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AKIYOSHI, SUNAO

1947-1960

78/177  
C



254 Nishibaru, Ozeki-Mura  
Mii-Gun, Fukuoka, Japan  
May 14, 1947.

Wayne M. Collins  
Attorney at Law  
1721 Mills Tower  
220 Bush Street  
San Francisco, California.

In Re Equity Suit No. 25294, In behalf of renunciants.

Dear Sir:

You are hereby requested and authorized to include me, Sunao Akiyoshi, in Equity Suit No. 25294 in the U.S. District court for the Northern District of California, Southern Division, which you are handling.

My folks are residing in Los Angeles which you may refer to for any assistance regarding my case. The name and address is Tokichi Akiyoshi, 3532 Bellevue Avenue, Los Angeles 26, California.

Thank You.

Respectfully Yours,

*Sunao Akiyoshi*



August 18, 1947

Mr. Tokichi Akiyoshi,  
3532 Bellevue Avenue,  
Los Angeles 26, California.

Dear Mr. Akiyoshi:

Your son, Sunao Akiyoshi, wrote me under date of May 14th that he wished me to add his name to the list of parties plaintiff in equity suit No. 25294-G.

In order to have your son included in the above named suit it is important that you send me immediately his age, address, date and place of birth and place where he renounced his citizenship.

I would also thank you to send me the same information for your other son, Masayuki Akiyoshi, also in Japan.

Very truly yours,

WMC:cw



3532 Bellevue Ave  
L. A. 26, Calif.  
Aug 27 - 47

Wayne M. Collins  
Attorney at Law

Dear Sir:

Here are the information of our son  
you ask us. Sumao Akiyoshi, born:  
Feb. 3 - 1916, age 31, address: P.O.  
Box 136, Place of birth: Redondo Beach, Calif.  
We don't know where he renounced  
his citizenship. It might of been at  
Tule Lake, Calif.

Masayuki Akiyoshi, born: Oct. 8.  
1917, age 29, address: P.O. Box 136,  
Place of birth: Redondo Beach, Calif.  
We don't know where he renounced  
his citizenship. It might of been at  
Tule Lake, Calif.

I thank you for all your trouble  
Sincerely Yours,

Iskichi Akiyoshi  
(G.A.)



TOKICHI AKIYOSHI  
3532 Bellevue Ave  
L.A. 26



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

Rec'd 8/29/47  
RM



Wayne M. Collins  
Attorney at Law  
Mills Tower, 220 Bush Street  
San Francisco 4, California, U.S.A.  
December 13, 1954

AIR LETTER

Dear Mr. Sunao Akiyoshi:

The affidavits you sent to me are inadequate in certain particulars. Therefore I wish you to send to me by air mail answers to the following questions.

1. When was your home burned?      Where was your home?
2. Was it burned down before you renounced U.S. citizenship or after?
3. Where were you living before evacuation?
4. To what Assembly Center were you sent?      When?
5. To what WRA Center were you transferred?      When?
6. Were your father and mother evacuated at the same time?
7. Were your parents both Japanese citizens?
8. When and where were you married?
9. Is your wife a U.S. citizen, renunciant or alien?
10. If you have any children what are their names?
11. When were they born?      Where were they born?
12. In what camp were you at the time you applied for repatriation to Japan? Did you make more than one application? If so, when and where?
13. What was the name of the pro-Japanese leader of the Hokoku Seinen Dan who told you (as you state in answer to question 8(B) in the affidavit) it was permitted by the WRA and said you were going to be deported to Japan anyway and that you should learn the Japanese language, culture and customs? Was he an Issei? In what Block did he live? Did anyone else persuade you to join? Did your parents persuade you to join?
14. Did you participate in the calisthenic exercises of the Hokoku Seinen Dan? Did you march and drill with that organization? If so, how many times?
15. What agitators told you (as you say in your answer to question 8 (E) in the affidavit) the Japanese government would take action against deportees who were not in the Hokoku Seinen Dan? Give their names and the Block numbers where they lived.
16. What are the names of the leaders (you state in your answer to question 9(F)) who refused to let you resign from the Hokoku Seinen Dan? What did those leaders say to you about resigning?
17. What are the names of the agitators (mentioned in your answer to question 9(A)) who influenced you to send a letter or request to the Justice Dept. for forms upon which to renounce your U.S. citizenship? Were they Issei, Kibei or Nisei? What were their names? In what Blocks did they live? What did they say to you? Quote in substance the statements they made to you. Did they tell you that you were going to be deported because you had given No answers to questions 27 and 28 and that you would be punished by the Japanese MP's if you didn't renounce U.S. citizenship? Did they tell you that if you did not renounce and the govt. decided to let you stay in the U.S. you would be forcibly relocated and might be killed by hostile Caucasians or Filipinos? Did you fear the possibility of relocation in the U.S. for such reasons?
18. Did you personally re-register your name in your family Koseki in Japan? Did someone else register you? If so, who? Were you registered solely for the purpose of getting a ration card to prevent starvation?

Send the answers to me immediately via air mail.

Very truly yours,



Via Air Mail

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

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October 31, 1955

Mr. Sunao Akiyoshi  
138, Nishibaru, Ozeki mura  
Mii gun, Fukuoka ken, Japan

Dear Mr. Akiyoshi:

In December of 1954, I sent you via air mail a letter requesting answers to some 18 questions for the purpose of enabling me to prepare an affidavit more adequate than the one you sent to me but have not received a reply from you. I would thank you to answer those questions for me as soon as possible. I am sending you under separate cover a longer personal questionnaire form which if you will also fill out and return to me will enable me to prepare an affidavit which may then be submitted to the Justice Department.

If you do not send me answers to the questions I mailed to you on December 13, 1954 or you do not answer the personal questionnaire I would thank you to notify me whether or not you are still interested in attempting to recover your U.S. citizenship administratively or in the mass class suits and whether or not you wish to be dismissed therefrom. If I do not receive an answer from you either to this letter, my previous letter to you or the answers to the questions I sent to you I will have no alternative except to submit to the Justice Department the affidavits formerly received from you and which I deem to be insufficient in view of the classification the Justice Department has given to you.

Very truly yours,



138 Nishibaru Oaza Tachirai Machi  
Hongo Kyoku Kanae  
Mii gun, Fukuoka Ken.

Dear Mr. W. M. Collins:

I certainly appreciate your utmost effort in re establishing my U. S. Citizenship. Excuse me for neglected in replying to your question which you sent to me. Answers to your question as follow for the air letter, dated Dec 13, 1954.

1. Dates uncertain, I heard my house was burnt soon after the war was over.  
Grace St + 213<sup>th</sup> Torrance, California.
2. I think after the renunciation of American Citizenship.
3. Grace St + 213<sup>th</sup>. Rt 1 Box 279, Torrance, California
4. Tulare Assembly Center on about May 6, 1942
5. Gila River U. R. A. Center, Gila, Arizona. Sept, 1942.
6. yes
7. yes.
8. Married in Japan May 27, 1946
9. Alien wife
10. Son, Junichi Akiyoshi
11. March 16, 1949. 138 Nishibaru Oaza Ozeki Mura  
Mii gun, Fukuoka Ken
12. At Tule Lake, Newell, California.  
application uncertain, dates uncertain.



13. Isamu Uchida (Kibei) President, blk uncertain, Manabu Hosokawa (Kibei) blk 14, Masaru Hashimoto blk 14, (Kibei) persuaded me to join who lived in blk 14. Shimizu (Issei) blk 4, Matsuda (Issei) blk 6, who also persuaded me to join and learn the Japanese language, culture and customs, parents never persuaded me to join because we was seperated.
14. I have participated in the calisthenic exercise, march and drill with organization a few time because of my ill health.
15. Manabu Hosokawa (Kibei) blk 14, Masaru Hashimoto (Kibei) blk 14.
16. Isamu Uchida (Kibei) Masaru Hashimoto (Kibei) Manabu Hosokawa (Kibei) Jamura (Kibei) and few others. They said that if I resigned theyll put me on the black list and when we are deported that they will tell the Japanese Government to have me punished.
17. Manabu Hosokawa (Kibei) Masaru Hashimoto (Kibei) both lived in blk 14, Jamura (Kibei) blk uncertain Matsuda blk 6, Shimizu blk 4, both (Issei) They said, we are going to be deported to Japan anyway because I had given



no answers to questions no. 27 and 28. that I'm on the black list of the U.S. Government and I would be punished by the Japanese Government if I hadn't renounced U.S. citizenship and never have a chance to live in U.S. as they said to me.

18. While living with Uncle Akiyoshi, Kyugo. he persuaded me to regain my status in family register to get rations privileges. The possible way to get all rations for living was to regaining my Japanese citizenship to re-register for the purpose of getting ration card to prevent starvation.

Sincerely yours  
Sunao Akiyoshi



Sunao Akiyoshi  
138 Nishibaru Oaza, Tachiarai Machi,  
Hongo Kyoku Kunai,  
Mil gun, Fukuoka Ken.

RECEIVED  
DEC 17 1955

AIR MAIL

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





THE FOREIGN SERVICE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Mr. Sunao Akiyoshi  
138, Nishibaru,  
Tachiarai-machi,  
Mii-gun,  
Fukuoka-ken

American Consulate  
11-1 Yakuin-Horibata,  
Fukuoka, Japan

April 24, 1956

Reference is made to the application for Passport  
and affidavit concerning your renunciation of American citizenship  
in the United States which you executed at this office on December  
22nd, 1955.

The Department of State has now informed this office that  
after careful consideration of all available evidence in your  
case, including your affidavit under reference, the Department  
is of the opinion that you were not actually coerced into renounc-  
ing your American citizenship; consequently your passport  
application has been disapproved.

Very truly yours,

/s/ K S Midthun  
/t/ K. S. Midthun  
American Consul



C E R T I F I C A T E

December 19, 1955

Name of applicant: AKIYOSHI Sunao  
Date of birth: February 3, 1916  
Legal address: 254, Oaza Nishibara, Tachiarai-machi, Mii-gun, Fukuoka-ken  
Present address: 138, Oaza Nishibara, Tachiarai-machi, Mii-gun, Fukuoka-ken

This is to certify that the above person, whose name is listed in the voters' list of this Electoral Control Committee, has not voted in any election during the period from January 1, 1946 up to December 19, 1955.

MORITA Naojiro  
Chairman of Electoral Control  
Committee, Tachiarai-machi  
Mii-gun, Fukuoka-ken



CERTIFICATE OF MILITARY SERVICE

Certificate No: Fuku Seri Sho 415

December 26, 1955

Legal Address: 254, Oaza Nishibara, Tachiarai-machi, Mii-gun, Fukuoka-ken

Present Address: 138, Oaza Nishibara, Tachiarai-machi, Mii-gun, Fukuoka-ken

Name: AKIYOSHI Sunao

Date of birth: February 3, 1916.

This is to certify that the original of military service record to the  
above named is not in the custody of this department.

TSUKAMOTO Uichi  
Chief of Repatriation Section  
Welfare Department, Fukuoka-Pref.



RESIDENT CERTIFICATE

December 23, 1955

Present address: 138, Oaza Nishibara, Tachiarai-mura, Mii-gun, Fukuoka-ken  
Name of householder: AKIYOSHI Sunao

<u>Relation to householder</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of birth</u>
Householder	Agriculture	AKIYOSHI Sunao	February 3, 1916
Wife	Agriculture	AKIYOSHI Shitsuka	March 28, 1923
1st Son	None	AKIYOSHI Junichi	March 16, 1949

This is to certify that the above persons reside as above discribed.

HIRATA Itojiro  
Major, Tachiarai-machi, Mii-gun  
Fukuoka-ken



CERTIFICATE OF EMPLOYMENT

December 26, 1955

Present Address: 138, Oaza Nishibara, Tachiarai-machi, Mii-gun, Fukuoka-ken

Name: AKIYOSHI Sunao

Name of Employer: Kumagai Gumi Construction Co., Ltd. Fukuoka Office.  
Location of employment: Oaza Tokoshima, Tachiarai-machi, Mii-gun, Fukuoka-ken  
Ozeki Workshop, K.K. Kumagai Gumi

Period of employment: July 19, 1954 ---- January 16, 1956  
Job title: Drag line driver

This is to certificate that the above named has been employed as above  
discribed.

Kumagai Gumi Construction Co., Ltd.  
Fukuoka Branch Office



CERTIFICATE OF EMPLOYMENT

December 19, 1955

Legal Address: 254, Oaza Nishibara, Tachiarai-machi, Mii-gun, Fukuoka-ken  
Present Address: 138, Oaza Nishibara, Tachiarai-machi, Mii-gun, Fukuoka-ken

Name: AKIYOSHI Sunao  
Date of Birth: February 3, 1916.

This is to certify that the above named has been engaged in agriculture at the legal address during the period from December 1945 to July 1948 and at the present address during the period from August 1948 upto date.

HIRATA Itojiro  
Major, Tachiarai-machi  
Mii-gun, Fukuoka-ken



FAMILY REGISTER

Legal address: 254, Oaza Nishibara, Tachiarai-machi, Mii-gun, Fukuoka-ken  
AKIYOSHI Sunao  
Father: AKIYOSHI Tokichi  
Mother: AKIYOSHI Masue  
1st son  
Date of birth: February 3, 1916.

Birth at Redondo Beach, Los Angeles, U.S.A. was reported by Father  
AKIYOSHI Tokichi and on May 5, 1922 entry of name was accepted by  
OYAMA Ujio, East Los Angeles Consular and transmitted on July 8, 1922.

Notification of lost nationality with permission of elimination of  
nationality due to accuirement of U.S. Citizenship was made by Father  
AKIYOSHI Tokichi on January 6, 1937 and on February 3, 1937 accepted  
by HORI Kinichi, Los Angeles Consular and on March 18, 1937 transmitted  
and eliminated.

Notification of nationality restoration with permission dated as of  
February 20, 1946 was made and accepted on April 17, 1946, and this  
family register is formed.

Notification of marriage to AKIYOSHI Shitsuka was made and accepted  
on April 15, 1948.

This is to certify that this certified copy differs in no way from the  
original of family register.

December 19, 1955

HIRATA Itojio  
Major, Tachiarai-machi  
Mii-gun, Fukuoka-ken



WAYNE M. COLLINS  
Mills Tower  
220 Bush Street  
San Francisco 4, Calif.

March 20, 1957

Mr. Sunao Akiyoshi  
138 Nishibaru Oaza, Tachiarai Machi  
Hongo kyo - Ku Kunai, Mie gun  
Fukuoka - Ken  
Japan

Dear Mr. Akiyoshi:

As the Justice Department has liberalized  
its administrative remedy the affidavit you  
heretofore sent to me is being processed.

As soon as the Justice Department advises  
me of its decision in your case I shall write  
and let you know.

Very truly yours,



Justice Dept. - notified 6/8/57  
140

Processed 3-27-57  
PERSONAL QUESTIONNAIRE Kouchi problems

Please read this questionnaire carefully and then print, type or write your answers legibly to the following questions.

