tule Lake. While in Tule Lake, I think we had to sign before we were to be shipped out.

- ✓ 7. Did you and your father believe at the time you made each of the requests for repatriation that your father would be deported by the Government to Japan just because he was an alien?

Yes, he felt that sooner or later he was going to be deported to Japan. So when he made the application, my brother was minor and so he signed for my brother which left me alone in United States without any relative or good friend who I could depend on. So I signed with him.



8. What property did you and your father lose as a result of evacuation?  
What was its value?

The right to running of legal business of vegetable markets.  
1941 Plymouth Pick up.  
The total valuation is about \$5,000.-

9. Did you send a letter to the Attorney General or Justice Dept., for forms on which to renounce your citizenship before Dec., 19, 1944, when the WRA announced all the camp would be closed in a year or after that announcement appeared?

I do not recall which department I send the letter to but I renounced in 1945 and I think it was in camp with a official hearing that they had, in Tula Lake.

10. Did you know that the WRA made an announcement on January 29, 1945, that the Tule Lake Center would not be closed but ~~w~~ould be kept open?

Yes, I did but I didn't pay attention too much to it. The reason is that I figured that regardless of what, I must pay the penalty of being disloyal to U.S. or be shipped out of United Staes.

11. Did your father threaten or pressure you to send in the request for renunciation forms so that you would not be kept in camp and be forced to relocate in a community hostile to Japanese when he was deported to Japan.

When I renounced my U.S. citizen, my father was not in camp with me, because he was already relocated.

12. Did other person threaten or pressure you to send for the forms?

No.

13. What did they tell you would probably happen to you if you didn't send for the forms and didn't renounce citizenship? What were their names?

I have heard quite a rumors and statement. Some of the rumors I could not believe and some did make sense. One of these are that since I have answered the questionnaire No. 27 & 28 a negative, I would never be released as a free men but must serve a sentence or term in jail and top of that I might be send back to Japan. This was based on the case of some famous actor who did not wish to bare a arm for U.S.

In regards to their names, I do not know these boys and they did not live in our blocks.

14. In what Blocks did they live? Were they Issei, Kibei or Nisei?

I do not know which block that they lived in, but they spoke very good English so they must be Nisei.

15. Did anyone tell you that if you didn't send for the forms and renounce citizenship you would never be released from camp unless you served a term in a U.S. jail for having given "No" answers to questions 27 & 28? Who told you that? What were their names?

Yes, I heard this statement by some body who I met for first time, there fore I would not know his name or address.

16. After you got back to Japan in 1946 did you personally re-register in the family Koseki?

No.

17. Did someone else have you registered? Who?

I was registered in 1920 so I did not re-register



17.

My father registered it in 1920 when I was borned.

18. Were you registered just for the purpose of getting a ration card to prevent starvation and not for the purpose of becoming a Japanese citizen?

In my last affidavit to you, I think I have made an error to 10-B, I did not registered at city hall, I just went to city hall and announced that I am back in Japan and that I ~~f~~ would appreciate if you will give me my food ration card and also cigarette ration. Another word I didn't sign any thing but just ~~W~~ asked them to give me what I needed. I didn't have to registered in any Koseki Tohon because it was already registered in 1920 with I knowing it. When I went to city hall I didn't have any intention of becoming of citizen of Japan or any idea what so ever but just that I wanted food ration cards so that I would not starve or suffer.

ADDITION: In 1940 or 1941, I was call by my draft board and had a questionnaire, and at that I time if the question of my loyalty was there, I had answered that I will do my duty as loyal citizen.. Also after my hearing by draft board, I also had a physical examination in San Pedro. Incidentally I was 4-F.

Very truly yours,

*Giichi Kato*  
Giichi Kato.



January 18, 1955

AIR MAIL

Mr. Giichi Kato  
No. 1192, 5-chome  
Ogumachi, Arakawa-ku  
Tokyo, Japan

Dear Mr. Kato:

From the information you supplied me, the affidavit you sent to me and your answers to the questionnaire I sent to you, I have prepared a new affidavit which I would thank you to read and if you find it contains a true statement of facts, I would thank you to take it to the nearest U.S. Consul in Japan and there swear to it and have him affix his seal. Thereupon return the same to me via air mail for processing.

I am enclosing a copy which I suggest you keep in your possession for future reference.

Very truly yours,



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

May 3, 1955

Mr. Giichi Kato  
No. 1192, 5-chome  
Ogumachi, Arakawa-ku  
Tokyo, Japan

Dear Mr. Kato:

On March 22, 1955, the Department of Justice rejected your affidavits and denied you administrative clearance because it reached a conclusion that your renunciation of U.S. citizenship was not caused by fear, coercion or duress. It states that the reasons for its refusal to give you administrative clearance are as follows:

"Pertinent records of the War Relocation Authority indicate that this subject gave negative answers to Questions 27 and 28 of the Army-WRA registration form. He applied for repatriation in August, 1943. He indicated at his renunciation hearing that he applied for renunciation because of resentment over evacuation and loss of civil rights. He stated in his affidavit that he renounced in order to avoid possible imprisonment for his negative answers to Questions 27 and 28. These reasons are not in any way similar to the allegations of fear and duress made by the renunciants in the Murakami case, and I am therefore of the opinion that this subject's case may not be considered as coming within the coverage of the decision in that case."

"For your information, a similar affidavit of this subject was recently submitted to this Department by the Department of State with a similar request for our views. We have this date advised that Department of our views, as herein set forth."

As soon as the processing of the affidavits of other renunciants in the cases has been completed your individual case can be scheduled for an individual court trial in the U.S. District Court in San Francisco and, if you consent to have such a trial, a statement from the Clerk of the Court showing the approximate time of your trial will be sent to you to present to the U.S. Consul in Japan to enable you to return to the U.S. on a "Certificate of Identity" for your trial.

Therefore, please wait patiently until you receive the next letter from me.

Very truly yours,

P.S. If your wife is a U.S. citizen or a renunciant whose citizenship has been restored or who obtains a U.S. passport you thereby become eligible to apply to a U.S. Consul in Japan as an alien for a "nonquota immigrant visa" and, if it is issued to you by the Consul, you thereupon would be able to return to the United States as an alien for permanent residence purposes provided you withdrew from the pending mass class equity suits. If you were to obtain a "nonquota immigrant visa" and return to the United States as an alien for permanent residence purposes you would become eligible for naturalization as a U.S. citizen.



WEB:OC  
146-54-2612  
93-1-1320

ejf

MAR 22 1955

Lloyd H. Burke, Esquire  
United States Attorney  
422 Post Office Building  
Seventh & Mission Streets  
San Francisco 1, California

Re: Giichi Kato  
Your ref: Abo, et al v. Brownell, et al.  
Furuya, et al v. Brownell, et al. (Consolidated  
actions - Civil Nos. 25294 and 25295).  
Renunciation of Citizenship, Title 8 USC 801(i).

Dear Mr. Burke:

This is in response to your letter of February 9, 1954, enclosing affidavit of the above-named subject for a determination as to whether his case may be considered as coming within the coverage of the ruling of the Court of Appeals in the case of Acheson v. Murakami, 176 F. 2d, 953, in accordance with a letter from this Department dated September 21, 1953, to Mr. Wayne M. Collins.

