

11:12

KATO, Yuji

1945-1948

78/177
C

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

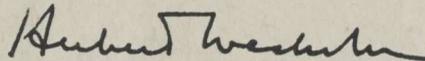
WASHINGTON, D. C.

NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF RENUNCIATION OF UNITED STATES NATIONALITY

To: Yuji Kato
(born July 21, 1920, Seattle, Washington)
4202-A
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: March 22, 1945



Herbert Wechsler
Assistant Attorney General
War Division

Department of State
Washington, D.C.

Attention: Special War Problems Division

I, Yuzi Fato requested repatriation and exchange
to Japan on Spring of 1943 at Gila Relocation Center.
(Date)

I now certify that I wish to cancel that application and to remain in the
United States. I respectfully request that my name be taken off the list
of persons to be considered for exchange.

Yuzi Fato
NAME

JAPANESE SIGNATURE, IF ANY.

October 20, 1945
DATE

7307
FAMILY NO.

July 21, 1920 Seattle,
DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH Washington

CITIZENSHIP: U.S. JAPAN DUAL

G. Duveneck
644 Longridge Rd.
Oakland, Calif.
ADDRESS BEFORE EVACUATION

California
INTENDED DESTINATION ON LEAVING
CENTER

4202-A
Tule Lake Center
Newell, California

Oct. 16, 1945

HONORABLE TOM CLARK
Attorney General of the United States
Department of Justice Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

On January 26, 1945, I signed an application for renunciation of U. S. nationality form at the W. R. A. Segregation Center situated at Tule Lake, Modoc County, California, at a perfunctory appearance before a government official, and I have received a letter dated March 22, 1945, from Mr. Herbert Wechsler, Assistant Attorney General, approving the same.

I hereby repudiate, withdraw, retract, and revoke the said renunciation upon the following grounds and for the following reasons:

(1) The circumstances under which said renunciation form was signed by me did not constitute a fair and impartial hearing and was a denial of my constitutional guaranty of due process of law and of the equal protection of the laws;

(2) I was not a free agent at the time when and the place where said renunciation form was signed but was then and there held in duress and was the victim of fraud, menace and undue influence and mistake of fact and law;

(3) I then and there was and continuously from October 5, 1942, had been detained in the said W. R. A. Segregation Center by official authority and was deprived of substantially all my constitutional rights, liberties, privileges and immunities as an American citizen by birth and by choice and was thusly discriminated against solely by reason of the Japanese nationality of my ancestors;

(4) I was intimidated and compelled to sign the said renunciation form by display of force and intimidation to myself made by the Hoshi Dan, a pressure group of aliens in said camp, and by members thereof, and I was in constant fear, that said threats would be carried into execution if I refused to sign it. I was acting under the menace and fraud of said group and its members and the undue influence exerted by them upon me and I signed said renunciation form under duress.

Because of the foregoing reasons the said renunciation and approval thereof were, and each of them is, invalid, null and void.

I am not a citizen or subject of Japan and I do not and never have owed or given that country or nation any allegiance. I am not an alien enemy. I am a native American by birth and also by choice. I recognize as my sovereign the United States of America and I give and ever have given the United States my undivided loyalty and allegiance. I have no dual citizenship.

Therefore I demand that you withdraw and set aside the said renunciation form which is repudiated, withdrawn and revoked by me and that you recall, withdraw, cancel, and revoke your approval of said renunciation form.

I am ready and willing to have this matter re-opened and a hearing be granted to me in order to prove that said renunciation form was signed when I was not a free agent in any sense of the words but was acting under duress and under menace, fraud and undue influence and mistake of fact and law.

I respectfully request your immediate consideration of this urgent matter.

Very truly yours,

Yuzi Tatsu

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

(179)

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

PRA377 27=NEWELL CALIF FEB 14 NFT

1946 FEB 15 PM 2 22

WAYNE M COLLINS=

1721 MILLS TOWER SFRAN=

RECEIVED LETTER FROM JAPAN REQUESTING MY SUDDEN RETURN ON
THIS VOLUNTARY SHIP ON FEB 19TH STAYING PERMANENTLY PLEASE
RELEASE ME FROM SUIT INFORM ME OF MY FEES=
YUJI KATO.

