

21:23

TATEOKA, HIDE

1945

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AUG 23 1945

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Washington, D. C.

*Copy*

NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF RENUNCIATION OF UNITED STATES NATIONALITY

To: Hide Tateoka  
(born Feb. 11, 1924, Gardena  
California)  
1515-C  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California

You are hereby notified that, pursuant to Section 401(i) of the Nationality Act of 1940, as Amended, and the regulations issued pursuant thereto, your renunciation of United States nationality has been approved by the Attorney General as not contrary to the interests of national defense. Accordingly you are no longer a citizen of the United States of America nor are you entitled to any of the rights and privileges of such citizenship.

Date: April 17, 1945

Herbert Wechsler  
Assistant Attorney General  
War Division

Copy

Tule Lake Project  
Newell, California  
June 27, 1945

Mr. R. R. Best  
Project Director  
Tule Lake Project  
Newell, California

Dear Mr. Best:

We have signed our names to be members of the Hoshidan under what now appears to be a misrepresentation in that if we would be members of this organization the entire family could remain in this Center. From what has happened in the past few weeks it seems that we were misled into signing our names to be members of this organization.

We wish to withdraw our names from the organization and would like very much for you to assist us in every way possible to make it clear that we wish to have our names absolutely severed from this organization.

Sincerely,

copy

Tule Lake Project  
Newell, California  
July 2, 1945

Attorney General  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

This is to inform you that I would like to cancel my application for renunciation of American Citizenship which I filed sometime ago.

Due to the conditions which existed at that time being a member of the Hoshidan (from which I have asked that my name be absolutely severed) and due to mass psychosis at that time I followed the crowd blindly and filed my renunciation papers which I now realize is truly regrettable.

I would appreciate very much every consideration you can give toward helping me in cancelling my request for renunciation of citizenship.

Enclosed with this letter is a copy of the form which I have sent to the Department of State to have my application for expatriation cancelled.

Sincerely,

Hide Tateoka  
1515-C  
Newell, California

Copy

Tule Lake Project  
Newell, California  
July 2, 1945

Commanding General  
Western Defense Command  
Presidio of San Francisco

Sir:

When I was under the influence of mass hysteria which prevailed some month ago at the Tule Lake Center, without much serious consideration, I applied for renunciation of my American Citizenship and also applied for expatriation to Japan, which I now truly regret. After the lapse of time and subsidence of mass hysteria, I begin to realize that my loyalty lies with the United States of America, as I never knew Japan, although I was told that I was there at the age of one.

From above reasons, I applied for cancellation of my renunciation of the American citizenship and of application for expatriation, a copy of which is enclosed, and I wish to have a review of my case and a new hearing as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Hide Tateoka  
1515-C  
Newell, California

HEADQUARTERS WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND  
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL  
PRESIDIO OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

*Copy*

CAD 201 Tateoka, Hide

11 July 1945

Miss Hide Tateoka  
Block 1515-C  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California

Dear Mrs Tateoka: (Miss)

The Commanding General has directed me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 2 July 1945, in which you state you request a hearing and inclose a copy of letter to the Department of State cancelling your application for expatriation.

Records of Headquarters Western Defense Command show that you have not been designated for exclusion from the West Coast Exclusion Zone, therefore, there would appear to be no reason for a hearing before a Board of Officers concerning your exclusion status. If you desire a hearing concerning cancellation of your United States Citizenship or cancellation of your request for expatriation, it is suggested you communicate with the Department of State or the Attorney General, Washington, D. C.

Sincerely yours,

James Brell  
CWO USA  
Actg Asst Adj Gen

*Copy*

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
Alien Enemy Control Unit  
Washington, 25, D. C.  
July 12, 1945

Dear Sir:

I have for reply your letter to the Attorney General of July 2, 1945 asking that your renunciation of citizenship be canceled. Having executed an application for permission to renounce your citizenship, you appeared on February 27, 1945 before a Hearing Officer appointed by the Attorney General and executed the final renunciation. This renunciation was approved as not contrary to the interests of national defense by the Attorney General on April 17, 1945. You will recall that at the time you executed the final renunciation form you were given a careful hearing and were asked why you wished to renounce your citizenship and whether you understood the consequences of your act and that you indicated that you did understand what you were doing and that it was your own wish to give up your citizenship.

Upon the approval by the Attorney General of your renunciation of citizenship, pursuant to Section 401 (i) of the Nationality Act of 1940 as amended, you ceased to be a United States citizen and became an alien. Neither the Attorney General nor any other officer of this Government has any power under the law to restore your citizenship to you and there is no way under the law by which your renunciation of United States Citizenship can be canceled.