- a. State your full name. Sumao Akiyoshi
- b. Male? ☒ Female? ☐ Maiden Name?
- c. Birth place? Redondo Beach, Calif Birth date? Feb 3, 1916
- d. Have you ever renounced Japanese Nationality? No When? Jan, 1937  
Where? Los Angeles Japanese Consulate
- Have you ever visited Japan? yes When? 1923 - March, 1927  
Dec, 1945 to present
- Did you attend school in Japan? yes When?
- How long? 4 years What Schools? Grammar School
- Period of attendance: 1923 - 3/1927

PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS

1. Where did you live before evacuation? 741 Br/279  
Torrance, Calif
2. What was your occupation before evacuation?                       
farming
3. Who, if anyone, was wholly or partially dependent upon you for support at the time you were evacuated? helped out our family farm
4. Where did your father and mother reside at the time of evacuation?                       
Torrance
- Were they aliens? yes
- What were their ages at the time of evacuation? father 55; mother 47
- Were your parents both evacuated also? yes Was either of them in ill health while in a WRA Center? no Was either of them hospitalized while in a WRA Center?                      If so, when and in what Center?
- Were you or any other members of your family in ill health while in a WRA Center? none If so, state who was, and, if hospitalized, state when, for what period of time, and in what Center?
5. When and where were you married? April 1948 at Tukuhoku
- What is the name of your spouse? Shitaka Akiyoshi



Is your spouse (wife or husband) a U. S. citizen, a renunciant or an alien? Japanese national

6. What are the names, birthdates and birthplaces of your children? Junichi - 3/16/1949 at Ichihara;
7. What members of your family were evacuated with you? (Wife, husband, children, father, mother, brothers, sisters, father-in-law, mother-in-law) father, mother, 3 Bros and 3 sisters
8. State what members of your family (spouse, mother, father, brothers, sisters, children, father-in-law or mother-in-law) were in Japan during the war? none
9. Who of them, if any, were U. S. citizens? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Did any of them serve in the Japanese armed forces? \_\_\_\_\_
11. State what members, if any, of your spouse's family (your father-in-law, mother-in-law, sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, or step-children) were in Japan during the war and whether they are U. S. citizens or Japanese aliens? \_\_\_\_\_
12. Did you suffer any property losses by reason of your evacuation? yes Did you file a claim to recover losses you suffered by reason of your evacuation? none For what amount did you file your claim? \_\_\_\_\_ What amount did you receive in settlement of your claims? \_\_\_\_\_ Did your parents suffer any property losses by reason of evacuation? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, for what amount did they file claims? \_\_\_\_\_ What amount did they receive in settlement of their claims? \_\_\_\_\_
13. State whether your husband, father or any other member of your family was interned as an alien enemy after the outbreak of war in an Alien Enemy Internment Camp, for removal to Japan, and, if so, in what camp? none



When and where were you reunited with such member of your family? \_\_\_\_\_

14. Did you apply for "short term", "seasonal work", "indefinite leave", "student's leave" or "relocation" while you were in a WRA Center? none

When did you make that application? \_\_\_\_\_

In what camp were you at that time? \_\_\_\_\_

Were you denied leave? \_\_\_\_\_ By whom? \_\_\_\_\_

What reasons were given to you for denying your application? \_\_\_\_\_

15. Did you go out for seasonal work or on any leave clearance? none When and where did you go and for what period of time? \_\_\_\_\_

What type of work did you do? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you experience any discrimination or persecution while on leave? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, state the experience. \_\_\_\_\_

To what Center did you return? \_\_\_\_\_

16. State the names of any members of your family or any of your friends who went out on leave or relocation and experienced discrimination or persecution. I heard rumors that some of the boys left

from Gila on a seasonal leave and were  
What happened to them? discriminated

When did the occurrences take place? \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ Month \_\_\_\_\_

Where did they happen? \_\_\_\_\_

From whom or what sources did you hear or learn those things? \_\_\_\_\_



Did you know or learn of any other persons on leave having been subjected to discrimination or persecution? \_\_\_\_\_ What were their names? \_\_\_\_\_

What happened to them? \_\_\_\_\_

When and where did the occurrences take place? \_\_\_\_\_

Re: APPLICATIONS FOR REPATRIATION

17. To what Assembly Center were you evacuated? Tule Lake  
May 6, 1942
18. To what WRA Center were you next transferred? Tule River - Oct, 1942;  
Tule Lake - Oct, 1943
19. In what Block did you live there? Tule Bldg. 54; Tule Bldg. 14  
With whom did you share quarters there? Tule with my family;  
Tule - with my mother - Maryaki
20. In what Camp were you when you applied for repatriation to Japan? \_\_\_\_\_  
Tule Lake Center
21. Did you make that application before or after you answered the Army Questionnaire in February or March, 1943? after  
When did you make that application? January 13, 1944  
Did you personally make that application? yes. If not, who did? \_\_\_\_\_
- Did any of the following persons also make applications for repatriation to Japan? Your husband? \_\_\_\_\_ Wife? \_\_\_\_\_ father? \_\_\_\_\_ mother? \_\_\_\_\_  
brothers? yes sisters? \_\_\_\_\_ father-in-law? \_\_\_\_\_ mother-in-law? \_\_\_\_\_  
brothers-in-law? \_\_\_\_\_ sisters-in-law? \_\_\_\_\_ When and in what Center were they at the time they did this? same time at Tule with mother
- Did they then fear that the government intended to deport all aliens to Japan? \_\_\_\_\_; that it intended to deport all Kibei to Japan? \_\_\_\_\_; that it intended to deport all Nisei to Japan? yes.
22. Did you make more than one application for repatriation to Japan, and, if so, when and where did you do so? Aug 30, 1945 at Bernards  
N.D.



23. What members of your family pressured you into applying for repatriation to Japan? father, mother stated was at Ito that we

What did they say to you to get you to apply for repatriation? should repatriate to Japan already then, & they will remain us.

24. Did anyone else, not a member of your family, pressure you into applying for repatriation to Japan? yes. Name the persons who did and state

whether they were Issei, Kibei, or Nisei, and blocks where they lived.

Masaru Hashimoto - Kibei, Block 4; Manabu Hosokawa - Kibei, Block 4; Mr. Matsumoto - Issei Block 6; Mr. Shimizu - Issei Block 6; in Ito

If those persons were leaders or members of any organization state the name of the organization. Kinkidan & Kinkidan Leader

They said I should make a request through the organization &

What did those persons tell you to get you to apply for repatriation? repatriate as a unit, as we are now delayed to US and will be deported to Japan.

25. What did you then believe would happen to you if you did not make an application for repatriation to Japan? I feared I will be deported to Japan anyway as was now considered delayed to US.

Were you fearful that if you did not apply for repatriation you would be separated from your husband? yes wife? yes children? yes mother? yes

father? yes brothers? yes sisters? yes or other persons? yes

Were those persons in the same Center with you at the time you applied for repatriation? yes. If any of them were not, state who was not and where they were at the time. Although my parents & family were in Ito, I

26. Did you believe that if you didn't apply for repatriation to Japan that sooner or later you would be forced to relocate in the U. S.? yes; in an area hostile to Japanese? yes; that you might be drafted into the armed forces? yes; that you would be separated from alien members of your family you believed would be deported to Japan? yes

27. Did you make application for repatriation because you believed the Government had no use for you and intended to deport you to Japan because you were Kibei? yes; of that it intended to deport you to Japan because your parents were there? yes; or because your parents were aliens here and that it intended to deport them on an exchange ship to Japan simply because they were aliens? yes; and that they wanted you to be with them and not



parated from them? yes

Re: QUESTIONS 27 AND 28

28. In what WRA Center were you at the time you answered the Army Questionnaire containing Questions Nos. 27 and 28? Buta

In what Block were you living in that Center at that time? #54

Was the Questionnaire you answered the Army Questionnaire or the WRA Application for Leave Clearance, if you remember? WRA Army

29. Did you give a negative answer to Question No. 27? yes; to Question No. 28? yes. Did you refuse to answer Question No. 27? no; Question No. 28? no

30. Did any members of your family pressure you or threaten you into giving a "No" answer to Questions Nos. 27 and 28 or into refusing to answer those questions? yes Who were the family members who did this? father and mother - They said I should say No, no,

What did they say to you to get you to answer "No" to those questions or to refuse to answer those questions? and go to some segregation center

ahead of me, & they will separate after and I had lost everything due to evacuations

Did you give a "No" answer to those questions or refuse to answer them

because your father? no mother? no brothers? no sisters? no or

other family members? no were in Japan at the time and you feared they

might get in trouble with the Japanese government if you were willing to serve in the U. S. Army? no or were willing to swear allegiance to the

U. S.? no Did you give "No" answers to those questions or refuse to

answer them because your father? no mother? no brothers? no sisters?

no or other family members? no were in the U. S. but you believed they

were to be deported to Japan and that they would get in trouble with the

Japanese Government when they arrived there if you had answered "Yes" to those questions? no. Did you give a "No" answer to those questions

because you believed that eventually you would be deported to Japan and

you feared that if you gave a "Yes" answer to those questions you would

get in trouble with the Japanese Government when you arrived in Japan?

yes

31. Did any other persons pressure or threaten you into giving "No" answers



to those questions or into refusing to answer those questions? yes, What are the names of those persons and state whether they were Issei, Kibei, or Nisei and the Blocks in which they lived and the organization, if any, of which they were members? Sumito Yamazaki-Kibei Blk 49;

Henry Shinohara-Kibei Blk 54; Choku Otaw-Nisei Blk 54;

What did those persons say to you to get you to give "No" answers to those questions or to refuse to answer those questions? Since we had

lost all our property and denied our rights of citizens, we should sign no.

32. What did you fear would happen to you if you didn't give "No" answers to those questions or you didn't refuse to answer them? I feared I might

be sent to camp, which was unknown to us at that time.

33. What did you fear would happen to other members of your family if you didn't give "No" answers to those questions or you did not refuse to answer them? My family

our family will be separated as our parents did yes -  
Mr. Murayoshi did no.

34. Did you refuse to answer those questions because you already had applied for repatriation to Japan and you understood that if you already had applied for repatriation you did not have to answer those questions? \_\_\_\_\_.

35. Did you give "No" answers to those questions or refuse to answer them because you resented being evacuated, confined to a WRA Center and treated like an alien? yes.

36. Did you give "No" answers to those questions or refuse to answer them because you already had applied for repatriation and believed that if you gave "Yes" answers your application for repatriation would be cancelled and you might be drafted into the armed forces? \_\_\_\_\_; or be forcibly relocated in the U. S. while the war still was going on? \_\_\_\_\_. Did you fear that if you were to be drafted you would be discriminated against and be persecuted in the armed forces? \_\_\_\_\_. Did you fear that if you were drafted? \_\_\_\_\_ or relocated? \_\_\_\_\_ you would be permanently separated from members of your family who were to be repatriated to Japan? \_\_\_\_\_; from what family members did you fear to be separated? \_\_\_\_\_

37. Did anyone else, not a member of your family, pressure or threaten you into giving "No" answers to those questions? no What were their names and state whether they were Issei, Kibei or Nisei and the names of the



organizations to which they belonged? \_\_\_\_\_

38. Did you fear that if you gave "Yes" answers to those questions that you would have to stay in camp and be separated from your parents or other family members who were to be deported to Japan because they were aliens or because they had asked to be sent to Japan and you did not want to be separated from them? Yes From what parent or family members did you fear separation? \_\_\_\_\_

39. Did you fear that if you gave "Yes" answers to those questions you eventually would have to relocate in this country during the war and would be in danger from hostile Caucasians? Yes  
Who told you that this might happen to you? same group as me

40. Did you fear that if you gave "Yes" answers to those questions that it would mean you might be drafted into military service where you would be discriminated against or be persecuted by fellow soldiers or that you might be used as cannon fodder just because you had Japanese ancestry? Yes  
Who told you that this might happen to you? same

41. Did you fear that if you gave "Yes" answers to those questions that you might be attacked and harmed by groups of Issei, Kibei or Nisei in camp? Yes  
Name the group and its leaders or members from whom you feared this danger? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you give "No" answers to those questions as a protest against the mistreatment of evacuation and confinement to a camp? Yes

42. Were you, or any member of your family, or any friend or anyone else attacked by members of the pressure groups in that Center for showing loyalty to the U. S.? Yes or opposition to the pressure groups? Yes or for giving "Yes" answers to Questions Nos. 27 and 28? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, state the names of the persons who were attacked. \_\_\_\_\_

When were they attacked? \_\_\_\_\_ By whom were they attacked? \_\_\_\_\_



43. Did you then believe that if you gave a "No" answer to those questions that you would be allowed to stay in the Center for the duration of the war and in this way you and your family would be free from danger of persecution by Caucasians? yes Who told you this? same people
- 
44. Did you give "No" answers to Question Nos. 27 and 28 or refuse to answer those questions because you had been informed by the WRA or understood that because you already had applied for repatriation to Japan that you did not have to answer those questions? \_\_\_\_\_. Who told you this? \_\_\_\_\_
- 
45. Did you ever give a "Yes" answer to Question No. 27? no; to Question No. 28? no; Did you change your answer to Question No. 27 or 28 to "No" at any time? \_\_\_\_\_. Did you change your answer to Questions Nos. 27 and 28 to "No" or refuse to give "Yes" answers to those questions by July 31, 1943 because you knew that "No" answers or a refusal to answer those questions would mean that you would be sent to Tule Lake or be segregated there with alien members of your family from whom you did not want to be separated? no.
46. When and where did you first register for the draft? \_\_\_\_\_  
Uplington, Calif. Oct 1940  
What classification did you first receive? 3-A Did you ever receive a 4-C (alien enemy) classification? yes When did you receive that 4-C classification? 1944  
In what Center were you when you received it? Tule Lake  
Did you receive that 4-C classification before you answered the Army Questionnaire in February or March of 1943 while you were in a WRA Center or did you receive it afterward? after
47. While you were in any WRA Center did you sign a petition addressed to the Attorney General, the President, the Army, the WRA or other governmental agency or agent stating in substance that if you were freed and returned to your home you would fight for the U. S. and give your life if necessary for this country? no. In what Center were you at the time? \_\_\_\_\_
- 
- Did you sign such a petition before you answered the Army Questionnaire in February or March, 1943 or afterward? \_\_\_\_\_. Did you sign such a



petition before you made a request for repatriation to Japan or afterward?

When were your parents first placed on the free list or notified that they could be relocated?

Were any other members of your family placed on the WRA free list for relocation purposes and, if so, who were they and when were they placed on the free list?

48. Would you have been willing to swear unqualified allegiance to the U. S. while you were in a WRA Center if the Government had allowed you to return to your home as a free citizen? yes Would you have been willing to return to your home alone? no; without the citizen members of your family likewise being freed from detention? no; without the alien members of your family also being freed? no Would you have been willing only if the Government would assure you that you would be relocated safe from harm from Caucasians? yes that the citizen members of your family would be relocated safe from harm? yes and that the alien members of your family willing to return to their homes during the war if the Government would allow them? yes Were they willing to be relocated elsewhere in the U. S.? no

49. Did you keep in touch with your Local Draft Board while you were in a WRA Center? yes Did you report to your Draft Board after you were released from camp? no To what Draft Board?

