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Sato, Sumiko

1955 - 1961

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THE FOREIGN SERVICE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

American Consulate General,  
24 Kyo-machi, Ikuta Ku, Kobe,  
July 8, 1955.

Miss Sumiko Satow,  
4435 Ihara-mura,  
Takata-gun, Hiroshima Ken.

Madam:

Reference is made to your letter of July 4, 1955 concerning your desire to regain your American citizenship.

Since you had voted in the Japanese political elections of October 1, and 5, 1952, you do not appear to be eligible to be repatriated under Public Law 515, 83rd Congress, which provides for the expeditious naturalization of former citizens of the United States who lost United States citizenship by voting in a political election or plebiscite held in Japan between September 2, 1945 and April 27, 1952, inclusive, and who have not, subsequent to such voting, committed any other expatriative act.

However, should you desire to appeal to the Board of Review of the Passport Office of the Department of State with regard to the decision that you have lost your American citizenship, you are requested to carefully follow the procedure outlined in the enclosed form letter.

Very truly yours,

For the Consul General:

Maida F. Stotts  
American Vice Consul

Enclosure:

Kobe form 110.



THE FOREIGN SERVICE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

American Consulate General,  
24 Kyo-machi, Ikuta Ku, Kobe,

REGISTERED

There is enclosed your copy of the Certificate of the Loss of the Nationality of the United States executed here on \_\_\_\_\_ and approved by the Department of State on \_\_\_\_\_

You are hereby notified that you have the privilege of appealing to the Board of Review of the Passport Office, Department of State, with regard to the decision that you have lost your American nationality. Your appeal must be based on other than hardship or humanitarian grounds; otherwise, it cannot be entertained. If you have new or additional evidence to submit, or if you have legal grounds for believing that your case merits reversal of the decision, you may present the appeal through a Foreign Service office, or a duly authorized attorney in the United States. No formal application for reconsideration need be made but a statement should be submitted, in duplicate in either English or Japanese, preferably under oath, giving the grounds of the appeal and should be supported by such documentary evidence as may be available.

Your statement should be complete; outlining in detail each reason you have for believing that the Department of State's action in approving your loss of American nationality was incorrect. You should explain in detail the circumstances which surrounded your performing the act which caused loss of your American nationality; include all pertinent documentary evidence available. If the act which caused your expatriation was the result of mistake, coercion, or duress, you should explain the circumstances, giving precise names and dates. It would be to your advantage if you appeared here in person when submitting your statement.

Very truly yours,

For the Consul General:

Enclosure:

Certificate of the Loss of  
the Nationality of the United States.

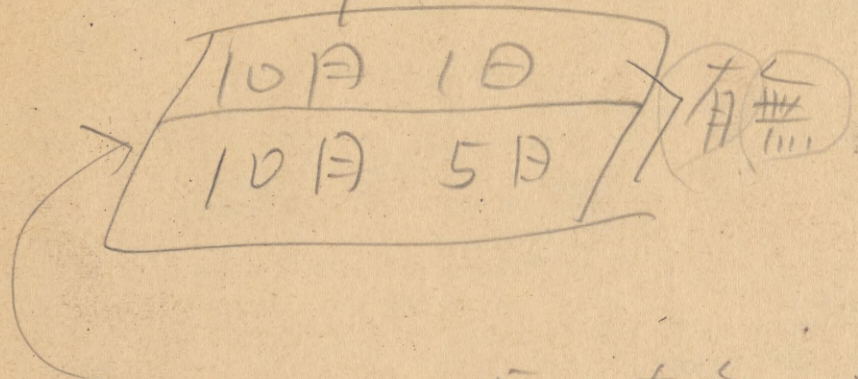


② 昭和 27 年 4 月 27 日迄

投票 ~~料~~ = 一冊 兼口 務ヲ失フガ

法 515 = コリ 帰化 出 来ル

③ 昭和 27 年 4 月 28 日 以後、投票



① 10-1 10-5 / 有無ヲ 調査スルコト

② 投票ヲ 強制セラルコト 具体的ナ

实例、人ノ 知テ、切實、年月日

理由等 ヲ 示シテ 書スルコト

③ 貴女、邦人トシテ、自覚 悟覚 悟

[ 強迫セラルコト 事実 ]

gist of letter on  
reverse.





THE FOREIGN SERVICE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

American Consulate General,  
24 Kyo-machi, Ikuta Ku, Kobe,  
November 16, 1955.

Mrs. Sumiko Satow,  
Ihara-mura, Takata-gun,  
Hiroshima Ken.

Madam:

The receipt is acknowledged of your statement regarding the circumstances under which you voted in a Japanese political election.

Inasmuch as you did not submit any new or additional evidence to show that your act of voting was under the circumstances amounting to duress, it is not believed that your case merits reversal of the decision of the Department of State that you lost United States citizenship under the provisions of Section 401(e) of the Nationality Act of 1940. Your statement is therefore returned to you herewith.

Should you still desire to appeal to the Board of Review, it is suggested that you read carefully the Kobe Form 110 which was forwarded to you on July 8, 1955 and follow the procedure outlined in that letter.

Very truly yours,

For the Consul:

Maida F. Stotts  
American Vice Consul

Enclosure:

Your statement regarding voting  
in a Japanese election.



# QUESTIONNAIRE FOR STRANDEES

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

- State your fully name. Sumiko SATO (now divorced)
- Male? ☐ Female? ☒ Maiden Name?
- Birth place? Ogden, Utah Birth date? July 29, 1923
- Was your name ever registered with a Japanese Consulate for the purpose of reserving your Japanese nationality?   
When? I do not recall when I was 4 yrs of age when I returned to Japan
- Have you ever renounced Japanese Nationality? None When?   
Where?

- What schools did you attend in Japan? Ibara Shogakko; Mukaihara Koto Gyo-gakko Where? Tokata Gifu; Hiroshima Ken, Japan  
State the years you attended those schools. 1930 — 1940

- State the periods you visited Japan and the purposes of each visit.

1927 to present  
When did you last return to Japan? 1927  
Why did you return to Japan? I was 4 yrs of age when my parents decided to return to Japan -

- Did you have a U.S. Passport at the time you last went to Japan? yes  
Have you that passport now? no What became of it?

My elder brother in Chicago has the passport Kiroski Sato 1330 N. La Salle St Chicago 19, Illinois  
What other documents did you then have to establish your identity as a U.S. citizen? certified copy of birth - which is now in my brother's possession  
Do you have those documents now? no What became of them?

Did you then have a visa from a Japanese consul? yes Have you that vise now? no  
What became of it? it's with my brother

- Did you then have a Japanese passport? ? Do you have it now?   
What became of it?

- Why were you in Japan when the war started on Dec. 7, 1941? We were unable to locate my mother in the state, and I was unable to go to U.S. without his assistance

What was your occupation in Japan when the war started on Dec. 7, 1941?

has a dual citizen



was working in the factory - spinning mill

Where were you then living in Japan? Akayama, Bizen.

6. Are you married or single? single <sup>(was divorced)</sup> What is the name of your spouse  
(wife or husband)? Yasuo Kiyohara Kihara Where does your  
spouse (wife or husband) live? Saragai, Nerokuma-shi, Japan  
When were you married? Aug 18, 1947 Where were you married?  
Nerokuma-shi, Japan What is the citizenship of your spouse  
(wife or husband)? Japanese national Where was your spouse  
(wife or husband) born? Nishi owa cho, Nerokuma-shi, Japan  
Name and address of your father? Genichi Sato, -now deceased  
(about 1947) Of what country is he a citizen? Japan

Name and address of your mother?

Mrs. Miyaw Sato - Shiraki-cho, Ibara, Takata-gun,  
Nerokuma-ken, Japan. Of what country is  
she a citizen? Japanese

7. Names, birthdates and birthplaces of each of your children?

Shizuya Kihara - 4/8/1949 at Japan; Yoshiko Kihara -  
10/19/1950 at Japan  
divorced 7/25/1952 - I have custody of Shizuya.

RE: VOTING

8. Since returning to Japan have you voted in any elections? yes

Where? Ibara, Takata-gun Years you voted? 1/22/1951, 10/1/1952,  
Nerokuma-ken. 10/5/52, 4/19/53, 4/24/53, 2/19/53

In what elections? Nerokuma-ken government, assembly men, school board, etc see details  
Why did you vote in those elections?

school children came from the school, and took me to the polls.  
They came in group of four or five, and came about 6 times  
on each election.