Since you are an alien and since you are a person of Japanese ancestry and a person who has shown loyalty to Japan by voluntarily renouncing his United States citizenship during the existence of a war between the United States and Japan, it is presumed that under the laws of Japan you are a national of Japan. Thus you are deemed to be an alien enemy and subject to control as such pursuant to Section 21, Title 50, U. S. Code.

In the event that, since your renunciation hearing, your loyalties have changed and you have realized your mistake, I regret the tragic consequences of your earlier act. The renunciation procedure, however, is surrounded as much as possible by safeguards to make sure that renunciants understand what they are doing; and once the renunciation is complete, there is no way in which it can be undone.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Ennis  
Director

*copy*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WASHINGTON

July 12, 1945

The Department has received your recent communication and note its contents. Your cancellation has been recorded.

In the event of any change either in your desire regarding repatriation or in your present address, you should notify the Division of Special War Problems, Department of State, Washington 25, D. C.

It should be understood that the Japanese Government has not as yet replied to the several specific proposals for a third exchange of nationals which have been made by the American Government. Consequently, no movement of exchange ships may be anticipated within the next several months.

It should be understood also that the Japanese Government itself establishes priorities for the repatriation of its nationals.

*Copy*

Block 1515-C  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California  
July 16, 1945

Mr. James Brell  
CWO USA  
Actg Asst Adj Gen  
Office of Commanding General  
Presidio of San Francisco  
California

Dear Mr. Brell,

I appreciate very much for the letter dated July 11, 1945, relative to my status and am glad to know that in your record, I am not excluded from the west coast as I am anxious to enter a nurse's training school in the west coast hospital.

However a few days ago I was told here in Tule Lake Center office that I was a excludee because of my application of my renouncement of the United States citizenship, which I am trying very hard to cancell, and was also told that I was on the excludee list in Washington.

May I ask your favor to help me to ascertain my present status and if my status be excludee, may I have a hearing at the earliest date?

Sincerely,

(Miss) Hide Tateoka

Newell Community Hospital  
Newell, California  
July 16, 1945

*Copy*

Western Defense Command  
Presidio of San Francisco  
California

Gentlemen:

Subject: Question of Status of  
Miss Hide Tateoka

The above named 20 year old girl has been working in the Newell Community Hospital in this center for about two years as a nurses aide who show exceptional ability and now wishes to enter nurses training in the West Coast. I am helping her to enter such school.

In order to enter the West Coast, her status must be cleared. According to your recent communication to her who is not an excludee and can go to the West Coast but here in the Tule Lake War Relocation Authority Center she is classified as such. Your assistance in clearing up this matter is greatly appreciated. However, if as a result of your investigation she is found to be an excludee I would deeply appreciate it if your office can make arrangements to give her a hearing where she could state her case. In the meantime we are working hard to cancel the application for renunciation of citizenship through the United States Attorney General.

Very truly yours,

G. K. Hashiba, M.D.

*Copy*

Newell Community Hospital  
Newell, California  
July 18, 1945

Mr. Louis Noyes  
Project Attorney  
Administration Building  
Newell, California

My dear Mr. Noyes:

This is to introduce to you Miss Hide Tateoka who is planning to enter nurse's training school in the west coast hospital.

Her status is not clear due to the fact that she applied for renunciation of citizenship. As you probably know at this time, she withdrew her name from the Hoshidan organization and also wrote a letter to the U.S. Attorney General for cancellation of her application for renouncement of citizenship.

I would appreciate very much whatever assistance you could give her to clear her status and to cancel her application for renouncement of citizenship so that she could relocate and enter the training school in the west coast.

Very truly yours,

G. K. Hashiba, M.D.

*Copy*

Newell Community Hospital  
Newell, California  
July 20, 1945

Mr. Edward J. Ennis  
Director of Alien Enemy Control Unit  
Department of Justice  
Washington, 25, D. C.

Subject: Cancellation of renouncement of U. S. Citizenship  
Person involved: Miss Hide Tateoka

Dear Sir:

For the past two years, I was in charge of surgery department of Tule Lake W.R.A. Hospital. Naturally I am well acquainted with the young girl as good, conscientious worker. It was noted in the past few months that she showed above average efficiency as a sterile nurse in the operating room.

Recently she expressed her desire to enter regular nurse's training school in the west coast hospital. She also explained her difficulties.

In several interview with her and with her family, I felt that she was the victim of circumstance and that she signed away her birth right under pressure against her wish. With realization of her ability of self-supporting, and subsidence of mass hysteria she began to feel strong enough to express her true feeling in the matter.