You are advised that in the event of litigation involving an issue of the validity of subject's renunciation, this Department would be unable either to stipulate that his affidavit be accepted as evidence in lieu of oral testimony, or to concede that his case comes within the coverage of the above decision. The reasons for the Department's position in this respect, among others, are:

Pertinent records of the War Relocation Authority indicate that this subject gave negative answers to Questions 27 and 28 of the Army-WRA registration form. He applied for repatriation in August, 1943. He indicated at his renunciation hearing that he applied for renunciation because of resentment over evacuation and loss of civil rights. He stated in his affidavit that he renounced in order to avoid possible imprisonment for his negative answers to Questions 27 and 28. These reasons are not in any way similar to the allegations of fear and duress made by the renunciants in the Murakami case, and I am therefore of the opinion that this subject's case may not be considered as coming within the coverage of the decision in that case.



File No. 146-54-2612  
93-1-1320

- 2 -

For your information, a similar affidavit of this subject was recently submitted to this Department by the Department of State with a similar request for our views. We have this date advised that Department of our views, as herein set forth.

In accordance with our above referred to letter of September 21, 1953, we attach the original and three copies of the affidavit for return to Mr. Collins.

Yours very truly,

WARREN E. BURGER  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Division

By:  
Enoch E. Ellison  
Chief, Japanese Claims Section

Enclosure No. 85036  
Affidavit and three copies.



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

MAR 22 1957

Dear Plaintiff-Renunciant:

Pursuant to an agreement with lawyers for the Justice Department the affidavits you heretofore sent to me for administrative processing and upon which that Department denied you administrative clearance are being returned to that Department for review and for reconsideration.

This new chance for you to obtain administrative clearance and, perhaps, to recover your citizenship may take a few months time for a final determination. The Department of Justice is acting with more speed in the processing of affidavits and has adopted a new and more liberalized policy towards renunciants and, in consequence, there is a good chance that it will grant you clearance.

Therefore, you should wait patiently until you learn from me of the decision of the Justice Department as to whether it will agree that your renunciation will be cancelled. You will be notified by me promptly when the Justice Department informs me of its decision in your case.

Very truly yours,



COPY FROM  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
CIVIL DIVISION  
WASHINGTON 25, ~~sub~~ C.

*resubmit  
Approved*

JUL 11 1957

GCD:OC  
146-54-2612  
93-1-1320

Lloyd H. Burke, Esquire  
United States Attorney  
422 Post Office Building  
Seventh and Mission Streets  
San Francisco 1, California

Re: Giichi Kato

Your ref: Abo et al v. Brownell et al. Furuya  
et al v. Brownell et al. (Consolidated actions -  
Civil Nos. 25294 & 25295). Renunciation of  
Citizenship. Former Title 8 U.S.C. 801(i).

Dear Mr. Burke:

This will refer to your letter of April 4, 1957, resubmitting affidavit of the above-named renunciant for a determination, pursuant to the liberalized standards, as to whether his case may now be considered as coming within the coverage of the ruling of the Court of Appeals in the case of Acheson v. Murakami, 176 F.2d, 953, in accordance with a letter from this Department dated September 21, 1953, to Mr. Wayne M. Collins.

As we advised you in our letter of March 22, 1955, an affidavit of this subject was previously submitted to this Department by the Department of State with a similar request for our views. On March 22, 1955, we advised that Department that we were of the opinion that subject's case could not be considered as coming within the coverage of the decision in the above case.

However, upon reconsideration of all the evidence in this case, and the subject's affidavit, we are now of the opinion that his case may be considered as coming within the coverage of the decision in the above case.

We have informed the Department of State of our present view by letter, three copies of which are enclosed herewith. If you disagree with our action, please so advise us promptly in order that we may recall our clearance from the Department of State before action is



taken thereon. If you do not disagree, please forward two of the copies to Mr. Collins and enter into the arrangements necessary to dispose of the case in accordance with the procedure outlined in the above-mentioned letter of September 21, 1953, as modified by this Department's letter to you dated June 9, 1955. We shall appreciate your forwarding to this office a copy of the stipulation and judgment when record entry of the same has been accomplished.

The original and one copy of the subject's affidavit are returned to you herewith.

Yours very truly,

GEORGE COCHRAN DOUB  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Division

By:

Enoch E. Ellison  
Chief, Japanese Claims Section

Enc: Original and one  
copy of affidavit; 3  
copies of letter to  
Department of State





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

sdb

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Address Reply to the  
Division Indicated  
and Refer to Initials and Number

GCD:OC  
146-54-2612  
93-1-1320

Department of State  
Matomic Building  
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Miss Frances Knight  
Director, Passport Office

Re: Giichi Kato  
Your ref: F130

Dear Sirs:

On February 21, 1955, you submitted to this Department an affidavit of the above-named subject and requested an expression of our views as to whether his case might be considered as coming within the Murakami decision. On March 22, 1955, you were advised that we were of the opinion that subject's case could not be considered as coming within the decision in said case. We also advised you that subject submitted a similar affidavit pursuant to an agreement entered into with Mr. Wayne M. Collins, Attorney, as set forth in our letter of September 22, 1953 to the Department of State. On said date, March 22, 1955, we advised Lloyd H. Burke, Esquire, United States Attorney, Northern District of California, of our aforesaid views.

You are now advised that an additional affidavit of this subject was recently submitted to this Department, pursuant to the above-mentioned agreement. Upon reconsideration of all the evidence in the case, and the subject's additional affidavit, we are now of the opinion that his case may be considered as coming within the coverage of the decision in the Murakami case. We have advised Lloyd H. Burke, Esquire, United States Attorney, Northern District of California, of our views. In accordance with our above-referred to letter of September 22, 1953 to the Department of State, we attach copy of our letter to Mr. Burke together with affidavit of the subject.



- 2 -

A copy of this letter is being forwarded to Mr. Collins, and in accordance with the agreement may be presented by the subject in lieu of the usual supplemental affidavit required of renunciant applicants for documentation as American citizens.

Yours very truly,

GEORGE COCHRAN DOUB  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Division

By:

Enoch E. Ellison  
Chief, Japanese Claims Section

Enc: Affidavit and copy  
of letter to Lloyd H.  
Burke, Esquire



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

July 25, 1957

Mr. Giichi Kato  
No. 1192, 5-chome Ogumachi  
Arakawa-ku, Tokyo, Japan

Dear Mr. Kato:

You have been successful in the administrative remedy pursued in your case. The Justice Department has reached the conclusion that you personally renounced citizenship because of fear, coercion and duress. Therefore, it is willing to withdraw the offer of proof it made against you in the mass class equity suits whereupon a judgment can be entered in your favor in the U.S. District Court cancelling your renunciation on the ground of duress and declaring you to be a citizen of the United States.

As soon as a large enough number of persons have been cleared administratively such a judgment will be entered for you. When the judgment is entered I shall let you know by letter.

I am enclosing a copy of the transmittal letter of the Justice Department (Attorney General) which was sent to the Department of State (Passport Office.) You should take the enclosed copy of the transmittal letter promptly to the United States Consul in Japan nearest you and there apply for a U.S. passport if you have not already done so. The U.S. Consul will issue a U.S. Passport to you which will show on its face that you are a citizen of the United States.

When you receive the U.S. passport from the U.S. Consul you can make your own arrangements to return to the United States. You should write and let me know your U.S. address and the time you expect to return to the United States.

If you have a spouse (wife or husband) who is an alien such person can enter the United States as a "nonquota immigrant" because you are a U.S. citizen. An application can be made to the nearest U.S. Consul in Japan for a nonquota immigrant visa for such spouse.

If your spouse (wife or husband) is a renunciant who does not recover U.S. citizenship administratively through the Justice Department or by court trial, or does not wish



further to try to recover U.S. citizenship, such a spouse, nevertheless, can elect to be an alien and can obtain a non-quota immigrant visa from the nearest U.S. Consul and can return to the U.S. because he or she is the spouse of a U.S. citizen.

