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67/14
c

Shiro Ogasawara
Bacon Island #10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Stockton, California
March 14, 1942

J.A.C.L.
517 Main Street
Seattle, Washington

Gentlement

As I do not have a passport (lost), I am having difficulty cashing my checks and will appreciate it if, through this office, you may be able to procure for me a signed statement, attested by Notary Public, to show that I entered the United States at Seattle, June 30, 1922 on the Osaka Shosen Kaisha Liner, Africa Maru, on passport #190176. I left the Immigration office on July 1.

I shall pay for Notary Public fee and other fees attached toward procuring the statement.

I shall appreciate very much if you will handle this as soon as possible.

Yours very truly,
Shiro Ogasawara

* * * * *

March 30, 1942

Mr. Shiro Ogasawara
Bacon Island #10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Stockton, California

Dear Mr. Ogasawara:

Upon careful inquiry regarding your letter of March 14, we have discovered that any affidavit attesting to your entry into the United States must be signed by you and witnessed by two American citizens. We are unable to procure such statement from the United States Immigration Office here.

We are enclosing a form which has been approved for use in Seattle. We suggest that you have copies of this made and sworn and attested to by your friends in Stockton.

We trust that this will be satisfactory in California, as this has been accepted by the authorities here.

Very truly yours,

William Hosokawa

OFFICERS

GEORGE YOSHIDA, President

Route No. 2, Box 374

CHARLES TSUKAMOTO, Vice Pres.

1401 Wall Avenue

MICHI MAEMURA, Secretary

Route No. 1, Clearfield, Utah

MICHIYO MUKAI, Corres. Sec'y

3070 Washington Blvd.

JAKE KOGA, Treasurer

Route No. 1, Box 270

MICHI SATO, Reporter

Route No. 1, Roy, Utah

*

TATSUO KOGA, Executive Chairman

Route, No. 1, Box 270

ICHIRO UJIYE, Associate Chairman

Route No. 2, Box 14

GEORGE FUJII, Social Chairman

Clearfield, Utah.

*

JIRO TSUKAMOTO, Official Delegate

1401 Wall Avenue.

"FOR BETTER AMERICANS IN A GREATER
AMERICA"

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE
OF OGDEN

Ogden, Utah.

Advisers:

MRS. J. G. FALCK

DAVID K. HOLTHERR

March 23, 1942.

Brigadier General Lewis
Hdq, West Defense Area
Ogden, Utah.

Dear General Lewis:

The Japanese residents of Ogden City and Weber County find it imperative to submit the following objections to the influx of Japanese evacuees from the restricted coastal areas:

1- This is the Central Defense Area.

2- Problems of housing, lack of available farming areas, and all other means of livelihood are acute.

3- The influx of new Japanese inhabitants would be a hazard to those already established here.

Weber County and Ogden Japanese of First and Second generation have established a reputation through industry and good behavior in appreciation of the privileges given them to contribute to the general welfare of the community. It appears exceedingly unwise to disturb and disrupt this status, for this most important reason the strangers from other localities might be undesirable in adjustment to these settled conditions.

We, therefore, emphatically and sincerely oppose the entrance and settlement of these people, at the same time express our regrets that the war situation compels our position in this emergency.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Jiro Tsukamoto

Jiro Tsukamoto

President, Pro Tem.

MEMBER: INTERMOUNTAIN DISTRICT COUNCIL, JAPANESE-AMERICAN CITIZENS
LEAGUE

A TRUE COPY:

Paul C. Greene

JT:m

PAUL C. GREENE

Major, Infantry
Summary Court

(Excerpts of a letter from James Sakamoto to the President of U. S.)

Mr. President:

March 23, 1942

We, the American Citizens of Japanese parentage in these United States, have taken seriously your various statements on the Four Freedoms. Our parent generation too has taken comfort from those assertions. They have not enjoyed the rights of citizenship in this country. For that reason they are at this time particularly open to accusation and suspicion.

We were reassured when war broke out and heard your directions as to the treatment to be accorded aliens of enemy countries. We felt those were commands upon all American citizens to pull together for a common objective. Even when the clamor against us raised by a national organization whose patriotic motives are undoubted seemed about to threaten our very lives, we trusted in your protection.