I would deeply appreciate your lenient consideration for her plea for cancellation of renouncement of U.S. Citizenship, or for parole and permission to relocate.

Respectfully yours,

G. K. Hashiba, M.D.

copy

Block 1515-C  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California  
July 20, 1945

Mr. Edward J. Ennis  
Director of Alien Enemy Control Unit  
Department of Justice  
Washington, 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

In about January 1945, I applied for renouncement of my U. S. Citizenship which I now wish to cancel. May I submit for your consideration the circumstance under which the application was signed and reason for wishing now to cancel it.

I received your letter dated July 12, 1945 informing me that there is nothing which you can do under the present law to help me cancel my application for renunciation of citizenship and get back my United States Citizenship. If you could understand how I regret my past action and how deeply I now appreciated the real meaning and value of being an American citizen and living in the United States, I am sure that you would realize the crushing shock which I experienced when I received your very kindly written letter telling me that there is nothing which you can do under the law to restore my United States Citizenship to me.

As long as I live I will continue to do everything that I possibly can to get back my citizenship and I will do everything within my power to prove to you my unqualified loyalty to the United States. As you will see from my explanation of the circumstances which led me almost blindly, step by step, along that dark and dangerous path and into a pit-fall of renunciation, there was never even a speck of disloyalty towards the United States in my heart or mind. What may have looked to you and others as an act of disloyalty was merely the frantic behavior of a young girl who was desperately trying to find a path out of the confusion and darkness in which she found herself. I was very young, inexperienced, and very much afraid of being alone. I am sure that many more mature and braver people than I lost their way in this dark jungle and fell into the same pit or trap that I did. I wonder whether even you, with your great legal mind and with your abundant experience as a government official, if you had been in my place and confronted by my problems, could have avoided getting lost like I did and making the mistakes which I made.

copy

I am willing to do anything which you may suggest in order to prove to you my loyalty to the United States. I will be glad to serve my country, the United States, as a nurse and at this time, when nurses are so badly needed, I feel that I have an opportunity to render a service to my country and at the same time to atleast in part atone for my mistakes.

I plead with you for permission to leave this center that has been the source of all my troubles, so that I can relocate and complete my training as a nurse and serve my country, the United States, in this time of great need. I understand that since I am regarded as an alien it may be necessary that you grant me parole. You have the reputation for great understanding and I, therefore, have confidence that after analyzing my case you will grant me parole. The only chance that I have is if you grant me parole. If you do not, I will be a crushed person with no hope and with nothing to live for.

My family consists of six members: Father, mother, elder sister, her baby, her husband and myself. At the time of segregation, our family was moved to Tule Lake on the ground of family's pro-Japan attitude, and at that time I was nineteen years old. My parents are isseis, my sister, her husband and myself are U.S. citizens.

My parents planned to take our entire family back to Japan by earliest exchange ship which they expected to come. Then I was told that my U.S. Citizenship would prevent them from taking me with them. As my sister and her husband has already renounced their citizenship, both advised me to do the same. This put me in a difficult situation. I did not wish to give up my citizenship to go to Japan as I do not know Japan, moreover I was born and raised in the United States, I felt that this was my country. On the other hand, if I had refused to give up my citizenship, I believed that I would be left alone in this country, if and when such ship should come, then I would have no one to go to for support as I had no training or experience to earn my own living. Thus my family situation and fear of being left alone overwhelmed me.

May I describe the Hoshidan organization(Pro-Japan in principle) and its relation to my family. My uncle returned to Japan by the second exchange ship. My father hoped and planned to return by the next exchange ship which so far has not materialized. When Hoshidan organization was born in Tule Lake Center, it clamed that the members had priority to the exchange ship. Members if theyare U. S. Citizens must give up their citixenship, member would escape U. S. Army draft. My father is a honest, simple farmer, honestly believed in all its claims and as he was anxious to take our family to Japan by earliest possible opportunity,

*Copy*

he persuaded all of us to join. This explains the reason of my being the member, and as a member it was compulsory to renounce the citizenship. We were coached by the organization as to what to say at the hearing which was held here in the project. I made the statements which were not my true feeling in the matter but I said it because I was instructed to say so.

Another factor which led me to renounce my citizenship was the influence on me of mass hysteria and un-restrained rumors which were rampant in the Tule Lake Center after segregation. Under the spell of mass psychosis and misinformation it became almost fashion to renounce the citizenship. Many of my girlfriends blindly followed the crowd. Those who did not were almost ostracized during the period.