If your spouse is an alien or a renunciant who does not recover citizenship but becomes an alien who returns to the United States as a nonquota immigrant he or she here in course of time becomes eligible to apply for naturalization as a U.S. citizen.

It is my conclusion that in due course of time Congress will enact a new law authorizing the return of property or its approximate value to aliens whose property was seized and confiscated during the war under the provisions of the Trading with the Enemy Act.

If you intend to remain in Japan for a while you must be careful not to commit any act whereby you might lose U.S. citizenship. You were informed by me in previous letters of various acts of expatriation whereby a U.S. citizenship can be lost.

If you have dual citizenship you can denounce (renounce) Japanese nationality. This can be done by signing a renunciation form before a Japanese consular officer in the U.S. or before an authorized Japanese government office in Japan.

Very truly yours,

*Wayne M. Collins*

Enc.



Mr. Giichi Kato

Address unknown



WAYNE M. COLLINS  
Attorney at Law  
Mills Tower, 220 Bush Street  
San Francisco 4, California  
GARfield 1-5827

August 29, 1960

A.U.

Mr. Teruo Yoshihara  
3655 N. Bosworth  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Yoshihara:

I would thank you to let me know the present address  
of Mr. Giichi Kato  
so that final papers concerning his citizenship status  
may be transmitted to him. Please use the enclosed card  
and self-addressed envelope for your reply to me.

Very truly yours,

*W.M. Collins*



Giichi Kato

Sorry, I have no idea  
when he is and no  
relation to him

Frank Lato



WAYNE M. COLLINS  
Attorney at Law  
Mills Tower, 220 Bush Street  
San Francisco 4, California  
GARfield 1-5827

December 19, 1960

Mr. Frank Kato  
1725 W. 35th  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Mr. Kato:

I would thank you to let me know the present address  
of Mr. Giichi Kato  
so that final papers concerning his citizenship status  
may be transmitted to him. Please use the enclosed card  
and self-addressed envelope for your reply to me.

Very truly yours,

*W.M. Collins*



Giichi Kato

①

6. Yes — 1943 and 1945 — *on affidavit*

My mother died in 1929. When evacuation matter came up I was living with my father in Wilmington, Calif., and worked as a vegetable clerk. We had to evacuate to the Santa Anita Camp. There in 1943 my father asked for repatriation to Japan, therefore I didn't want to be left alone or be ~~separated~~ <sup>sign</sup> separated from him so I think (?) I did ~~sign~~ the application. The reason was that before Japan started the war I got ready for draft into the U.S. Army by preparing myself such as purchasing ~~him~~ of life insurance and such because I figured that my draft board number was going to be called in the very near future. *In* another word I got prepared for what I figured a duty which must be fulfilled by any loyal U.S. citizen. As far as my health and such I was in the very best of health and *figured* that my eye sight wasn't so bad, and I will pass the physical examination (physical examination was done around June of 1941, ~~and~~ before the war started). Any way I was set to perform my duty as U.S. citizen but when war broke out they put me in Camp. When a man has ~~his heart set~~ set his heart to do or perform as a loyal citizen but instead placed in camp which *was* ~~is~~ very discouraging blow to me. Also while ~~in~~ in camp, I could not plan or see ahead what *was* ~~is~~ in store for us because I figured that just because my parents had been Japanese does not make any difference. As to my knowledge the U.S. population is made up of lots of different race of people, why should us Nisei who are citizens of United States be classified different from second generation child of German family or Italian families? ~~My father~~ Because we are forced to evacuate we lost the ~~my~~ vegetable market and Plymouth pick-up or about \$5,000 which is all we had. My father felt that what had happened to Japanese *meant* ~~that~~ sooner or later he was going to be deported to Japan. *because he is Nisei*. So when he made the application *my* brother was minor and so he signed for my



brother which left me alone in the United States without any relative or good friend who I could depend on. The only salvation that I could see or thought at that time was to be repatriated to be with him so I signed with him as he wanted me to. I think we had to sign another application in 1945 at Tule Lake just before we were ~~sent to Japan~~ to be shipped out.

✓ 7. (A) ~~Yes.~~

(continued to next page)

} Typed on form

~~I always~~ <sup>fullest</sup> ~~once~~ I had given my ~~fullest~~ allegiance to United States but evidently it was not recognize and was forced to live in Camp which is unfair to person who had been willing to serve his country to best of his ability.

✓ 7 (B)

~~Yes.~~ Typed on form

Before I was put into Camp discriminately, I had once swear unqualified allegiance to United States and serve in U.S. Army if and when called to serve as United States citizen, but instead was discriminately placed in Camp. When I <sup>was</sup> ~~was~~ deprived of my liberty of freedom or serve my coun try that I was born in but to be placed in Camp which was not in least helpful but to put me in mental uncertainty I figured my own country has taken away my citizenship and wants to get rid of us ~~because we are Japanese.~~



3

7(B) anti a)

us because we are Japanese. In 1940 or 1941, I was call  
by my draft board and had a questionnaire, and at that  
time if the question of my loyalty was there, I answered  
that I will do my duty as a loyal citizen. Also after ~~my~~  
my hearing by draft board, I also had a physical examination  
in San ~~Pedro~~ Pedro and incidentally ~~got~~ got a 4-F.



9(A) I think it was around Jan., or Feb., of 1945, I decided to do this. On Questionnaire No. 27 & 28 I had answered negative and after that I heard and believed that everybody who gave negative answers could never be released but would have to serve time in a jail and finally be shipped away to Japan. I heard quite a few rumors like that and statements. Some of the rumors we heard I could not believe but some did make sense and so I figured I will have to serve time in jail and then ~~be~~ be shipped to Japan. So many persons said this. In regard to their names, I do not know these boys that said it because they did not live in our block. The boys that told this spoke very good English so I think they were Nisei. Also many ~~others~~ <sup>Nisei</sup> said the same thing. So I was afraid that because I ~~was~~ had given negative answers there is nothing I can do about ever getting out of camp and must go to jail and then be shipped to Japan and I worry over the uncertainty of my future and hearing lots of rumors which ~~is~~ was unhealthy to my mind. This are the reasons that I have taken such action.

This rumor was based on the case of what happened to some famous actors.

9(B) The reason that the answer differs from above statement and the one given to hearing officer was at that time I ~~wasn't even close to~~ figured that I would never be released with in territories of U.S. so the only thing left for me was to get my renunciation accepted and be send to Japan.



9(C) I had the same fear right along. I feared that because I have answered the questionnaire No. 27 & 28 a negative, I ~~must~~ never be released as a free man but must serve a sentence or term in jail and on top of that be send back to Japan. Even about the rumors ~~theexplosion~~ everybody in camp had to be relocated and other rumor people could stay if they were afraid of discrimination I still figured that regardless of what, I must pay the penalty of going to jail and then be ~~deported~~ ~~theexplosion~~ shipped to Japan because everybody who gave negative answers to questionnaire 27 & 28 was marked as disloyal and had to pay this penalty.

9(E) I didn't know how this could be done.

10(A) I returned to Japan because I thought all person who gave negative answers to Questionnaire 27 & 28 would be put in jail and then be shipped to Japan so the only way to get out of camp and not go to jail and not fin ally be deported as <sup>in</sup> desirable person ~~was to ask to~~ go to Japan. and not ~~get in trouble with Japanese government~~ ~~was to ask to go to the Japan.~~

~~10 (B) No.~~

~~I have not done anything to have not registered or done anything to~~

10(B) No.