When? After your release from camp did you volunteer for service in our armed forces? Did you ever served armed forces? When; into what branch?

; what period of time did you serve?; where did you serve?; what was your social number?

Have you received an Honorable discharge from such service?; what is the date of that Discharge?

Re: MEMBERSHIP IN ORGANIZATIONS

50. (a) Did you ever sign a petition for resegregation (Saikakuri Seigan) while in Tule Lake? yes When? 1944

(b) Were you at any time a member of (1) Sokoku Kenkyukai?

(2) Sokoku Kenkyu Seinen Dan? (3) Sokuji Kikoku Hoshi Dan?



(4) Hoku Seinen Dan? yes (5) Hoku Joshi Seinen Dan? \_\_\_\_\_

When did you become a member? I do not recall

How long were you a member? about half year till sent to

When did you stop being a member? Burma on 2/1/45 - never rejoined

In what Block did you live at the time you became a member? 14

What was the name of your Block Manager? Miyahara

With whom did you share living quarters at the Tule Lake Center? \_\_\_\_\_

brother - Masayuki

What organizations were active in that Block? Hoshi dan + Seinen dan

What was the full name of the organization you joined? Nakagaki Seinen dan

What were the names of the leaders of the organizations in your Block? Masaru Kuchimoto, Manabu Kusakawa, Fumio + Susumu Sasaki

51. Were your father? \_\_\_\_\_ or mother? \_\_\_\_\_ or brothers? \_\_\_\_\_ or sisters? \_\_\_\_\_  
or father-in-law? \_\_\_\_\_ or mother-in-law? \_\_\_\_\_ a member of any organization? \_\_\_\_\_ Did they persuade you to become a member? \_\_\_\_\_ What did they say to you to persuade you to become a member? \_\_\_\_\_

What other members of your family were members of the Hoshi Dan? \_\_\_\_\_

Joshi Dan? \_\_\_\_\_

Seinen Dan? Masayuki - brother

Why did they become members? persuaded by above leaders

In what Blocks were they living? 14

52. What are the names of the persons other than members of your family who persuaded or threatened you into becoming a member and state whether such persons were Issei, Kibei or Nisei and state the Blocks in which they lived? Kuchimoto - Kibei, Kusakawa - Kibei Blk 14

53. What did they tell you to persuade you to become a member? inasmuch as we are disloyal & will be deported to Japan it will be better to be a member of dan & go to Japan

What did they say would happen to you if you did not become a member? If I did not join I will be put on Hoshi dan block list & get in trouble in Japan

54. What did you believe would happen to you if you did not become a member? When I get deported to Japan it will be dangerous for me



55. What office, if any, did you hold in the organization? \_\_\_\_\_

"Kewaku-in" Leader - Issei

What duties did you perform? messenger boy - contact

members in my block

How did you become an officer? I didn't know I became

such an officer, but Hashimoto said I must be one

When did you become an officer? about 3 months after Jimman

was organized

From whom did you receive notice that you were an officer? \_\_\_\_\_

Masam Hashimoto - Kibei. Blk 14

What duties did you perform as an officer? when Hashimoto asked

me to contact members in Blk 14 I did so

As a member did you attend any morning calisthenic exercises? yes Approxi-

mately how often did you join in the calisthenics? I was about most of the

time as I had appendix difficulties

Did you attend any of the organization's lectures? yes Approximately how

many lectures did you attend? 203 What was the nature of those lectures?

Tachibana - was pro-Japanese & to study culture, custom & language of Japan

Did you participate in any of their marching demonstrations? yes If so,

how many? went out on several occasions

Did you attend any other meetings of the organization? yes Where and how

often? Ward 1 - went about 2 or 3 times

56. Did you tell anyone you wanted to drop membership? yes State the names

of the persons you told you wanted to drop membership. Masam

Hashimoto - Kibei

Did anybody warn you that you could not withdraw from membership? yes

Who gave you such a warning? (State their names, blocks, where they lived

and whether Issei, Kibei or Nisei) Hashimoto - Kibei

What did they tell you would happen if you dropped your membership or

tried to drop membership? I will be put in the Kibei den

blacklist or I will get into trouble in Japan

Had you learned that anyone who tried to drop membership had been

threatened or had been beaten up for trying to drop membership? yes Who,

if you know, was beaten for trying to do it? \_\_\_\_\_

What group did you hear was responsible for beating persons who tried to

withdraw from membership? \_\_\_\_\_



57. Were you in fear that you would be attacked and beaten up by members if you tried to drop membership? yes What groups did you fear might do this? Samurai dance
58. Were you told that if you tried to drop membership the organization would report this matter to the Japanese Government and that when you were deported to Japan you would get in trouble with the Japanese Government? yes Who told you this? Kashimoto  
Did you fear that if you dropped membership you would get in trouble with the Japanese Government when you were deported to Japan? yes,
59. Were you told that if you tried to drop membership the organization leaders would report this matter to the Japanese Government and that your alien parents would get in trouble with the Japanese Government when they were sent to Japan for not being able to control your actions? yes Who told you this? (State the names, blocks where they lived and whether Issei, Kibei or Nisei) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Did you fear that if you dropped membership your parents who were to be sent to Japan would get in trouble there? \_\_\_\_\_.
60. Did you have your hair cut short or shaved? yes When? 8/1944. Who did it? Ido water cool Did you wear any insignia of the organization and, if so, what insignia? nothing seen with Kishi on sweatshirt
61. If you or any member of your family was placed in the "Stockade" at Tule Lake Center state who was, for what period of time and for what reason  
none
62. What was the nature of your employment and where did you work while you were in Tule Lake? labor & carpenter  
\_\_\_\_\_  
What were your working hours? 8-4 Were you working while you were a member of any organization at Tule? yes In what block? \_\_\_\_\_ What were the names of some of your fellow workers? Baker - Foreman



63. Were you, or any member of your family, or any friend attacked by any members of any of the pressure groups at Tule Lake June Who was? \_\_\_\_\_

When? \_\_\_\_\_

By whom? \_\_\_\_\_



Re: REQUESTS FOR FORMS UPON WHICH  
TO RENOUNCE CITIZENSHIP

64. (a) In what Block did you live in the Tule Lake Center? 14
64. (b) When did you send a letter to the Attorney General or the Justice Department asking for forms upon which to renounce your citizenship?  
when everyone was doing so - about Jan, 1945.
64. (c) Where did you get the forms? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_
64. (d) In what Center were you at that time? Tule Block  
Number: 14

(Note: On December 19, 1944, General Pratt removed the ban on the return of Japanese to the West Coast. On December 21, 1944, the Newell Star, the Tule Lake Center newspaper, announced that all the WRA camps would be closed in about one year. Notices of this also may have been posted in the block manager's offices, the mess halls and other places in camp.

Therefore, if you sent a letter to the Attorney General or the Justice Department before December 21, 1944, asking for forms upon which to renounce citizenship you probably were not then in fear of the camp being closed and of being forced to relocate in a hostile area without funds or a home to which you could go. If you sent such a letter between December 21, 1944 and January 29, 1945, you probably were in fear of being relocated in such circumstances. On January 29, 1945, the WRA announced that Tule Lake would be kept open and that there would not be any forced relocations. If you sent your letter after January 29, 1945, the Justice Department will be inclined to believe you were not then in actual fear of being forcibly relocated in a hostile area without funds or a home to which you could go unless you convince it that you did not believe the January 29, 1945, announcement that the Tule Lake Center would be kept open and that no one would be forced to relocate.)

65. Did you send that letter to the Attorney General or to the Justice Department before that December 21, 1944 announcement that all the WRA Centers would be closed within a year? No. Did you send it between December 21, 1944 and January 29, 1945? Yes.
66. Did you send it after the announcement of January 29, 1945, that the Tule Lake Center would be kept open? \_\_\_\_\_.

If you sent in your letter to the Justice Department after the WRA's announcement of January 29, 1945, that the Tule Lake Center would be kept open and that there would not be any forcible relocations you probably did not send that letter requesting forms upon which to renounce your citizenship by reason of fear that the Tule Lake Center would be closed and that you and your family would be forced to relocate and therefore, you should answer the following questions:

- (a) From what source did you learn about that announcement of January 29,



1945: In the Newell Star? \_\_\_\_\_; from a notice on a bulletin board? \_\_\_\_\_; from the Block Manager? \_\_\_\_\_; from what other persons? \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Did you believe the announcement? \_\_\_\_\_. If not, state why you did not believe the announcement. \_\_\_\_\_

(c) Did anyone tell you that you could not trust that announcement? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, state who told you not to rely on that announcement and what they said to you to make you disbelieve it. \_\_\_\_\_

67. If the announcement of December 21, 1944, that all Centers would be closed within a year and the announcement of January 29, 1945, that Tule Lake Center would be kept open and there would not be any forcible relocations did not have anything to do with your decision to renounce your citizenship did you send the letter to the Justice Department asking for forms upon which to renounce citizenship because of any of the following fears, namely: (a) fear of separation from alien members of your family, such as father? \_\_\_\_\_ mother? \_\_\_\_\_ father-in-law? \_\_\_\_\_ mother-in-law? \_\_\_\_\_ step-father? \_\_\_\_\_ step-mother? \_\_\_\_\_ other aliens? \_\_\_\_\_ who you believed were to be deported to Japan? \_\_\_\_\_; (b) fear of being separated from citizen members of your family, such as your wife? \_\_\_\_\_ husband? \_\_\_\_\_ children? \_\_\_\_\_ who you believed would have to relocate in the U. S.? \_\_\_\_\_ or who you believed would be deported to Japan? \_\_\_\_\_; (c) fear of being deported yourself because you had given negative answers to Questions Nos. 27 or 28 and were considered a disloyal person? \_\_\_\_\_; (d) fear of treat or harm to yourself? \_\_\_\_\_ or your wife? \_\_\_\_\_ or husband? \_\_\_\_\_ or children? \_\_\_\_\_ or mother? \_\_\_\_\_ or father? \_\_\_\_\_ or other members? \_\_\_\_\_ of your family from gangs in the Center? \_\_\_\_\_; (e) fear of mistreatment or physical harm from the Government or its agents? \_\_\_\_\_

68. Did the announcement of December 21, 1944, that all the WRA Centers would be closed within a year cause you to send that letter to the Justice Department? Yes Did you read that announcement in the Newell Star? Yes; from a bulletin board? Yes; or learn about it from the Block Manager? Yes; or from other persons and, if so, name the persons: \_\_\_\_\_



69. Did you send the letter to the Justice Department asking for forms upon which to renounce your citizenship because you feared that December 21, 1944, announcement meant that you and the citizen members of your family would be forcibly relocated without money, a home or job in an area where people were hostile to Japanese while the war still was going on unless you renounced your citizenship? Yes Were you afraid of being relocated because you had heard that jobs were scarce? Yes; that employers did not wish to hire Japanese and that you might not get work to support yourself and your family? Yes; that the public was hostile to Japanese and you feared mob violence? Yes. If you had been forcibly relocated what members of your family would you then have had to support? family, well be forced to relocate from Culver / would have to support
- Had you heard of any relocated persons being discriminated against? Yes; refused work? Yes; being insulted? Yes; being attacked? Yes; being shot at? Yes; being persecuted? Yes; whose homes had been burned? Yes
- When and where had these incidents taken place? on August, 1945 our home in Torrance was burned by some Caucasian.
- What were the names of the persons who had been mistreated and state what it was that happened to them. \_\_\_\_\_
70. Did you send that letter because you believed that if you sent for the forms and renounced your citizenship that you would be interned by the Justice Department and could stay in camp until the war ended and then be safely relocated when public hostility to Japanese died down? Yes. Who told you that this could be done? sumner.
71. Did any members of your family fear or tell you that you would be forcibly relocated and run the risk of danger from hostile Caucasians unless you sent that letter and renounced your citizenship and, if so, what members of your family told you this? brother Maathu
72. (a) State what members of your family were in fear of what might happen to you or to them if you did not send such a letter and, if so, state of what or of whom they were in fear? I do not know - but probably about lack of food and no place to go.



72. (b) In what Blocks were each of your family members living at that time?

14.

73. Did you fear that if you did not send the letter and request forms upon which to renounce your citizenship that you would be separated from alien members of your family? none and, if so, from what alien members?

They were in Japan.

or from citizen members? Yes, and if so, from what citizen members of your family?

Brother - Masayuki

74. Name the members of your family who told you that you would be separated from your family if you did not send for the forms and renounce your citizenship?

none

75. Name other persons, not members of your family, who told you that you would be separated from your family if you did not send for the forms and renounce your citizenship and state whether they were Issei, Kibei or Nisei and the Blocks where they lived. Nashimoto - Kibei - Block 14

76. What members of your family (wife, husband, children, father, mother, brother, sisters, father-in-law, mother-in-law) were in the Tule Lake Center at the time you sent that letter to the Justice Department?

Brother - Masayuki

What members of your family pressured, threatened or persuaded you to send that letter?

none

What did they fear or say to you to get you to send that letter?

77. Did your husband? \_\_\_\_\_ wife? \_\_\_\_\_ father? \_\_\_\_\_ mother? \_\_\_\_\_ brothers? \_\_\_\_\_ sisters? \_\_\_\_\_ in-laws? \_\_\_\_\_ force you to send a letter requesting forms on which to renounce your citizenship so that you wouldn't be separated from them by being forced to relocate while they remained in camp or finally were deported to Japan? If such person or persons were



citizens of the U. S. state whether they already had sent for forms upon which to renounce their citizenship? \_\_\_\_\_

What did such person or persons say to you to force you to renounce your citizenship? \_\_\_\_\_

78. Did you send that letter requesting forms upon which to renounce citizenship because you heard that alien members of your family who had requested repatriation to Japan would have to stay in the Center until they could be exchanged or removed to Japan and that you ultimately would have to be relocated in this country and thus be separated from them unless you applied for renunciation? \_\_\_\_\_ Name the persons who told you this might happen if you didn't renounce your citizenship and state whether they were Issei, Kibei or Nisei and the Blocks where they lived \_\_\_\_\_

What alien members of your family already had asked for repatriation to Japan at the time you sent that letter? \_\_\_\_\_

Were the alien members of your family on the WRA free list and eligible to relocate at the time you sent your letter to the Justice Department asking for forms upon which to renounce your citizenship? \_\_\_\_\_

79. Did you fear that if you didn't send for the forms and didn't renounce your citizenship that you, nevertheless, would be deported to Japan along with the alien members of your family because you had asked for repatriation to Japan and that you would get in trouble with the Japanese government when you arrived there? \_\_\_\_\_ Name the persons who told you this and state whether they were Issei, Kibei, Nisei, the Blocks where they lived and the organizations of which they were members. \_\_\_\_\_

80. Did you decide to apply for forms upon which to renounce your citizenship because you believed your life was being frittered away uselessly in camp? yes; that you feared that you might be confined to camp until the war ended? yes; which might take many years? yes or that if the war did not come to an end you would be kept in camp forever? yes or that when and



if the war ended the Government might deport you to Japan? Yes and that you wanted to get away from camp life? Yes and feared that you had to go or be sent somewhere or anywhere, even to Japan, just so long as you were made a free man? Yes

81. Did you send a letter to the Justice Department asking for the forms upon which to renounce because you were afraid that the Government had no use for you and didn't care what happened to you and that you were afraid this was true because it had deprived you of citizenship rights by evacuating you and putting you into a WRA Center behind barbed wires and then had armed troops guard you? Yes, and then didn't give you any protection in the Tule Lake Center from the threats and violence of gangs? Yes; and because the police didn't give any protection to the residents? Yes; and you were scared by the soldiers moving in and driving the residents around and searching their quarters? Yes, and no protection was given against such things as the murder of Mr. Hitomi, the knifing of Mr. Terasawa and others, and the clubbing and beatings of many persons; and that the Government didn't punish the soldier who shot Mr. Okamoto? Yes and that you thought these things clearly meant the Government had no use for you and didn't want to give you any protection and that, to avoid all this violence and trouble, you had to renounce citizenship to insure your own safety? Yes and the safety of your wife? \_\_\_\_\_, husband? \_\_\_\_\_, father? \_\_\_\_\_, mother? \_\_\_\_\_, children? \_\_\_\_\_, brothers? Yes, sisters? \_\_\_\_\_, other members of your family? \_\_\_\_\_.