The picture has changed since then. Evacuation^{has}/now become a certainty for all of us, non-citizen and citizen alike. We citizens have been singled out for treatment that has hitherto not been meted out to any American. Though the medicine was bitter, we have attempted to obey without criticism, and to swallow it.

We were prepared to go where we might be sent, to be uprooted permanently from the homes we have known since childhood. Our parents before us had in many instances built up the only homes we knew. They had given us an American education and in some thousands of instances sent us gladly into the service of our country. They, too, were to accompany us. We thought it would simply be a matter of transfer to another locality in which we might carry on, under a cloud indeed, but demonstrating our loyalty none the less, by obeying a humiliating and distasteful command.

We are still so minded. We shall obey willingly. We shall continue to trust you and to give our allegiance to the ideals you enunciate.

In the working out of the details of evacuation, we have noticed an insistence upon the necessity for speed in going to places not designated by anyone. We are willing to go, glad to escape from even the possibility of ever being accused of even being present in the area where sabotage might conceivably take place.

Under the circumstances prevailing, we have been so completely discredited by the American people at large that it is impossible for us to appear anywhere without giving rise to the hysterically false assumption that we are engaged in some nefarious design against a country that is as much ours as it is that of our fellow citizens. So marked is this that had we any intention such as we are popularly credited with, the easiest manner in which it might be accomplished would be for us to simply pick up and spread our unwanted presence over the American map and so precipitate, under Army decree, that complete disruption of the war effort.

Our people have not been unconscious of the extent to which our country has been dependent upon them for the production of certain articles of food in areas now filled with Army installations and all lines of war work. Certainly, had they any mind to sabotage they could have done so no more completely than by ceasing to produce the food upon which so much of the war effort depended.

Mr. President, we have protested our loyalty in the past. We have not been believed. We are willing to assume the burden of continuing to demonstrate it under all but impossible conditions. We would be deeply grateful if you would point it out to our fellow citizens that we are not traitors to our country as the above facts, in our opinion amply demonstrate.

Restore our good name to us that our soldiers of Japanese ancestry need no longer hang their heads in shame as their hearts secretly bleed in anxiety over the whereabouts of their parents and loved ones possibly stranded penniless in some desert of the Southwest, or begging their bread in the streets of some strange place.

Give to us some refuge in the heart of the country far removed from even the suspicion or possibility to do harm. We have helped to feed the nation in the past. Let us continue to do so now that it is needed the more. Only let us do so freely and not under that compulsion made notorious in an enemy country. We do not have to be driven to work for a country in which we believe for ideals more precious than our life-blood.

We know there have been dissident elements among us, often unknown to ourselves. We know that some of the customs brought from abroad do lay some members of our parent open to suspicion even yet. We, like our fellow citizens, have complete confidence in the all-seeing eye of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. We have seconded their efforts when told what it was they were searching for and we shall continue so to do.

We hope to find in the hearts of those like ours some understanding of our problems and some surcease from the burdens that oppress us. We have confidence that you yourself may present our case to them as a demonstration here of sincerity toward the promises you have made to the world.

Trusting that you will give us your sympathetic assistance and with the greatest hope for your continued good health, I am, my dear Mr. President,

Faithfully yours,
James Y. Sakamoto

MAILED
JUN 10 1942

Longview, Washington
P. O. Box 180
March 25, 1942

J.A.C.L.
517 Main St.
Seattle, Wash.

Dear Sir:

I wrote to you about two weeks ago asking you for some advice what we should do with our monthly payments. We are all waiting for that answer but two weeks has passed without a word from your office.

I also enclosed a stamp, because we wanted an answer as soon as possible. If you do not mind will you please give us an answer to that letter as soon as possible. Thank you.

Mrs. K. Kayano

(There follows their first letter which had gone unanswered.)
March 12, 1942

Dear Sir:

I am writing to you again for some information many of us here are so puzzled of what to do.

