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SHIROISHI, PAT H

AUG 13 1945

August 9, 1945

AUG 13 1945

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

Dear Mr. Besig:

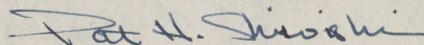
I have received your letter of July 23, and I sincerely appreciate everything you are doing for me.

I have already written to the Commanding General, Western Defense Command requesting for a hearing so that I may clear my status with the Army. The questionnaires that they sent, I have completed and returned to the Commanding General on July 18 th. At the present time, I am waiting for my Army hearing.

Mr. Besig, have you had any response from the Attorney General concerning my case? I am trying so hard to undo the things I did and praying that I may have the chance to prove myself soon.

Sir, please advise me in any way you can. Thank you for all the trouble.

Sincerely yours,



Pat H. Shiroishi  
2713-A  
Newell, California

August 14, 1945

Mr. Pat H. Shiroishi  
2713-A  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California

Dear Mr. Shiroishi:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of August 9 advising me of your appeal to the Western Defense Command for a hearing. The cessation of hostilities between the allied governments and Japan should do more to effect your release than any appeal board hearing.

I have not yet heard from the Attorney General concerning your case. As soon as I do, I will advise you.

Sincerely yours,

EB:AR

Ernest Besig, Director

SATO, KIYOSHI

*Form letter  
Sept. 3*

Kiyoshi Sato  
8315-I  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California

AUG 27 1945

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

Dear Sir:

I am writing you this letter in regards to the renunciation of my citizenship. I have already renounced my citizenship and now I would like to have it back and once more be a Citizen of the United States.

Being a citizen of this country and to be thrown in a camp like the aliens, has made me bitter toward this country and after one thing lead to another I have come to Tule Lake and renounced my citizenship.

But now I regret this fact very much and would like to go outside and relocate. I have an Aunt in Idaho who has two sons in the U.S. Army and she has a farm and says for me to come out and help her.

Will you please arrange it so that I can have my citizenship back again so that I could go out and once more lead a normal life.

Hoping to hear from you in the near future I remain.

Yours very truly,

*Kiyoshi Sato*

SOEDA, TOSHIO MISATO RUBY

ans by m letter, 9-3-45

AUG 29 1945

~~AUG 29~~ 1945

7115-A  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, Cal.  
August 22, 1945

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

Dear Sir:

This is in regards to our liberation from the Tule Lake Center. We are in a very hard position to be asking you to help us as we have renounced our American Citizenship. Our renouncing our Citizenship was not our will, but against our will as you can see on my letter addressed to the Department of Justice which I am enclosing.

I have also written to the Western Defense Command for an appeal to have a hearing so that I may be cleared so that I can go out to the coast.

I would appreciate it very much if you could assist my wife and me so that I may be able to be liberated from this Camp.

In case, you are in the position to take legal action you have the authority.

Sincerely,

Toshio Soeda

*Toshio Soeda*

Misato Ruby Soeda

*Misato Ruby Soeda*

A.C.P.V.  
AUG 29 1945

7115-A  
Tule Lake Center,  
Newell, California  
August 20, 1945

HEADQUARTERS WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND  
Review and hearing board section  
Presidio of San Francisco  
California

Dear Sir:

Since the war is over now, I planned to relocate with my wife, if possible to Seattle, Washington, where we came from. However, having my status checked, I found that I am on the segregate list and not a excludee nor free.

I would like to appeal my case and have a hearing to be cleared so that I may be able to relocate with my wife.

I would appreciate it very much if you could give me your kind consideration on my case.

Sincerely,

Toshio Soeda

*Toshio Soeda*

7115-A  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, Cal.  
August 22, 1945

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

Dear Sir:

This letter is written to you concerning my wife and myself who deeply and sincerely desire to retain the citizenship of the United States. We have appeared before the hearing board officers in Tule Lake Center about the early part of this year and I can truthfully say that it was under ill-advisory, force and threats when we sacrificed our United States citizenship. I sincerely hope the following facts to be explained would be justifiable for our actions in our renouncing and that you would consider our cases.

We have been evacuated from Seattle, Washington, and interned into Tule Lake Center, California, under the authority of the War Relocation. We did not transfer from one center to the other unlike many other internees, but have remained here for the past three years and over. Before segregation took place the residents remained quiet and minded their own business but since the influx of segregants from the other centers the peoples' attitude and sentiment totally changed. The pressures, personal disturbances, and false rumors widely spread and aroused the innocents to obey and take commands or otherwise were threatened. The atmosphere became uncomfortable and helpless. The group demonstrations riots were forced upon the people and those who did not participate feared some mishap within their family, therefore, to protect themselves majority took heed of the command. My wife and I have suffered for a long time because we were against these pressure groups. The people slowly added their names and had finally influenced us to do likewise..... to become one of the group to avoid harm on us. Though our names were taken, we did not follow the groups.