82. Did you decide to send the letter asking for forms upon which to renounce your citizenship because you feared that you were going to be deported to Japan because you had given "No" answers to Questions Nos. 27 and 28 or had refused to answer those questions and were considered disloyal to the U. S. and that it was necessary for you to send that letter to the Justice Department and renounce your citizenship otherwise you would get in trouble when you arrived in Japan? Yes. What trouble did you think you would get into in Japan if you didn't renounce U. S. citizenship? \_\_\_\_\_

I might be put into internment camp.

State what members of your family told you this. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name the Issei, Kibei and Nisei who told you this and state in what Blocks



they lived at Tule Lake and the name of any organizations to which they belonged Nashimoto, Hirohara, Sumiya, Matsuda

83. Did you fear that if you didn't send for the forms and renounce your citizenship that you eventually might be drafted into our armed forces while you were in the Center and thus be separated from your citizen wife?       ; citizen children?       ; or other citizen members of your family?        who were in the Center? Yes. Did you fear that if you didn't send for the forms and renounce citizenship that you eventually would be re-located and then might be drafted into our armed forces and then be separated from your wife?       , children?       , other family members? Yes who would have relocated with you? Who told you these things might happen if you didn't renounce your citizenship? same group.

84. Did you fear that if you didn't send for the forms and renounce your citizenship that you eventually might be drafted into the army while you were in the Center or after you were forcibly relocated which would result in separating you from alien members of your family who were to be sent to Japan because they had asked for repatriation to Japan and wanted to go there?        or because they believed they would be deported to Japan after the war ended because they feared the Government intended to deport all alien Japanese to Japan?        Who told you this would happen?

85. Did your alien parents fear that if you didn't send for the forms and renounce your citizenship that you eventually might be drafted into the army and be separated from them when they were sent to Japan?       . Did they tell you this?        Name other persons who told you this.

Did your parents fear that if you served in the armed forces that they would get in trouble with the Japanese Government when they arrived in Japan?       . Did they tell you this?       . Name other persons who told you this.       

86. Did any person or persons or group of persons tell you or spread the rumor that if you didn't send for the form and renounce your citizenship you would get into trouble with the Japanese government when you were



deported to Japan? yes Name the persons who told you these things, the Blocks where they lived and the organizations to which they belonged, and whether they were Issei, Kibei or Nisei. \_\_\_\_\_

same people above

87. Name the other members of your family whom you believed would get in trouble there if you didn't renounce your citizenship and state whether they were in the Center with you. brothers

88. If any members of your family were in Japan at the time, did you fear that they might be punished by the Japanese government if it learned that you did not renounce your U. S. citizenship? sure What members of your family there did you fear might get in such trouble? \_\_\_\_\_

89. With what agents of Japan did you think you or your family members would get in trouble if you did not renounce your citizenship? \_\_\_\_\_

(The Japanese police? \_\_\_\_\_; Kempeitai? ☒; Army? \_\_\_\_\_; Neighborhood Associations? \_\_\_\_\_; other agencies? \_\_\_\_\_.)

What did you fear would happen to you or to them? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you believe that you or they would be put in prison? ☒; internment camp? ☒; be forced to work as slave laborers? \_\_\_\_\_; or what else did you fear would happen to you or to them? \_\_\_\_\_

90. If anyone else told you to send that letter, name the persons who did and state whether they were Issei, Kibei or Nisei and the Blocks in which they lived or where they worked at Tule Lake Center, and state the names of the organizations of which they were members. \_\_\_\_\_

sure

What did they tell you would happen to you if you didn't send that letter? \_\_\_\_\_

Were those persons leaders or members of any of the organizations in Tule Lake, and, if so, state the names of the organizations. \_\_\_\_\_



Who were the Issei leaders of those organizations and in what Blocks did they live? \_\_\_\_\_

The Kibei leaders and Blocks where they lived? \_\_\_\_\_

The Nisei leaders and Blocks where they lived? \_\_\_\_\_

91. Were any groups of leaders or members of the Seinen Dan or Hoshi Dan moved away to Santa Fe before you sent in that letter? no If so, what groups? \_\_\_\_\_

Were any groups of leaders or members of the Seinen Dan or Hoshi Dan removed to Santa Fe before you sent in that letter? no. If so, what groups? \_\_\_\_\_

(Note. The first group of 70 Issei and citizens belonging to the Hokoku Seinen Dan were taken away to Santa Fe on December 27, 1944. Renunciation hearings started on January 11, 1945. The next group of 144 citizens and 27 aliens, including 50 officers of the Hokoku Seinen Dan, was taken to Santa Fe on January 26, 1945. The next group of about 650 members of the Hokoku Seinen Dan was removed to Bismarck on February 11, 1945. The next group of 125 persons was taken to Santa Fe on March 12, 1945. About June, 1945, some 400 more were removed to Santa Fe and in July, 1945, a few more were taken to Bismarck. Therefore, if you had your hearing after these groups had been removed you were not in fear of them at that time.)

92. Were you in fear that if you didn't send for the forms and renounce your citizenship that your name would be put on the organization's black-list and would be reported to the Japanese government and you would get in trouble with the Japanese government when you arrived in Japan? yes. Who told you this would happen? same people -

I met them in Bldg 4 of admin hall & they came to my quarters  
State whether they were Issei, Kibei or Nisei, the Blocks where they then were living and the organization to which belonged. \_\_\_\_\_



Were you in fear of the leaders of any of the organizations at Tule? no

Were you in fear of the members of any of the organizations? no. OF

what organizations were you in fear? Kakahu Seinen dan

of what leaders were you in fear? (State the blocks where they lived)

of what members were you in fear? (State the Blocks where they lived)

Why were you in fear? after Petami's death I feared another  
suicident like this would happen if I didn't conform

Were any other members of your family in fear of them or their organizations and, if so, state the names of your family members who were in fear of them? brother

93. If you or any member of your family or any friends were attacked by any of the leaders or members of any of the pressure groups for not doing what the pressure group leaders wanted state the names of the persons who were attacked, the time and place where attacked and by whom.

none

94. Were you in fear of being attacked and beaten up by them or their organizations if you did not send for the forms and renounce your citizenship?

yes Had any of them threatened you? no. If so, what were their names and state what they said to you.

did not go this far, but they  
put pressure upon me

95. Were you in fear that members of your family might be attacked and physically harmed if you did not send that letter, and, if so, state what members of your family you feared might be harmed by them.

brother

96. Were you in fear that if you did not send that letter that you might be harmed by the leaders or members of any of the following organizations, namely: Hoshi Dan? ✓; Seinen Dan? ✓; Joshi Dan? ✓; Manzanar gang? ✓; the Poston gang? ✓; Jerome gang? ✓; San Pedro gang? ✓; the Tiger gang? ✓; The Black Dragon Society gang? ✓ or other



gangs? \_\_\_\_\_; or strong arm groups? \_\_\_\_\_. Name the leaders, members, groups or gangs of which you were in fear. \_\_\_\_\_

97. While you were in Tule were you ever called an inu? no a spy? \_\_\_\_\_; a stooge? \_\_\_\_\_; an informer? \_\_\_\_\_; a White Jap? \_\_\_\_\_; a traitor? \_\_\_\_\_; kokuzoku? \_\_\_\_\_; or other names? \_\_\_\_\_, for not doing what the organizations wanted you to do? \_\_\_\_\_. What names were you called? \_\_\_\_\_

Were you in fear of being called such names? yes. What were the names of the persons who called you such names? \_\_\_\_\_

98. How many persons called on you or spoke to you and asked you if you had sent for the forms upon which to renounce your citizenship? 6. What were their names? Nashimoto, Hirohama, Sasaki, Bus, Maturda, Shimizu

Did anyone check up on your mail in the block manager's office to see whether or not you had sent such a letter or had received an answering letter from the Justice Department? yes. State the names of the persons who checked up on you in this manner. Nashimoto

Did anyone take down your name as being a person who did not send such a form or was late in sending for such a form? I do not know. State the names of the persons who did this and whether they were Issei, Kibei or Nisei. \_\_\_\_\_

99. Were any members of your family or friends attacked, beaten or threatened for not sending for the forms? no. Name the persons who were attacked or beaten. \_\_\_\_\_

Were you ostracized for not sending in such a letter promptly? no. Did friends shun or avoid you or refuse to talk to you because you had not sent for the forms? no. Was your spouse? \_\_\_\_\_; your children? \_\_\_\_\_; or other members of your family? \_\_\_\_\_ mistreated for your delay in sending such a letter? \_\_\_\_\_. What mistreatment did they suffer and from whom? \_\_\_\_\_



100. While you were in a WRA Center did the U. S. Immigration Service commence any deportation proceeding against your husband? \_\_\_\_\_; wife? \_\_\_\_\_; father? \_\_\_\_\_; mother? \_\_\_\_\_, for violation of any immigration law? Did you fear that the member of your family against whom deportation proceedings had been started would be deported from the U. S. to Japan because such person was illegally in the U. S.? \_\_\_\_\_. Did you fear separation from such person and did the fear that such person would be deported cause you to apply for the forms upon which to renounce citizenship so that you would not be separated from such person? \_\_\_\_\_.

Re: RENUNCIATION HEARING

101. Name the members of your family besides you who had a hearing on an application for renunciation of citizenship. Husband? \_\_\_\_\_; wife? \_\_\_\_\_; brothers? yes; sisters? \_\_\_\_\_; other family members? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you have your hearing before the renunciation of your wife? \_\_\_\_\_; husband? \_\_\_\_\_; brothers? ? or sisters? \_\_\_\_\_. Did you have it on the same day as your wife? \_\_\_\_\_; husband? \_\_\_\_\_. On what date did you have your renunciation hearing? I don't recall. Was your hearing officer a man? ?; a woman? ?. Did you have an interpreter at your hearing? no. Did you need one? no.

102. At your renunciation hearing did you tell the hearing officer that you wanted to renounce because you were loyal to Japan, or that you wanted Japan to win the war, or that you were against the U. S. or make other statements indicating loyalty to Japan or disloyalty to the U. S.? yes. What, in substance, did you tell the hearing officer as reasons why you wanted to renounce your citizenship? I think I said I was disloyal.

I said I was in American army. I will join the Japanese Army when I get to Japan.

Name the persons who coached you and told you what you were to say at your hearing to make certain your renunciation would be approved and state whether they were Issei, Kibei or Nisei and the blocks where they lived.

same group above



103. Did the hearing officer tell you that you did not have to renounce your citizenship in order to go to Japan? no. Did you believe this? \_\_\_\_.

Were you in fear of the hearing officer? no. Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you fear to tell the hearing officer the real reasons why you were renouncing your citizenship? yes. What did you think would happen if

you had told him the real reasons? might be better to death

by above groups

104. Did you fear that if you did and your renunciation was not accepted that you would get in trouble with your parents? \_\_\_\_; other family members?

no who were in Tule Lake? no or in some other internment camp?

\_\_\_\_ Were you then in fear of being forcibly relocated in a dangerous area? \_\_\_\_ (If your hearing took place after the January 29,

1945, announcement were you still in fear of eventual relocation in a

hostile area? \_\_\_\_) Were you then in fear of being drafted? \_\_\_\_.

Were you in fear of separation from members of your family? \_\_\_\_.

From what members? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Were they in Tule Lake? \_\_\_\_; or in what other Center? \_\_\_\_\_

Were they on the WRA "free list" and eligible for relocation at the time?

\_\_\_\_. Had they applied for relocation before the day you had your renunciation hearing? \_\_\_\_.

Were they still expecting to be sent to Japan?

\_\_\_\_. Did they still want to go to Japan? \_\_\_\_.

Had they cancelled their applications to go to Japan? \_\_\_\_.

105. Were you in fear that if your renunciation was not accepted you would be in danger of harm from any of the leaders or members of any of the pressure groups at the time you had your renunciation hearing? yes.

Had the leaders or members been removed to other camps at the time you had your hearing? no.

Were some leaders and members still in camp at the time you had your hearing? yes.

What were the names of those who were still in camp? Nashimoto, Kurohama, Tutomu Sasaki,

Susumu Sasaki, Arai, Naito, Ozaki, Naguchi, Yokoi,

Atsu, Imayoshi in your Block? yes

Were you in fear of them? yes.

106. Were you removed from Tule Lake Center to Bismarck? yes; Santa Fe? \_\_\_\_;



When? 2/11/1945; with what groups: the 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th groups? 3rd group. What members of your family remained at Tule Lake?

What other members of your family were removed from Tule Lake Center to Bismarck?

to Santa Fe?

Masayuki

When?

4/27/45

Were they removed from Tule Lake before you had your renunciation hearing? no or after you had your hearing at Tule Lake? yes.

State when and where you were re-united with them.

Mother at Seattle, Wash Dec, 1945

Name the other members of your family who renounced citizenship.

Masayuki - Mother

107. Did you give such answers because other members of your family had been removed from Tule Lake and you thought that by so doing you would be re-united with them? no. Did you fear that those family members would be deported to Japan and that if you gave such answers you would be re-united with them and be deported along with them? no

108. (a) If you applied for relocation in the U. S. after your renunciation state when you did so.

108. (b) Did you write a letter to the Attorney General or Justice Department asking to cancel your renunciation? When? In what Center were you living when you wrote that letter?

none

I made statement / can't repeat unconditionally & without qualification as requested, but I can

re: MITIGATION HEARING

at Bismarck / as promised by Sumito Yamaguchi

109. Did you have a "mitigation hearing" between December, 1945, and April, 1946? In what Center did you have this hearing?

next hearing was held just before at Seattle before Hushimoto

Was your hearing officer a man? ; a woman?

At this hearing did you tell the hearing officer that you were loyal to Japan or disloyal to the U. S. or words to such an effect? If you did, state why you did this.