9. Did you receive any instructions to vote? yes. From what sources?

from "yakuba" printed instruction came Were the instructions printed?

yes. What Allied military officers told you to vote? none

Did you vote because of  
printed instructions of the Army of occupation? no

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

What did you believe would happen to you if you didn't vote?



10. What Japanese officials instructed you to vote? Mr. Kubota of "Yakubu"  
who was in charge of election told me to vote Were those instructions  
printed ones? \_\_\_\_\_ Verbal? yes

11. my mother + mother told me to vote, but I could not avoid the official  
State the names and addresses of the neighbors who told you to vote  
none

What did they tell you would happen to you if you didn't vote? \_\_\_\_\_

12. What did you believe or fear would happen to you if you didn't vote? I

was called a traitor if I did not (Lose ration card? none)  
vote. This was after I had refused to vote  
inasmuch as we resided in a rural area, all the neighbors would  
talk about me and WE: KOSEKI REGISTRATION we cannot live in such a  
place. I will be completely ostracized.

13. Was your name registered in a family Koseki in Japan? yes

When? 1952 Where? Ubara, Takata gun By whom? mother

Himekuma - Ken  
Did you personally apply to be register-

ed in a Koseki? no When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_

Where did you go to apply to be registered? \_\_\_\_\_

When? \_\_\_\_\_ Why did you apply to be registered? \_\_\_\_\_

14. If someone other than you personally registered your name in a  
Koseki state who it was who registered you. mother - Miyama Sato

What relation is that person to you? mother

Why were you registered in a Koseki? After I had divorced my

husband, my father (mother) placed my name in the  
family register

15. Were you registered in a Koseki since your last return to Japan 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? yes or would have been punished, and, if so, by whom?

cannot get food ration and why? as everything was limited as to the number in the family. Anything  
in excess was appropriated by the government

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?



State what other reasons caused you to register.

RE: CONSCRIPTION

16. Were you conscripted in the Japanese armed forces? no

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

What was your address at the time you were conscripted? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ With whom were you then living? \_\_\_\_\_

What was your occupation at that time? \_\_\_\_\_

Name and address of your employer at that time? \_\_\_\_\_

Place where you then were working \_\_\_\_\_

If you were attending school at that time state the name of the school

\_\_\_\_\_ State type of school \_\_\_\_\_

Were you then single? \_\_\_\_\_ Married? \_\_\_\_\_

17. What was the first notice you received that you had to register for the draft under the Japanese draft law? \_\_\_\_\_

Was it a written notice? \_\_\_\_\_ Verbal notice? \_\_\_\_\_

What was the date of that notice? \_\_\_\_\_ Have you that notice? \_\_\_\_\_

(If so, attach it to this questionnaire). What did that notice instruct you to do? \_\_\_\_\_

18. Where did you report to the draft authorities? \_\_\_\_\_

Were those draft authorities civilians? \_\_\_\_\_ or Japanese military

authorities? \_\_\_\_\_ Were you given a medical examination by the draft

authorities? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_

What other notices did you receive from the draft authorities? \_\_\_\_\_

State whether you received those notices by mail or whether they were personally delivered to you. \_\_\_\_\_

19. Did you inform the Japanese civilian draft authorities that you were a

U.S. citizen? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_

Who was present? \_\_\_\_\_



If you told that personally to a civilian draft officer state the name of the officer and his title \_\_\_\_\_

What is his present address? \_\_\_\_\_

What did he say to you when you stated you were a U.S. citizen? \_\_\_\_\_

Will he be willing to give you an affidavit stating those facts? \_\_\_\_\_

20. Did you inform the Japanese military draft authorities that you were a U.S. citizen? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_

If you told that personally to a Japanese military draft officer state the name of the officer and his grade or rank \_\_\_\_\_

What is the present address of that officer? \_\_\_\_\_

Will he be willing to give you an affidavit stating those facts? \_\_\_\_\_

21. If you didn't tell the civilian or military draft officers that you were a U.S. citizen why didn't you do so? \_\_\_\_\_

What did you fear would happen to you if you told him (or them) you were a U.S. citizen? \_\_\_\_\_

Were you afraid to tell the conscripting civilian officers -- or military officers -- that you were a U.S. citizen? \_\_\_\_\_ Why? \_\_\_\_\_

22. Did you tell the civilian conscripting officers that you did not wish to serve in the Japanese armed forces? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

To what officers did you tell that? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ State their names and addresses \_\_\_\_\_

Will they be willing to give you affidavits stating that fact? \_\_\_\_\_

23. Did you tell the military authorities -- or civil authorities -- that you did not wish to serve in the Japanese armed forces? \_\_\_\_\_

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

To what officers? \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_ State their names and present addresses \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Who was present at the time? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Will any of them be willing to give you an affidavit stating the fact you notified those authorities you did not wish to serve in the Japanese armed forces? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you write any letters to the civilian or military draft authorities stating that you were a U.S. citizen and not subject to conscription in the Japanese forces? \_\_\_\_\_ Date of letter \_\_\_\_\_

(If you did, attach a copy of that letter to this questionnaire.)

What did you fear would happen to you if you refused to be conscripted?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

24. Did you fear you would be punished by the Japanese civil authorities for refusing to obey the draft law? \_\_\_\_\_ What penalty or punishment did you fear you would be subjected to if you refused? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

25. Did you fear also that the Japanese military authorities would punish you if you refused to be conscripted? \_\_\_\_\_ What punishment did you fear they would subject you to? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

26. Did you apply for a deferment, postponement or delay of your conscription?  
\_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_

To what office? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you do this verbally? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ in writing? \_\_\_\_\_

(If in writing attach a copy of that letter or memorandum to this questionnaire.) If you haven't a copy state the language and contents of that letter or memorandum \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Were you afraid to apply for a deferment, postponement or delay in your conscription? \_\_\_\_\_ Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



What did you fear would happen to you if you did? \_\_\_\_\_

What answer were you given to this request? \_\_\_\_\_

Was it a verbal answer? \_\_\_\_\_ Was it a written answer? \_\_\_\_\_

(Attach a copy of your written answer to this questionnaire.) If you haven't a copy state the substance of that answer \_\_\_\_\_

27. Did you make a second request for deferment, postponement or delay? \_\_\_\_\_

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

To whom and to what office? \_\_\_\_\_

What answer did you receive? \_\_\_\_\_

Was this answer verbal? \_\_\_\_\_ written? \_\_\_\_\_ (Attach the letter or copy of the answer you received.)

28. What date were you conscripted (drafted) into the Japanese armed forces? \_\_\_\_\_

Where were you conscripted? \_\_\_\_\_

What was your first rank or grade in the armed forces of Japan? \_\_\_\_\_

29. Were you required to take an oath of allegiance to Japan at the time of conscription? \_\_\_\_\_

Where did you serve in the Japanese armed forces? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you receive any promotions in the Japanese armed forces? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_

To what rank or grade? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you take an oath of allegiance to Japan at the time of promotion? \_\_\_\_\_

How long did you serve in the Japanese armed forces? \_\_\_\_\_

When were you released from services in the Japanese armed forces? \_\_\_\_\_

While in the service did you participate in any skirmish or battle against the U.S. armed forces? \_\_\_\_\_

Against what other Allied armed forces did you participate in any skirmish or battle? \_\_\_\_\_

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

In what battles? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you surrender and were you a prisoner of war? \_\_\_\_\_

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



To what U.S. or Allied troops? \_\_\_\_\_

When were you released from detention? \_\_\_\_\_

Where were you when released? \_\_\_\_\_

RE: APPLICATION TO RETURN TO U.S.