As in the case for mass request for renunciation, we were under strong pressure and the action in the upset minds followed through the hearing with the Department of Justice. I did not think the outcome would be so serious as to have our citizenship stripped from us. Long after many of the residents had their hearing did we have ours. We held tight till

the end but the atmosphere around us stared with hatred and unwillingly we had to apply for renunciation until we heard that a hidden member of the group were keeping track of our acts. Mr. Ennis, you must believe me when I state that the camp pressures, rumors and built-up advice led me into this confused situation. Under normal condition we would never think of doing what we have done.

The Relocation Office informed us that we cannot relocate because we are on the Department of Justice stop-list. The above are the reasons for our renouncing our United States Citizenship which are all against our wills, and that you would consider our cases as 'rejects', and help us retain our American Citizenship.

However, if our above requests are not possible, I would appreciate it very much if you could arrange us some means so that we may be paroled from this Tule Lake Center. We sincerely hope that you consider our case carefully and help us retain our American Citizenship, and if this is not possible please make arrangement for us so that we may be paroled.

Sincerely,

Toshio Soeda

*Toshio Soeda*

Misato Ruby Soeda

*Misato Ruby Soeda*

AGE 20

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

AUG 30 1945

Dear Mr. Besig;

I am a Citizen of the United States by birth and a resident of Tule Lake Relocation Center. Pursuant to renunciation held in this center I signed an Individual request for renunciation against my own free will. At time of the Renunciation, I was induced, forced and influenced by the members of the Hokoku Seinen Dan which I was forced into. I have long since resigned from that organization which I never did believe in.

I was a member just at the time of my renunciation hearing and was told just what to say at the hearing by the member of the organization and by the residents. Prior to evacuation I was a loyal citizen of this country. I have or I had an Uncle who was in the U.S. Army who was killed in Action in Italy and was with the 442nd named Gordon S. Shimizu, and three cousins still in the United States Army who volunteered. I regret very much I fully realize I made the biggest mistake of my life. I wish you would consider my situation and make it possible for me to get back my citizenship and relocate as soon as possible. I am asking your help and I shall continue to abide by all the laws of this country.

Sincerely yours,

*James Kaoru Shimizu*  
James Kaoru Shimizu

7918-D

SEP 7 1945

MR. ERNEST BESIG. DIRECTOR  
AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION  
216 PINE STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO 4, CALIFORNIA.

SEPT. 6, 1945

DEAR MR. BESIG:

I HAVE RECEIVED ONE OF YOUR LETTER. IN THIS  
LETTER YOU HAVE STATED ~~THAT~~ ABOUT DUAL CITIZENSHIP.

WHEN I REQUESTED FOR REPATRIATION + RENOU-  
CIATION I WAS TOLD BY MY PARENTS THAT I WAS A  
DUAL SO THEY PUT DUAL WHEN I'VE REQUESTED,  
BUT, RESENTLY THEY TOLD ME THAT I ONLY HAVE  
A CITIZEN. CERTIFICATE OF THIS COUNTRY AND I NEVER  
HAD ONE. IN THIS CASE WHAT STEP SHALL I  
TAKE. I GUESS THERE IS NO PROOF FOR THIS DUAL

THIS IS ALSO TRUE FOR MY BROTHER PAUL  
KIYOSHI SHIMIZU. (AGE 19)

WILL YOU PLEASE GIVE ME A ANSWER. WHAT  
I SHALL DO.

SINCERELY YOURS,  
JAMES KAORU SHIMIZU (20)  
1918-D  
NEWELL, CALIF.

P/S. SEEING YOUR COMMITTEE. I RECALL  
ONE NAME THAT I KNOW. NAME IS  
CHARLES H. HOUSTON. IF THIS MAN WAS  
A LAWYER AT SAN PEDRO, CANE, IT IS  
HIM. I ALSO USE TO LIVE IN SAN PEDRO,  
(TERMINAL ISL.) AND HE KNOWS MY FATHER,  
TOO. HE ALSO SPEAK JAPANESE.

IF IT IS HIM WILL YOU TELL HIM ALL  
ABOUT THIS TROUBLE WE'RE IN.