Hushimoto & his group forced me to make such a statement



What members of your family were with you in the same Center at the time of this hearing? (spouse, father, mother, children, brothers, sisters, father in law, mother in law) \_\_\_\_\_

From what members of your family were you then separated? \_\_\_\_\_

Where were those members of your family at the time of your mitigation hearing? \_\_\_\_\_

Were they then on the WRA or Justice Department free list and eligible for relocation? \_\_\_\_\_. Had they relocated? \_\_\_\_\_. If they had, state when. \_\_\_\_\_

Did you then fear that members of your family in other camps were to be deported to Japan? \_\_\_\_\_. Was it because of your fear that those members were to be deported to Japan that you gave such answers to the mitigation hearing officer so that you would be allowed to rejoin those members and not be separated any longer from them? \_\_\_\_\_

What members of your family, if any, were removed to other internment camps after you had your renunciation hearing? \_\_\_\_\_

When and where were you re-united with them? \_\_\_\_\_

When were you released from detention? \_\_\_\_\_. In what camp were you when you were released from detention? \_\_\_\_\_

If any of your family members were sent to Japan, state when they sailed for Japan. \_\_\_\_\_ From what port did they sail? \_\_\_\_\_. What other members of your family went to Japan? \_\_\_\_\_

When were you placed on the "free list"? \_\_\_\_\_. If



your parents, spouse or other family members were placed on the free list, state when they were placed on that list and the camp from which they relocated. \_\_\_\_\_

State the name of any person in your family who has served or is serving in the Armed Forces of the United States and the branch of service. \_\_\_\_\_

Munayuki Akoyoshi US Army  
George Akoyoshi " "

State the relationship of such person to you brother

State the Serial Number of such person 39153747 - 71856074471

Has such person received an Honorable Discharge? yes

If, before evacuation, or while you were in an Assembly Center or War Relocation Center any person (Caucasian or other) threatened, warned or advised you against returning to your home or against relocating, state the names of such persons and their addresses? none

When were such threats, warnings or advice made or given to you? \_\_\_\_\_

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Month \_\_\_\_\_

Where were you at the time? \_\_\_\_\_

Were the threats, warnings or advice verbal or in letters? \_\_\_\_\_

Were any members of your family threatened, warned or advised against leaving camp, relocating to their homes? \_\_\_\_\_

Name the family members and specify their relationship to you. \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever served in the armed forces of the U. S.? \_\_\_\_\_

In what branch? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_ Period of service \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_. Where did you serve? \_\_\_\_\_ Date you received an Honorable Discharge? \_\_\_\_\_ Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_

What other members of your family (father, children, brothers or sisters) served in the armed forces of the U. S. \_\_\_\_\_

State their names, relationship and branch of the armed forces in which they served or are serving, \_\_\_\_\_



Since returning to Japan in 1946 have you voted in any elections? Yes

Where? \_\_\_\_\_ Years you

voted? \_\_\_\_\_ What elections? \_\_\_\_\_

Why did you vote in those elections? \_\_\_\_\_

What Allied military officers told you to vote? \_\_\_\_\_

What were you told would happen to you if you didn't vote? \_\_\_\_\_

What Japanese officials told you to vote? \_\_\_\_\_

What neighborhood association told you to vote? \_\_\_\_\_

State the names and addresses of the neighbors who told you to vote? \_\_\_\_\_

What were you told would happen to you if you didn't vote? \_\_\_\_\_

What did you believe or fear would happen to you if you didn't vote? \_\_\_\_\_

Since returning to Japan in 1946 has your name been registered in any family Koseki? Yes When (what year) March 1946

Where? Ogaki Mura, Mie gun, Fukuoka-ken, Japan

Did you personally apply to be registered in a Koseki? Yes

Where did you go to be registered? Yakuba above address When? 3/1946

Why did you go to be registered? Uncle - Keizo Akayoshi said I will have to register or I cannot get rice ration

If someone other than you personally registered your name in a Koseki

state who it was who registered you. he is deceased. My aunt.

What relation is that person to you? Masao Akayoshi could testify to this fact.

Why were you registered in a Koseki since returning to Japan in 1946? \_\_\_\_\_

He said I will not get rice ration & he could not provide me, & I will be discriminated by the people in his area

What caused you to be registered in a Koseki since 1946? \_\_\_\_\_

unable to survive during postwar Japan

Were you registered in a Koseki since returning to Japan in 1946 because

if you were not registered you would not have been given a ration card?

Yes. or would not have been given an address to



receive mail? none or would have been  
punished, and, if so, by whom? none and why? \_\_\_\_\_

Were you registered because of fear that if you weren't you would suffer  
in some form? yes such as would not be issued a ration card?  
yes or for what other reasons? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you, since returning to Japan in 1946 been naturalized as a Japanese  
citizen? none If so, what steps did you take to become natu-  
ralized as a Japanese citizen? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you, since returning to Japan been employed by the Japanese Govern-  
ment or any agency of the Japanese Government? none

If so, name the office by which you were employed and the dates of your  
employment? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you worked for the United States Government or Allied military auth-  
orities while in Japan? yes For what service? US Army

In what capacity? switch board operator Where did you perform your  
work? Fukuoka Dates of your employment? \_\_\_\_\_

10/1946 or 1947

What is your occupation now? farming Where? Mii gun,

What property do you own in Japan? received from father

Nature of property? farming land - house

Estimated valuation of that property? ¥500,000

Name of your nearest relative in the U. S. and address. \_\_\_\_\_

father - Takashi Akuyoshi - 3532 Bellevue Ave, L.A.

To what address do you intend to return to in the U. S. \_\_\_\_\_

be above

(Attach all the documents and letters you have relating to your renuncia-  
tion of U. S. citizenship.)

Have you filed an application with a U. S. Consul in Japan for a U. S.

Passport? yes When did you file it? 12/1955

(Attach a copy of the affidavit you filed with the U. S. Consul which  
explained why you renounced U. S. citizenship.)



What reasons did the U. S. Consul give you for refusing to issue you a passport? rejected.

(Attach the letter of refusal the U. S. Consul sent to you.)

Have you registered as on aliens in Japan? none When? \_\_\_\_\_  
Where? \_\_\_\_\_.

Date:

July 11, 1957

Sumao Akiyoshi  
Signature

138 Nishikura Oaza  
Tachiarai machi,  
Address  
Kongyo Kyoku Kenai  
Mii gun, Fukuoka-ken,  
Telephone Number  
Japan

*same*



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

June 3, 1957

*Copy sent to Tel  
in Japan  
6-8-57*

Mr. Sunao Akiyoshi  
138 Nishibaru Oaza,  
Tachiarai machi,  
Hongo kyo ku Kunai,  
Mii gun, Fukuoka ken  
Japan

Dear Mr. Akiyoshi:

On May 9, 1957, the Department of Justice rejected your affidavits and denied your 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:

"We attach the original of subject's affidavit submitted by your letter. You will note that he stated in answer to Question 7(A) that he gave a negative answer to the loyalty question because of fear of separation from his family. The pertinent War Relocation Authority file reflects that his family remained at the Gila River Center while he transferred to Tule Lake, so his allegation of fear of separation from them, if he gave an affirmative answer to the loyalty question, is not convincing. Furthermore, he applied for repatriation on January 13, 1944, and again on August 30, 1945, and it appears his family neither desired nor requested repatriation. In this last-mentioned application subject stated that he desired to be repatriated to Japan 'unconditionally and without qualification'. Subject stated in answer to Questions 9(A) and (C) of his affidavit that he joined the Kokoku Seinen-Dan and renounced because of fear, threats and pressure exerted upon him by the pressure groups at the Tule Lake Center. He did not elaborate on the nature of the fear, threats or pressure, or identify the persons involved. In view of this fact and the facts above recited, we are unable to express an opinion as to whether subject's case may be considered as coming within the coverage of the decision in the Murakami case.

"In view of these circumstances, Mr. Collins may wish to inform Mr. Akiyoshi that he may have an opportunity to submit a further affidavit setting forth in detail and with the greatest possible particularity, the reasons for his refusal to swear unqualified allegiance to the United States, and his



willingness to transfer from the Gila River Center to the Tule Lake Center when his parents and five brothers and sisters remained at the former center. Also, the reasons for his willingness to repatriate to Japan 'unconditionally and without qualification'. He should state in detail and with the greatest possible particularity the nature of the fear, threats and pressure exerted upon him to join the pro-Japanese organization and renounce his citizenship. He should cite specific instances, the approximate dates and the full names, War Relocation Authority block numbers, or other proper identifying information of the persons involved.

We wish to advise you that even if such additional affidavit should result in a finding that this subject's case comes within the Murakami decision, we would be unable to stipulate to the unusual disposition of subject's case because of the evidence of his recovery of Japanese citizenship as set forth in answer to Question 10(B) of his affidavit."



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,

s/ Wayne M. Collins

P.S. If your wife (or husband) or your father (or mother) is or becomes a U.S. citizen (or is a renunciant whose U.S. citizenship has been or becomes restored or who obtains a U.S. passport) your citizen wife (or husband) or citizen father (or mother) can make an application to a U.S. Consul in Japan or to the U.S. Immigration Service in the U.S. to allow you to enter the U.S. for permanent residence purposes as an alien on a "nonquota immigrant visa". If you obtain such a "nonquota immigrant visa" and return to the U.S. as an alien for permanent residence purposes you would, in due course of time, become eligible for naturalization as a U.S. citizen. If such a visa is to issue to you from a U.S. Consul in Japan it is likely the Consul will inform you that you must withdraw from the mass class equity suits before it is delivered to you and ask you to obtain a copy of a dismissal order from me before the "nonquota immigration visa" will be delivered to you.



# 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>AKIYOSHI, Sunao</b>		Date of Birth <b>February 3, 1916</b>	
2. If born prior to December 1, 1924	(A) Have you ever renounced Japanese nationality? <b>Yes</b>	When <b>January 1937</b>	Where <b>Rt. 1 Box 279 Torrance, Cal.</b>
3. If born since December 1, 1924 <b>Not applicable</b>	(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	To		
<b>1923</b>	<b>March 1927</b>	<b>Folks send us here</b>	
<b>Dec. 1945</b>	<b>1954</b>	<b>Living</b>	
5. Give details concerning any formal education in Japan:			
School		Period of Attendance	
		From	To
<b>Ozeki Grammer School, 1st to 4th Grade</b>		<b>1923</b>	<b>March 1927</b>
Specify subjects studied (attach additional sheet if necessary).			
<b>Japanese language and arithmetic.</b>			
6. Have you ever made application for repatriation to Japan? <b>Yes</b> . If so, give date. <b>I am uncertain</b> , and your reasons for so applying: <b>Even though I was a citizen I was discriminated, evacuated and interned to a camps by force simply because of my Japanese ancestry and lost all my interests, property and citizenship rights therefore I lost my hope in U.S. and also feared that I would be deported to Japan anyway due to the influence and rumors which existed in camp by the agitators of Alien and Kibei-Nisei, I was influenced to request for repatriation to Japan to avoid threats and violence.</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>No</b>	
Or have you ever given a qualified answer to such question asked at War Relocation Centers? <b>Yes</b> . If so, give your reasons: <b>I realized how democratic life in U.S. is highly valued and a citizen must aid and protect our country and the constitution of America has no racial discrimination but the government interned a citizens and aliens alike to a confinement camp by force and guarded with armed sentry like a prisoner. While I had exhausted <del>thoughts</del> thoughts I was influenced by the prejudice to do so because of fears of break up in family indefinitely by force out of camp, and to stay in camp for the duration of war for my security and protection.</b>			
(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>None</b> . If so, state when you changed your mind and your reasons therefor:			



(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?.....NO... If so, give reasons:

8. (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)		X	
Central Japanese Association (Beikoku Chuo Nipponjin Kai)		X	
Central Japanese Association of Southern California		X	
Dai Nippon Butoku Kai (Military Virtue Society of Japan or Military Art Society of Japan) (Hokubei Kai)		X	
Heimuska Kai, also known as Hokubei Heieki Gimusha Kai Zaibei Nihonjin, Heiyaku Gimusha Kai, and		X	
Zaibei Heimusha Kai (Japanese residing in American Military Conscripts Assoc.) Heimusha Kai		X	
Hinode Kai (Imperial Japanese Reservists)		X	
Hinomaru Kai (Rising Sun Flag Society—a Group of Japanese War Veterans)		X	
Hokubei Zaigo Shoko Dan (North American Reserve Officers Association)		X	
Japanese Association of America (Zaibei Nihonjin Kai)		X	
Japanese Overseas Central Society (Kaigai Dobo Chuo Kai)		X	
Japanese Overseas Convention, Tokyo, Japan, 1940		X	
Japanese Protective Association (Recruiting Organization)		X	
Jikyoku Iin Kai (Current Affairs Association)		X	
Kibei Seinen Kai (Association of U. S. Citizens of Japanese Ancestry who have returned to America after studying in Japan)		X	
Nanka Teikoku Gunyudan (Imperial Military Friends Group or Southern California War Veterans)		X	
Nichibei Kogyo Kaisha (The Great Fujii Theatre)		X	
Northwest Japanese Association		X	
Sakura Kai (Patriotic Society or Cherry Association—composed of Veterans of Russo-Japanese War) (Cherry Blossom Society)		X	
Shinto Temples		X	
Sokoku Kai (Fatherland Society)		X	
Suiko Sha (Reserve Officers Association Los Angeles)		X	
Hokoku Seinen-Dan	X		16 months
Hokoku Joshi Seinen-Dan		X	
Sokoku Kenkyu Seinen-Dan		X	
Sokuji Kikoku Hoshi-Dan		X	

(B) Give reasons for becoming a member:

I became a member because the pressure was great and the pro-Japanese leader of the organization told me that the W.R.A. have permitted it and influenced me to join because we're being deported anyway and to learn Japanese language, culture and custom, fearing from the influence and rumors I have joined to prepare for life in Japan when I'm deported.

(C) State nature of your activity and offices you held: At Block 14, Tule Lake Center, I was selected as messenger without my knowledge. I participated in excercises but did not participated in any formal meetings or activities.

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

None



(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: The agitators got full control and told me that the Japanese government will take action who were not in the organization when deported to Japan, I believed them and for my security I have joined was due to my misunderstanding.

(F) If you at any time wished to discontinue membership, activity, or office and were prevented from so doing, explain fully: I wished to discontinue because of my health but was refused by the leaders, Dan morale was so great and the leaders of the Hokoku Seinen Dan is responsible for all the activities and mislead of the members and for leading us to believe in all rumors and influences.

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

I was influenced to apply for renouncing of my American citizenship due to the agitators influences of the pressure group fearing of threats and violence if I didn't renounced; at that time it was terrible with threats and harms done in the camp which I was afraid of being subjected to the pressure groups. Also feared that I would be deported to Japan by believing influences of the agitators even though I possessed American citizenship.

(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 pressure by the group leader told me to given such a wild answers to a hearing officer of the renunciation of citizenship to be disloyal to America, if asked that I will face the gun of U.S. to give answer yes and that renunciation is my will and intention.

(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:

The condition that prevailed in the camps kept me in the constant state of fears of the future and for my safety from threats and harm by the agitators of the pressure group.

(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: I was transfered to the Fort Lincoln Internment Camp, Bismarck, North Dakota with Aliens and Kibei-Nisei agitators which operated undercover in inquiring of everyone who would make false move and threatens if necessary.