I own a refrigerator which I purchased about five months ago. I am almost half finished with the payment. What do you think I should do. The ladies here are all debating too. Whether to return it or still keep payment on it. Is it worth it? I sure hate to lose it, because I've paid so much on it already. Please let me know?

About cars too, They would like to know if it is worth keeping up on this payment or returning it.

Would like a immediate answer if possible.

Thank you. Sorry I had to bother you again.

Sincerely

Mrs. K. Kayano

Route 4, Bx. 104
Chehalis, Wash.
March 26, 1942

Dear Mr. Hosokawa:

Since the Army has actually started evacuating the Japanese from the Pacific Coast they will probably work very fast. Therefore I have a few questions to ask.

Upon your suggestion in your letter of March 11, I went to the U.S. Employment Office in Chehalis and asked them various questions in regard to this matter. But they were not very sure about the evacuation and have asked us to wait about another week or until the Farm Security Administration Office can be transferred from Raymond to Chehalis so that definite arrangements can be made on the farm.

The Japanese papers said in today's issue that if people are moved by the Army, then, they would not be able to take all their household belongings and others with them. Does this apply to bicycles and automobiles? How are the Seattle group doing? Are majority of them selling or keeping them for transportation? If we are not allowed to take our auto with us we would much rather sell it.

We have no radio and the newspapers are always a day late so that some of the news we miss unless we pick it up thru another place.

We have also about three sacks of rice and number of sacks of flour. Will they permit us to ship these to where we go?

I am asking you these things because people in the U. S. Employment office seem to know very little about these things, and I had to listen to people who tell us this and that because then we wouldn't know what to think.

Also in regard to auto insurance. In November we took out an insurance covering public liability and property damage with an agent in Centralia of the Maryland Casualty Company. However, after the outbreak of war it was cancelled a month afterwards. Various insurance agents in Chehalis have told us after we showed them the papers, they would return the premium due us. But they haven't yet, and it's been a good three months since its cancellation. We think we have a perfect right to have it returned to us, but what opinion do you form in regard to this matter?

Yours very truly,
M. Nakamura

Dear Mr. H., We have the ashes of my brother in our house. Of course, it is illegal to keep them, but we had planned to take it back to Japan when the opportunity came. What do you think is the best solution to this? We have been quite concerned over this because of this evacuation.

Very truly yours,
M. Nakamura

March 30, 1942

Miss M. Nakamura
Route 4, Box 104
Chehalis, Washington

Dear Miss Nakamura:

Even at this late date, almost everything concerning evacuation is still indefinite. The first group to be evacuated to Owens Valley, California, will go by train and leave practically all their personal possessions behind. How later groups will be handled, I am not sure.

In the case of your parents where your father is quite ill, perhaps it might be better to sell your car as soon as you can get a reasonable price for it.

In California, persons going to the reception camps are fed by the government and therefore do not need to take along food.

You have every right to get your money back on the insurance policy. I suggest that you see your agent immediately or write to the head office of the insurance company and request a return of that money. As for your brother's ashes, it would be a good idea to deposit them at some local or nearby columbarium. I also understand the Buddhist Church in Seattle accepts urns.

May I also remind you that it is very essential to make arrangements for care of your farm property before you leave. As I remember, I suggested in my last letter that you get your neighbor to look after your land or make some other similar arrangement.

Very truly yours,

William Hosokawa

MARION
BOND

March 30, 1942

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Joe Kozo Uenishi, a Japanese national residing at 171-C 16th Avenue, Seattle, Washington, has applied to this office for assistance in finding employment and has been registered at this place since early in January 1942. Although he has expressed his willingness to take any sort of work and has checked here at frequent intervals, we have not been able to place him to date.

Very truly yours,

Wm. Hosokawa

(Bill tells me that the above form was used with success by persons seeking a position through the U. S. Employment Service.)

MARION
BOND

Regional Files, 004, General, Wash. D.C.
Miyamoto

JACL

Letter from JACL. So. District Council to Eisenhower
May 18, 1942

Thank you for your letter of April 28th. I have been here at Manzanar Reception Center for three weeks now and have passed the most interesting three weeks of my life.