Handwritten signature/initials

19TH.

Wayne M. Collins, 1721 Mills Tower, S.F.: Garfield 1218.

Charge to the account of _____ \$ _____

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY
DAY LETTER	URGENT RATE
SERIAL	DEFERRED
NIGHT LETTER	NIGHT LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise the message will be transmitted as a telegram or ordinary cablegram.

WESTERN UNION

1206

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCOUNTING INFORMATION
TIME FILED

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

San Francisco, California,
February 15, 1946.

Harry Uchida,
Block 3717-D,
Tule Lake Center,
Newell, Modoc County, Calif.

Yuji Kato block 4202-A on free list and Akira Hashimoto block 5006-E wired me they wish to be repatriated to Japan on the coming boat. stop. Mr. Williams ~~informed~~ informed me this afternoon by telephone that they were too late. stop. If they are not too late and are accepted for repatriation please wire me immediately.

Wayne M. Collins.

Left repatriated

Wayne M. Collins, 1721 Mills Tower, S.F.; Garfield 1218.

Charge to the account of _____ \$

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY
DAY LETTER	URGENT RATE
SERIAL	DEFERRED
NIGHT LETTER	NIGHT LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise the message will be transmitted as a telegram or ordinary cablegram.

WESTERN UNION

1206

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCOUNTING INFORMATION
TIME FILED

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

San Francisco, California,
February 15, 1946.

Ivan Williams,
Tule Lake Center,
Newell, Modoc County,
California.

Yuji Kato block 4202-A wired me that he wishes to be repatriated to Japan on the scheduled boat. stop. he is on the free list. stop. I will dismiss him from court case if it is possible for him to be repatriated on the nineteenth.

Wayne M. Collins.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

1201

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

PRB5 NL PD=NEWELL CALIF 18

1946 FEB 19 AM 4 06

WAYNE M COLLINS=

1721 MILLS TOWER SFRAN=

YUJI KATO BEEN ACCEPTED FOR REPATRIATION STOP AKIRA HASHIMOTO
IS STAYING HERE AND SAYS HE IS WILLING TO GO TO ANOTHER CAMP
IF SENT STOP MY NEW ADDRESS IS TWENTY NINE ZERO FIVE - D=
HARRY UCHIDA.

- D.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

Re-joined in 25294-2

October 16, 1946

WAYNE M. COLLINS

ATTORNEY AT LAW

MILLS TOWER, 220 BUSH STREET
SAN FRANCISCO 4, CALIFORNIA

TELEPHONE GARFIELD 1218

February 15, 1946.

Mr. Yuji Kato,
4202-A,
Tule Lake Center,
Newell, California.

Dear Mr. Kato:

I received your wire this afternoon dated February 15th reading as follows:

"Received letter from Japan requesting my sudden return on this voluntary ship on Feb. 19th staying permanently please release me from suit inform me of my fees."

Upon receipt of your telegram I immediately telephoned to Mr. Ivan Williams who informed me that you are entirely too late to be repatriated on the ship scheduled to leave. Consequently I shall retain you in the court cases until you notify me that you desire to be dismissed from them under the circumstances. I suggest that you discuss the matter with members of the defense committee and if you should decide finally to be repatriated kindly give the defense committee a letter requesting that you be dismissed from the suit. If you desire to be repatriated you could still remain in the equity suit so that your right to citizenship in this country could be preserved.

Very truly yours,

WMC:cnw

P.S. I sent a wire to Mr. Ivan Williams requesting him to enable you to repatriate on the coming boat if it is possible for such to be done.

April 3, 1947

Mr. W. M. Collins,
1721 Mills Tower,
San Francisco 4, Calif.

Dear Sir:

I received your post-card on December 19, 1946 which you submitted to the court about our citizenship.

At present there is one consular office at Kobe too, so I'm going to try to get my citizenship certification. Before that consul was set up, there was only one at Yokohama but unfortunately I couldn't get a chance to go there because many applicants are going one time and over full of the traffic from Wakayama.

Before I go to the Kobe U. S. Consul, how about sending me a affidavit or some thing to prove my citizenship. If I could get the certification of my citizenship cleared, it will help me out a great deal in many ways. This will be happiest thing in my life. Mr. Collins will you please help me out from my difficult situation.