I fought against influence and pressure of my environment but my family situation, my fear of being left alone in this country in case my parents should sail away to Japan by exchange ship and general mass hysteria that prevailed in our center, but above all pressure by the Hoshidan were too great for me to resist and I signed that fatal paper against my wish, and made the statement at the hearing which was not the expression of my true feelings.

With lapse of time and with removal of several hundred of radical groups to the internment camps, including my sister's husband, my environment gradually returned to the normal condition. This improvement of the atmosphere made it possible for me to think more rationally, begun to realize very serious significance of signing the renouncement paper. Gradually my father lost faith in the organization as things did not happen as it promised. In fact, organization did more harm, brought on more misery and suffering to many families. Recently my parents and I withdrew our names from the organization members.

Another reason of my plea for cancellation of my renouncement is the fact that during the past 2 years, I worked in the center hospital, that with increased experience, I was gradually promoted to the present position of sterile nurse in the operating room where I assist in all types of surgeries. For the first time in my life, I felt that I could earn my own living as a nurse and now I wish to enter nurse's training school so that I could make myself sure of self-supporting. My confidence of self-support gave me courage to think and act according to my true feeling, and removed in large measure my fear of being left alone when and if my parents should return to Japan. In fact I determine now to live in this country even if I was left alone, for this is my own country.

*Copy*

In the light of above facts, which I assure you from the bottom of my heart are the absolute truth, may I ask your lenient consideration for my plea for parole and permission to leave this horrible camp so that I can finish my nurse's training and serve my country the United States.

Very truly yours,

(Miss) Hide Tateoka

Copy

HEADQUARTERS WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND  
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL  
PRESIDIO OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

CAD 201 - Tateoka, Hide

21 July 1945

Miss Hide Tateoka  
Block 1515-C  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California

Dear Miss Tateoka:

The Commanding General has directed me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 16 July 1945 concerning your renunciation of United States citizenship.

This letter is being referred to the Attorney General, Washington, D. C. for such action as is deemed appropriate.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES BRELL  
CWO USA  
Actg Asst Adj Gen

July 21, 1945

W.R.A. Tule Lake

Newell, California

*Copy*

War Relocation Authority  
Miss Jean Sutherland, Nursing Consultant  
Barr Building  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Miss Sutherland:

Dr. Hashiba has asked me to write you in behalf of one of my Surgery Aides, Miss Tateoka. I believe Dr. Hashiba has already written the particulars of her case to you and all he wishes me to do is to give you my recommendation of her work. She is very outstanding in all her work but she really shines as an instrument assistant to the surgeon. Her ability to comprehend surgical technique and procedures is truly amazing. I have known many, many graduate nurses who have had quite extensive training in the Operating Room with much less apparent ability than Miss Tateoka who has had next to no training in comparison. Her ability as an instrument nurse is not merely mechanical—she really understands why she does each procedure and is very well acquainted all the body organs as the surgeon handles them.

It really is too bad that a girl with her ability must be tagged with a name that she was forced to apply to herself through the ignorance of her parents. Now that Dr. Hashiba has persuaded her parents to withdraw their membership in the "organization", they may leave the Camp because they are Aliens. As for their daughter, she was a good citizen of the United States, but she was forced to renounce her citizenship so she is compelled by Law to stay here very much against her wishes now that her eyes have been opened and she fully understands what a terrible thing she has been compelled to do.

I really don't know what you can do about this situation but I am sure you will do anything in your power to get this girl in a good Training School for Nurses where she belongs and where she wants so desperately to go. If this letter helps matters any, I am glad and if there is anything at all I can do help some more, I shall be very willing to do so. Knowing the girl as I do, I surly hate to see her life wasted.

Sincerely yours,

---

Mabel Castles.

Approved by:

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Catherine Q. Larner, Chief Nurse.

Renounced Feb 27, '45  
Approved Dept of Just. Apr. 17, '45  
Cancellation sought July 2, '45  
AUG 10 1945

Block 1515-C  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California  
August 6, 1945

Mr. Ernest Besig  
Director of American Civil Liberty Union  
Northern California Branch  
216 Pine Street  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Besig:

By the advice of many friends, I am asking your assistance in the matter of my citizenship and/or parole.

I am an inexperienced girl of 21 years old, graduate of high school just before evacuation, now living with my parents and my sister at Tule Lake Center. In trying to find my path amid confusion, rumors, pressure and my family situation, I was led to join Hoshidan organization (Pro-Japan in principle) and to renounce my U.S. Citizenship in about January of this year.