I heard our new Manager, Mr Roy Nash speak to us yesterday. I believe Mr. Nash immediately won the hearts of everyone here. A roaring applause echoed throughout this beautiful Valley, when he said that we would be allowed more freedom to move around in this Valley.

However, Mr Nash mentioned one thing which I thought was a change in policy within the WRA from the one you had explained to us in San Francisco. He said that every person here at Manzanar will be kept here for the duration of the war-- that the WRA has decided to use this place as a permanent Center. I knew that it was going to be more or less permanent for many evacuees, but I had thought that with your approval some of these residence would be permitted to relocate themselves in self supporting communities in the inland States.

There are many so called "cooperative projects" which have been planned. Some I think were planned by a few selfish individuals, but I do know that many of these projects were carefully investigated with sincere intentions. These projects have been planned on a permanent basis, usually involving a certain amount of investment on their part; by people who believe in America and are sincerely willing to offer their experiences and services towards the war effort no matter how great the risk may be.

I most earnestly request that your department give every consideration to these self-supporting projects and to those individuals who are loyal beyond any doubt and who can be useful to our country.

My observations during the past three weeks points to this conclusion: that the majority of the older Japanese (Isseis) feel that America is not the place for them. They think that the majority of the American people do not understand them and that being the reason that the Administration in Washington and the various governmental agencies are following the suggestions made by a few anti-Japanese elements who insist that America is for the white race only. These Isseis think that even the citizens of Japanese extraction (Niseis) have very limited opportunities here in America; that the status of the Niseis after the war will be reduced to that of ordinary laborers like the Mexicans and Negroes.

Although there is very little or no complaint about the life in this Center, the real spirit and the morale of the people is quite low. As has been explained already, the line of reasoning by the Isseis has a great effect upon the younger generation. The influence by the former is made much stronger because of the fact that both citizens and enemy aliens have been put in the same category at the present time. Of course, a strong argument can be laid against the, but I personally am inclined to feel that we are engaged in a losing battle unless certain rights and privileges are allowed to these Niseis.

These rights and privileges are not the "jobs" which are being offered here in these Centers; such as family relations work, police detail, cooking, gardening, etc. but to give these Niseis an opportunity to make them feel that they are a part of the huge Army of Democracy to help America win this war. An opportunity given to certain groups of farmers to go out and produce "food for victory", to give certain known individuals jobs in war production, or place some Nisei boys in the front line of defense are good examples.

Letter from So. District Council JACL to Eisenhower, (cont'd.)

No doubt, you have taken all these things into consideration, perhaps you are already planning something along these lines. I just wanted to convey to you the high points of my observation here at Manzanar.

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JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE
FLORIN CHAPTER
P. O. Box 30
Florin, California

MAY 25 1942

Member:

National Council, J.A.C.L.
Federation of Northern California
District Councils, J.A.C.L.

May 22, 1942

The Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt
President of the United States of America
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President,

Ever since the evacuation became a certainty, over 120,000 Japanese Aliens and Citizens have been under the guidance of you and your aides. We are aware of the tremendous responsibilities that were placed on the government, and a great deal of burden on your shoulders since the proclamation for evacuation.

Dear Mr. President, we realize that this stupendous task was undertaken only because there lay in the hearts of far-seeing eyes, deep concern over the welfare of our people. Never did we dream that the government would attempt such a great responsibility with so much at stake in this emergency. We are grateful, but disappointed that we must burden the government at this time instead of joining our strength to help win the war. We are thankful for the fine Americans who are handling this huge program to evacuate thousands from the Western Coast. Ever since the beginning of our preparation for evacuation, we have felt the kindly hands of the army. We have known the sincerity with which the W.C.C.A. worked to help our people. The wonderful understanding that guided the personnel of the W.C.C.A. won the complete trust and faith of the thousands of bewildered, frightened Japanese.

Today hundreds already evacuated, write from Assembly Centers. They are wonderful, appreciative letters. A magnificent job of handling this evacuation is evident. We are deeply grateful.