I wrote two same letters - one was mailed yesterday but my mother put on three yen stamps instead put four yen stamp. So in order to make sure I wrote today again.

Thank you very kind,

Yuji Kato

MIL. CEN. - CIVIL MAILS

MIL

Yuji Kato
191 Nishi-Matsue
Wakayama-City
Japan



C.G.D. J-3203

Mr. W. M. Collins
1721 Mills Tower,
San Francisco 4, Calif
U. S. A

Dear Sir:

I received your postcard on Dec. 19 194⁶/₇ which you submitted to the court about our citizenship.

I surely appreciate your great efforts.

At present there is one consular office at Kobe too, so I'm going to try to get my citizenship certification.

Before this consul was set up, there was only one at Yokohama but I couldn't get a chance to go there, because many applicants are going one time and over full of the traffic from Wakayama.

Before I go to Kobe consul, how about sending me an affidavit or some things to prove my citizenship. If I could get the certification of my citizenship cleared, it will help me out a great deal in many ways, and this will be the happiest thing in my life.

My brother was in the U.S. Army too so I wrote him too, to help me out.

Mr. Collins will you please help me out from my difficult situation.

Thank you very much,

Yuji Fato

✓

CHAMPION
BOND

Yuji Kato
191 Nishi-matsue,
Wakayama-city,
Japan

Mr. Wayne M. Colline
Attorney at Law,
1721 Mills Tower,
San Francisco 4, California

May 11, 1948

Dear Sir.

Excuse me for such a long silence. I, Yuji Kato, wish to ask you a few questions about my citizenship again.

The other day I read in a Japanese newspaper an article announcing that "THE U. S. DISTRICT COURT ORDERS NISEI CITIZENSHIP RESTORED" as stated in the letter to the Kobe Consul a copy of which is herein enclosed. It is my greatest pleasure that such awaited good news has come to being by your constant and determined efforts. I appreciate it very much.

As this announcement was made in an English edition of a Japanese news-paper. I am very anxious to hear from you concretely and in detail how this matter in my case atands. I am sending a letter today to the American Consul in Kobe, a copy of which I am enclosing with this letter for your reference. So will you kindly get in contact with American Consul in Kobe and explain my situation.

It is more preferable for me to get in touch with the Kobe Consul owing to transportation convenience.

There are two suit numbers mentioned in your letter No. 25294-S and 25294-G but which is the correct number of my suit?

Your immediately answer will be greatly appreciated.

Thank You,

Yuji Kato

CHAMPION
BOND

May 11, 1948.

American Consular Service
Tokyo Bank Bldg.
24 Kyomachi, Kobe.

Dear Sir:

I wish to ask you a few questions concerning my citizenships.

I, Yuji Kato, arrived in Japan on March 11, 1946 and registered at your office on April 23, 1947. During the war, I had been in a few relocation centers. Last of which was the Tule Lake Center. While I was in Tule Lake Center, a part of the renunciants brought forward a suit in order to reclaim their citizenship pooling a hundred dollar each for the suit fee.

In the mean time I have received letters from Mr. Wayne M. Collins, Attorney at Law, 1721 Mills Tower, San Francisco 4, California. I wanted to go your office immediately but I received the notice from your office dated July 2, 1947 that "at present all appointments at this office are filled for several months and there is a fairly long waiting list. Hence it will probably be several months before your turn for an appointment." Circumstances being as above, I refrained from going to your office.

Recently, however, the State of affairs has changed as per below stated letters received from our lawyer in U.S.A. and the articles of the Nippon Times, therefore I would like know what procedures must be taken as I desire to reclaim my citizenship as soon as possible.

Reference:

1. Letter from Mr. Wayne M. Collins dated Oct. 23, 1946.

"You are in equity suit No. 25294 in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Calif., in S.F. The suit is also one to declare your nationality so you are entitled to return to the U.S. under Title 8 U.S. Code, Sec. 903, by preparing a sworn application stating that your claim to U.S. nationality in said suit is presented in good faith and has a substantial basis. Take or obtain such application from a diplomatic or consular officer of the U.S. in Japan. He will issue you a certificate of identity stating your nationality is pending before the court. If he refuses to issue you the certificate you can appeal to the Secretary of State, Washington, D.C. If you are re-admitted to U.S. it will be on the condition that if the court declares you are not a U.S. national that you will be subject to deportation."