When the more normal condition was restored in the center after pressure groups were removed to other internment camps, I realized that I had done very serious mistake of joining Hoshidan organization and of renouncing the U. S. Citizenship. By so doing I am not allowed even to go out of the center as I was informed that I was on the stop list of the Department of Justice.

Realizing my tragic mistake, first I withdrew my name from the Hoshidan and I wrote several letters to Washington office to cancel my renouncement of my citizenship. Soon I was informed that it appears almost hopeless to regain my citizenship at this time.

Since I began to work in the center hospital for 2 years, my interest was aroused in the nursing and now I wish to enter nurse's training school as soon

as possible but because of my being on the stop list of Department of Justice, (not on the stop list of the Army) I am not allowed to leave the center.

I would appreciate your assistance in the matter of citizenship but my pressing need is to obtain parole so that I could go out to enter a training school, or to work in a outside hospital. I enclosed copies of all my correspondents so that you would be in a better position to assist me.

Please help me in the matter as I feel heart-broken to think that I am virtually a prisoner in this camp for the duration without any opportunity to improve myself nor to enjoy more normal life. May I hear from you soon?

Very truly yours,

*Hide Tateoka*

(Miss) Hide Tateoka

*Air mail*

August 11, 1945.

Mr. Edward J. Ennis, Director,  
Enemy Alien Control Unit,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D.C.

In re: Hide Tatecka.

Dear Mr. Ennis:

The above-named girl, residing at Block 1515-C, Tule Lake Center, has appealed to us <sup>for help</sup> in connection with her attempts to restore her citizenship, which she renounced under pressure, and to secure her release from the Center to engage in nursing.

In connection with the first problem, since your office has taken the position that it has no power to act, it would seem that the only possible relief lies in court action which must be initiated by Miss Tatecka. Our Committee has authorized that such a suit be filed in an appropriate case, and we are hopeful of doing so in the near future.

In connection with the second problem, I am informed that the Military has issued no orders against Miss Tatecka, but that she is detained at the Center by reason of being on the "stop list" of the Department of Justice. This "stop list" puzzles us. I assume that no Presidential Warrant has been issued, for none has been served upon Miss Tatecka. If that be true, I do not understand by what authority you are detaining her. Incidentally, she does not hold dual citizenship, so her renunciation must have had the effect of leaving her stateless.

I would appreciate your immediate decision in this matter, because if it is not your intention to release Miss Tatecka we will want to file an appropriate court action.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Besig, Director.

August 11, 1945.

Miss Hide Tateoka,  
Block 1515-C,  
Tule Lake Center,  
Newell, Calif.

Dear Miss Tateoka:

I have just written an Air Mail letter to Mr. Ennis in your behalf. I am hopeful that your name will be released from the "stop list".

Of course, my own feeling is that the Department of Justice has no authority to hold you if the Army has consented to your release. The Department does have certain authority over alien enemies, but your renunciation of citizenship does not reduce you to such a status. Unless you hold dual citizenship, I would say that you are now stateless. If you are stateless, then the Department of Justice cannot intern you as an alien enemy, and, in any case, it must serve a Presidential Warrant upon you ordering your detention. I assume such a warrant has not been served upon you.

Would you please advise me of the date and place of your birth; your residence at the time of the evacuation; whether you hold dual citizenship, or maybe I should say Japanese citizenship.

If Mr. Ennis does not order your release, we will be glad to file the necessary legal action in your behalf, if you authorize it. We would pay the expenses.

We are also interested in the validity of your renunciation and the question of restoring your citizenship. One of our attorneys will, in the near future, undertake a court test. I will submit to him the file in your case. We have had numerous cases of this type called to our attention, and it will be possible to handle only one test issue. I don't know at the moment whose case that will be.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Besig, Director.

AUG 22 1945

Block 1515-C  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California  
August 17, 1945

Mr. Ernest Besig  
American Civil Liberties Union  
216 Pine Street  
San Francisco 4, California

Dear Mr. Besig:

Thank you very much for the kind interest you took in my case. With your most encouraging letter, heavy weight in my heart is lifted as I can vision the rays of hope and my freedom from this incarceration.

I wish to cooperate with you in everyway, and wish you to go ahead with any legal procedure necessary to obtain the objectives, namely my parole as soon as possible, and if possible my citizenship. At first I thought I could be excused from being used as a test case, as I am only a young, inexperienced girl and am really afraid to stand a court trial, but thinking the matter over and talking to my friends, I might muster my courage to face the situation for the benefit not only to myself but to the others who are in the same predicament as myself.