# AFFIDAVIT

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PREPARATION OF AFFIDAVIT

This affidavit should be specifically addressed to the circumstances of your particular case and should not consist of generalities. When you are uncertain as to matters related in your affidavit write "uncertain". Where you claim that any action was taken by you as the result of fear, you should state in each instance, with the greatest possible particularity, what was feared and why. If it is claimed that the fears were caused by threats from individuals or groups of individuals, the nature of the threats, the names of the individuals making them, if known, and the time, place and occasion for the making of the threats should be given.

If more space is needed for answers to particular questions, separate sheets of plain white paper should be used. Each separate sheet so used should be plainly marked with the number of the question being answered and your name.

1. Name <b>GIICHI KATO</b>		Date of Birth <b>May 3rd, 1920</b>	
2. If born prior to December 1, 1924	(A) Have you ever renounced Japanese nationality? <b>No.</b> <b>Explanation on next page</b>	When	Where
3. If born since December 1, 1924	(A) Was your name ever registered with a Japanese Consulate for the purpose of reserving your Japanese nationality?		
If so, did you thereafter renounce your Japanese nationality?	When	Where	
4. State periods of visits to Japan and purpose of each visit:			
Date		Purpose	
From <b>1927</b>	To <b>1929</b>	Too young to know why I was sent to Japan, and it was decided by my parent that I come to Japan.	
5. Give details concerning any formal education in Japan:			
School		Period of Attendance	
<b>Shimizu Grammer School (Kanagawa Pref., Aiko gun)</b>		From <b>1927</b>	To <b>1929</b>
Specify subjects studied (attach additional sheet if necessary). <b>Regular grammer school course, just what was compulsory.</b>			
6. Have you ever made application for repatriation to Japan? <b>Yes</b> If so, give date <b>1943 &amp; 1945</b> , and your reasons for so applying: <b>In 1943, my father asked for repatriation to Japan, there fore I didn't want to be left alone or be separated so I think (?) I did sign the application. The reason was that before the war between U.S., and Japan, I got ready for draft into U.S., Army by preparing myself such as purchasing of life insurance and such because I figured that my draft board number was going to be called in very near future. Another word I got prepared for what I figured a duty which must be fulfilled by any loyal U.S., citizen. As far as my health and such I was in very best of health and figured that my eye sight</b> <b>(continued to next page)</b>			
7. (A) Have you ever expressly indicated that you would not swear unqualified allegiance to the United States? <b>Yes</b> <b>(continued to next page)</b>		Have you ever declined to answer when asked whether you would swear unqualified allegiance?	
Or have you ever given a qualified answer to such question asked at War Relocation Centers?.....If so, give your reasons:			
(B) If your answer to any of the questions in (A) is affirmative, then did you ever subsequently change your mind and express your willingness to swear an unqualified allegiance or would you have been willing to do so if an opportunity had been afforded you? <b>Yes</b> .....If so, state when you changed your mind and your reasons therefor: <b>Before I was put into Camp discriminately, I had once swear unqualified allegiance to United States and serve in U.S., Army if and when called to serve as United States citizen, but instead was discriminately placed in Camp. When I was deprived of my liberty of freedom or serve my country that I was born but to placed in Camp which was not in least helpful but to put me in mental uncertainty (continue)</b>			



- (C) Did you ever indicate that you would not swear unqualified allegiance to the United States either expressly or by refusal to answer, or a qualified answer, knowing that by so doing you would be sent to the WRA Segregation Center at Tule Lake?..... If so, give reasons:

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If more space is needed for answers to particular questions, request space of plain white paper should be used. Each separate sheet so used should be plainly marked with the number of the question being answered and your name.

8. (A)

WERE YOU EVER AT ANY TIME A MEMBER OF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:

Answer

Yes/No

Period of Membership

Black Dragon Society (Kokuryu Kai)

Central Japanese Association (Beikoku Chuo Nipponjin Kai)

Central Japanese Association of Southern California

Dai Nippon Butoku Kai (Military Virtue Society of Japan or Military Art Society of Japan) (Hokubei Kai)

Heimusha Kai, also known as Hokubei Heieki Gimusha Kai Zaibei Nihonjin, Heiyaku Gimusha Kai, and

Zaibei Heimusha Kai (Japanese residing in American Military Conscripts Assoc.) Heimusha Kai

Hinode Kai (Imperial Japanese Reservists)

Hinomaru Kai (Rising Sun Flag Society—a Group of Japanese War Veterans)

Hokubei Zaigo Shoko Dan (North American Reserve Officers Association)

Japanese Association of America (Zaibei Nihonjin Kai)

Japanese Overseas Central Society (Kaigai Dobo Chuo Kai)

Japanese Overseas Convention, Tokyo, Japan, 1940

Japanese Protective Association (Recruiting Organization)

Jikyoku Iin Kai (Current Affairs Association)

Kibei Seinen Kai (Association of U. S. Citizens of Japanese Ancestry who have returned to America after studying in Japan)

Nanka Teikoku Gunyudan (Imperial Military Friends Group or Southern California War Veterans)

Nichibei Kogyo Kaisha (The Great Fujii Theatre)

Northwest Japanese Association

Sakura Kai (Patriotic Society or Cherry Association—composed of Veterans of Russo-Japanese War) (Cherry Blossom Society)

Shinto Temples

Sokoku Kai (Fatherland Society)

Suiko Sha (Reserve Officers Association Los Angeles)

Hokoku Seinen-Dan

Hokoku Joshi Seinen-Dan

Sokoku Kenkyu Seinen-Dan

Sokuji Kikoku Hoshi-Dan

(B) Give reasons for becoming a member:

(C) State nature of your activity and offices you held:

(D) If you voluntarily discontinued membership in any of the aforementioned organizations, give approximate date and reasons for so doing:



ADDITIONAL SHEET TO AFFIDAVIT

GIICHI KATO

- 2-A. As far as I was concern, I did not recognize the Japanese citizen which was applied by my father because of birth of son to him. Also it never did interfere with my citizen as a U.S., so when I did find out I just past it off as a minor thing.
6. wasn't so bad, and will pass the physical examination (physical examination was done around June of 1941, any way before Pacific War). Any way I was set to perform my duty as U.S., citizen but when the war broke out between U.S., and Japan they put me in Camp. When a men has set his heart to do or perform as loyal citizen but instead placed in camp which was very discouraging blow to me, and which disrupted my faith in U.S. Also while in camp, I could not plan or see ahead what was in store for us because I figured that just because my parents where Japanese does not make any different. As to my knowledge the U.S., population is made up of lots of different race of people, why should us Nisei who are citizen of United States be classified different from second generation child of German family or Italian families? Another word only salvation that I could see or thought at that time was to be repatriated from this situation.
- 7-A. Once I had given my fullest allegiance to United States but evidently it was not recognize and was forced to live in Camp which is unfair to person who had once willing to serve its country best of its ability.
- 7-B I figured that only place I could turn was toward another country.



(E) If you claim that your membership in any of the aforementioned organizations, your activities therein, or your acceptance of an office was due to misunderstanding of the purpose or nature of the organization, explain fully:

(F) If you at any time wished to discontinue membership, activity, or office and were prevented from so doing, explain fully:

9. (A) When did you decide to apply for forms upon which to renounce your United States citizenship?

Give reasons for so doing: In Jan., or Feb., of 1945, I decided to renounce my U.S., citizen because of uncertainty of my future, ever getting out of camp, sick and tired of waiting and doing nothing but hearing lots of rumors which was unhealthy to my mind. There fore I figured that the best thing is to renounce my citizen and being send back to Japan was the fastest way of getting out of camp. On Questionnaire No. 27 & 28, I answered negative there fore I figured that I would never be released until I serve term in U.S., jail or such nature. This is the above reason that I have taken such action.