30. Before or after war first broke out on Dec. 7, 1941, did you apply to a U.S. Consul or the U.S. Embassy in Japan to return to the U.S.? none

When? Did not know where to do until that time

To what consulate or embassy? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you apply to the Swiss, Swedish or other consular or diplomatic office to send you back to the U.S.? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_

Where? \_\_\_\_\_ To what office? \_\_\_\_\_

What answer did you receive? \_\_\_\_\_

31. Before war broke out on Dec. 7, 1941, or afterward, did you apply for boat passage to return to the U.S.? none When? \_\_\_\_\_

Where? \_\_\_\_\_ To what company or office did you apply for transportation to return to the U.S.? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you make that application orally? \_\_\_\_\_ Did you make it in writing? \_\_\_\_\_ (If it was in writing attach a copy of your letter or application for such passage to the U.S.) Did you receive booking on any boat that was to take you to the U.S.? \_\_\_\_\_

On what date were you to sail? \_\_\_\_\_ From what port? \_\_\_\_\_ Name of ship? \_\_\_\_\_

If you didn't apply for passage to return to the U.S. state why you didn't do so. \_\_\_\_\_

RE: APPLICATION FOR INTERNMENT

32. Did you apply to the Japanese authorities during the war to be interned as a U.S. citizen? none When? \_\_\_\_\_

Where? \_\_\_\_\_ To what office did he apply? \_\_\_\_\_



What answer did you receive to your request? \_\_\_\_\_

Was the answer a verbal one? \_\_\_\_\_ Was it in writing? \_\_\_\_\_

(If in writing, attach the letter or memorandum to this questionnaire.)

If you do not have a copy of the letter or memorandum, state in substance what the writing stated. \_\_\_\_\_

RE: REGISTRATION AS ALIEN IN JAPAN

33. Before, during or since the war have you been registered as a U.S. alien in Japan? none When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_
- Were you registered with a U.S. Consul or U.S. Embassy in Japan as a U.S. citizen? never When? 1953 Where? Kobe, Japan
- Were you required to report to the Japanese police? none When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_ How often? \_\_\_\_\_
- Did the police visit you? none When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_ How often? \_\_\_\_\_

RE: EXPATRIATING ACTIONS

34. Have you ever filed with any office in Japan any affidavit or statement claiming or stating that you were a Japanese citizen? none When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_
- For what purpose did you file that? \_\_\_\_\_
- Have you ever applied for or received any benefit or right in Japan that is granted only to Japanese citizens? none When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_ What was the right or benefit you were applying for? \_\_\_\_\_ Did you receive that right or benefit? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_
35. Have you ever applied to a Japanese government office or officer for a Japanese passport? none When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_ Did you receive it? \_\_\_\_\_



When? \_\_\_\_\_ For what purpose did you use it? \_\_\_\_\_

What became of that Japanese passport? \_\_\_\_\_

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

To what office did you make that application? \_\_\_\_\_

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

Were you naturalized? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_

What document did you receive showing you were naturalized? \_\_\_\_\_

Date of that document? \_\_\_\_\_

37. Have you, since returning to Japan been employed by the Japanese Government or any agency of the Japanese Government? none

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

RE: SERVICE TO U.S.

38. Have you worked for the United States Government or Allied Military authorities while in Japan? none For what service? \_\_\_\_\_

In what capacity? \_\_\_\_\_ Where did you perform your work? \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of your employment \_\_\_\_\_

39. Have you ever served in the armed forces of the U.S.? none

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.? \_\_\_\_\_



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

RE: OTHER DATA

41. What is your occupation now? assisting my new wife's shop

Where do you work? Shara, Takata gun, Hiroshima-ken, Japan

What property do you own in Japan? none

Nature of that property? \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated valuation of that property? \_\_\_\_\_

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

brother Hiroshi Satow 1330 N. La Salle St, Chicago 10, Illinois

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

only my mother in U.S.

43. Have you filed an application with a U.S. Consul in Japan for a U.S. passport? yes When did you file it? 1953

With what U.S. Consul did you file it? Kobe, Japan

(Attach a copy of the application you filed with the U.S. Consul)

What reasons did the U.S. Consul give you for refusing to issue you a passport? - all in possession of my brother's hand

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

44. Did you take an appeal from the Consul's refusal? none

When? \_\_\_\_\_ (Attach a copy of that appeal to this questionnaire.) What decision was made on that appeal? \_\_\_\_\_

(Attach a copy of that decision to this questionnaire.)

Date: June 26, 1957

佐藤 スミ子

Signature

Shiraki-cho, Shara, Takata gun,  
Hiroshima-ken, Japan

Address

none

Telephone Number



WB

---

And says he ytht  
Wth & it doesnt  
embod in the to  
embod U.S. in frag affairs  
H. J. P. m.  
H.



Who told you to vote — name — address ?

Why did you refuse to vote?

When did you tell you didn't wish to vote?



Chyo:  
What do these  
letters in Japanese  
stand for?

Dots, punctures

Attachee - translated in yellow sheet

du



SATOW, Sumiko

Appeal to Consul

I have received notice from the Consul (of ~~my~~ denial) and I am re-appealing as a last resort to you. With reference to my voting, All those of age received notice from authorities in charge of election to go out and vote. Even the children were sent around to see that we voted and my mother said that I should vote so long as I was living there and then we believed that we will have returned to ~~us~~ us our farmland. Not knowing any better I voted and had no (bad) intent.

I have been separated from my husband for six years and have been living ~~myx~~ with my one daughter at my mother's who was all alone until I returned to Japan. where we tilled ~~our~~ our small plot of land. Later after my return our land was taken away and today I ~~am living with my mother~~ my daughter and I are living with my mother but my daughter and I see no future here. If at all possible I would like to return to the United States with my daughter. I beg of you to reconsider my case and I pray to God for aid.

To the U.S. Consul

October ~~XX~~ 24

SATO, Sumiko

-----  
received  
I have/the documents from my elder brother but my birth certificate was not ~~included~~ included. According to a letter from my elder sister she suggested I should send a letter (for aid) to a lawyer and that they be resubmitted. Should I need my birth certificate I will have my brother obtain it for me? What is your opinion? However, <sup>if</sup> it is needed immediately, I will have to ~~xxxx~~ ask Mr. Nakamura a favor to have him obtain it for me.



AFS

謝 願 書

私市民権回復に就きまゝは再度即手数を煩はし誠に  
恐れ入ります 貴館より即通知を受取りまゝ以来  
は如何致したる良しか不意の日々を送りて居りまゝたか  
最後の即願いと思ひ立ち重ねて謝願致す次第イ  
あります 投票に就きまゝは當地では丁年者は誰も

皆是非共投票致さねばならんと投票係りから通知  
があり地方の人も進め、学校生徒まで拙宅へ来ま  
すので、母も妻女が家に居る以上は投票致せ、投票致  
しつて置けば多人数を見留め、曲成地方での土地も返  
しせむへるからと進められ誰人も法律的な事を注意し  
て居る者も無く何の事情も知らずに間違ひを致しまゝ  
に残念に思つて居ります 私く遇かたを後悔ありな

CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
Kobe, Japan

NOV 4 - 1955  
AM 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 PM

私は六年前夫と別れ女の子一人連れゝ母の元に帰り  
て居りますか、私が帰りますまでは母一人を第を連れ



No. ....  
の農業の爲め少一ばかり土地を自作致して居りま  
たのい 私共自家に歸りましても 農地が土地は取られ  
只今母と同居致しては、 居りましても今後私共親子  
二人は日本で生活の道が無つてあります 出来得ま  
せば 我子供一人を米國市民として連れ歸りたい  
あります 私は只今まで間違ひ居りませんが 私の身  
上師 際一下さるまい 貴館の勸教を判断を下され  
度神に誓う歎願致します

十月二十四日

佐藤 スミ子

米國領事館御中



Henry Satow

1330. N. La. Salle St.

Chicago 10. Ill.



前日 参りまゝ一 大変 御心配お掛け致し  
まゝた お見送り所から 書類を送つ

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お願ひ致します

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お願ひ致します



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左記の事由により持戻りました

市内

月 7

集配員

区 4 日

号便

市内

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区

日

号便

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受取人不在

受取人宛所に尋ね当たらない

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HOTEL, NEW HIROSHIMA, HIROSHIMA

株式会社 新廣島ホテル

7月29日  
広島郵便局  
広島電報局

御中

大阪市北区中之島

新大塚ビル

中村哲次郎様



書留

様

テル

會堂横





廣島市公會堂横

新廣島市

村哲次郎様

書留



廣島縣白木町字井原

佐藤スミ子



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

November 13, 1957

Mrs. Sumiko Sato  
Shiraki-cho, Ibara,  
Takata-gun, Hiroshima-ken,  
Japan

Dear Mrs. Sato:

The U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, D.C., recently heard re-arguments it had ordered to be made in three cases pending before it testing the law passed by Congress which provided that service by a U.S. citizen in a foreign army was an act of expatriation costing such persons loss of U.S. citizenship. A final decision and opinion probably will be handed down by the Supreme Court within the next three months time.