We know that this has happened to us, only because we are in America; because the United States cannot permit undue suffering and bloodshed. We, who are Americans to the core, but in appearance betray our oriental ancestry, feel ashamed that the people of our own race are greatly responsible for the present conflict. Had we the miraculous power to influence world events, we would never have permitted this to come to our precious shore. We know that the root of all this suffering and tremendous sacrifice is war. As long as we have breath to breathe, we shall strive to eliminate such evil from the face of this earth. The entire country has responded admirably to the call to arms. We are proud of the spirit and courage that burns in the heart of every American.

We are busy in our berry patches. Labor is short, but every woman, youth, and even city evacuees are bending their knees for the first time in the strawberry farms to help until the order is issued. Had the order arrived a week ago, hundreds of farmers would have gone to camp with many bills to pay. At the present time for most of us, every hour, every day means several hundred dollars more for the farmer, who had labored the entire year with faith and hope that their back-breaking work would be rewarded.

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ON MAY 26 1942

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We will gladly obey all your cammands. We are anxious to prove every inch an American in this great emergency. We pray that every opportunity will come that we may do our bit to help, and as we leave our beautiful vineyards and farms, we go with great hope that peace, victorious peace, will come to this great deserving country, the United States of America.

In appreciation for the thousands of kindness and understanding extended to all the Japanese in America, we, the people in the Florin J.A.C.L. jurisdiction, wish to thank you from the bottom of our hearts, and as we are about to go into temporary exile, our hearts will be filled with anxious prayers for your health and strength. Good luck!

Respectfully yours,

Florin J.A.C.L.

Mrs. Mary Tsukamoto
Secretary

JAC

September 25, 1942

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt
President of the United States
White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

It is noted with grave concern that the House of Representatives recently passed a bill designed to deprive the American-born Japanese of their citizenship and to intern them for the duration together with non-citizens of enemy alien classification. That such a measure, discriminatory and unAmerican to say the least, should find its way to introduction and passage before an august body of our Congress is not only sorely disappointing but surprising beyond understanding. It is needless to mention that this measure which would deprive some eighty to eighty-five thousand American-born Japanese of their birth-right strikes at the very core of our democratic institutions and at the immortal concept of human equality so nobly expressed in the Fourteenth Amendment of our Constitution.

Today we are in isolation, not by choice, but because our contribution to national unity and American victory could best be made by loyally obeying the military order for evacuation. On this measure which affects not only our status but our life, we are the unheard minority. Before the bar of American public opinion, enactment of this measure cannot hope to balance the scales of justice or prove the slightest excuse of necessity for the injustice and discrimination it would impose.

The greatest evil of this measure is not its direct attempt to deprive us of our American heritage. It is the dangerous precedent it proposes to set by initiating the principle of race distinction that may someday divide race against race and class against class. The future of America and her way of life are the concern of all of us. Their meaning is too great and invaluable to our democratic existence to give the least consideration to any measure and attempt that would seek to thwart our national spirit of unity and homogeneity as Americans.

While we are a minority of minorities, we are no less American in spirit and loyalty than all others and the largest majority. It is heart-rending enough to be isolated from active participation in the American war effort, let alone being evacuated and shorn of our priceless heritage, ours by the grace of God and birth in this nation.

Wars in themselves are never logical. In this global conflict, however, we are pursuing the only human logic possible in the face of grim realities to protect and defend our way of thought and life. It then follows that we are not engaged in a racial war. Rather in a conflict of ideologies that can draw no line of division by race but only in the minds and hearts of men.

We who are born in America were trained and bred to appreciate and to value the precepts of democratic existence under God. We have ever recognized and respected the majesty and individuality of citizenship in others expecting the same consideration to ourselves as Americans. It is, perhaps, ironical that we look like Japanese. Our hearts beat in anguish or in glory where our nation's well-being becomes foremost similarly with all other Americans. In the schools, homes and in the fields of economic and civic endeavor, this has been patent.

September 25, 1942

The thousands who are in Uncle Sam's uniform today and the many thousands more who are willing to volunteer if given an opportunity speak our mind and soul.