(B) If reasons given in answer to preceding question differ from reasons given to officer who held renunciation hearing, give your explanation for difference: The reason that the answer differs from above statement and the one given to hearing officer was, at that time I just wanted to be released from Camp but I figured that I would never be released within territories of U.S. So the next best was to ask that I be deprived of U.S., citizen and be send to Japan.

(C) If you claim that your renunciation was caused by fear, you should explain fully why such fear extended from the time of the application for renunciation papers until the date of actual renunciation:

(D) If the fear did not extend from the date of application to the date of approval by the Attorney General, you should state whether you made any effort to withdraw your application, and if not, explain fully:

(E) If, after approval, you requested the Attorney General to withdraw his approval of your renunciation or to cancel your renunciation, give the reasons for the delay in making such request:



(F) If there are any other facts which influenced your action in renouncing your United States citizenship, state fully below or on a separate sheet if necessary.

10. (A) If you now are in Japan, give your reasons for having returned to Japan.

I returned to Japan because I thought that the quickest way of getting out of camp was to ask to be repatriated to Japan.

(B) If you are in Japan, have you since you returned to Japan taken any action to resume or acquire Japanese citizenship? Yes Answer Yes or No

If you have, state nature of action taken and reasons therefor.

I have gone to city hall and registered because I wanted to get my food and clothing ration, but I don't think that this has any thing to do with status of citizenship

11. (A) If you have served or are serving in the military or naval forces of the United States fill in the following:

I enlisted (or was drafted) on..... in the.....; my Serial number is.....  
State the date State the Branch of Service

I still am in such service.....; I was released from active duty on.....and received my Discharge  
Answer Yes or No on.....

(B) If at any time while in a war relocation center or since then you volunteered for military or naval service but your offer of service was rejected state the time when and the place where you volunteered.

(C) State why your offer of such service was rejected, if the reason was made known to you.

(D) If you were rejected for military or naval service by your Local Draft Board since your release from a war relocation center state the reason for the rejection if known to you.

12. If any member of your family has served or is serving in the military or naval forces of the United States state the relationship of such person to you, the name of such person, the branch of service and serial number of such person:

step brother

Relationship

Mr. Toruo Yoshihara

Name

193 MP. Co., APO 973

Branch of Service

U555289187

Serial Number

JAPAN

CITY OF TOKYO

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

} SS:

Giichi Kato

(Signature in full of applicant)

27th

September, A.D. 54.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this.....day of....., 19.....

John W. Simms

Vice Consul of the United States of America  
duly commissioned and qualified

Service No. 10720

Tariff No. 38

No Fee Prescribed.

This affidavit may be executed before any person authorized to administer oaths.



# AFFIDAVIT

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If more space is needed for answers to particular questions, separate sheets of plain white paper should be used. Each separate sheet so used should be plainly marked with the number of the question being answered and your name.

1. Name GIICHI KATO		Date of Birth May 3rd, 1920	
2. If born prior to December 1, 1924	(A) Have you ever renounced Japanese nationality? No. Explanation of next page	When	Where
3. If born since December 1, 1924	(A) Was your name ever registered with a Japanese Consulate for the purpose of reserving your Japanese nationality?		
If so, did you thereafter renounce your Japanese nationality?	When	Where	
4. State periods of visits to Japan and purpose of each visit:			
Date		Purpose	
From 1927	To 1929	Too young to know why I was send to Japan, and it was decided by my parent that I come to Japan.	
5. Give details concerning any formal education in Japan:			
School		Period of Attendance	
Shimizu Grammer School (Kanagawa Pref., Aiko gun)		From 1927	To 1929
Specify subjects studied (attach additional sheet if necessary). Regular grammer s/chool coarse, just what was compulsory.			
6. Have you ever made application for repatriation to Japan? Yes.....If so, give date...1943...&...1945....., and your reasons for so applying: In 1943, my father asked for repatriation to Japan, there fore I didn't want to be left alone or be separated so I think (?) I did sign the application. The reason was that before the war between U.S., and Japan, I got ready for draft into U.S., Army by preparing my self such as purchasing of life insurance and such because I figured that my draft board number was going to be called in very near future. Another word I got prepared for what I figured a duty which must be fulfilled by any loyal U.S., citizen. As far as my health and such I was in very best of health and figured that my eye sight (continued to next page)			
7. (A) Have you ever expressly indicated that you would not swear unqualified allegiance to the United States? Yes (continued to next page)		Have you ever declined to answer when asked whether you would swear unqualified allegiance?	
Or have you ever given a qualified answer to such question asked at War Relocation Centers?.....If so, give your reasons:			
(B) If your answer to any of the questions in (A) is affirmative, then did you ever subsequently change your mind and express your willingness to swear an unqualified allegiance or would you have been willing to do so if an opportunity had been afforded you?.....Yes.....If so, state when you changed your mind and your reasons therefor: Before I was put into Camp discriminately, I had once swear unqualified allegiance to United States and serve in U.S., Army if and when called to serve as United States citizen, but instead was discriminately placed in Camp. When I was deprived of my liberty of freedom or serve my country that I was born but to placed in Camp which was not in least helpful but to put me in mental uncertainty (continue)			



(B) Give reasons for becoming a member:

(C) State nature of your activity and offices you held:

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Page 3

ADDITIONAL SHEET TO AFFIDAVIT

GIICHI KATO

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6. wasn't so bad, and will pass the physical examination (physical examination was done around June of 1941, any way before Pacific War). Any way I was set to perform my duty as U.S., citizen but when the war broke out between U.S., and Japan they put me in Camp. When a men has set his heart to do or perform as loyal citizen but instead placed in camp which was very discouraging blow to me, and which disrupted my faith in U.S. Also while in camp, I figured I could not plan or see ahead what was in store for us because I figured the fastest that just because my parents where Japanese does not make any different. As there fore to my knowledge the U.S., population is made up of lots of different race of people, why should us Nisei who are citizen of United States be classified different from second generation child of German family or Italian families? Another word only salvation that I could see or thought at that time was to be repatriated from this situation.

7-A. Once I had given my fullest allegiance to United States but evidently it was not recognize and was forced to live in Camp which is unfair to person who had once willing to serve its country best of its ability.

7-B I figured that only place I could turn was toward another country.

(B) If reasons given in answer to preceding question differ from reasons given to officer who held renunciation hearing, give your explanation for differences: The reason that the answer differs from above statement and the one given to hearing officer was at that time I just wanted to be released from Camp but I figured that I would never be released with in territories of U.S. So the next best was to ask that I be deprived of U.S., citizen and be send to Japan.

(C) If you claim that your renunciation was caused by fear, you should explain fully why such fear extended from the time of the application for renunciation papers until the date of actual renunciation:

(D) If the fear did not extend from the date of application to the date of approval by the Attorney General, you should state whether you made any effort to withdraw your application, and if not, explain fully:

(E) If, after approval, you requested the Attorney General to withdraw his approval of your renunciation or to cancel your renunciation, give the reasons for the delay in making such request.



(E) If you claim that your membership in any of the aforementioned organizations, your activities therein, or your acceptance of an office was due to misunderstanding of the purpose or nature of the organization, explain fully:

(F) If you at any time wished to discontinue membership, activity, or office and were prevented from so doing, explain fully:

9. (A) When did you decide to apply for forms upon which to renounce your United States citizenship?