THANK YOU.

September 9, 1945.

Mr. James Kaoru Shimizu,  
7918-D,  
Tule Lake Center,  
Newell, California.

Dear Mr. Shimizu:

With reference to the question of dual citizenship, this is a matter of proof. The question is whether your parents registered your birth with the Japanese consulate within fourteen days after you were born. Your parents can be called to testify in your behalf at the proper time.

In the meantime, I trust that you wrote to the Attorney General repudiating your renunciation and requesting a further hearing to give evidence of the circumstances under which you were forced to renounce. I am hopeful that such hearings will be allowed, but I have no assurances of it.

If you're not in a position to bring legal action, the only thing you can do is to await the next move of the Justice Department. In the meantime, representatives of our organization are urging the Justice Department to modify its policies. I don't know what will happen.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Besig, Director.

AGE 19

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

AUG 31 1945

Dear Mr. Besig;

I am a Citizen of the United States by birth and a resident of Tule Lake Relocation Center. Pursuant to renunciation held in this center I signed an Individual request for renunciation against my own free will. At time of the Renunciation, I was induced, forced and influenced by the members of the Hokoku Seinen Den which I was forced into. I have long since resigned from that organization which I never did believe in.

I was a member just at the time of my renunciation hearing and was told just what to say at the hearing by the member of the organization and by the residents. Prior to evacuation I was a loyal citizen of this country. I have or I had an Uncle who was in the U.S. Army who was killed in Action in Italy and was with the 442nd named Gordon S. Shimizu, and three cousins still in the United States Army who volunteered. I regret very much I fully realized I made the biggest mistake of my life. I wish you would consider my situation and make it possible for me to get back my citizenship and relocate as soon as possible. If this cannot be done, would it be possible to be paroled into my cousins custody?

I shall continue to abide by all the laws of this country.

Sincerely yours,

*Paul Kiyoshi Shimizu*  
Paul Kiyoshi Shimizu

7918-D

Pul Lake Center - 504-C  
Newell, California -  
August 30, 1945

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

SEP 4 1945

Dear Sir:

I am writing to inform you that I wish to withdraw my request for renunciation of citizenship, dated January 4, 1945. At the time a large majority of the people in Pul Lake were in favor of renunciation and high pressured me into sending a request for renunciation. Now I regret very much that I did so and realize that I have acted foolishly.

At the time of evacuation I did not believe it was constitutional to force United States citizens from certain areas of the United States.

I am the only member of my family who has requested for renunciation of citizenship. My wife and child are both

citizens of the United States. I am afraid  
of deportation to Japan and a separation  
of the members of our family due to my  
race.

My parents, who are at present in the  
Central Utah Relocation Project at Tropic, Utah,  
wish to return to California to their  
former home and business. I wish  
to go with them, but my request  
hinders me.

I have received no receipt or answer  
from the Department of Justice or other  
place as yet.

Please consider the situation, and  
allow me to resume my status as a  
citizen of the United States.

Very truly yours,  
George Hiroshi Sawamura

P.S. If withdrawal is impossible, please  
at least give me a parole to return  
to California.

SAKAI, HARUMI  
, TSUGIYO (WIFE)

ans by form letter, 9-4-45

Harumi Sakai  
5613- F  
Newell, Calif.  
August 29, 1945

SEP 4 1945

Mr. Ernest Besig, Director  
American Civil Liberties Union  
216 Pine Street  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Sir:

Few months ago when hearings for renunciation of citizenship began, we renounced ours. The reason was we were planning to go to Japan to educate our children. We thought the United States Government's confining those with citizenship for a long length of time would place the government at a disadvantage and that with our renouncing our citizenship all your responsibilities toward us would dissolve. At the same time we decided to follow the influence of majority of block residences in order to live among them harmoniously. For at that time

we did not know how long the war would last and it would have been a mental torment if we did not follow black influence.

Now that war has ended and outcome of war turning out as it has; and since it would be almost impossible to earn living expenses for a day and it makes education for our children out of the question. So we have cancelled going to Japan and resolved to stay here and educate our children.

I thank you very much for your kind attention.

Yours truly,  
 Harumi Sakai  
 Tsugiyō Sakai (wife)

Ben Sasaki

4313-D

Newell, Calif

Aug. 31, 1945.

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

SEP 4 1945

Dear Sir:

I am writing this letter to you in regards to the cancellation of the application for renunciation of U.S. Citizenship. I was informed by the Relocation office here that you may be able to help me in cancelling the application for renunciation and get my citizenship back again for which I believe I have a good reason.