For your information, I was told by my parents that I had a Japanese citizenship, but I have no proof of it. I was born on February 11, 1924 at Gardena, California. My parents took me to Japan at the age of one and returned to U.S.A. when I was three years old. Since then I was resident in Gardena and resided at 14406 Avalon Blvd., Gardena, California at the time of the evacuation.

I am very grateful for the kind offer of legal expense. I feel very lucky to find your magnanimous organization offering help to correct my serious mistake.

Sincerely yours,

*Hide Tateoka*  
(Miss) Hide Tateoka

AUG 23 1945

Block 1515-C

Tule Lake Center

Newell, California

August 18, 1945

Mr. Ernest Besig

American Civil Liberties Union

216 Pine Street

San Francisco 4, California

Dear Mr. Besig:

Enclosed is the copy for your file of the letter from the Department of Justice the acknowledgement of renouncement of my citizenship.

I wish to thank you again for your kind assistance to correct my mistake.

Sincerely yours,

*Hide Tateoka*

(Miss) Hide Tateoka

AUG 23 1945

Block 1515-C  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California  
August 20, 1945

*Copy*

Mr. Edward Ennis  
Attorney General  
Washington 25, D. C.

*office, department of justice*

Dear Mr. Ennis:

In spite of my effort to cancel my renouncement of my United States Citizenship, I am in receipt of your final notice of acceptance of my renunciation, and that I no longer possess the rights and privilege of United States Citizen. This shocking notice is inevitable as there is no law to help me in the matter and I must adjust myself to the status of an alien.

At this time I wish to thank you for the kind review of all my letters stating facts of my case. It may be presumptuous to state but I feel sure you would not really consider me as a dangerous girl to the security of the country but as a victima of circumstance, and that if there were law allowing reconsideration of my case, you would have granted such opportunity to prove my innocence. That is out of question at the present and I must reconcile to the new status of an alien. I hope someday, the government would grant a opportunity to review my case by congressional amendment of the law.

Until recently, before the end of the war, I was told that I was on the "stop list" of your department as the result of renouncement of my citizenship. But now the war is over, I am very anxious to know whether the same restriction is imposed upon my movement. If I am still in your department's "stop list" I wish to ask your consideration for parole so that at least I could regain my freedom and privilege of an innocent alien to live outside of the confinement. Please grant me parole, and if necessary a hearing to prove my innocence.

Respectfully yours,

(Miss) Hide Tateoka

AUG 30 1945

Newell Community Hospital  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California  
August 28, 1945

Mr. Edward Ennis  
Department of Justice  
Washington 25, D. C.

*copy*

Name: Hide Tateoka  
Subject: Application for parole

Dear Mr. Ennis:

I am writing in behalf of above girl who is now asking your kind consideration for parole. As previous communications both from her and myself, she is the victim of circumstance.

Since she works in the hospital as surgery nurse, I came to know her well and assure you, sir, that she never has malicious intention against the United States.

Could it be possible that your department consider her as possible candidate for parole if the study of her case could prove satisfactory as parolee? I would appreciate your lenient consideration for her parole or grant her another hearing for parole in the near future.

Very truly yours,

G. K. Hashiba, M. D.

Block 1515-C  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California  
August 28, 1945

Mr. Edward Ennis  
Department of Justice  
Washington 25, D.C.

*Copy*

Dear Mr. Ennis:

Subject: Renunciation of U.S. Citizenship

After careful reconsideration of your acceptance of my renunciation of the U.S. Citizenship, I still wish to repudiate the renunciation of my U.S. Citizenship and I must ask your reconsideration of cancellation of renunciation as requested on July 2, 1945.

Reason of asking your consideration is that I signed the renunciation under duress, and undue influence of my family and Hoshidan organization as already explained in several previous communication to your office, and being virtual prisoner in the camp, I was not free agent and when it was signed I was under 21 years old.

I was informed by my parents that I had citizenship of Japan but actually I was too young to know anything about it. In 1940 United States repudiated dual citizenship as recorded in 18 U.S.C.A. section 800. From this fact I feel that I am not a citizen of Japan. ||

Please reopen my case to prove to your satisfaction that above statements are true. Also I wish you to release me from this camp as soon as possible as I feel that I was not responsible for my signature for renunciation as I was forced to do so under threat and duress as stated.

Your kindly consideration is urgently requested.

Very truly yours,

(Miss) Hide Tateoka

TATEOKA, MISS HIDE

SEP 4 1945

Block 15150C  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California  
August 30, 1945

Mr. Ernest Besig  
American Civil Liberties Union  
216 Pine Street  
San Francisco 4, California

Dear Mr. Besig:

Thank you for sending Mr. Collin down here for interview. By his advise, I sent the letter to Department of Justice repudiating renunciation of my citizenship, the copy of which is enclosed for your file.