Give reasons for so doing: In Jan., or Feb., of 1945, I decided to renounce my U.S., citizen because of uncertainty of my future, ever getting out of camp, sick and tired of waiting and doing nothing but hearing lots of rumors which was unhealthy to my mind. There fore I figured that the best thing is to renounce my citizen and being send back to Japan was the fastest way of getting out of camp. On Questionnaire No127 & 28, I answered negative there fore I figured that I would never be released until I serve term in U.S., jail or such nature. This is the above reason that I have taken such action.

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10. (A) If you are now in Japan, give your reasons for having returned to Japan.

I returned to Japan because I thought that the quickest way of getting out of Camp was to be repatriated to Japan.

(B) If you are in Japan, have you since you returned to Japan taken any action to resume or acquire Japanese citizenship? Yes  
If you have, state the nature of action taken and reasons therefor. Answer Yes or No

I have gone to city hall and registered because I wanted to get my food and clothing ration cards, but I don't think that this has anything to do with status of citizenship.

11. (A) If you have served or are serving in the military or naval forces of the United States fill in the following:

I enlisted (or drafted) on \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_; my Serial number is \_\_\_\_\_  
State the date State the Branch of Service

I still am in service \_\_\_\_\_; I was released from active duty on \_\_\_\_\_ and received my Discharge  
Answer Yes or No

(B) If at any time you volunteered for military or naval service but your offer of service was rejected state the time and the place where you volunteered.

(C) State why your offer of such service was rejected, if the reason was made known to you.

(D) If you were rejected for military or naval service by your Local Draft Board since your release from a war relocation center state the reason for the rejection and the date it was made known to you.

12. If any member of your family has served or is serving in the military or naval forces of the United States state the relationship of such person to you, the name of such person, the branch of service and serial number of such person:

Step 1 Relationship Mr. Teruo Yoshihara Name

193 M CAPO 973 US55289187  
Branch of Service Serial Number

JAPAN  
CITY OF TOKYO  
EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA } SS:

Giichi Kate (Signature in full of applicant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th day of September, A.D., 19 54.

John W. Simms  
Vice Consul of the United States of America  
duly commissioned and qualified

Service No. 10770  
Tariff No. 38  
No Fee Prescribed.

This affidavit may be executed before any person authorized to administer oaths.



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1. Name <b>GIICHI KATO</b>		Date of Birth <b>May 3, 1920</b>	
2. If born prior to December 1, 1924	(A) Have you ever renounced Japanese nationality? <b>No -- See separate sheet</b>	When	Where
3. If born since December 1, 1924	(A) Was your name ever registered with a Japanese Consulate for the purpose of reserving your Japanese nationality?		
If so, did you thereafter renounce your Japanese nationality?	When	Where	
4. State periods of visits to Japan and purpose of each visit:			
Date		Purpose	
From <b>1927</b>	To <b>1929</b>	<b>Too young to know why I was sent to Japan, and it was decided by my parents that I come to Japan.</b>	
5. Give details concerning any formal education in Japan:			
School		Period of Attendance	
<b>Shimizu Grammar School</b>		From <b>1927</b>	To <b>1929</b>
<b>(Kanagawa Pref. Aiko Gun)</b>			
Specify subjects studied (attach additional sheet if necessary).			
<b>Regular grammar school course, just what was compulsory.</b>			
6. Have you ever made application for repatriation to Japan? <b>Yes</b> If so, give date <b>1943 and 1945</b> and your reasons for so applying:			
<b>See separate sheet</b>			
7. (A) Have you ever expressly indicated that you would not swear unqualified allegiance to the United States? <b>Yes</b>		Have you ever declined to answer when asked whether you would swear unqualified allegiance?	
<b>(continued to next page)</b>			
Or have you ever given a qualified answer to such question asked at War Relocation Centers? If so, give your reasons:			
(B) If your answer to any of the questions in (A) is affirmative, then did you ever subsequently change your mind and express your willingness to swear an unqualified allegiance or would you have been willing to do so if an opportunity had been afforded you? <b>Yes</b> If so, state when you changed your mind and your reasons therefor:			
<b>See separate sheet</b>			



(C) Did you ever indicate that you would not swear unqualified allegiance to the United States either expressly or by refusal to answer, or a qualified answer, knowing that by so doing you would be sent to the WRA Segregation Center at Tule Lake? ..... If so, give reasons:

5. (A) WERE YOU EVER AT ANY TIME A MEMBER OF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:	Answer		Period of Membership
	Yes	No	
Black Dragon Society (Kokuryu Kai)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Central Japanese Association (Beikoku Chuo Nipponjin Kai)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Central Japanese Association of Southern California	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dai Nippon Butoku Kai (Military Virtue Society of Japan or Military Art Society of Japan) (Hokubei Kai)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Heimusha Kai, also known as Hokubei Heikei Gimusha Kai Zaibei Nihonjin, Heiyaku Gimusha Kai, and	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Zaibei Heimusha Kai (Japanese residing in American Military Conscripts Assoc.) Heimusha Kai	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Minode Kai (Imperial Japanese Reservists)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Hinomaru Kai (Rising Sun Flag Society—a Group of Japanese War Veterans)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Hokubei Zaigo Shoko Dan (North American Reserve Officers Association)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Japanese Association of America (Zaibei Nihonjin Kai)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Japanese Overseas Central Society (Kaigai Dobo Chuo Kai)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Japanese Overseas Convention, Tokyo, Japan, 1940	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Japanese Protective Association (Recruiting Organization)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Jikyoku Iin Kai (Current Affairs Association)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Kibei Seinen Kai (Association of U. S. Citizens of Japanese Ancestry who have returned to America after studying in Japan)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Nanka Teikoku Gyunudan (Imperial Military Friends Group or Southern California War Veterans)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Nichibei Kogyo Kaisha (The Great Fujii Theatre)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Northwest Japanese Association	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sakura Kai (Patriotic Society or Cherry Association—composed of Veterans of Russo-Japanese War) (Cherry Blossom Society)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Shinto Temples	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sokoku Kai (Fatherland Society)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Suiko Sha (Reserve Officers Association Los Angeles)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Hokoku Seinen-Dan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Hokoku Joshi Seinen-Dan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sokoku Kenkyu Seinen-Dan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sokuji Kikoku Hoshi-Dan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

(B) Give reasons for becoming a member:

(C) State nature of your activity and offices you held:

(D) If you voluntarily discontinued membership in any of the aforementioned organizations, give approximate date and reasons for so doing:



GIICHI KATO

2.(A) As far as I was concerned, I did not recognize the Japanese citizen which was applied by my father because of birth of son to him. Also it never did interfere with my citizen as a U.S., so when I did find out I just put it off as a minor thing.

5. My mother died in 1929. When evacuation matter came up I was living with my father in Wilmington, Calif., and worked as a vegetable clerk. We had to evacuate to the Santa Anita Camp. There in 1943 my father asked for repatriation to Japan, therefore, I didn't want to be left alone or be separated from him so I think (?) I did sign the application. The reason was that before Japan started the war I got ready for draft into the U.S. Army by preparing myself such as purchasing life insurance and such because I figured that my draft board number was going to be called in the very near future. In another word I got prepared for what I figured a duty which must be fulfilled by any loyal U.S. citizen. As far as my health and such I was in the very best of health and figured that my eye sight wasn't so bad, and I will pass the physical examination (physical examination was done around June 1941, before the war started.) Any way I was set to perform my duty as U.S. citizen but when war broke out they put me in Camp. When a man has set his heart to do or perform as a loyal citizen but instead placed in camp which was very discouraging blow to me. Also while in camp, I could not plan to see ahead what was in store for us because I figured that just because my parents had been Japanese does not make any difference. As to my knowledge the U.S. population is made up of lots of different race of people, why should we Nisei who are citizens of United States be classified different from second generation child of German family or Italian families? Because we are forced to evacuate we lost the vegetable market and Plymouth pick-up or about \$5,000 which is all we had. My father felt that what had happened to Japanese meant sooner or later he was going to be deported to Japan because he is Issei. So when he made the application my brother was minor and so he signed for my brother which left me alone in the United States without any relative or good friends who I could depend on. The only salvation that I could see or thought at that time was to be repatriated to be with him so I signed with him as he wanted me to. I think we had to sign another application in 1945 at Tule Lake just before we were to be shipped out.