Therefore I'm enclosing a copy of the letter sent to Edward J. Ennis with the reasons and asking for cancellation.

I hope you'll study my case and do your utmost to get it cancelled.

Thanking you for your kindest assistance and  
Awaiting your reply

I remain  
Respectfully yours  
Ben Sasaki.

Enclosure.

Duplicate

COPY

page 21

Ben Sasaki

4313-D

Newell, Calif.

Aug. 29, 1942

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

Dear Sir:

I am writing in regards to my application for renunciation of U. S. Citizenship of which I have received no word concerning my status. I would like to have my application cancelled because of the following reasons.

At the time of the outbreak of war between America and Japan we were in a country where we were able to live in freedom for this country was America. After the war broke out everything was still the same and nisei citizens of Japanese ancestry were drafted into the armed forces just as any other Americans. They went without any objections, with big send offs from their family and friends who were glad to see them serve their country. However after 2 or 3 months had elapsed, certain factions began discriminating against the Japanese on this Coast as being dangerous to

by spreading false rumors. Then the Mass evacuation of the Japanese started and they didn't care if we were American citizens or not. Just as long as we were Japanese they interned us in Camps. A great many of the Japanese were forced to sell properties, Autos, household equipments, and many other things which were so valuable to us at <sup>a price</sup> so low that it was unbelievable. Even at this we came to Camp quietly, but as time went by they didn't intern Germans, Italians or other Nationals like they did to us. Therefore, being a Citizen of this Country, raised and educated in this Country, and taught the democratic way of living, I began to wonder if it was really democratic and just. The more I thought the more it angered me to think that although I was an American I was treated as a criminal without trial. At this point I would like to tell you that my dad fought for the United States in World War I and even though he was a veteran they threw him in Camp too.

I was torn with anger and frustration which blinded me to the true situation as to my status. Especially when the renunciation bill was introduced. A little urging from the certain pressure groups and I was taken in by these

false rumors. But now that the pressure groups have been taken care of by the Justice Dept. and the war ended I began to be able to think clearly, and realize how foolish I've been to do such a thing. I ~~also~~ have no citizenship in Japan and this makes me wonder sometimes why I did what I did. I also believe what government says - "that it was a mistake to intern the West Coast evacuees. Yes, everyone makes mistakes and I shouldn't hold it against the ones who do. I myself have made a serious mistake and I now realize it more and more with the war ended. I would appreciate your fullest consideration in reviewing my status. I hope I will be given another chance to prove that I can be a good American.

I will briefly give you the status of our family as told to me by the relocation office here at Tule. They are as follows.

Frank Masao Sasaki	father	3+3	stopped
Ichiro Sasaki	mother	6	free
Ben Sasaki (myself)		3+3	stopped
George Hideo Sasaki	brother	3+3	"
Louis Sasaki	brother	4	Excluded

Although I believe my dad and brother will write to you too, I would like to speak for them

at this time and ask for your just consideration  
in reviewing their cases.

Awaiting your reply

I remain

Respectfully yours

Ben Sasaki

Age 21

family No. 38749

SANO, MISS TAMIYE

ans by form letter 9-14-45

SEP 12 1945

2 MINOR 18+20  
1-22

September 8, 1945

American Civil Liberties Union  
216 Pine Street  
San Francisco 4, California

Dear Sir:

I would like to present my case to you and seek your advise, which I need very badly.

Our family consists of the following members:--

NAME	RELATION- SHIP	AGE	SEX	BIRTHPLACE
SANO, Kusuo Ben	Head	49	M	Japan
SANO, Tamiye (Nanjo)	Stepdaughter	22	F -	U. S.
SANO, Kenji (Nanjo)	Stepson	20	M -	U. S.
SANO, Shoji (Nanjo)	Stepson	18	M -	U. S.
SANO, Tadahisa Clive	Son	10	M	U. S.
SANO, Etsuko Carolyn	Daughter	5	F	U. S.

We were questioned at the Manzanar Relocation Center, February, 1943. After consideration of the fact that my stepfather's request that he desired to return to Japan, by the Interviewing Board, we were sent up here to this camp.

We were transferred here from the abovementioned center because my stepfather was considered a "disloyal" alien -- not permitted to leave this camp under any circumstances.

After our arrival here, we were told that if an alien parent desired to return to Japan with his family, he must request for repatriation for himself and his family. So, on April 24, 1944, we sent our request to the Spanish Embassy.