It is possible that the Supreme Court may decide in those cases that the U.S. law which provides that service in a foreign army costs a U.S. citizen his U.S. citizenship may be void on its face or as applied for being contrary to the U.S. Constitution. It is also possible that it may decide that a U.S. citizen who was drafted into the armed forces of Japan during the war did not obey voluntarily but only under the compulsion and duress of the draft law of Japan which provided for punishment for violations of that draft law.

Therefore, until the U.S. Supreme Court decides the cases now pending before it and which it has taken under submission it is best that no immediate steps be taken by you to obtain a U.S. passport. If the Supreme Court decides the cases favorably it is possible that a U.S. Consul thereafter may issue a U.S. passport to you without further complications. Therefore, I suggest that you wait patiently until the Court decides those cases and I will notify you promptly of its decision and of its effect on your citizenship status and if it then becomes necessary for you to take legal steps to have your U.S. citizenship determined I shall inform you and proceed to take the necessary steps.

Very truly yours,



WAYNE M. COLLINS  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
MILLS TOWER, 220 BUSH STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO 4, CALIFORNIA  
TELEPHONE GARFIELD 1-1218

Wm. Collins  
211-1111  
Takes  
Jenny

Wm. Collins



Mrs. Sumiko Sato

Strauss

Shiraki-cho, Ibara,  
Takata-gun, Hiroshima-Ken,  
Japan.

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

Dear Mr. W. M. Collins:

I duly received your letter bearing  
the date of November 13, 1957, with many thanks. Though  
I do not fully understand the said three cases  
and the law passed by the Congress, nevertheless  
I will be waiting for your further information  
with great anticipation.

Thanking for your kind instructions,

yours very truly,

Sumiko Sato.



This space is also for correspondence.

ここにも通信文を記載することができます

Mrs. Sumiko Sato  
Shiraki-cho, Ibara,  
Takata-gun, Hiroshima,  
Japan.



PAR AVION  
航空

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

この郵便物には何物も封入又は添附できません  
Nothing may be contained in or attached to this letter.

折込線

折込線

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This space is also for correspondence.



What does she mean  
that this is a  
stranger and her  
mother's family

---

More of much



Shandee

Mr. Wayne M. Collins

March 30, 1958.

Dear Sir :

I must commence my letter by thanking you most sincerely for your promptitude in replying to ~~my~~ last no less than for excellent suggestion you have so liberally bestowed upon me.

Again apologising for thus intruding on your valuable time, but I wish you would kindly give me another information as to whether or not any decision on those matters in question have been ~~made~~ handed down by the Supreme Court by this time. If something unexpected on the part of the Supreme Court has happened to these matters and the re-arguments have not been made yet, I think, as you suggested in your last letter, I have to keep waiting until the Court makes the final decision.

Awaiting the favour of your answer at your earliest convenience,

Very Truly Yours,  
Sumiko Sato.



This space is also for correspondence.

ここにも通信文を記載することができます

Mrs. Sumiko Sato  
Siraiki-cho, Ibara,  
Taketa-gun, Hiroshima,  
Japan.



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

PAR AVION  
航空

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折込線

折込線

ここにも通信文を記載することができます

This space is also for correspondence.



May 13, 1958

Mrs. Sumiko Sato  
Shiraki-cho, Ibara,  
Takata-gun, Hiroshima-ken  
Japan

Dear Mrs. Sato: On March 31, 1958, the U. S. Supreme Court held in the case of Perez v. Brownell that an American citizen who votes in a "political election" in a foreign country loses his U.S. citizenship if he voted voluntarily even though he did not know he would lose his citizenship by so voting. However, if the voting was caused by duress, coercion or undue influence it was involuntary and would not cause him to lose U.S. citizenship.

To prove that your voting was involuntary the State Department will require evidence that you voted under duress, coercion or undue influence. It will require a statement from you, under oath, stating the reasons why you voted. Affidavits from other persons having knowledge of the fact that you were forced to vote and that you voted because of fear of punishment if you didn't can be used to support your statement.

If you voted because you were notified or heard that General MacArthur or SCAP or the U.S. or Allied military officers had ordered all residents in Japan to vote and you believed and feared that if you didn't vote that you would be punished for violating military orders your voting was involuntary. (The State Department also may take the view that voting in Japan while it was occupied by the Allied Powers did not constitute voting in a "political election" in a "foreign state".) If you voted because Japanese municipal officers notified you and you believed and feared that you as a resident must vote or be punished under Japanese law or by order of the Occupation authorities, your voting was involuntary. If you voted because you were notified by the Occupation authorities, or by Japanese civil authorities or by Japanese neighbors that you would be deprived of a ration card if you didn't vote and you believed and feared you would be deprived of a ration card and might starve if you didn't vote your voting was involuntary. If you were notified to vote and you voted because of other fears of what would be done to you or what would happen to you if you failed or refused to vote your voting was involuntary.

If you already have applied to a U.S. Consul in Japan for a U.S. passport or you are about to do so it will be necessary for you to make a complete statement to the Consul, under oath, revealing the reasons why you were compelled to vote. In that statement you must explain the fears that drove you to vote in order to prove to the Consul that you were under threats or mental pressure to vote



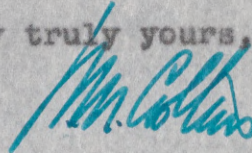
and that your voting was involuntary because it was caused by your fear of some form of punishment being inflicted upon you if you didn't vote, such as punishment by the Occupation military authorities, or by the Japanese police or other civil authorities, or by the loss of some right such as being deprived of a ration card.

You must keep a written copy of any statement you make or have made to the U.S. Consul which explains the reasons why you voted and you should send a copy of it to me.

If the U.S. Consul and the State Department can be convinced by your own statement, under oath, supported if possible by affidavits of other persons acquainted with the facts, that you voted because of your fear of punishment in some form from the Occupation authorities or from the Japanese authorities or your fear of the loss of a ration card the State Department should hold that you did not lose your U.S. citizenship and should issue a U.S. passport to you. (If the State Department denies you a U.S. Passport an application thereafter can be made for a Certificate of Identity to enable you to return to the U.S. to have a U.S. District Court decide whether or not you lost your citizenship by voting in Japan.)

I would thank you to let me know by return mail whether you have applied for a U.S. passport and, if so, what decision the Consul has made on it.

Very truly yours,



WMC:fd

Smooth Erase

Union Skin

NO CONTENT



Chgo

Transit  
Society

gone  
down

Planned general  
letter to the public

Should proceed to vote?



Certification of voting record of Sato, (Satow), Sumiko

Voting record at Hiroshima Ken, Ihara-mura

January 22, 1951	Hiroshima Ken Governor
October 1, 1952	House members
October 5, 1952	Education board members
April 19, 1953	House members
April 24, 1953	Council members
February 19, 1953	Village mayor
December 7, 1954	Hiroshima Ken Governor

It is hereby certified that the above voting record is correct.