This is our land now friend or foe can force us to disown no more than we can alter the fundamental truth of our birth on this soil. This is no challenge to the honest, sincere, and to the fair-minded or to the patriot in whose soul burns the deep love for America for what she represents in contradiction to political tyranny and dictatorship. It is a challenge of true patriotism to those who will bigot the truth and who would gradually undermine and ultimately destroy the basic structure of our democratic life and government. It is a challenge to those who will place their selfish ambition and prejudice above the greater interest of the whole to perpetuate the doctrine of human justice and equality so indelibly inscribed on our life and pages of our Constitution.

Needless to state, this measure, if it finally becomes law destroying the noble concept of the Fourteenth Amendment, will prove a travesty on our sense and spirit of American justice. Knowing your great work and responsibility in the prosecution of the war toward a victorious end, we hesitate requesting your consideration of our position at this time, but the momentousness of the issue that affects our fundamental philosophy of Government, forces us to beg your unqualified defense of the Fourteenth Amendment as a cause no less American than the war we are fighting today against Japan and the Axis nations. We speak to you with our mind, heart and soul. No other recourse has been left us in our own defense. We stand as Americans. We look to you, Mr. President, as representing the highest ideals and traditions of American life to oppose and reject this unAmerican bill that would nullify our right and identity as American citizens.

Seeking the kind consideration of this appeal by your high office and praying that kind providence will keep you and lead us to a victorious prosecution of our war effort, I am, my dear Mr. President,

Faithfully yours,

(Signed) James Y. Sakamoto

James Y. Sakamoto, Chairman,
Emergency Defense Council,
Seattle Japanese American Citizens
League

JYS/rh

JACK FS
DEC 24 1942

AIR MAIL

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Mike Masaoka
Japanese American Citizens League
Salt Lake City, Utah

Dear Mike:

For obvious reasons I am replying by air-mail, confidentially, to your wire of yesterday concerning the removal of disloyal evacuees. As you must know the problem of segregation is probably the most complex of the many complex problems developing out of the evacuation. It has such potential for unfairness to innocent individuals and for disharmony at the centers that we must guard against creating more problems than we might solve.

Primarily, our greatest handicap in formulating an adequate program of segregation is our lack of information on which to base such removals. General accusations of disloyalty commonly come to us but specific acts of disloyalty by specific individuals are almost impossible to substantiate and to proceed without sufficient evidence is reminiscent of the earlier stages of evacuation, will perhaps play right into the hands of our antagonists, and will alienate the support of some of our friends, whose support we must retain. I now have a committee working on the whole problem here in the Washington office and am attempting to get from the centers further information on individuals and groups that should be seriously examined. Whatever you may be able to furnish this committee in the way of names or specific incidents, with supporting evidence, relevant to the problem will be very much appreciated. It is important enough to us that any data you may have should be sent us air-mail at once.

Several of us here know generally your feelings on the whole problem and value the judgments you have given us from time to time. I am sure the committee would appreciate having for consideration

FILE COPY

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your appraisal of the question from the vantage point you occupy. Could you prepare such a statement for the committee. I would appreciate it and can assure you it would be held in strict confidence.

With kindest regards and the best wishes for a Merry Christmas with your family.

Sincerely,

D.S. Myer

Director

JHProvinse:HMP

FILE COPY

6148 S. Greenwood
Chicago 37, Illinois
July 30, 1943

Leaves Office
Tule Lake Project
Newell, California

Dear Sirs:

Kindly grant leave clearance to my mother and
my sister, Mrs. K. Miyamoto and

6148 S. Greenwood
Chicago 37, Illinois
July 30, 1943

Dear May,

Enclosed is a letter for the Leaves Office which I believe will facilitate your getting the leave clearance for mother and yourself. The room arrangement I have in mind is the same one we had for Kaz and Nobu. There's a spare room in the Apartment where we live, and I'm sure it will be open until you arrive. Mrs. Morris, the landlady, is very kind about such matters and she no doubt would be more than happy to have you and mother living with us.