Then, at the beginning of this year, we were told that if the parents are aliens and the children are citizens of this country, when the time came, the parents would be deported and the children detained in this country unless the citizens had requested for the renunciation of their citizenship. Or, if we chose to remain here, only the children could remain, but the parents would be deported due to their alien status. What choice did we have but to seek repatriation and renounce our citizenship because we do not have any desire whatsoever to have the family separated.

My late Mother is deceased as of February, 1943. As you can see by the list of the family members, there are 2 young children -- my stepbrother and stepsister, whose responsibility lie mainly on my shoulders because my stepfather is no longer young.

Because we would never want to be separated by a vast ocean, my brothers, Kenji and Shoji and myself requested for the renunciation of our citizenship, in February of this year, thinking that then, we would be together. So far, we have had no official word of acceptance of our renunciation from the Justice Department.

Just the other day, we discovered that my stepfather is on the Army free list, which entitles him to relocate anywhere. But we, the children cannot go out because we are now considered renunces -- controlled by the Department of Justice.

Since my stepfather cannot go back to Japan because of his present status for the time being, we would like to relocate and join his aged Mother and brothers who have resettled in Chicago.

If we had known that my stepfather was an excludee and free to leave camp, we would never have requested for repatriation nor would we have renounced our citizenship. We were under the impression that the only time he could leave camp was when we would be deported. So, we the citizens had to renounce our citizenship, since he was scheduled for deportation.

As soon as I discovered my stepfather's true status, which was just the other day, I immediately wrote letters to the Spanish and Swedish Embassy as well as the State Department, requesting to cancel our repatriation. I also wrote to the Department of Justice presenting the facts that we were misled, and requested to have our renunciation retracted.

I was told at the Relocation Office here, that they cannot do anything for us since we are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Justice now, and that the three of us (my brothers and myself) are listed as renunces headed for deportation.

We never had any desire to go to Japan in the first place. We've never been there. What knowledge we have of that country is through the facts told to us by our parents and the numerous propaganda talks. We had no choice but had to come here as my stepfather's dependents, since he was considered a "disloyal" enemy alien and transferred here.

We believed that the numerous propaganda talk and the misleading facts were true at that time because of the pressure put on us and we had been transferred from the Manzanar Center.

With the facts before you, is it possible to have our renunciation and repatriation requests retracted?

What steps must be taken, by the three of us, Kenji, Shoji and myself, to enable us to relocate with my stepfather and the younger children? Are there any chances for our relocation with the family?

We regret very much that we made such a grave mistake, but with such facts presented to us, we were led to believe that they were true.

We are anxious -- more than anxious to relocate and resettle ourselves in this country -- our native land, live peacefully and harmoniously among our neighbors, and abide by the laws set down by the Constitution of the United States.

Your help and advise concerning this difficult problem will be greatly appreciated. As soon as I receive your answer I shall be more than willing to follow out your advise.

Your answer pertaining to this matter, at your earliest convenience will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

Yours truly,

*(Miss) Tamiye (Manjo) Sano*  
(Miss) Tamiye (Manjo) Sano  
8313 - E  
Tulelake Relocation Center  
Newell, California

SHIMOZAKI

ans by form letter, 1-45

4501-C  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, Calif.

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

SEP 11 1945

Dear Sir:

I am one of the person in Tule Lake Center who had renounced my citizenship, and I am on the stop list of Department of Justice. Concerning to my citizenship I have written a letter to the Department of Justice on Aug. 25, 1945.

Sir: I would like to have a help from you in any way that I could get my clearane to relocated, since my parent and brothers have relocated already. I am also writting a letter to Department of Justice in Washington D.C. for the permission.

Very truly yours,

*Yoshie Shimozaki*

## WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Tule Lake Project  
Newell, California

In reply, please refer to:

18 yrs of age,

SEP 13 1945

8102-A, Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California  
September 11, 1945Mr. Ernest Besig  
American Civil Liberties Union  
216 Pine Street  
San Francisco, California

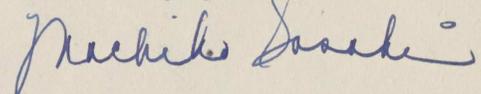
Dear Sir:

I wish to appeal to you to repudiate the renunciation of my U.S. citizenship, signed by myself some time ago, for which I have not yet received my official approval.

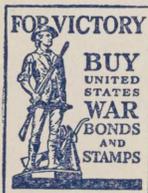
Being a native born American, 18 years of age, I have no other desire than to remain a citizen, enjoy the rights of a citizen and at the same time, be bound by the obligations of such citizenship. Being 18 years of age, it was not with my independent and free will that I signed on such a paper. I signed under duress.