Dated: February 10, 1955

Hiroshima Ken, Takata Gun, Ihara Mura, Election Office,  
Chief Officer, Hayakawa, Shigeru (Official Seal)



選挙投票証明書

住所 広島縣高田郡井原村四四三五番地

氏名

佐々藤 スミ子

右の者の選挙権行使状況の通り相違ないことを証明する

選挙年の期日	選挙の種類	投票場所	選挙権行使の有無
昭和二十六年一月三日執行	広島縣知事選挙	井原村公民館	投票しない
昭和二十七年十月十日執行	衆議院議員選挙	ク	投票済み
昭和二十七年十月十日執行	広島縣教育委員選挙	ク	投票済み
昭和二十八年四月九日執行	衆議院議員選挙	ク	投票済み
昭和二十八年四月十日執行	参議院議員選挙	ク	投票済み
昭和二十八年二月十九日執行	井原村長選挙	ク	投票済み
昭和二十九年七月七日執行	広島縣知事選挙	ク	投票しない

昭和三十年二月十日

広島縣高田郡井原村選挙管理委員会委員長 早川 茂

高田郡井原村選挙管理委員会

Sato Sumiko



August 25, 1958

Mrs. Sumiko Sato  
Shiraki-cho, Ibara,  
Takata-gun, Hiroshima-ken  
Japan

Dear Mrs. Sato:

In order for me to take an appeal to the Board of Review of the Passport Office in Washington, D.C., in your case, I would thank you to give me your answers to the following questions:

1. What was your maiden name? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What was the date of your divorce from your husband, Yasuo Kiyohara? \_\_\_\_\_
3. During your marriage did you and your husband live with your father-in-law and, if so, where? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Did your husband coerce you to vote in 1951? \_\_\_\_\_  
Did your husband coerce you to vote in 1952? \_\_\_\_\_  
Did your husband coerce you to vote in 1953? \_\_\_\_\_  
Did your husband coerce you to vote in 1954? \_\_\_\_\_  
  
(If your husband ordered you to vote that may be considered to be coercion by the State Department and, if so, it might not hold you responsible for that reason.)
5. Did your father-in-law coerce you to vote in 1951? \_\_\_\_\_  
Did your father-in-law coerce you to vote in 1952? \_\_\_\_\_  
Did your father-in-law coerce you to vote in 1953? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Were you on food rations in 1951? \_\_\_\_\_  
Were you on food rations in 1952? \_\_\_\_\_  
Were you on food rations in 1953? \_\_\_\_\_  
Were you on food rations in 1954? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Did you possess a ration card in 1951? \_\_\_\_\_  
Did you possess a ration card in 1952? \_\_\_\_\_  
Did you possess a ration card in 1953? \_\_\_\_\_  
Did you possess a ration card in 1953? \_\_\_\_\_  
Did you possess a ration card in 1954? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What was the last year you were in possession of a ration card? \_\_\_\_\_
9. What was the last year in which you received rations under a rationing system in Japan? \_\_\_\_\_



Aug. 25, 1958

10. After your divorce where did you live? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. What is the name of your mother? \_\_\_\_\_
12. In what year did you go to live with your mother in Hiroshima?  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. Did your mother pressure you to participate in the voting in 1952?  
Did your mother pressure you to participate in the voting in 1953?  
Did your mother pressure you to participate in the voting in 1954? \_\_\_\_\_

If you can answer the above questions and it appears to me from your answers that your husband, father-in-law, mother, neighbors or local officials in addition to attempting to persuade you to vote also put pressure on you to vote, I may be able to prepare an affidavit, hoping that the State Department may view your voting as having been caused by coercion. However, if it appears that you were not induced to vote, especially in the years 1952, 1953 and 1954, by coercion that there may be a chance to convince the State Department that a dual citizen has a right to vote in Japan despite the recent Supreme Court ruling.

Very truly yours,

WMC:fd



Oct. 5, 1958

Dear Mr. Wayne M. Calins:

I have just received your kind letter of August 25 and it gave me much delight as I was in dismay how to take an appeal to the Board of Review of Passport Office in Washington D. C. I now willingly I answer your questions plainly. Perhaps I believe you may realize the awkward situation I was put in and the unexpected consequences I am now confronted.

answer to your questions

- ✓ 1. What is your maiden name? Miss. Sumiko Sato ✓
2. What was the date of your divorce from your husband, Jasuo Kihara (not Kiyo-hara). June 25, 1950
- ↑



3. During your marriage did you and your husband live with your father-in-law, if so, where?

We have no father-in-law.

4. Did your husband coerce you to vote in 1951?  
Did your husband coerce you to vote in 1952?  
Did your husband coerce you to vote in 1953?  
Did your husband coerce you to vote in 1954?  
already divorced (Ref. 2)

5. Did your father-in-law coerce you to vote in 1951?  
Did your father-in-law coerce you to vote in 1952?  
Did your father-in-law coerce you to vote in 1953?  
Ref. 3



6. Were you on food rations in 1951?  
Were you on food rations in 1952?  
Were you on food rations in 1953?  
Were you on food rations in 1954?

Divorced, I had no other way to go back to  
my mother's home and there lived on Rice held  
in stock retained by the producer, my mother.  
Besides everything depend on mother.

7. Did you possess a ration card in 1951?  
Did you possess a ration card in 1952?  
Did you possess a ration card in 1952?  
Did you possess a ration card in 1953?  
Did you possess a ration card in 1954?



I, myself, have no ration card, but my  
mother had one in which a fixed amount of  
Rice to be retained as a producer regulated  
in proportion to her family.

8. What was the last year you were in possession  
of a ration card?

Ref. 7.

9. What was the last year in which you received rations  
under a rationing system in Japan?

Rationing system in Japan is still in  
practice. So far as I am concerned,  
it can be said I am receiving a kind of  
rations (Ref. 6) Japan to-day



2. Years  
of youth

maintains the nations in Rice, its staple food,  
but nowadays as a matter of fact food can  
be got even so much for money.

10. After your divorce where did you live?

Shiraki-cho, Ibara, Takata-gun, Hiroshima  
prefecture (all the time after divorce live  
with my mother)

11. What was the name of your mother?

Mrs. Miyano Sato

12. In what year did you go to live with your mother  
in Hiroshima?

From July 25, 1950 (since divorce)



13. Did your mother pressure you to participate in the voting in 1952?  
Did your mother pressure you to participate in the voting in 1953?  
Did your mother pressure you to participate in the voting in 1954?

Mother was (and is) always imperative to me  
in everything, especially so during several  
years after divorce. However so much so  
that I was with child.

In those days abstention from voting was almost  
a crime. Even school children shouting in the street  
"Everyone must go to the poll without exception."  
and went so far as to step into the house  
asking that "all your family has done voting?"  
Neighbours visited each other to go to the poll.  
Mother and someone others were, without fail,  
instructive or directive me to vote for "so  
and so." Now I was rather ashamed to go out



among the people, I had to go to the poll  
to vote in 1952, 1953 and 1954.

Above is my confession. Nevertheless, of course, I  
came to have many neighbours who has sympathy  
for me for long years.

I am glad to add that I am always ready  
to do my best for your further instructions.

Very Truly Yours,

Sumiko Sato



- ① Galt reported for H
- ② Galt dinner after was filed.
- ③ Was lunch long in you at ten you  
wrote 2/1951 (?)

Why stopped voting ?



November 3, 1958

Dear Mr. Wagner M. Collins:

I have the honor of writing to you. I fully understand that it is a very abrupt question, but I am impatient to know the possibility of recovering U.S. citizenship.

As you may imagine in my letter of Oct. 5, I am in a awkward situation. You may feel strange if I say that I am, so to speak, a quite stranger to our family in Japan. My brother is going to marriage, but the existence of the stranger is looked upon as an obstacle to the happiness of mother's family. My going out of mother's home is as the same urgent appeal done to me as the voting once overruled by mother and others.

So long as I am a Kangeron, my life in Japan must be under constant pressure from mother and brother (also uncle). If my passage is prospective, I will be patiently and courageously wait the realization. If not, there is no way but to resort to extraordinary steps to me. My elder brother, in America, wrote me that he is ready to send the passagemoney.

Then mother also say that she will give me a reasonable amount.

Please excuse me to ask you the possibility.  
How glad if you kindly write me! Please help me.

Thanking you your kind sympathy and cooperation,

Very truly yours,

Samiro Sato

Strandee



This space is also for correspondence.

ここにも通信文を記載することができます

Mrs. Sumiko Sato  
Shiraki-cho, Hara,  
Takata-gun, Hiroshima,  
Japan

/same



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

PAR AVION  
航空

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折込線

折込線

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This space is also for correspondence.