(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:

None



(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. I was faithfully observing and obeying rules of the U.S. as a good citizen and I have bought a new farm equipments to fight on the home front in 1940 to do my utmost on the farm as a American born Japanese. I have voted in the political elections and I have done by best for the progress of the Red Cross, Salvation Army, Unemployed organization, Christian activity and so forth for the democracy. I was discriminated, evacuated and interned without certain of being freed simply because of my Japanese ancestry and was deprived of my citizenship, therefore I feared that the government intended to send us to Japan at the first chance. Even though my brother volunteered into the military service, few month after the out break of World War II he was released from active duty because of his Japanese ancestry. Feared that the Anti-Japanese act along the Pacific coast will never permit us to live in U.S. While interned in camp someone burned my homes which I lost my hopes to remain in U.S.

10. (A) If you now are in Japan, give your reasons for having returned to Japan. While evacuation to internment someone had to burn our homes on top of losing my interest and property and I had no place to turn to, and I feared of living without fund is impossible in the U.S. where discrimination existed for all Japanese and Japanese ancestry. The folks said they will meet me later in Japan. After I came to Japan I had more time to think clearly and have deeply regretted for renouncing my American citizenship and coming to Japan. I have learned to appreciate the true meaning of democracy and its' value.

(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 went to village office and found out that I was "stateless" and no one could be a stateless person in any country. I had to recover my Japanese citizenship in order to get my food and all other rations for my living.

11. (A) If you have served or are serving in the military or naval forces of the United States fill in the following: None  
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. None

(C) State why your offer of such service was rejected, if the reason was made known to you. None

(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. None

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:

<u>2nd and 4th Brother</u> Relationship	<u>Masayuki and George Akiyoshi</u> Name
<u>Both U.S. Army</u> Branch of Service	<u>39153747 US-56074471</u> Serial Number

Japan }  
Prefecture of Fukuoka } ss. /s/ Sunao Akiyoshi  
City of Fukuoka }  
Consulate of the United States of America  
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 11th day of May, 19 54

SEAL OF THE CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Fukuoka, Japan /s/ Mathew D. Smith, Jr.  
Mathew D. Smith, Jr.  
American Vice Consul.



WAYNE M. COLLINS

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

TELEPHONE GARFIELD 1-1218

November 19, 1957

Mr. Sunao Akiyoshi  
138 Nishibara Oaza  
Tachiarai-machi  
Hongyo Kyoku Kunai  
Mii-gun, Fukuoka-ken  
Japan

Dear Mr. Akiyoshi:

Enclosed find your copy of the Affidavit,  
the original of which was sent air mail. You  
should keep this copy for future reference.

Very truly yours,

WMC  
Enc.



# 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>AKIYOSHI, Sunao</b>		Date of Birth <b>February 3, 1916</b>	
2. If born prior to December 1, 1924	(A) Have you ever renounced Japanese nationality? <b>Yes</b>	When <b>January 1937</b>	Where <b>Rt 1 Box 279 Torrance, Calif.</b>
3. If born since December 1, 1924 <b>Not applicable</b>	(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	To		
<b>1923</b>	<b>March 1927</b>	<b>Folks send us here</b>	
<b>December 1945</b>	<b>1954</b>	<b>Living</b>	
5. Give details concerning any formal education in Japan:			
School		Period of Attendance	
<b>Ozeki Grammar School, 1st to 4th Grade</b>		From <b>1923</b>	To <b>March 1927</b>
Specify subjects studied (attach additional sheet if necessary).			
<b>Japanese language and arithmetic.</b>			
6. Have you ever made application for repatriation to Japan? <b>Yes</b> If so, give date. <b>I am uncertain</b> , and your reasons for so applying: <b>Even though I was a citizen I was discriminated, evacuated and interned to a camps by force simply because of my Japanese ancestry and lost all my interests, property and citizenship rights therefore I lost my hope in U.S. and also feared that I would be deported to Japan anyway due to the influences and rumors which existed in camp by the agitators of Alien and Kibei-Nisei, I was influenced to request for repatriation to Japan to avoid threats and violence.</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>No</b>	
Or have you ever given a qualified answer to such question asked at War Relocation Centers? <b>Yes</b> If so, give your reasons: <b>I realized how democratic life in U.S. is highly valued and a citizen must aid and protect our country and the constitution of America has no racial discrimination but the government interned a citizens and aliens alike to a confinement camp by force and guarded with armed sentry like a prisoner. While I had exhausted thoughts I was influenced by the prejudice to do so because of fears of break up in family indefinitely by force out of camp, and to stay in camp for the duration of war for my security and protection.</b>			
(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>None</b> If so, state when you changed your mind and your reasons therefor:			



(B) Give reasons for becoming a member: I became a member because the pressure was great and the pro-Japanese leader of the organization told me that the W.R.A. have permitted it and influenced me to join because we're being deported anyway and to learn Japanese language, culture and custom, fearing from the influence and rumors I have joined to prepare for life in Japan when I'm deported.

(C) State nature of your activity and offices you held: At Block 14, Tule Lake Center, I was selected as messenger without my knowledge. I participated in exercises but did not participated in any formal meetings or activities.

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



(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: The agitators got full control and told me that the Japanese government will take action who were not in the organization when deported to Japan, I believed them and for my security I have joined was due to my misunderstanding.

(F) If you at any time wished to discontinue membership, activity, or office and were prevented from so doing, explain fully: I wished to discontinue because of my health but was refused by the leaders, Dan morale was so great and the leaders of the Hokoku Seinen Dan is responsible for all the activities and mislead of the members and for leading us to believe in all rumors and influences.

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

Give reasons for so doing:

I was influenced to apply for renouncing of my American citizenship due to the agitators influences of the pressure group fearing of threats and violence if I didn't renounced, at that time it was terrible with threats and harms done in the camp which I was afraid of being subjected to the pressure groups. Also feared that I would be deported to Japan by believing influences of the agitators even though I possessed American citizenship.

(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 pressure by the group leader told me to given such a wild answers to a hearing officer of the renunciation of citizenship to be disloyal to America, if asked that I will face the gun of U.S. to give answer yes and that renunciation is my will and intention.

(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: The condition that prevailed in the camps kept me in the constant state of fears of the future and for my safety from threats and harm by the agitators of the pressure group.

(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: I was transferred to the Fort Lincoln Internment Camp, Bismarck, North Dakota with Aliens and Kibei-Nisei agitators which operated undercover and inquiring of everyone who would make false move and threatens if necessary.

(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:

None



(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. I was faithfully observing and obeying rules of the U.S. as a good citizen and I have bought a new farm equipments to fight on the home front in 1940 to do my utmost on the farm as a American born Japanese. I have voted in the political elections and I have done my best for the progress of the Red Cross, Salvation Army, Unemployed organization, Christian activity and so forth for the democracy. I was discriminated, evacuated and interned without certain of being freed simply because of my Japanese ancestry and was deprived of my citizenship rights and I believed that the government had refused to recognize our citizenship, therefore I feared that the government intended to send us to Japan at the first chance. Even though my brother volunteered into the military service, few months after the out break of World War II he was released from active duty because of his Japanese ancestry. I feared that the Anti-Japanese acts along the Pacific coast will never permit us to live in U.S. While interned in camp someone burned my homes which I lost my hopes to remain in U.S.

10. (A) If you now are in Japan, give your reasons for having returned to Japan. While evacuation to internment someone had to burn our homes on top of losing my interest and property and I had no place to turn to, and I feared of living without funds is impossible in the U.S. where discrimination existed for all Japanese and Japanese ancestry. The folks said they will meet me later in Japan.

After I came to Japan I had more time to think clearly and have deeply regretted for renouncing my American citizenship and coming to Japan. I have learned to appreciate the true meaning of democracy and its value.

(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 went to village office and found out that I was "stateless" and no one could be a stateless person in any country. I had to recover my Japanese citizenship in order to get my food and all other rations for my living.

11. (A) If you have served or are serving in the military or naval forces of the United States fill in the following: None

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.

None

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

None

(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.

None

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:

2nd and 4th Brother

Relationship

Masayuki and George Akiyoshi

Name

Both U.S. Army

Branch of Service

39153747

US-56074471

Serial Number

Japan  
Prefecture of Fukuoka  
City of Fukuoka

Junao Akiyoshi  
(Signature in full of applicant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 11th day of May, 1954



Service No. 5533

Matthew D. Smith, Jr.  
American Vice Consul

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



WAYNE M. COLLINS

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

TELEPHONE GARFIELD 1-1218

November 19, 1957

Mr. Sunao Akiyoshi  
138 Nishibara Oaza  
Tachiarai-machi  
Hongyo Kyoku Kunai  
Mii-gun, Fukuoka-ken  
Japan

Dear Mr. Akiyoshi:

I am returning herewith via air mail the original of the affidavit which I have prepared for you from your answers to my questionnaire. I would thank you to read the answers therein and if you find them to be true, you should take the original to a U. S. Consul in Japan and there sign and swear to it. Thereupon you should return it to me promptly by air mail for processing to the Justice Department.

A copy for you to keep for future reference is being sent via regular mail.

If you should make any additions or corrections in the affidavit, please inform me of the changes in a letter enclosing the affidavit.

Very truly yours,

WMC  
Enc.



WAYNE M. COLLINS  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
MILLS TOWER, 220 BUSH STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO 4, CALIFORNIA

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

December 5, 1957

Mr. Sunao Akiyoshi  
138 Nishibara Oaza  
Tachiarai-machi  
Hongyo Kyoku Kuna  
Mii-gun, Fukuoka-ken  
Japan

Dear Mr. Akiyoshi:

On November 19, 1957 I sent to you by airmail an original affidavit with the request that you read it and make any necessary corrections thereon and that you then take it promptly to the nearest U.S. Consul in Japan and there swear to it and have his seal affixed thereto and that you then return it promptly to me by airmail for processing to the Justice Department.

The Justice Department intends to stop accepting affidavits for administrative processing at the end of this year. Therefore, it is imperative that you take the original affidavit to the U.S. Consul nearest you and there sign it and swear to it and have the Consul affix his seal thereto and return it to me promptly by airmail so that it will be in the hands of the Justice Department before the end of this year.

I urge you to take care of this important matter immediately.

Very truly yours,

WMC



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

Telephone GARfield 1-5827

December 20, 1957

Mr. Sunao Akiyoshi  
138 Nishibaru Oaza  
Tachiarai machi  
Hongo kyo ku Kunai  
Mii gun, Fukuoka Ken, Japan

Dear Mr. Akiyoshi:

The affidavit forms you recently returned to me have been examined and compared with the records in my office. The forms appeared to me to be in good order. In consequence, I have delivered them to the U.S. Attorney's office for processing through the Justice Department.

On February 21, 1957, Assistant U.S. Attorney General George C. Doub, assured me that the Department would view renunciants cases with more liberality in granting administrative clearance than heretofore.

Because a fairly large number of affidavits of other renunciants also are being processed it may take several months before a final decision in your case is made by the Justice Department.

Therefore, I suggest that you wait patiently for the decision in your case which I shall relay to you just as soon as I receive information from the Department.

If the Justice Department clears you by this administrative method a judgment cancelling your renunciation and declaring you to be a U.S. citizen will be entered in the mass suits.

If the Justice Department does not clear you by this administrative method, your case then can be set down for an individual court hearing.

Very truly yours,

*Wayne M. Collins*



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## 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>Sunao Akiyoshi</b>		Date of Birth <b>February 3, 1916</b>	
2. If born prior to December 1, 1924	(A) Have you ever renounced Japanese nationality? <b>Yes</b>	When <b>January, 1937</b>	Where <b>Rt. 1, Box 279 Torrance, Calif.</b>
	3. If born since December 1, 1924 <b>Not applicable</b>		
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	To		
<b>1923</b>	<b>March 1927</b>	<b>Folks sent us here</b>	
<b>Dec. 1945</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Living</b>	
5. Give details concerning any formal education in Japan:			
School		Period of Attendance	
<b>Ozeki Grammar School, 1st to 4th Grade</b>		From <b>1923</b>	To <b>March 1927</b>
Specify subjects studied (attach additional sheet if necessary).			
<b>Japanese language and arithmetic</b>			
6. Have you ever made application for repatriation to Japan? <b>Yes</b> If so, give date <b>1944 and 1945.</b> , and your reasons for so applying:  <b>See attached sheet.</b>			
7. (A) Have you ever expressly indicated that you would not swear unqualified allegiance to the United States? <b>Yes. See attached sheet</b>		Have you ever declined to answer when asked whether you would swear unqualified allegiance? <b>No</b>	
Or have you ever given a qualified answer to such question asked at War Relocation Centers? <b>No</b> 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? If so, state when you changed your mind and your reasons therefor:			



(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:

See attached sheet

8. (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)		X	
Central Japanese Association (Beikoku Chuo Nipponjin Kai)		X	
Central Japanese Association of Southern California		X	
Dai Nippon Butoku Kai (Military Virtue Society of Japan or Military Art Society of Japan) (Hokubei Kai)		X	
Heimuska Kai, also known as Hokubei Heieki Gimusha Kai Zaibei Nihonjin, Heiyaku Gimusha Kai, and		X	
Zaibei Heimusha Kai (Japanese residing in American Military Conscripts Assoc.) Heimusha Kai		X	
Hinode Kai (Imperial Japanese Reservists)		X	
Hinomaru Kai (Rising Sun Flag Society—a Group of Japanese War Veterans)		X	
Hokubei Zaigo Shoko Dan (North American Reserve Officers Association)		X	
Japanese Association of America (Zaibei Nihonjin Kai)		X	
Japanese Overseas Central Society (Kaigai Dobo Chuo Kai)		X	
Japanese Overseas Convention, Tokyo, Japan, 1940		X	
Japanese Protective Association (Recruiting Organization)		X	
Jikyoku Iin Kai (Current Affairs Association)		X	
Kibei Seinen Kai (Association of U. S. Citizens of Japanese Ancestry who have returned to America after studying in Japan)		X	
Nanka Teikoku Gunyudan (Imperial Military Friends Group or Southern California War Veterans)		X	
Nichibei Kogyo Kaisha (The Great Fujii Theatre)		X	
Northwest Japanese Association		X	
Sakura Kai (Patriotic Society or Cherry Association—composed of Veterans of Russo-Japanese War) (Cherry Blossom Society)		X	
Shinto Temples		X	
Sokoku Kai (Fatherland Society)		X	
Suiko Sha (Reserve Officers Association Los Angeles)		X	
Hokoku Seinen-Dan	X		16 mos.
Hokoku Joshi Seinen-Dan		X	
Sokoku Kenkyu Seinen-Dan		X	
Sokuji Kikoku Hoshi-Dan		X	

(B) Give reasons for becoming a member:

See attached sheet

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

See attached sheet

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

See attached sheet



6:

On Jan. 13, 1944, I applied at the Tule Lake Center at the same time as my brother Masayuki when we were living in Block 14. The reasons were that when we were at the Gila River Center our father and mother told us that we must repatriate to Japan ahead of them because they being aliens under the law were removable to Japan and the Government eventually would send them to Japan and they wanted us to be sure that we would go too and said that they would rejoin us in Japan. They didn't want to go to Japan but they believed like other Issei in Gila River that the Government didn't want Japanese aliens in the U. S. and that it intended eventually to send them to Japan on the exchange ship. So they didn't want our family separated permanently. After we were sent to the Tule Lake Center for answering No to questions 27-28 the influence and the rumors spread by the Issei and Kibei agitators made us believe that we were sure to be deported to Japan whether we wanted to go or not. Lot of people in Tule Lake put pressure on us to agree to repatriate. Masaru Hashimoto, Manabu Hosokawa, who were Kibei in our block, and Mr. Matsuda, Issei in Block 6, and Mr. Shimizu who was Issei from Block 4 said we must agree to repatriate as a large unit of people as the U. S. considered us disloyal for answering No to questions 27-28 and segregated us to Tule Lake to be deported to Japan and the only way we can be accepted in Japan is by agreeing to repatriate or else we could be subjected to punishment in Japan as Japanese authorities would sure punish Kibei if they hadn't agreed to repatriate. Having lost all my interests, property and citizenship rights and being forced into a camp and being subject to all such rumors and influence in Tule Lake and having been told by my father and mother that they would be deported to Japan for being aliens and that we must be repatriated so we would be rejoined as a family in Japan, my brother and I lost all hope after being pressed on all sides in Tule Lake and if we didn't do it the agitators would do something to us in camp and would report us to the Japanese Government. Also they told us if we didn't do it the Government might send us to the outside and that if that happened we wouldn't be accepted by the American public which was very hostile and anti-Japanese and if that happened to us we wouldn't see our parents or be with them again as they would be sent to Japan from Gila River as they were aliens.