7.(A) I always had given my fullest allegiance to United States but evidently it was not recognized and I was forced to live in Camp which is unfair to person who had been willing to serve his country to best of his ability.

7.(B) Before I was put into Camp discriminately, I had once sworn unqualified allegiance to United States and serve in U.S. Army if and when called to serve as United States citizen, but instead was discriminately placed in Camp. When I was deprived of my liberty of freedom or serve my country that I was born in but to be placed in Camp which was not in least helpful but to put me in mental uncertainty I figured my own country has taken away my citizenship and wants to get rid of us because we are Japanese. In 1940 or 1941, I was called by my draft board and had a questionnaire, and at that time if the question of my loyalty was there, I answered that I will do my duty as a loyal citizen. Also after my hearing by draft board, I also had a physical examination in San Piedro and incidentally got a 4-F.

I didn't know how this could be done.







(F) If there are any other facts which influenced your action in renouncing your United States citizenship, state fully below or on a separate sheet if necessary.

10. (A) If you now are in Japan, give your reasons for having returned to Japan.

I returned to Japan because I thought all persons who gave negative answers to questionnaire 27 and 28 would be put in jail and then be shipped to Japan as the only way to get out of camp and not go to jail and not finally be deported as an undesirable person and not get in trouble with Japanese government was to ask to go to Japan.

(B) If you are in Japan, have you since you returned to Japan taken any action to resume or acquire Japanese citizenship? No  
If you have, state nature of action taken and reasons therefor. Answer Yes or No

11. (A) If you have served or are serving in the military or naval forces of the United States fill in the following:

I enlisted (or was drafted) on \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ my Serial number is \_\_\_\_\_  
State the date State the Branch of Service

I still am in such service \_\_\_\_\_; I was released from active duty on \_\_\_\_\_ and received my Discharge  
Answer Yes or No

(B) If at any time while in a war relocation center or since then you volunteered for military or naval service but your offer of service was rejected state the time when and the place where you volunteered.

(C) State why your offer of such service was rejected, if the reason was made known to you.

(D) If you were rejected for military or naval service by your Local Draft Board since your release from a war relocation center state the reason for the rejection if known to you.

12. If any member of your family has served or is serving in the military or naval forces of the United States state the relationship of such person to you, the name of such person, the branch of service and serial number of such person:

Step brother

Relationship

Teruo Yoshikawa

Name

193 MP. Co., APO 973

Branch of Service

US 55289187

Serial Number

Japan  
City of Tokyo  
Embassy of the U.S.A.) } SS:

/s/ Giichi Kato

(Signature in full of applicant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24th day of January, A.D., 1955

SEAL

/s/ John W. Simms  
Vice Consul of the United States of  
America duly commissioned and qualified

Service No. 23740  
Tariff No. 38  
No Fee Prescribed.

This affidavit may be executed before any person authorized to administer oaths.



## AFFIDAVIT

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PREPARATION OF AFFIDAVIT

This affidavit should be specifically addressed to the circumstances of your particular case and should not consist of generalities. When you are uncertain as to matters related in your affidavit write "uncertain". Where you claim that any action was taken by you as the result of fear, you should state in each instance, with the greatest possible particularity, what was feared and why. If it is claimed that the fears were caused by threats from individuals or groups of individuals, the nature of the threats, the names of the individuals making them, if known, and the time, place and occasion for the making of the threats should be given.

If more space is needed for answers to particular questions, separate sheets of plain white paper should be used. Each separate sheet so used should be plainly marked with the number of the question being answered and your name.

1. Name  
GIICHI KATO

Date of Birth  
May 3, 1920

2. If born prior to December 1, 1924

(A) Have you ever renounced Japanese nationality? No -- See separate sheet

When

Where

3. If born since December 1, 1924

(A) Was your name ever registered with a Japanese Consulate for the purpose of reserving your Japanese nationality?

If so, did you thereafter renounce your Japanese nationality?

When

Where

4. State periods of visits to Japan and purpose of each visit:

Date		Purpose
From 1927	To 1929	Too young to know why I was sent to Japan, and it was decided by my parents that I come to Japan.

5. Give details concerning any formal education in Japan:

School	Period of Attendance	
Shimizu Grammar School (Kanagawa Pref. Aiko Gun)	From 1927	To 1929

Specify subjects studied (attach additional sheet if necessary).

Regular grammar school course, just what was compulsory.

6. Have you ever made application for repatriation to Japan? Yes If so, give date 1943 and 1945, and your reasons for so applying:

See separate sheet

7. (A) Have you ever expressly indicated that you would not swear unqualified allegiance to the United States? Yes  
(continued to next page)

Have you ever declined to answer when asked whether you would swear unqualified allegiance?

Or have you ever given a qualified answer to such question asked at War Relocation Centers? If so, give your reasons:

(B) If your answer to any of the questions in (A) is affirmative, then did you ever subsequently change your mind and express your willingness to swear an unqualified allegiance or would you have been willing to do so if an opportunity had been afforded you? Yes If so, state when you changed your mind and your reasons therefor:

See separate sheet



(C) Did you ever indicate that you would not swear unqualified allegiance to the United States either expressly or by refusal to answer, or a qualified answer, knowing that by so doing you would be sent to the WRA Segregation Center at Tule Lake? ..... If so, give reasons:

8. (A)

WERE YOU EVER AT ANY TIME A MEMBER OF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:

- Black Dragon Society (Kokuryu Kai)
- Central Japanese Association (Beikoku Chuo Nipponjin Kai)
- Central Japanese Association of Southern California
- Dai Nippon Butoku Kai (Military Virtue Society of Japan or Military Art Society of Japan) (Hokubei Kai)
- Heimuska Kai, also known as Hokubei Heieki Gimusha Kai Zaibei Nihonjin, Heiyaku Gimusha Kai, and
- Zaibei Heimusha Kai (Japanese residing in American Military Conscripts Assoc.) Heimusha Kai
- Hinode Kai (Imperial Japanese Reservists)
- Hinomaru Kai (Rising Sun Flag Society—a Group of Japanese War Veterans)
- Hokubei Zaigo Shoko Dan (North American Reserve Officers Association)
- Japanese Association of America (Zaibei Nihonjin Kai)
- Japanese Overseas Central Society (Kaigai Dobo Chuo Kai)
- Japanese Overseas Convention, Tokyo, Japan, 1940
- Japanese Protective Association (Recruiting Organization)
- Jikyoku Iin Kai (Current Affairs Association)
- Kibei Seinen Kai (Association of U. S. Citizens of Japanese Ancestry who have returned to America after studying in Japan)
- Nanka Teikoku Gunyudan (Imperial Military Friends Group or Southern California War Veterans)
- Nichibei Kogyo Kaisha (The Great Fujii Theatre)
- Northwest Japanese Association
- Sakura Kai (Patriotic Society or Cherry Association—composed of Veterans of Russo-Japanese War) (Cherry Blossom Society)
- Shinto Temples
- Sokoku Kai (Fatherland Society)
- Suiko Sha (Reserve Officers Association Los Angeles)
- Hokoku Seinen-Dan
- Hokoku Joshi Seinen-Dan
- Sokoku Kenkyu Seinen-Dan
- Sokuji Kikoku Hoshi-Dan

Answer		Period of Membership
<u>Yes</u>	No	

(B) Give reasons for becoming a member:

(C) State nature of your activity and offices you held:

(D) If you voluntarily discontinued membership in any of the aforementioned organizations, give approximate date and reasons for so doing:



GIICHI KATO

2.(A) As far as I was concern, I did not recognize the Japanese citizen which was applied by my father because of birth of son to him. Also It never did interfere with my citizen as a U.S., so when I did find out I just past it off as a minor thing.