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

March 8, 1960

VIA AIRLETTER

Mrs. Sumiko Sato  
Shiraki-cho, Ibara,  
Takata-gun  
Hiroshima, Japan

Dear Mrs. Sato:

There are discrepancies between your questionnaire which is in my possession and your letter of October 5, 1958. Therefore I would thank you to answer the following questions:

1. Did you or your husband first bring a divorce proceeding?
2. On what date was the divorce granted?
3. Did you receive the divorce or did your husband receive the divorce?
4. Who received custody of Yoshiko?
5. Were you living with your husband on the date the divorce proceeding was started?
6. Were you living with your husband on the date the divorce was granted?
7. What is the full name and address of your brother in Japan?
8. Were you living with your husband on January 22, 1951 when you first voted?
9. What is the full name of Mr. Kubota, the election official?
10. Between the year 1951 and 1954 did Mr. Kubota speak to you more than once about voting in elections?
11. Did any other official inform you that you must vote? If so, what is the name and address of that official?

Very truly yours,

WMC:ss



Mr. Wayne M. Collins  
Mills Tower  
San Francisco, Calif.

April 12, 1960

Dear Mr. Collins ;

I wrote a couple of letters to Miss Sumiko Sato but she haven't answered my letters.

It took two days until I could contact her at her residence and get the answers of the questionnaire. She received your letter, but she can't read English letters, so I helped her to complete the list of questionnaire.

She was so anxious to return to U. S..

I enclose herewith the questionnaire form.

Yours very truly,

P. Kono



*Stradee*

LIST OF QUESTIONS WHICH MRS. SATO SHOULD ANSWER

1. Did you or your husband first bring a divorce proceeding?  
My husband did.
2. On what date was the divorce granted?  
July 25, 1950.
3. Did you receive the divorce or did your husband receive the divorce?  
Husband.
4. Who received custody of Yoshiko?  
Myself.
5. Were you living with your husband on the date the divorce proceeding was started?  
No. I was living at my mother's house, Ibara, Shiraki-cho, Takata-gun Hiroshima Ken
6. Were you living with your husband on the date the divorce was granted?  
No.
7. What is the full name and address of your brother in Japan?  
I have a brother in the States, 1330 N. La Salle St. Chicago 10,
8. Were you living with your husband on January 22, 1951, when you first voted?  
No.
9. What is the full name of Mr. Kubota, the election official?  
Tomoichi Kubota.
10. Between the year 1951 and 1954 did Mr. Kubota speak to you more than once about voting in elections?  
About 7 or 8 times.
11. Did any other official inform you that you must vote? If so, what is the name and address of that official?

No.

With my husband's permission, I and Yoshiko visited my mother on July 10, 1950. About two weeks later my husband wrote me that he divorced me and that I did not have to come home.

I went to City Hall to inquire if it was true. The record showed that our marriage was legally cancelled.

My husband name is Yasuo Kihara and he is living with another woman at 29 Sorazaya-cho, Hiroshima City.

Sumiko Sato  
Ibara, Shiraki-cho,  
Takata-gun, Hiroshima Ken



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

April 14, 1960

VIA AIRLETTER

Mrs. Sumiko Sato  
Shiroki-cho, Ibara  
Takata-gun  
Hiroshima, Japan

Dear Mrs. Sato:

Please send me the answers to the questions I  
sent to you on March 8, 1960.

Very truly yours,

WMC:ss

cc: Kono - sent the list  
7 questions



June 10, 1960

VIA AIRMAIL

Miss Sumiko Sato  
Ibara, Shiraki-cho  
Takata-gun  
Hiroshima-ken, Japan

Dear Miss Sato:

Enclosed find original and a copy of a proposed affidavit which I have prepared for you from the material and questionnaire that you sent to me. I would thank you to read the affidavit and if there are any errors contained therein I would thank you to let me know what those errors are immediately by airmail and I will prepare a new affidavit for you.

However, if the affidavit contains a true and correct statement of the facts, I would thank you to take the original affidavit to the nearest U.S. Consul and there sign it in the presence of the U.S. Consul and swear to it and have the Consul sign the same and attach his seal. Thereupon you should return the original affidavit to me and I will forward the material to the Passport Review Board in Washington, D.C., along with an appeal and Brief On Appeal from the Consul's previous denial to you of a U.S. passport and his issuance to you of a Certificate of Loss of U.S. Nationality. (The copy of the affidavit is for your files.)

Very truly yours,

WMC:ss  
Encs.



Need also

Off. from "Kubota"

"Mother"

"Brother"

& Wfye

Cafiero case

Brother in Chicago

4th preference



Typed 6/10/60  
ss

AFFIDAVIT OF SUMIKO SATO

I, Sumiko Sato, ~~whose former married name was~~  
~~Sumiko Kiyohara~~ reside at Shiraki-cho, Ibara, Takata-gun,  
Hiroshima-Ken, Japan, was born at Ogden, Utah, U.S.A., on  
July 29, 1923.

~~When I was four years of age~~ in 1927  
When I was four years of age my parents took me to Japan  
where I was sent to school from 1930 to 1940. ~~Although I~~  
~~They intended that I should return to the United States. I wanted~~ When I completed my  
wished to ~~return to the United States~~ when I completed my  
schooling in 1940, ~~I was unable to do so for lack of~~ ~~finances.~~ *I wished and had intended to return to the United States but money.*  
I was expecting financial assistance for my fare from my  
brother who was in the United States but ~~was unable to locate him.~~  
~~Consequently, I~~ ~~was unable to return~~ *to the U.S.* before the war  
for lack of financial assistance from him.

In consequence I went to work in a weaving mill but was  
unable to earn enough for my fare back to the United States ~~and~~  
~~before~~ before the war broke out and  
in consequence had to remain in Japan ~~during the war.~~ *H*

~~I was married to Yasuo Kihara, a Japanese national,~~

~~At the conclusion~~ of the war in 1945 I was unable to return  
to the United States for want of the transportation fare.

I was married to Yasuo Kihara, a Japanese national, in  
Hiroshima on August 18, 1947. We have two children, Shizuye  
Kihara and Yoshiko Kihara, minors, born in Japan. My husband  
and I were divorced on ~~January 25, 1950.~~ *July 25, 1950.* Following my divorce,  
having no home of my own, I was forced to return to my ~~mother,~~  
~~my~~ mother, Miyano Sato, whose address is Shiraki-Cho,  
Ibara, Takata-gun, Hiroshima Prefecture,



I voted in elections in Ibara, Takata gun, Hiroshima ken, Japan, on <sup>Jan. 22, 1951</sup> ~~Oct. 1, 1952~~, Oct. 5, 1952, April 19, 1953, April 24, 1953, Feb. 19, 1953, and Dec. 7, 1954. I did not wish to vote in any of those elections because of the fact that I didn't have any interest in voting but nevertheless I was compelled to vote <sup>chuffy</sup> by Mr. Tomoichi Kubota, the election officer, by my mother and by my brother. <sup>The only way for me to protect myself</sup> ~~To avoid trouble for myself and~~ ~~social ostracism and~~ <sup>to avoid</sup> ~~to assure that I wouldn't be deprived of necessary rations,~~ <sup>To avoid social ostracism</sup> ~~and to make sure of preserving my right to return to the United States~~ I had to vote in those elections.

~~Just before~~ <sup>the Oct. 1, 1952 election</sup> ~~each of these elections~~ I received printed instructions from the "yakuba" (village municipal office) informing me that I was required to vote. On receiving the first of those notices I went and talked to Mr. Tomoichi Kubota, the election officer, and told him that I was not interested in voting, that I was an American citizen and that I didn't intend to stay in Japan but intended to return to the United States where I was born. He told me that even though I was born in the United States I was nevertheless a ~~Japanese citizen~~ citizen of Japan by Japanese law and that as long as I was living in Japan <sup>and was of age</sup> I was required to vote. <sup>He further said</sup> ~~and that it was my duty~~ to vote and that if I refused <sup>to do it</sup> I would be taking sides against the policies laid down for Japan by the Allied Occupation Forces which had given democratic rights to women residents of Japan as well as <sup>to men and the U.S. Government would never let me return to the U.S.</sup> ~~to me~~. He said that persons who didn't vote had no right to receive allotments of rations and wouldn't receive them. He had told me the same things just before the Jan. 22, 1951 election too. <sup>He told me in substance the same things just before each of the other election dates above-mentioned and he made it a practice to come and see me to tell me those</sup>



things because of his <sup>office and duty</sup> ~~interest~~ in seeing that ~~the election was~~  
I voted like everyone else.