On August 30, 1945, I asked for repatriation when I was in the camp at Bismarck, North Dakota. Although my father and mother were in Gila River they had told us that they expected eventually to be sent to Japan and that our repatriation was necessary so that our family would be rejoined in Japan. They didn't want us to be relocated from Gila or from Tule Lake because of fear that it would result in our permanent separation. As I had renounced my citizenship and was sent to Bismarck I thought this meant that I was certain to be sent to Japan and the Dan members who were in Bismarck said deportation was certain and there was no way for me to avoid deportation and this was the only way our family could ever be certain that we would be rejoined. Under the pressure of Sumito Yamasaki at Bismarck I stated in application that I wanted to repatriate unconditionally and without qualification as I was afraid of the Dan group. The people who were interned with me in Bismarck were Dan members and they watched to see that nobody tried to escape from being sent to Japan. If I had known that my folks would relocate and that I could join them and could have applied to join them without the Dan knowing about it and causing me trouble I would have tried. It was in August, 1945, that our home in Torrance, California, was burned down by some Caucasians. As it turned out my folks, brothers and sisters stayed and Masayuki and I were sent



6 continued:

to Japan and were separated from them which was the thing that we were most worried about and had tried all along to prevent. Even at Seattle, Washington, Hosokawa and his group made me say I wanted to repatriate. This was just before we left for Japan. I was in fear of the group.

7(A):

I realized that as a citizen I must fight for my country and was willing before evacuation to do it. I registered for the draft in Wilmington, Calif., in October of 1940, and was classified 3-A. If I had been drafted I would have served loyally as a soldier. But afterward we were evacuated and interned even though we were citizens. At the time of the registration in Gila River my father and mother said we must sign No-No to questions 27 and 28. They feared if we were accepted as volunteers by the Army we would meet race discrimination in the ranks and be mistreated and it would mean we would be separated from them. They feared that if we signed Yes that we would swear unqualified allegiance to the U. S. that we would be sent out of camp to relocate among Caucasians who would discriminate against us and treat us with hostility because of the war and that we would not be safe trying to live and work under such adverse conditions and that if we were sent outside we would be separated from them permanently. They were aliens and they expected all along that the Government intended sometime to send them to Japan on the exchange ship and they didn't wish our family to become separated. They pressured us that we must answer No-No to the questions and be sent to some segregation center ahead of them from which we would be sent to Japan and that they would repatriate after us and we would be rejoined as a family unit in Japan. We had lost everything because of being evacuated and my parents believed they would not be given a chance to stay in the U. S. and that their repatriation to Japan and our joining them there was the only hope for the rehabilitation of our family. Also they believed that only by answering No-No to the questions would we be able to stay in a center and be safe from discrimination and violence outside until we were all repatriated. Not only were we and our parents of the same beliefs at the time but numerous people in Gila River had the same views and fears and we were subjected constantly to rumors, propaganda and influences there to answer No-No to those questions for our welfare and security.

7(C):

While in the camps I did not change my mind because of my belief that our family would be permanently separated, as explained in my answers to questions 6 and 7 above. Had it not been for my fears of family separation which would have resulted from my being taken into the Army if I had volunteered in camp or of my being relocated to a new community risking discrimination and persecution and thus being separated from my parents who expected to be sent to Japan I would have been willing to change my answers if given the chance. If I had changed my answer to question 28 and then be sent to Japan anyway it would have meant serious trouble for me in Japan as practically everyone I knew believed that a record of expressed loyalty to the U. S. would have caused the Japanese authorities to inflict severe punishment on us.



8(B):

I became a member because the pressure was great and the pro-Japanese leader of the organization told me that the W.R.A. had permitted it and influenced me to join because we're being deported anyway and to learn Japanese language, culture and custom; fearing from the influence and rumors I have joined to prepare for life in Japan when I'm deported.

My brother Masayuki and I were living in Block 14 in the Tule Lake Center. I became a member about the end of October or first part of November of 1944 and was a member to the time I was sent to Japan although from February of 1945 when I was sent to Bismarck it wasn't an organization as the Officer in Charge in Bismarck didn't allow it to be an organization like the W.R.A. had.

The persons who influenced me and Masayuki with their statements to become members were named Masaru Hashimoto and Manabu Hosokawa, Kibei, Block 14. They said the W.R.A. wanted us to join as we were to be deported to Japan and we must prepare for our life there and that members would be accepted favorably by the Japanese Government and if we were not members we'd be put on a blacklist and it would be dangerous for us because we would be viewed as spies or disloyal persons by the Japanese officials.

8(C):

I participated in some of the exercises but did not participate in any formal meetings or activities. I tried to go to the morning exercises for my health but had to give it up as I had appendix difficulties and exercise didn't seem to do my condition any good but made it act up. At Block 14 I was selected as messenger without my knowledge.

8(D):

I didn't discontinue my membership because when I told Masaru Hashimoto I wanted to do it because the officials of the camp didn't like its activities he said if I resigned my membership there was danger the Hoshi Dan officers would put me down on the blacklist which would make trouble for me in Japan. So I didn't resign as I believed it would mean trouble for me but anyway I wasn't doing anything forbidden by the camp officials and so to avoid trouble in Japan I didn't do anything further about resigning. I was hearing rumors all the time that resignation would lead to trouble in Japan.

9(A):

It was about January, 1945, when everyone was doing so in the Tule Lake Center.

I was influenced to apply for renouncing of my American citizenship due to the agitators' influences of the pressure group fearing of threats and violence if I didn't renounce. At that time it was terrible with threats and harms done in the camp which I was afraid of being subjected to the pressure groups. Also feared that I would be deported to Japan by believing influences of the agitators even though I possessed American citizenship.



9(A) continued:

My parents, 2 brothers and 3 sisters were in Gila River and Masayuki and I were in the Tule Lake Center. My parents' pressure on us had been the chief reason we were in the Tule Lake Center as they were aliens and at Gila expected they would be sent to Japan and they wanted to make sure that our family would not be separated, that is, some of us would be left behind in the U. S. so they pressured Masayuki and me to answer No-No to questions 27 and 28 so we wouldn't be volunteering for the Army which would mean if we were taken they might never see us again and they didn't want us to answer that we would swear unqualified allegiance to the U. S. which would mean we would be required to leave the Center and relocate among anti-Japanese Caucasians and might never be united with the family again and never see them after the folks were sent to Japan. They insisted that we must be sent to the segregation center and that on our being sent to Japan and their being repatriated from Gila River we would be united in Japan. At renunciation time we fell for the rumors and propaganda also that if we didn't renounce our citizenship we might be sent outside of Tule Lake to be relocated to some spot selected by the WRA or might just be sent out to find a place to live and work without the help of the WRA because the WRA was going to close down and only aliens who were being held for repatriation would be kept in the Center until the Government could send them on the exchange ship. We believed that only by renouncing could we stay in the Center as aliens and be sent to Japan where we understood our folks would join us like they had told us and that this was the only way to avoid relocation and permanent separation from the folks.

I thought if I was forced outside without money and a safe place to work and live and without assurance of being able to earn a living life would be impossible for me and also that if the Government let or forced our whole family out we would not be able to get work and support such a large family and we didn't have any place to go. There were so many rumors flying around of what was going to happen to us and so much propaganda and confusion and fear that I couldn't think straight. Masaru Hashimoto, Manabu Hosokawa, Kibei in our Block 14, and Mr. Matsuda and Mr. Shimizu, Issei of Block 6, Dan officers or leaders said citizens must renounce to stay in camp and avoid relocation which was too dangerous because of the anti-Japanese feelings and because we had no place to go and no money and wouldn't be able to get work or live in peace. They said we must renounce to stay in camp and face deportation to Japan and that Kibei would stand no chance outside but would have to stay in camp and face deportation and the only way to be safe in Japan was by renouncing citizenship.

These four persons told me such things in Block 14 messhall and they came to our quarters and put the pressure on me. I was afraid that what they said was true and that if I didn't renounce it would mean all those trouble would be facing me and that some members of the Dan would see that I got beaten up if I went against the will and wishes of the majority of the residents. Everybody in camp seemed scared of what was going to happen to us and of what could happen to us if we didn't renounce. Mr. Hitomi who was the chief man in the Co-op had been murdered by unknown persons in Tule Lake and there were many attacks on people who went against the majority wishes and during the time of the renunciations it was a wild camp with everyone in fear.

9(B):

The pressure by the group leader told me to give such wild answers to the hearing officer of the renunciation of citizenship as being disloyal to America; if asked if I would face the gun of U. S. the group leader told me to answer yes and that renunciation is my will and intention.



9(B) continued:

The Dan officers and members must tell the officer we were members of Seinen Dan, that we were disloyal to the U. S., that we wanted to go to Japan and join the Japanese Army and things like that. If we didn't follow out orders the group would know because the renunciations would be rejected and I feared that if mine wasn't accepted the group might see that I got beaten maybe to death as the camp was very wild during this time.

9(C):

The condition that prevailed in the camps kept me in constant state of fears of the future and for my safety from threats and harm by the agitators of the pressure group. I had the same fears like mentioned in my answer to question 9(A). Hashimoto, Hosokawa, Sasaki, and other officers and members were in my block and Mr. Matsuda and Mr. Shimizu were in camp and I didn't want to face any trouble from the Dan. Because of my renunciation and being in the Hokoku Seinen Dan I was sent away to Bismarck. Masayuki was sent to Santa Fe. The rest of the family was in Gila River.

9(F):

I was faithfully observing and obeying rules of the U. S. as a good citizen and I had bought new farm equipments to fight on the home front in 1940 to do my utmost on the farm as an American-born Japanese. I have voted in the political elections and I have done my best for the progress of the Red Cross, Salvation Army, Unemployed organizations, Christian activities and so forth for the democracy. I was discriminated, evacuated and interned without certain of being freed simply because of my Japanese ancestry and was deprived of my citizenship rights and I believed that the government had refused to recognize our citizenship, therefore I feared that the government intended to send us to Japan at the first chance. Even though my brother volunteered into the military service, few months after the outbreak of World War II he was released from active duty because of his Japanese ancestry. I feared that the anti-Japanese acts along the Pacific Coast will never permit us to live in the U. S. While interned in camp someone burned my homes and I lost my hopes to remain in the U. S.

10(A):

While evacuated to internment someone had to burn our homes on top of losing my interest and property and I had no place to turn to, and I feared that living without funds was impossible in the U. S. where discrimination existed for all Japanese and Japanese ancestry. The folks said they will meet me later in Japan.

After I came to Japan I had more time to think clearly and have deeply regretted renouncing my American citizenship and coming to Japan. I have learned to appreciate the true meaning of democracy and its value.



10(B):

I went to village office and found out that I was "stateless" and no one could be listed as a stateless person but had to be registered in a koseki in order to get my food and rations for living and I had to be registered in the koseki or else I would not get any food rations to live on and would starve to death. This was forced on me. Recognition was only for purpose of getting food and not to become a Japanese citizen.



- (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:

The agitators got full control and told me that the Japanese Government will take action who were not in the organization when deported to Japan. I believed them and for my security I have joined due to my misunderstanding.

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

I wished to discontinue because of my health but was refused by the leaders. Dan morale was so great and the leaders of the Hokoku Seinen Dan was responsible for all the activities and misleadings of the members and for leading us to believe in all rumors and influences.

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

See attached sheet

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

See attached sheet

- (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:

See attached sheet

- (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:

I was transferred to the Fort Lincoln Internment Camp, Bismarck, North Dakota with aliens and Kibei-Nisei agitators which operated under cover and inquiring of everyone who would make false move and threatens if necessary.

- (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:

None



(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.

See attached sheet

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

See attached sheet

(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.

See attached sheet

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:

2nd and 4th brothers

Relationship

Masayuki and George Akiyoshi

Name

Both U. S. Army

Branch of Service

39153747

U.S.-56074471

Serial Number

Japan  
Prefecture of Fukuoka  
City of Fukuoka  
Consulate of the United States  
of America } SS.

/s/ Sunao Akiyoshi

(Signature in full of applicant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4th day of December, 1957

(CONSULAR SEAL)

/s/ Benjamin C. Hilliard  
American Vice Consul



WAYNE M. COLLINS  
Attorney at Law  
1300 Mills Tower  
220 Bush Street  
San Francisco 18, Calif.  
April 16, 1958

VIA AIR LETTER

Mr. Sunao Akiyoshi  
138 Nishibaru Oaza, Tachiarai Machi  
Hongo kyoku Kunai, Mii Gun  
Fukuoka Ken, Japan

Dear Mr. Akiyoshi:

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:

"The 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 on January 13, 1944 and again on August 30, 1945. In this latter application he stated that he desired to be repatriated to Japan unconditionally and without qualification. This subject was an officer of the Hokoku Seinen-dan. He stated at his renunciation hearing that he believed in the aims and purposes of the organization. He also indicated his willingness to serve in the Japanese army and engage in combat against this country. In an interview on May 26, 1945 with an Immigration and Naturalization Patrol Inspector, subject stated that he considered the United States an enemy country."

I believe that by preparing a new affidavit going into more details that you yet may receive administrative clearance. In order to enable me to prepare another affidavit for you I would thank you to answer the following questions fully and to the very best of your ability and send your answers to me promptly by airmail.