Yours very truly,

*Hide Tateoka*

(Miss) Hide Tateoka

September 5, 1945

Miss Hide Tateoka  
1515 C  
Newell, California

Dear Miss Tateoka:

Thank you for sending me a copy  
of your letter of August 23 to Mr. Ennis repudiating  
your renunciation of U. S. citizenship. I am  
hopeful that the Department of Justice can be pre-  
vailed upon to reconsider some of the renunciation  
cases.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Besig, Director

EB:AR

SEPT. 3, 1945

Miss Hide Tateoka  
Block 1515- C  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California

Dear Miss Tateoka:

I want to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of August 28 enclosing a copy of Dr. Hashiba's letter to Mr. Ennis.

Unfortunately, Mr. Ennis has advised us that renunciants will continue to be detained at the Tule Lake Center and that deportation proceedings will be commenced against most of them. I am enclosing herewith a form letter which I got out recently in answer to the numerous inquiries that have recently come to my desk. I think it contains information in which you will be interested.

Mr. Collins advises me he interviewed you on his recent trip to Tule Lake.

Sincerely yours,

EB:AR

Ernest Besig, Director

Block 1515-C  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California  
August 28, 1945

AUG 30 1945

Mr. Ernest Besig  
American Civil Liberties Union  
216 Pine Street  
San Francisco 4, California

Dear Mr. Besif:

I am so anxious to obtain parole as soon as possible as I planned to relocate, I do worry a lot when I hear all sort of unfavorable rumors for my possibility of obtaining parole.

Since I know Dr. G. K. Hashiba quite well as I work in his department, I asked him to write a letter to the Department of Justice for consideration of my parole. The copy of which is enclosed is for your file.

Thank you very much for your kind assistance.

Sincerely your,

*Hide Tateoka*

(Miss) Hide Tateoka

SEP 11 1945

Block 1515-C  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California  
September 6, 1945

Mr. Ernest Besig  
American Civil Liberties Union  
Northern California Branch  
216 Pine Street  
San Francisco 4, California

Dear Mr. Besig:

I am in receipt of your letter dated September 3, 1945 and I wish to thank you for the way you are taking interest in my case.

According to the general information attached to the letter, you advised me to notify the Department of Justice the repudiation of renunciation, which was done several weeks ago. You also advised me to engage attorney for my defense.

Unfortunately my family is rather poor, I should say, and I have only few dollars saved up from the small salary I get from working in the W.R.A. hospital. So that any appreciable amount is not available for attorney but would you please inform me what will be the sum necessary to start the case like mine, although I am much afraid that I may not be able to meet the requirement but I shall try my very best in the matter as it affects my future so greatly that any sacrifice is not too much.

Your early reply is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

*Hide Tateoka*

(Miss) Hide Tateoka

September 25, 1945

Miss Hide Tateoka  
1515 C  
Newell, California

Dear Miss Tateoka:

I regret the delay in answering your last letter. You ask how much it would cost to hire an attorney to handle your case.

I appreciate that the evacuees have been virtually without an income since the evacuation took place and that most of them have dissipated whatever funds they had when they entered the centers. Unfortunately, the issues with which the renunciants are now faced will entail considerable work on the part of any attorney and unless a person has at least \$500, I would say that there would be no chance of getting over even the first hurdle in the legal proceeding. In the first instance, of course, the suit would be tried in the U. S. District Court.

Since writing to you, I have been informed that it is the government's intentions to remove the renunciants from the Tule Lake Center. Just when they will be moved, I do not know.

Mr. Tetsujiro Nakamura was in my office about ten days ago and he went back to Tule Lake with the purpose of raising a defense fund. I haven't heard anything more about it, so I am wondering whether anything was done. It seems to me that a considerable amount of money could be raised by small contributions from the affected persons in order to bring the chief issues into the courts. I am hopeful that this plan will still be carried out. In view of the fact that the renunciants may be removed from this area, where we can be of assistance to them, it would seem to me rather urgent that the defense plans be speeded up.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Besig, Director

EB:AR

SEP 26 1945

1515-C  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California.

September 24 1945

Mr. Earnest Besig,  
Am. Civil Liberty Union,  
Northern California Branch,  
216 Pine St.,  
San Francisco, California.

Dear Mr. Besig:

I have not received your reply to my letter dated September 6, 1945 (Copy of which is here attached). Although I realize that you are very busy and that I should not trouble you, I am very anxious about the outcome unless some legal action is taken at once, as I hear some rumors that the Department of Justice would take drastic action against us in very near future possibly before October 15th. Any delay may prove to be fatal to my cause.