Just before the Jan. 22, 1951, election I told my mother and my brother what Mr. Kubota had said to me about voting and my brother said that if I ~~wanted~~ wanted to avoid ~~it~~ going to vote that maybe I could hide but my mother said that was impossible because there was no place I could hide without the yakuba officials finding me so they ~~both~~ both agreed that I'd have to vote <sup>and pressured me to do</sup> so for my own good at that time and also just before the subsequent elections in which I was compelled to vote because of

The pressure put on me and the fears and threats I had about the matter

Then after Mr. Kubota <sup>had come</sup> ~~and~~ and told me just before the Oct. 1, 1952, election that I had to vote in that election I talked to my mother and brother again and told them what Mr. Kubota had said to me to <sup>convince me I had to</sup> ~~not~~ vote. They said he would keep an eye on me <sup>so</sup> that I couldn't avoid ~~not~~ voting and they put ~~the~~ pressure on me to vote <sup>in that election</sup> ~~not only in~~ <sup>In each of the above mentioned</sup> ~~the Oct. 1, 1952, election but in each of the following~~ ~~elections through Dec. 7, 1954,~~ <sup>the Mr. Kubota</sup> ~~the following elections through Dec. 7, 1954,~~ ~~the following elections through Dec. 7, 1954,~~

Mr. Kubota and my mother and brother put a lot of pressure on me to vote because of my lack of interest in it and what they told me and what they made me fear <sup>threats and</sup> compelled me vote. <sup>also influenced</sup> ~~They~~ <sup>these</sup> ~~on several of~~ these occasions ~~they~~ <sup>also influenced</sup> ~~me to vote for the~~ same reasons they did.

Pressure put on me



*If was because of my*  
disinterested  
~~Because of my~~ attitude on voting Mr. Kobota came each year just  
*the necessity of my voting*  
before voting <sup>time</sup> to lecture to me about it. He was very persistent  
and forceful and scared me ~~into voting~~ <sup>with</sup> by his talk that I had  
to do so because voting was a democratic right given to Japan  
by the Allied Occupation Forces and that <sup>as long as I lived</sup>  
in Japan ~~and was a Japanese~~ I had to vote. <sup>He reportedly told me that if I didn't</sup> or else the officials  
would cause me trouble and the neighbors would ~~say~~ <sup>say</sup> that I  
I opposed to democratic rights <sup>for men as well as for men</sup> which was against the policy  
laid down by ~~SAAR~~ the Allies for Japan and would shun and  
ostracize me and my family and it would become impossible for  
~~me~~ <sup>us</sup> to live in the community. <sup>and that I'd not be allowed by the US Government to return to the US</sup> He worried me greatly and made me  
fears these things. <sup>and</sup> When I consulted my mother and brother  
after each of Mr. Kubota's ~~talks~~ lectures to me they told me  
that I had to vote to save myself trouble and to be able to  
live <sup>peace in</sup> the community. *They too emphasized that it was true*  
*that as I was also a citizen of Japan I must vote as long*  
*as I remained in Japan otherwise I'd be regarded as being*  
hostile to the democratic policies laid down by the Allied  
P<sub>O</sub>wers for Japan and would be going against the law of Japan  
for which I could be punished. <sup>They</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>stated</sup> also that the neighbors would  
<sup>that</sup> shun me and my family and I wouldn't be able to live in the ~~village~~  
village in the face of ostracism. <sup>if I refused to vote that</sup> They argued that when I  
was ready to leave Japan and return to the United States that  
the U. S. Consul would ~~hold~~ <sup>find hold</sup> that I had been opposed to  
democratic principles <sup>if I couldn't prove that I'd voted and would hold</sup> and would hold I had no right to return  
to the United States and would tell me I had to stay in Japan.  
*I believed and feared that I had to vote for my own good and*  
~~unless I voted.~~



to protect my rights and to ensure I wouldn't violate the policies  
given by the Allied Powers, or the laws of Japan and wouldn't arouse  
the ire and antagonism of the  
people in our neighborhood.

7

Also just before each of those elections and on ~~election days~~  
the election days the officials sent groups of school children  
to canvass everyone and they came about six times on each  
election to see that everyone voted and they would report  
anyone who didn't agree to vote and show up and vote and  
notify the officials, <sup>I realized that if</sup> and if I didn't go and vote ~~when~~  
the matter would be reported to everybody in the village and  
all the neighbors would shun and ostracize me and my family  
and that would make it impossible for me to live in the  
community and I feared the cruelty of ostracism.

Then in 1953 when I was able to assure myself of the  
fare for my passage ~~home~~ to return to the United States I made  
an application for a passport to the U. S. Consul at Hiroshima  
but <sup>I was</sup> ~~was~~ turned me down because of ~~my~~ having voted in Japan <sup>which</sup>  
was a great shock to me as I'd been led to believe and feared.

~~that stay was necessary to make sure I'd received my  
US passport order I would be able to return to the United States.~~

Add.  
fact  
history  
fact



that I had to vote in order to insure that I'd ~~be~~  
be preserving my citizenship and right to <sup>return to the United States or</sup> a U. S. passport.  
Then I thought it was hopeless and that I'd never be allowed  
to return to the U. S. as a citizen.

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Sumiko Sato

Subscribed and sworn to before me this — day  
of —, 1960.

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The voted in 1954

after applying A W Grant  
for W. passport.

~~Le M. Grant~~

Le M. Grant



~~On~~ Just before each of the subsequent elections in which  
I voted I received similar/<sup>printed</sup> notices from the ~~the~~ yakuba  
about voting. ~~and~~ and each time I talked with my mother and  
brother about it, ~~and~~ they told me that <sup>it was true that</sup> as I was also a  
citizen by the law of Japan I must vote as long as I remained  
in Japan otherwise I would be regarded as being against the  
democratic policies laid down by the Allied Occupation Forces  
~~and would be punished~~

*I believe this thing*  
and <sup>would be</sup> going against the ~~the~~ laws of Japan for which I could  
be punished and that all the neighbors would shun me and my  
family and I wouldn't be able to live in the village in the  
face of ostracism, <sup>They argued that</sup> and that ~~the~~ I was ready  
to leave Japan and return to the United States ~~in exclamation~~  
~~I would be reported to the U.S. Consul~~ <sup>would say I was opposed to</sup>  
~~democratic principles and would hold I had no~~  
~~right to return to the United~~  
States <sup>and would tell me I had to stay in Japan unless I voted.</sup>

*directs others  
memorize etc  
symbols*  
Then when <sup>in 1953</sup> ~~the~~ I was able to <sup>get enough money for</sup>  
~~my return fare~~ <sup>trips</sup> to the United States. ~~the~~

*Date*  
~~the~~ I made <sup>an</sup> application for a U.S. passport to return  
to the United States <sup>to the US</sup> Consulate at Hiroshima <sup>but he turned me</sup>  
<sup>down because of my having voted in Japan.</sup>

*He voted in 1954  
after applying to US  
Consul*



### AFFIDAVIT OF SUMIKO SATO

I, Sumiko Sato, whose married name was Sumiko Kiyohara, reside at Shiraki-cho, Ibara, Takata-gun, Hiroshima-Ken, Japan, was born at Ogden, Utah, U.S.A., on July 29, 1923.

When I was four years of age my parents in 1927 took me to Japan where I was sent to school from 1930 to 1940. They intended that I should return to the United States. When I completed my schooling in 1940 I wished and had intended to return to the United States but I was unable to do so for lack of money. I was expecting financial assistance for my fare from my brother who was in the United States but was unable to locate him. Consequently, I was unable to return to the U.S. before the war for lack of financial assistance from him. In consequence I went to work in a weaving mill but was unable to earn enough for my fare back to the United States before the war broke out and in consequence had to remain in Japan during the war. After the conclusion of the war in 1945 I was unable to return to the United States for want of the transportation fare.

I was married to Yasuo Kihara, a Japanese national, in Hiroshima on August 18, 1947. We have two children, Shizuye Kihara and Yoshiko Kihara, minors, born in Japan. My husband and I were divorced on July 25, 1950. Following my divorce, having no home of my own, I was forced to return to my mother, Miyano Sato, whose address is Shiraki-Cho, Ibara, Takata-gun, Hiroshima Prefecture.