1. What were your reasons for giving negative answers to Questions 27 and 28 of the Army-WRA Form?
2. What were your reasons for applying for repatriation on January 13, 1944 and again on August 30, 1945, the latter after the war?
3. Why did you state at the latter application that you desired to be repatriated unconditionally and without qualification?
4. As an officer of the Hokoku Seinen-Dan, what office did you hold? How did you become such officer? What duties did you perform and where as such officer?
5. Why did you state at your renunciation hearing that you believed in the aims and purposes of the Hokoku Seinen-Dan?
6. Why did you state that you were willing to serve in the Japanese Army and engage in combat against this country?
7. Why did you state in an interview with an Immigration and Naturalization Patrol Inspector on May 26, 1945 that you considered United States an enemy country?

(over)



WAYNE M. COLLINS  
Attorney at Law  
1300 Mills Tower  
220 Bush Street  
San Francisco 18, Calif.  
April 10, 1958

VIA AIR LETTER

Mr. Sumio Akiyoshi  
138 Nishibaru, Oaza, Tachibana Machi  
Hongo Kyoku Kunita, Mit Gun  
Fukuroka Ken, Japan

Dear Mr. Akiyoshi:

The Department of Justice rejected your affidavit 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:

"The 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 registration on January 13, 1944 and again on August 30, 1945. In this latter application he stated that he desired to be repatriated to Japan unconditionally and without qualification. This subject was an officer of the Hokoku Seinen-Dan. He stated at his renunciation hearing that he believed in the aims and purposes of the Japanese Army and engaged in combat against this country. In an interview on May 20, 1945 with an Immigration and Naturalization Patrol Inspector, subject stated that he considered the United States an enemy country."

I believe that by preparing a new affidavit going into more details that you may receive administrative clearance. In order to enable me to prepare another affidavit for you I would thank you to answer the following questions fully and to the very best of your ability and send your answers to me promptly by airmail.

1. What were your reasons for giving negative answers to Questions 27 and 28 of the Army-WRA form?

2. What were your reasons for applying for registration on January 13, 1944 and again on August 30, 1945, the latter after the war?

3. Why did you state that you were willing to serve in the Japanese Army and engage in combat against this country?

4. As an officer of the Hokoku Seinen-Dan, what office did you hold? How did you become a member? What duties did you perform and where as such officer?

5. Why did you state at your renunciation hearing that you believed in the aims and purposes of the Hokoku Seinen-Dan?

6. Why did you state that you were willing to serve in the Japanese Army and engage in combat against this country?

7. Why did you state in an interview with an Immigration and Naturalization Patrol Inspector on May 20, 1945 that you considered the United States an enemy country?

(over)

WMC:cw



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

August 26, 1958

Mr. Sunao Akiyoshi  
138 Nishbaru Oaza, Tachiarai Machi  
Hongo kyoku Kunai, Mii Gun  
Fukuoka Ken, Japan

Dear Mr. Akiyoshi:

On April 16, 1958, I wrote and notified you that the Justice Department had denied you administrative clearance because it reached a conclusion that your renunciation of U.S. citizenship was not caused by fear, coercion or duress. However, I believe that by preparing a new affidavit going into more details that you yet may receive administrative clearance.

If you will send me your answers to the following questions I will prepare an amplified affidavit which may enable you to obtain administrative clearance:

1. What were your reasons for giving negative answers to Questions 27 and 28 of the Army-WRA Form?
2. What were your reasons for applying for repatriation on January 13, 1944 and again on August 30, 1945, the latter after the war?
3. Why did you state at the latter application that you desired to be repatriated unconditionally and without qualification?
4. As an officer of the Hokoku Seinen-Dan, what office did you hold? How did you become such officer? What duties did you perform and where as such officer?
5. Why did you state at your renunciation hearing that you believed in the aims and purposes of the Hokoku Seinen-Dan?
6. Why did you state that you were willing to serve in the Japanese Army and engage in combat against this country?
7. Why did you state in an interview with an Immigration and Naturalization Patrol Inspector on May 26, 1945 that you considered United States an enemy country?

Please do not hesitate to give full, true and correct answers and to mention names. The giving of names will assist me and will not do any harm either to you or the persons you name.

I would thank you to write out your answers and explanations to the above questions in detail to the best of your ability and recollection and send them to me immediately via airmail so that I will be able to prepare a new affidavit upon which you may recover your citizenship.

Very truly yours,

(VIA AIRLETTER)



(VIA AIRLETTER)

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

November 3, 1958

Mr. Sunao Akiyoshi  
138 Nishibaru Oaza, Tachiarai Machi  
Hongo kyoku Kunai, Mii Gun  
Fukuoka Ken, Japan

Dear Mr. Akiyoshi:

Please send me your answers to the questions  
I put to you in my letter of August 26, 1958,  
so that I may prepare a new affidavit upon which  
you may receive administrative clearance.

Very truly yours,





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ejf

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

MAR 31 1958

GCD:OC  
146-54-126  
93-1-1320

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

Re: Sunao Akiyoshi

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

Dear Mr. Burke:

This is in response to your letter of December 20, 1957, enclosing an additional affidavit for a determination as to whether the case of the above-named subject 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 the subject renunciation, this Department would be unable either to stipulate that the affidavit be accepted as evidence in lieu of testimony, or to concede that said case comes within the coverage of the above decision. The reasons for the Department's position in this respect, among others, are:

7 [ The pertinent records of the War Relocation Authority indicate that  
this subject gave negative answers to Questions 27 and 28 of the Army-WRA  
6 registration form. He applied for repatriation on January 13, 1944 and  
again on August 30, 1945. In this latter application he stated that he  
8 desired to be repatriated to Japan unconditionally and without qualification.  
9B This subject was an officer of the Hokoku Seinen-dan. He stated at his  
renunciation hearing that he believed in the aims and purposes of the organi-  
9C zation. He also indicated his willingness to serve in the Japanese Army  
and engage in combat against this country. In an interview on May 26, 1945  
with an Immigration and Naturalization Patrol Inspector, subject stated that  
he considered the United States an enemy country. In view of the facts



- 2 -

herein recited, the expressed reasons for renunciation as set forth in subject's affidavit are not persuasive and we are of the opinion that his case may not be considered as coming within the coverage of the decision in the Murakami case.

In accordance with our above-referred to letter of September 21, 1953, we attach three copies of the affidavit, dated May 11, 1954 along with the original and three copies of the affidavit, dated December 4, 1957 for return to Mr. Collins.

Yours very truly,

GEORGE COCHRAN DOUB  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Division

By:

Enoch E. Ellison  
Chief, Japanese Claims Section

Enclosures:

Original and three  
copies of affidavit dated  
December 4, 1957.

Three copies of affidavits  
dated May 11, 1954.



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

GCD:OC  
146-54-126  
93-1-1320

MAY 9 1957

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

Re: Sunao Akiyoshi  
Your Reference: Abo et al v. Brownell et al.  
Furuya et al v. Brownell et al. (Consolidated  
actions - Civil Nos. 25294 and 25295). Renunciation  
of Citizenship, Former Title 8 U.S.C. 801(i).

Dear Mr. Burke:

This is in response to your letter of March 28, 1957, enclosing an affidavit for a determination as to whether the case of the above-named renunciant 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 an affidavit of this subject was previously submitted to this Department by the Department of State, with a similar request for our views. On April 3, 1956, we advised that Department that we were of the opinion that subject's case could not be considered as coming within the above decision.

We attach the original of subject's affidavit submitted by your letter. You will note that he stated in answer to Question 7(A) that he gave a negative answer to the loyalty question because of fear of separation from his family. The pertinent War Relocation Authority file reflects that his family remained at the Gila River Center while he transferred to Tule Lake, so his allegation of fear of separation from them, if he gave an affirmative answer to the loyalty question, is not convincing. Furthermore, he applied for repatriation on January 13, 1944, and again on August 30, 1945, and it appears his family neither desired nor requested repatriation. In this last-mentioned application subject stated that he desired to be repatriated to Japan "unconditionally and without qualification". Subject stated in answer to

Not approved -  
Justice says: may submit  
another aff -  
BUT could rbm  
not approve anyway  
because of  
Japanese citizenship  
(Quia. 108))

Ask abt  
L. del  
Furuya  
Japanese  
citizenship



8 Questions 9(A) and (C) of his affidavit that he joined the Hokoku Seinen-Dan and renounced because of fear, threats and pressure exerted upon him by the pressure groups at the Tule Lake Center. He did not elaborate on the nature of the fear, threats or pressure, or identify the persons involved. In view of this fact and the facts above recited, we are unable to express an opinion as to whether subject's case may be considered as coming within the coverage of the decision in the Murakami case.

In view of these circumstances, Mr. Collins may wish to inform Mr. Akiyoshi that he may have an opportunity to submit a further affidavit setting forth in detail and with the greatest possible particularity, the reasons for his refusal to swear unqualified allegiance to the United States, and his willingness to transfer from the Gila River Center to the Tule Lake Center when his parents and five brothers and sisters remained at the former center. Also, the reasons for his willingness to repatriate to Japan "unconditionally and without qualification". He should state in detail and with the greatest possible particularity the nature of the fear, threats and pressure exerted upon him to join the pro-Japanese organization and renounce his citizenship. He should cite specific instances, the approximate dates and the full names, War Relocation Authority block numbers, or other proper identifying information of the persons involved.

We wish to advise you that even if such additional affidavit should result in a finding that this subject's case comes within the Murakami decision, we would be unable to stipulate to the unusual disposition of subject's case because of the evidence of his recovery of Japanese citizenship as set forth in answer to Question 10(B) of his affidavit.

We shall appreciate being informed of the action Mr. Akiyoshi decides to take relative to this matter. Until we are so advised, the processing of his affidavit will be deferred.

Yours very truly,

GEORGE COCHRAN DOUB  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Division

By:

Enoch E. Ellison  
Chief, Japanese Claims Section

Enclosure: Original  
Affidavit



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

(VIA AIRLETTER)

March 25, 1959

Mr. Sunao Akiyoshi  
138 Nishibaru Oaza, Tachiarai Machi  
Hongo kyoku Kunai, Mii Gun  
Fukuoka Ken, Japan

Dear Mr. Akiyoshi:

I have previously notified you that I will need additional information before I will be able to prepare a new affidavit for submission to the Justice Department. Therefore, please send me your answers to the following questions immediately:

1. When you applied for repatriation on August 30, 1945, what were your reasons for stating that you desired to be repatriated to Japan unconditionally and without qualification?
2. As an officer of the Hokoku Seinen-dan what office did you hold? How did you become such officer? What duties did you perform as such officer?
3. Why did you state at your renunciation hearing that you believed in the aims and purposes of the organization (Hokoku Seinen-dan)?
4. At your renunciation hearing why did you indicate you were willing to serve in the Japanese Army and engage in combat against this country?
5. Why did you state in an interview with an Immigration and Naturalization Patrol Officer on May 26, 1945, that you considered the U.S. an enemy country?

Please do not hesitate to give full, true and correct answers and to mention names. The giving of names will assist me and will not do any harm either to you or the persons you name.

I would thank you to write out your answers and explanations to the above questions in detail to the best of your ability and recollection and send them to me immediately via airmail.

Very truly yours,

WMC:ss  
cc: Mr. Toraichi Kono



OCD:EEB:OC  
146-54-126  
93-1-1320

aa

APR 16 1959

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

Re: SUNAO AKIYOSHI

Your ref: Abo, et al v. Rogers, et al.  
Furuya, et al v. Rogers, et al. (Consolidated  
actions - Civil Nos. 25294 & 25295).  
Renunciation of Citizenship, Former Title 8  
U.S.C. 801(1).

Dear Mr. Schnacke:

On March 28, 1957 and December 20, 1957, you forwarded to this Department affidavits for a determination as to whether the case of the above-named renunciant might 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.

On May 9, 1957 and March 31, 1958, we advised you that we were of the opinion that the case of the subject could not be considered as coming within the ruling of the Court of Appeals in the above case. We also advised you that an affidavit of the subject was previously submitted to this Department by the Department of State with a similar request for our views and that on April 3, 1956, we advised that Department that we were of the opinion the subject's case could not be considered as coming within the ruling in the Murakami case. Upon reconsideration of the evidence of record, including subject's affidavit submitted by the Department of State, and in the light of subsequent decisions and revised policies, you are advised that we are now of the opinion that subject's case may be considered as coming within the ruling of the Court of Appeals in the Murakami case.

*Approved  
no aff.  
4/24/59*



- 2 -

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 that Department 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 your office 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.

Yours very truly,

GEORGE COCHRAN DOUB  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Division

By:  
Enoch E. Ellison  
Chief, Japanese Claims Section

Encl.

cc: Department of State  
Matomic Building  
Washington 25, D. C.  
Att: Miss Frances Knight  
Director, Passport Office.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

22

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

146-54-126  
93-1-1320

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

APR 16 1959

Attention: Miss Frances Knight  
Director, Passport Office

Re: SHIRO AKIYOSHI  
February 3, 1946, Ratonic Beach,  
Los Angeles County, California  
Your ref: 7130

Dear Sirs:

On March 21, 1956, the Department of State forwarded to this Department an affidavit of the above-named subject and requested an expression of our views as to whether the case might be considered as coming within the Murakami decision. On April 3, 1956, you were advised that we were of the opinion that subject's case could not be considered as coming within said decision.

Pursuant to an agreement entered into with Mr. Wayne M. Collins, Attorney as set forth in the Department's letter of September 22, 1953, to the Department of State, the subject submitted an additional affidavit concerning his reasons for renunciation. On May 9, 1957 and March 31, 1958, we advised the United States Attorney for the Northern District of California that we were still of the opinion that subject's case could not be considered as coming within the above decision.

Upon reconsideration of the evidence of record, including subject's affidavit submitted by the Department of State, and in the light of subsequent decisions and revised policies, you are advised that we are now of the opinion that subject's case may be considered as coming within the Murakami decision.

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

Yours very truly,

GEORGE COCHRAN BOUB  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Division

Encl.

cc: Robert H. Schancke, Esquire

By: Enoch S. Ellison  
Chief, Japanese Claims Section



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

April 27, 1959

Mr. Sunao Akiyoshi  
138 Nishibaru Oaza, Tachiarai machi  
Hongo kyo ku Kunai  
Mii Gun, Fukuoka Ken, Japan

Dear Mr. Akiyoshi:

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.



DATA SHEET

Name: AKIYOSHI, Sunao

Judgment: 5/8/59 Aff. Japan  
(Date & kind)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Folder: \_\_\_\_\_

Address Information:  
(Phone bk., C/D, etc.)

LD JUL 1 1960  
*Send Id to  
father*

*see:  
D.S. of Akiyoshi Masayuki*

Letters, contact, judgment  
order, etc.:

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Payment information, billing:

PAID \$300  
Has 1957 note #138

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Cross reference:

*brother: Masayuki (29 unp)  
Masaru (Pd)  
father: Takechi*



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

July 1, 1960

Mr. Tokichi Akiyoshi  
3532 Bellevue  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Mr. Akiyoshi:

I would thank you to let me know the present address  
of Mr. Sunao Akiyoshi ✓  
Mr. Masayuki Akiyoshi

so that final papers concerning their citizenship status  
may be transmitted to them. Please use the enclosed  
cards and self-addressed envelope for your reply to me.

Very truly yours,