6. My mother died in 1929. When evacuation matter came up I was living with my father in Wilmington, Calif., and worked as a vegetable clerk. We had to evacuate to the Santa Anita Camp. There in 1943 my father asked for repatriation to Japan, therefore, I didn't want to be left alone or be separated from him so I think (?) I did sign the application. The reason was that before Japan started the war I got ready for draft into the U.S. Army by preparing myself such as purchasing life insurance and such because I figured that my draft board number was going to be called in the very near future. In another word I got prepared for what I figured a duty which must be fulfilled by any loyal U.S. citizen. As far as my health and such I was in the very best of health and figured that my eye sight wasn't so bad, and I will pass the physical examination (physical examination was done around June 1941, before the war started.) Any way I was set to perform my duty as U.S. citizen but when war broke out they put me in Camp. When a man has set his heart to do or perform as a loyal citizen but instead placed in camp which was very discouraging blow to me. Also while in camp, I could not plan to see ahead what was in store for us because I figured that just because my parents had been Japanese does not make any difference. As to my knowledge the U.S. population is made up of lots of different race of people, why should us Nisei who are citizens of United States be classified different from second generation child of German family or Italian families? Because we are forced to evacuate we lost the vegetable market and Plymouth pick-up or about \$5,000 which is all we had. My father felt that what had happened to Japanese meant sooner or later he was going to be deported to Japan because he is Issei. So when he made the application my brother was minor and so he signed for my brother which left me alone in the United States without any relative or good friends who I could depend on. The only salvation that I could see or thought at that time was to be repatriated to be with him so I signed with him as he wanted me to. I think we had to sign another application in 1945 at Tule Lake just before we were to be shipped out.

7.(A) I always had given my fullest allegiance to United States but evidently it was not recognize and I was forced to live in Camp which is unfair to person who had been willing to serve his country to best of his ability.

7.(B) Before I was put into Camp discriminately, I had once swear unqualified allegiance to United States and serve in U.S. Army if and when called to serve as United States citizen, but instead was discriminately placed in Camp. When I was deprived of my liberty of freedom or serve my country that I was born in but to be placed in Camp which was not in least helpful but to put me in mental uncertainty I figured my own country has taken away my citizenship and wants to get rid of us because we are Japanese. In 1940 or 1941, I was called by my draft board and had a questionnaire, and at that time if the question of my loyalty was there, I answered that I will do my duty as a loyal citizen. Also after my hearing by draft board, I also had a physical examination in San Piedro and incidentally got a 4-F.



(E) If you claim that your membership in any of the aforementioned organizations, your activities therein, or your acceptance of an office was due to misunderstanding of the purpose or nature of the organization, explain fully:

(F) If you at any time wished to discontinue membership, activity, or office and were prevented from so doing, explain fully:

9. (A) When did you decide to apply for forms upon which to renounce your United States citizenship?

Give reasons for so doing:

I think it was around Jan. or Feb./1945, I decided to do this. On Questionnaire No. 27 & 28 I had answered negative and after that I heard and believed that everybody who gave negative answers could never be released but would have to serve time in a jail and finally be shipped away to Japan. I heard quite a few rumors like that and statements. Some of the rumors we heard I could not believe but some did make sense and so I figured I will have to serve time in jail and then be shipped to Japan. This rumor was based on the case of what happened to some famous actor. So many persons said this. In regard to their names, I do not know these boys that said it because they did not live in our block. The boys that told this spoke very good English so I think they were Nisei. Also many Issei said the same thing. So I was afraid that because I had given negative answers there is nothing I can do about ever getting out of camp and must go to jail and then be shipped to Japan and I worry over the uncertainty of my future and hearing lots of rumors which was unhealthy to my mind. This are the reasons that I have taken such action.

(B) If reasons given in answer to preceding question differ from reasons given to officer who held renunciation hearing, give your explanation for difference:

The reason that the answer differs from above statement and the one given to hearing officer was at that time I figured that I would never be released with in territories of U.S. so the only thing left for me was to get my renunciation accepted and be send to Japan.

(C) If you claim that your renunciation was caused by fear, you should explain fully why such fear extended from the time of the application for renunciation papers until the date of actual renunciation:

I had the same fear right along. I feared that because I have answered the questionnaire No. 27 and 28 a negative, I would never be released as a free man but must serve a sentence or term in jail and on top of that be send back to Japan. Even about the rumors everybody in camp had to be relocated and other rumor people could stay if they were afraid of discrimination I still figured that regardless of what, I must pay the penalty of going to jail and then be shipped to Japan because everybody who gave negative answers to questionnaire 27 & 28 was marked as disloyal and had to pay this penalty.

(D) If the fear did not extend from the date of application to the date of approval by the Attorney General, you should state whether you made any effort to withdraw your application, and if not, explain fully:

(E) If, after approval, you requested the Attorney General to withdraw his approval of your renunciation or to cancel your renunciation, give the reasons for the delay in making such request:

I didn't know how this could be done.



(F) If there are any other facts which influenced your action in renouncing your United States citizenship, state fully below or on a separate sheet if necessary.

10. (A) If you now are in Japan, give your reasons for having returned to Japan.

I returned to Japan because I thought all persons who gave negative answers to questionnaire 27 and 28 would be put in jail and then be shipped to Japan so the only way to get out of camp and not go to jail and not finally be deported as an undesirable person and not get in trouble with Japanese government was to ask to go to Japan.

(B) If you are in Japan, have you since you returned to Japan taken any action to resume or acquire Japanese citizenship? No  
Answer Yes or No  
If you have, state nature of action taken and reasons therefor.

11. (A) If you have served or are serving in the military or naval forces of the United States fill in the following:

I enlisted (or was drafted) on..... in the.....; my Serial number is.....  
State the date State the Branch of Service

I still am in such service.....; I was released from active duty on.....and received my Discharge  
Answer Yes or No  
on.....

(B) If at any time while in a war relocation center or since then you volunteered for military or naval service but your offer of service was rejected state the time when and the place where you volunteered.

(C) State why your offer of such service was rejected, if the reason was made known to you.

(D) If you were rejected for military or naval service by your Local Draft Board since your release from a war relocation center state the reason for the rejection if known to you.

12. If any member of your family has served or is serving in the military or naval forces of the United States state the relationship of such person to you, the name of such person, the branch of service and serial number of such person:

Step brother

Relationship

Teruo Yoshihara

Name

193 MP. Col., APO 973

Branch of Service

US 55289187

Serial Number

(Signature in full of applicant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this.....day of....., 19.....

This affidavit may be executed before any person authorized to administer oaths.



Wrote letter to  
L.A. office offering  
to pay balance  
when a definite  
decision was  
handed down

1-17-57