2. Letter from Mr. Wayne M. Collins dated Dec. 19, 1946.

"The cases have been submitted to Judge St. Sure of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, Southern Division, for decision on the citizenship issue. We are expecting his judgment to be rendered within a few days or a few weeks and as soon as we learn of the decision you will be notified."

3. Letter from Mr. Wayne M. Collins dated April 8, 1947

"I wrote the U.S. Consul General in Yokohama informing him of the fact that Equity Suit No. 25294-S to determine your U.S. nationality has been filed and is pending before the U.S. District Court here. I have also sent him a certified copy of the amended complaint filed therein. Consequently, you are entitled under Title 8 U.S. Code, Sec. 903 (this is part of Sec. 503 of the Nationality Act of 1940) to apply for a certificate of identity from a U.S. consular or diplomatic official in Japan. Upon obtaining the certificate of identity you are entitled to return to the U.S. when passage is obtainable upon the condition that if the court declares that you are not a U.S. national you will be subject to deportation."

4. Other day I read the "Nippon Times" of May 1, 1948 announcing that the U.S. District Court Orders Nisei Citizenships Restored.

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

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

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

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

Of the persons involved in today's decision, 254 previously were ordered deported as enemy aliens. Some of these were voluntarily released by the U.S. government.

The government was given 90 days in which to name any individual among the 2,300 against whom it may want to offer additional evidence.

It would be a matter of profound gratitude if this matter could receive your due consideration and a prompt reply.

Yours respectfully,

Yuzi Tada

Reported in mind of Kato 2/19/40

CONFIDENTIAL

Committee No. 63

(For Use Only of My Attorney)

Atty. No. _____

Name (type or print) Yuji Kato

Block No. 4202-A

Sex: Male Female _____

Age: 25 years Date of Birth: Month: July Day: 21 Year: 1920

Place of Birth: (City) Seattle (County) King State) Wash.

Permanent residence address at time of evacuation: _____

644 Long Ridge Oakland, California

Occupation at time of evacuation: Schoolboy

Have you "dual citizenship"? Yes

Did you ever have "dual citizenship"? Yes

If you have or have had dual citizenship, who registered you as a dual citizen: Parent When: Not known

Where: Not known

Did you ever take any steps to cancel dual citizenship? _____

When: _____ Where: _____

What steps were taken to cancel it? _____

On what date did you sign a form renouncing your U. S. citizenship:

Month: January Day: 26 Year: 1945

Were you under 21 years of age at the time you signed that renunciation form? No

Was there a hearing officer present when you signed? Yes

What was his name? Not known

Did you have a hearing on the matter at that time? Yes

Did anyone represent you at that appearance or hearing? No

If so, who? _____

Did you attend that hearing alone? Yes If not, who went with you? _____

Have you received a letter approving your renunciation? Yes

If you have, what date does it bear? March 22, 1945

On what date did you receive the letter of approval? March 29, 1945

Who signed that letter of approval? Herbert Wechsler

_____. (Attach the letter of approval and the envelope.)

Did you write a letter revoking your renunciation before you received a letter approving your renunciation? No

If you did, what date did you send that letter in the U. S. mail? _____

Have you a copy of that letter? _____

(If you have, annex it to this form)

Since receiving a letter from the Attorney General's office approving your renunciation, have you sent a letter to that office or to the Attorney General revoking your renunciation? Yes

What date did you send that letter revoking your renunciation of U. S. citizenship? October 16, 1945

(If you have a copy of that letter revoking your renunciation, annex it to this form.)