Nobu and Kaz were in yesterday, and Nobu told me of the letter you had written her. She phoned down to the WRA and learned that there are several openings for bookkeepers, one in particular which pays very well. This job is a night job, from about 4:30 in the late afternoon until about 1:00, but I'm sure that for the difference in pay you wouldn't mind taking something like that. I'm going down to the WRA office this afternoon to see about this position for you, and at the same time I shall arrange with Mr. Shirrell to have a teletype sent to ~~you~~ Tule Lake for your leave clearance. I'm sure you'll get that in no time.

My suggestions about the domestic job was given as a tentative working plan, but if this bookkeepers job should turn out well, it certainly may be the thing for you to take. I'd urge you to come out as soon as possible in any case under the circumstance. I think you can decide on the type of work after you get here. As a last resort, there will always be these domestic jobs where both you and mother will be amply cared for, and the risk involved in coming out therefore won't be great.

I'm more concerned about the problems you'll have of packing. I know that it's going to be a tough job for you and mother to arrange for the packing and delivery of all the stuff. As for our wash tub, don't worry about that at all. Just ~~have~~ leave it there for someone else if you can't do anything else about it. Michi isn't particularly anxious to have it here now that she's out here in Chicago, for we're learning that it's pretty difficult to live here with very much stuff on hand.

I don't know if there's anything else that we have to do about getting you here, but if there is, airmail us or wire us right away and we'll straighten matters out from this end. Mr. Shirrell is pretty good about that sort of thing. I honestly hope that the packing problems will be solved satisfactorily. I'll write again suggesting just how the express of the baggage may best be handled. Hope everything goes off all right.

6148 S. Greenwood
Chicago 37, Illinois
July 30, 1943

Leaves Office
Tule Lake Project
Newell, California

Dear Sirs:

I am very anxious to have my mother, Mrs. S. Miyamoto, and sister, May Miyamoto, come out to Chicago as soon as possible. This letter is to certify that they will have a place to stay when they arrive here in Chicago. I have arranged a room for them and am awaiting their arrival. Kindly grant them their leave clearance as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Frank Miyamoto

Chicago
T 6-11
Cory
Letter from Larry Tajiri to Fred Fertig
re: JACL
Matsunaga
November 29, 1943

PACIFIC (seal) CITIZEN
Beason Building
Salt Lake City 1, Utah

Nov. 24, 1943

Dear Fred:

Thanks for the letter. And the suggestions. (We have covered the poll-tax fight fairly extensively, including two editorials and one full dress article by Joe Masaoka.)

We need help---badly---in the JACL. A full-time worker with some idea of race relations and political trends. We can't seem to find any nisei who's willing to work full-time, as Mike did, for \$125, which is our top scale. Incidentally, while on the subject of JACL wages, I've been sorely tempted. I've been offered a job with FCC at \$3800, which would mean salvation from the hand-to-mouth existence of the liberal and crusading press. The work is right in my line---more so than the sociological journalism which PC requires. Its ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ as chief underling of the far eastern news section of FBIS which dupplies OWI. . . . I don't why I mention this, except its been on my mind all week, and because a few of the boys seem to think that my working for the JACL is sheer opportunism.

You mention the fact that some of the nisei liberals have thought of counter-movements (the Young Democrats, and in particular, Joe and Kenny) One reason, and its not mere rationalization, for my affiliation with the JACL is that I happened to organize the first of the nisei YD groups---the Japanese American Young Democrats of San Francisco, preceding the Oakland and L.A. groups. We even issued a mimeographed monthly, "Nisei Democracy," which, in the few issues of its existence, tried to do some of the things---political education of the nisei---which the PC is trying today. The San Francisco YD's

was a counter-move against the JACL in San Francisco which was reactionary from the top down. . . . We held joint meetings with Chinese American progressives and got some govt jobs (census-taking, NYA etc.) for some of the nisei. . . . We printed 5,000 political handbills, the money for the print-job came from our own pockets and from pots in poker games, and with the assistance of a friendly printer. I believe it was the first political action of that type by nisei--the year was 1938. The handbills were for the defeat of the vicious proposition No. 1, the anti-labor initiative, and for the election of the California "New Deal" slate of Olson, Patterson and Downey and George Collins, the assemblyman, who is still in Sacramento and perhaps next to Gus Hawkins has the best voting record on labor, minorities and civil rights. Collins first act on reaching Sac'to was the introduction of two civil rights bills. All this is water gone under a dam long years ago. But I thought you might be interested in knowing that the liberal opposition to the JACL is nothing new. Some of us, Dyke Miyagawa was one of them, met in San Francisco back in '37 ~~and~~ or '38 and attempted to form a coast-wide nisei progressive group which would be directly aligned with other minorities. . . . The CP boys have been doing this, of course, in their own field.