I wish to ask you to give my case your full and kind consideration and reopen my case for a rehearing. I wish to prove evidence at this time to show that my renunciation is ineffective and void, because it was signed under duress.

Sincerely yours,



Machiko Sasaki



4911-D  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California

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

OCT 4 1945

Your Honor:

During the early winter of 1944-45 a heavy and vital problem of renunciation confronted us. I must admit that during almost three years of abnormal camp life my sense of reasoning and judgment had deteriorated to some extent and I was not capable of coping with such a problem in such a crisis. Under abnormal circumstances and confusion and rumors throughout the entire camp I requested a citizenship renunciation hearing by a Representative of the Department of Justice. Since then however, I have been reconsidering various points of importance. My propensity for listening to rumors, of which the Center was flooded with, and letting them influence me was so acute that it became the chief factor for my foolish act. The rumors caused me to become utterly hysterical, and without a thought in mind, other than the fears of forced relocation rumors and the pressures on us from the Hoshidan during such a crisis, I filled in form 401 (1) of the Nationality Act of 1940, signed, and sent them to you. I am now, after much thought and reconsideration, fully aware of the grave error which I committed, and I am deeply grieved and profusely ashamed of my stupidity and ignorance. I repudiate my signature as it was under pressure and ask a rehearing.

Adding to the humiliation of various causes was the evacuation which us of our homes and properties and finally the herding of us into a disagreeable camp with crowded quarters. I was interned in Hawaii without due reason for such actions on September 1942 and was sent to the Jerome Relocation Center in Arkansas on November of the same year. My occupation was a painter. At the time of my internment I was painting in a Navy yard in Hawaii.

I have never broken laws or forgotten duties as I am a law-abiding citizen. Like most others I was menaced and threatened by the fanatics (Hoshidan) at the time of the renunciation and signed because of pressures.

My wife also renounced because I had taken such actions. She has a brother in United States Armed Forces now in training in this country. I have also a daughter three years of age and a son nine and a half months old. My relatives reside in Hawaii. My wife's family are all in Hawaii. They are trying hard to assist us in relocating back to our homes in Hawaii. I feel safe now and I would like to help the family reestablish a normal family life again.

October 5, 1945.

Mr. & Mrs. Kazuji Shimabukuro,  
4911-D,  
Tule Lake Center,  
Newell, California.

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Shimabukuro:

This will acknowledge the receipt of a copy of your letter to Mr. Ennis repudiating the renunciations of your citizenship and asking a rehearing.

In addition to the repudiation, you should take prompt legal action, because, as you know, it is the intention of the Justice Department to deport all renunciants to Japan. I understand, too, that renunciants will be transferred first to isolated internment centers where it will be most difficult to procure legal assistance.

If you do not have sufficient funds to hire an attorney I trust you will join with others in the same predicament and pool your financial resources, for the purpose of securing legal help. All persons who want to remain in this country should act together. Test cases are of little use because the government will in the meantime deport those not covered by the particular suit.

I understand that the Justice Department is about to require renunciants to register as aliens. Persons like you should register under protest, asserting your United States citizenship. Be sure that your claim to United States citizenship is entered on the registration form. You can also claim your citizenship in a separate letter to be filed at the time you register.

The information I have is that the renunciants are organizing in an effort to challenge legally the entire renunciation and deportation program. However, unless swift action is taken, it may be too late to secure a legal remedy.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Besig, Director.

I was born in Hawaii on October 25, 1912 in Hawaii and was taken to Japan by my parents at an early age. I returned to Hawaii in 1930 where I took up the occupation of painter. My wife was born in Hawaii also on October 14, 1917. She was employed in a family until evacuation in Honolulu.

My wife and I both appeal to you, Your Honor, that through your humaneness and forgiveness you will regrant my status. If it is impossible for you to do so, I beg of you to put me on parole and give me a chance.

Thank you kindly.

Very truly yours,

*Kameji Shimabukuro*

ny  
10/1/45

Shimabukuro (Husband)

4911-D  
Tule Lake Center  
Newell, California

cc: Attorney General Clark  
Mr. Earnest Besig  
American Civil Liberties Union  
Community Analysis Section  
Tule Lake Center  
Harold L. Ickes  
Secretary of the Interior  
Personal File

*Toshiko Shimabukuro*

Shimabukuro (Wife)