Have you served in our military forces? No

If so, what date did you enroll? _____ When were you discharged or released from military service? _____

What type of discharge did you receive? _____

What was your last draft classification? 4-C

Did you refuse to be drafted? No

Are you or have you ever been a member of the Hoshi Dan, the Hokoku Dan, Seinen Dan or similar organizations while in camp, either becoming such by intimidation, coercion, or otherwise? No

Are your parents U. S. citizens? No

What are their names: Kametarō Kato Kei Kato

Have they been released from detention? No

Have they been relocated? _____

What members of your family, if any, are serving or have served in the military forces of the U. S.? Tadashi Kato

Have you registered as an "alien" under the Alien Registration Act of 1940? Not of as this When: _____
date

Where: _____ Who was present with you at that time, if anyone? _____ Were you represented by anyone at that time? _____

Was any hearing given to you at that time? _____

Who registered you, if you know? _____

Did you protest registering as an alien? _____

Did you write your protest on the form? _____

Did you file a letter of protest with the registering officer?

_____ (If so, annex a copy of the letter to this form.)

Have you signed non-repatriation form asking to stay in U.S.? Not of as this date

Have you filled out a Department of Justice Repatriation form asking to be sent to Japan? No If you did, when? _____

Where: _____ Before whom did you appear to sign that repatriation form? _____

Did anyone represent you at that time or were you alone _____

_____ Were you given a hearing by anyone on the question of signing the repatriation form? _____

If so, by whom? _____

Did you protest signing that Repatriation form? _____

Did you write the protest on the form? _____

Did you file a letter of protest with the registering officer at the time you signed it? _____

What was the name of the officer present when you signed, if you know? _____

When, if ever, did you fill out a repatriation form for W. R. A. Social Welfare? Spring 1943

When did you send a letter cancelling that request? October 20, 1945

Do you own any agricultural land, a home, or commercial property in the U. S.? No If so, where? _____

The following space is for any remarks you care to write:

REMARKS

Committee No. 63

Kato, Yuji
Single

Date: October 20, 1945

Yuji Kato

Yuji Kato

(Name)

Have you signed non-repatriation form asking to stay in U.S.? Not of as this date

Have you filled out a Department of Justice Repatriation form asking to be sent to Japan? No If you did, when? _____

Where: _____ Before whom did you appear to sign that repatriation form? _____

Did anyone represent you at that time or were you alone _____

_____ Were you given a hearing by anyone on the question of signing the repatriation form? _____

If so, by whom? _____

Did you protest signing that Repatriation form? _____

Did you write the protest on the form? _____

Did you file a letter of protest with the registering officer at the time you signed it? _____

What was the name of the officer present when you signed, if you know? _____

When, if ever, did you fill out a repatriation form for W. R. A.

Social Welfare? spring 1943

When did you send a letter cancelling that request? October 20, 1945

Do you own any agricultural land, a home, or commercial property in the U. S.? No If so, where? _____

The following space is for any remarks you care to write:

I am scheduled under the Alien Registration Act for Alien Registration on Monday Oct 22, 1945. I will protest alien registration. I sign non-repatriation.

Date: October 20, 1945

Yuji Kato

Yuji Kato

(Name)

Yuji Kato
191 Nishi-matsue,
Wakayama-city,
Japan



Mr. Wayne M. Colline
Attorney at Law,
1721 Mills Tower,
San Francisco 4, California

U. S. A.

Air Mail



Yuji Kato
191 Nishi-Matsue
Wakayama-City
JAPAN

C.C.D. J-4547



Proy. Postcard
10/23/46

MR. WAYNE M. COLLINS
ATTORNEY AT LAW

MILLS TOWER 280 BUSH ST.

SAN FRANCISCO 4, CALIFORNIA

U. S. A.

北米
合衆
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Mr. Wayne M. Collins
Attorney At Law
Mills Tower 220 Bush St.
SAN FRANCISCO, California.

Arch Card 12/19/46

Sept. 14, 1946

DEAR SIR:

I, Yuji Kato (Former Address - 4202 A Tule Lake California) am in Japan now but before I came from U.S.A on Feb. 21 by the Army Transportor "General Ernst" I informed you that I'm going to be voluntary repatriation. I believed that I'm still remain in the suit.

Today I heard from my friend that the recovery of the our citizenship is becoming the better situation. I don't know how much appreciate ^{on} your best efforts. Thank you very much.

So will you kindly notify me that how's about suit recently and what kind of the way shall I take to get the certification of my citizenship. Very truly yours,
Yuji Kato