I voted in elections in Ibara, Takata-gun, Hiroshima-Ken, Japan, on Jan. 22, 1951, Oct. 1, 1952, Oct. 5, 1952, April 19, 1953, April 24, 1953, Feb. 19, 1953, and Dec. 7, 1954. I did not wish to vote in any of those elections because of the fact that I didn't have any interest in voting but nevertheless I was compelled to vote chiefly by Mr. Tomoichi Kubota, the election officer, by my mother and by my brother. The only way for me to protect myself, to assure that I wouldn't be deprived of necessary rations, to avoid social ostracisms and to make sure of preserving my right to return to the United States was to vote in those elections.

Just before the Oct. 1, 1952, election I received printed instructions from the "yakuba" (village municipal office) informing me that I was required to vote. On receiving the first of those notices I went and talked to Mr. Tomoichi Kubota, the election officer, and told him that I was not interested in voting, that I was an American citizen and that I didn't intend to stay in Japan but intended to return to the United States where I was born. He told me that even though I was born in the United States I was nevertheless a citizen of Japan by Japanese law and that as long as I was living in Japan and was of age I was required to vote. He further said that it was my duty to vote and that if I refused to do it I would be taking sides against the policies laid down for Japan by the Allied Occupation Forces which had given democratic rights to women residents of Japan as well as to men and the U.S. Government would never let me return to the U.S. He said that persons who didn't vote had no right to receive allotments of rations and wouldn't receive them. He had told me the same things just before the Jan. 22, 1951, election too. He told me in substance the same things just before each of the other election dates above-mentioned and he made it a practice to come and see me to tell me those things because of his office and duty in seeing that I voted like everyone else.



Just before the Jan. 22, 1951, election I told my mother and my brother what Mr. Kubota had said to me about voting and my brother said that if I wanted to avoid going to vote that maybe I could hide but my mother said that was impossible because there was no place I could hide without the Yakuba officials finding me so they both agreed that I'd have to vote and pressured me to do so for my own good at that time and also just before the subsequent elections in which I was compelled to vote because of the pressure put on me and the fears and beliefs I had about the matter.

Then after Mr. Kubota had come and told me just before the Oct. 1, 1952, election that I had to vote in that election, I talked to my mother and brother again and told them what Mr. Kubota had said to me to convince me I had to vote. They said he would keep an eye on me so that I couldn't avoid voting and they put pressure on me to vote in that election. In each of the above-mentioned elections through Dec. 7, 1954, Mr. Kubota and my mother and brother put a lot of pressure on me to vote because of my lack of interest in it and what they told me and what they made me believe and fear compelled me to vote. My uncle too on several of these occasions also influenced me to vote for the same reasons they did.

It was because of my disinterested attitude on voting that Mr. Kubota came each year just before voting time to lecture to me about the necessity of my voting. He was very persistent and forceful and scared me with his talk that I had to do so because voting was a democratic right given to all residents of Japan by the Allied Occupation Forces and that as I was Japanese that as long as I lived in Japan I had to vote. He repeatedly told me that if I didn't the officials would cause me trouble and the neighbors would say that I opposed to democratic rights for men as well as for men which was against the policy laid down by the Allies for Japan and would shun and ostracize me and my family, and it would become impossible for me to live in the community and that I'd not be allowed by the U.S. Government to return to the U.S. He worried me greatly and made me fear these things. When I consulted my mother and brother after each of Mr. Kubota's lectures to me they told me that I had to vote to save myself trouble and to be able to live in peace in the community. They too emphasized that it was true that as I was also a citizen of Japan I must vote as long as I remained in Japan, otherwise I'd be regarded as being hostile to the democratic policies laid down by the Allied Powers for Japan and would be going against the law of Japan for which I could be punished. They also stated that the neighbors would shun me and my family and that I wouldn't be able to live in the village in the face of ostracism. They argued that if I refuse to vote that when I was ready to leave Japan and return to the United States that the U.S. Consul would hold that I had been opposed to democratic principles if I couldn't prove that I'd voted and would hold I had no right to return to the United States and would tell me I had to stay in Japan. I believed and feared that I had to vote for my own good and to protect my rights and to insure I wouldn't violate the policies given by the Allied Powers or the law of Japan and wouldn't arouse the ire and antagonism of the people in our neighborhood.

Also, just before each of those elections and on the election days the officials sent groups of school children to canvass everyone



and they came about six times on each election to see that everyone voted and they would report anyone who didn't agree to vote and show up and vote and notify the officials. I realized that if I didn't go and vote the matter would be reported to everybody in the village and all the neighbors would shun and ostracize me and my family and that would make it impossible for me to live in the community and I feared the cruelty of ostracism.

Then in 1953 when I was able to assure myself of the fare for my passage to return to the United States I made an application for a passport to the U.S. Consul at Hiroshima but I was turned down because of having voted in Japan which was a great shock to me as I'd been led to believe and feared that I had to vote in order to insure that I'd be preserving my citizenship and right to return to the United States on a U.S. passport. Then I thought it was hopeless and that I'd never be allowed to return to the U.S. as a citizen.

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Sumiko Sato

Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
1960.

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WAYNE M. COLLINS  
Attorney at Law  
1300 Mills Tower, 220 Bush Street  
San Francisco 4, California

November 8, 1960

VIA AIRLETTER

Miss Sumiko Sato  
Ibara, Shiraki-cho  
Takata-gun  
Hiroshima-ken, Japan

Dear Miss Sato:

On June 10, 1960, I sent to you an original and a copy of a proposed affidavit which I requested you to read and if you found it to be correct, take it to the nearest U.S. Consul and there sign and swear to it and have the Consul affix his certificate thereto and thereupon return it to me so that I may forward it to the Passport Review Board in Washington, D.C. in an effort to recover your U.S. citizenship.

If you have not already taken that affidavit to the U.S. Consul at Hiroshima I would thank you to do so as soon as possible.

For your information, I suggest also that you obtain an affidavit from Mr. Tomoichi Kubota and from your mother and from your brother confirming the statements made by them to you relating to your voting in Japan as stated in the affidavit I prepared for you.

The fact that you voted in elections in Japan in 1951 will not be deemed to be an act costing you your U.S. citizenship because Japan was at that time still an occupied country and because you had been informed that all residents of Japan were required to vote by order of SCAP. However, inasmuch as you lived in Japan for a period of time in excess of 10 years prior to your voting on Oct. 1 and Oct. 5, 1952, and on April 19, 1953, April 24, 1953, Feb. 19, 1953 and also in 1954, the U.S. Consul and the State Department will assert that even though you may have voted on those occasions under duress that it will hold that your voting on those occasions was voluntary because Title 8, Sec. 1481(b) (Section 349(b) of the Immigration Act of 1952) which was enacted by Congress raises a conclusive presumption that such voting was done voluntarily and that in consequence you lost your U.S. citizenship by such voting. However, for your information I wish to inform you that the American Civil Liberties Union has instituted a suit in the U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C. for a man named Antonio Cafiero of Jersey City against the officers of the U.S. Immigration Service in an attempt to have that conclusive presumption declared to be unconstitutional. In the event that the Cafiero case holds that the presumption is void, then the State Department will have to determine whether your voting in Japan was caused by duress and if it so holds, it will determine that you did not thereby lose your U.S. citizenship. I wish to point out to you that it is likely that the Cafiero case will not be decided by the Court of Appeals or the U.S. Supreme Court for a period of approximately 2 years.

Very truly yours,



WAYNE M. COLLINS  
Attorney at Law  
1300 Mills Tower, 220 Bush Street  
San Francisco 4, California

December 7, 1961

AIRLETTER

Miss Sumiko Sato  
Ibara, Shiraki-cho  
Takata-gun  
Hiroshima-ken, Japan

Dear Miss Sato:

On June 10, 1960, I sent you certain affidavits and requested you to go to the nearest U.S. Consul and there make an application for a U.S. passport and sign the affidavits and have the Consul affix his seal thereto and thereupon return the affidavits to me to forward to the Passport Review Board in Washington, D.C. I have not received those documents from you. On November 8, 1960, I wrote you again but to date have received no reply from you.

I would thank you to notify me what decision the U.S. Consul has made on your application for a U.S. passport if you made such an application to that office.

Very truly yours,

WMC:ss