If you are not considering immediate action at this time to defend my rights, may I withdraw your authority of going ahead with my case as I wish to engage another legal agency to consult and handle my case. As stated in the previous letters that I have no large spot cash at hand, I will pay for the legal service if reasonable terms can be arranged.

May I ask your answer by return mail. At this time I wish to thank you for the valuable advices and help for my case.

Truly Yours,

*Hide Tateoka*

Hide Tateoka

Block 1515-C  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California  
September 6, 1945

Mr. Ernest Besig  
American Civil Liberties Union  
Northern California Branch  
216 Pine Street  
San Francisco 4, California

*Copy*

Dear Mr. Besig:

I am in receipt of your letter dated September 3, 1945 and I wish to thank you for the way you are taking interest on my case.

According to the general information attached to the letter, you advised me to notify the department of Justice the repudiation of renunciation, which was done several weeks ago. You also advised me to engage attorney for my defense.

Unfortunately my family is rather poor, I should say, and I have only few dollars saved up from the small salary I get from working in the W.R.A. hospital. So that any appreciable amount is not available for attorney but would you please inform me what will be the sum necessary to start the case like mine, although I am much afraid that I may not be able to meet the requirement but I shall try my very best in the matter as it affects my future so greatly that any sacrifice is not too much.

Your early reply is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(Miss) Hide Tateoka

September 26, 1945.

Miss Hide Tateoka,  
Block 1515-C,  
Tule Lake Center,  
Newell, California.

Dear Miss Tateoka:

I just have your letter of the 24th and regret the delay in answering your previous letter. I was off on a week's vacation and then my secretary took a week off so we've had considerable difficulty in handling the work that keeps piling in on us.

I have already answered your question about the cost of legal action. I think you are going to find that in these times attorneys are very loathe to accept contingent fees. If you tell me how much you can pay down, I'll see what luck I have in getting a competent attorney to handle your case.

I am frank to say that I was relying considerably upon Mr. Nakamura's efforts in organizing a defense committee that would raise funds among the renunciants. I cannot understand my failure to hear from him. Also, it amazes me that among all of the renunciants there are none who can finance legal action. I know of no one who has thus far sought to hire an attorney.

I agree that the matter is urgent because the renunciants may be shipped to some inaccessible internment camp and then shipped summarily to Japan. The trouble with the present issues are that they are so involved that they will take considerable time of any attorney, and generally attorneys cannot be exploited to the extent that their living is jeopardized. I am fearful that the renunciants are going to wait so long for administrative relief that they'll finally come to when they are on a boat headed for Japan.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Besig, Director.

OCT 2 1945

Block 1515-C  
Tule Lake Center,  
Newell, California.

September 29, 1945

Mr. Ernest Besig,  
American Civil Right Union,  
216 Pine St.,  
San Francisco, California.

Dear Mr. Besig:

I thank you very much for the answer to my recent letter relative to an attorney to fight for my case.

You recommended by your letter to start legal action in group to distribute legal expense, but at present moment the condition is so urgent that the group action is not practical as it requires much time to organize and act in group. Therefore I wish to proceed on my own individual case so as to avoid wasting time.

My chief concern at this time is not so much for regaining my citizenship as to be released from the detention center as Tule Lake and to live in the United State Of America. If and when that is accomplished I may fight for my citizenship. My immediate necessity is to fight against impending deportation and to be released from the center and live in The United State of America. I feel that I am not dangerous girl to live in this country.

Please give me the name of an attorney who would handle my case and I shall contact him at once. Your assistance in my serious situation is greatly appreciated.

Truly yours,

*Hide Tateoka*

Hide Tateoka.

October 2, 1945.

Miss Hide Tateoka,  
Block 1515-C,  
Tule Lake Center,  
Newell, Calif.

Dear Miss Tateoka:

I have your letter requesting the name of a responsible attorney. You might try Mr. George Olshausen, Mills Tower, San Francisco 4, Calif. You might explain to Mr. Olshausen that your present interest is merely in securing your release from the Center and not in contesting the renunciation. If Mr. Olshausen is interested in the case, I will be glad to turn over to him the various papers you have sent to me. I tried to get him on the phone, but his office tells me he will be out of town until Thursday.

If Mr. Olshausen is not interested, you might try Clarence E. Rust of Oakland. Mr. Collins was at the Center again yesterday with reference to the various renunciation cases, but his proposed procedure is a little different from that which you desire to take. Habeas corpus would seem to be the remedy for what you want.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Besig, Director.