I believe, especially at this time, that the JACL is the best medium for the political awakening of the nisei. I believe that Hito Okada, Saburo Kido and Dr. T.T. Yatabe (plus Joe Masaoka) are sincerely interested in the nisei. Most of the Tories and the boys with personal ambitions have dropped by the wayside. Okada and Kido are serving without salary. Both Tom Yatabe and Joe Masaoka could do much better than taking the kicking ~~that~~ around that JACL leaders get these from the nisei generally. . . . Okada is a member of the FEPC here and of the Committee for Constitutional Rights. He went out with me on two afternoons about two months ago ---out on a dusty road outside the Gudaky packing plant to sign up their nisei workers for the CIO's Packinghouse

Workers of America. The shop had a GIO contract but only one out of 40 nisei were members of the union. We practically had to tackle the guys out on the road---the company wouldn't let us on the grounds and had to sit on their stomachs while we talked to them, but we signed up the majority. Anyway, that's Hito Okada. . . . Kido is still a conservative at heart but he has gone along with PC and JACL policy. . . . Tom Yatabe, who was a successful dentist in Fresno and a JACL old-timer, didn't know what "jim crow" was until he was evacuated to Jerome. But today he's one of the organizers of a new civil liberties committee in Chicago. . . . You can read Joe Masaoka's column on the common identity of U.S. race groups in this week's PC. . . . None of these four who are left with the JACL could have developed with the times. . . . I think it's unfair to assess the JACL, or to criticize it (as some nisei do) on the basis of what it did or didn't do back in 1936. I think I was as critical as any of them--up until Pearl Harbor--and some of this anti-JACL sentiment (which I helped to foment) is still coming home to roost.

A letter from Teiko Ishida, who now represents us in New York, calls for the JACL to adopt a more progressive line. I think it's revealing that the counsellors of the JACL these days are people like Reinhold Weibull, William Agar, Roger Baldwin, Wirin, etc. That we're learning to work with liberal groups everywhere Much of the criticism of the PC's editorial attitudes has come from Mrs. Shuji Fujii who seems to dislike me intensely. I've seen some letters she has written to other people accusing me of opportunism, etc. (Back in San Francisco when I was on the Nishi-Bei, I once reprinted an Oakland Tribune account of her sister's suicide which she had asked the publisher, as I recall, to suppress. I don't remember now whether Mrs. Abiko, the publisher, asked me to leave the story out or not. I probably wouldn't have.) Anyway, that's just background matter.

Sincerely,

Larry (Signed.)

Shibutani

Field Notes: July 20, 1944

T6.11

I went over to see Yatabe and he said that he was thinking of getting the JACL organized. I asked him why he didn't go ahead and do so but he replied that he was getting much opposition from the Los Angeles group. He said it was just a matter of personality and I gathered from what he said that by Los Angeles group he was referring to Togo. He said: "I want to get together some of the old boys who know how to organize. They'll be the behind the scenes boys. We're all blacklisted. We've been made the scapegoat for the evacuation and that's why some of the young fellows are going to have to be the front for us. We have to be careful in the people we ~~max~~ select though because we don't want to run into the same trouble that the JACL ran into. That's a pink old organization. Keep this under your hat, but just between you and me I'll tell you about that. We sent out letters to get sponsors for our group and several of them wrote back and asked us if we were the same as the New York group since there was only one letter difference. They said that they would not support a Communist organization. We have to think of the public relations angle. I know that the word 'Japanese' makes us look bad and some people have been saying that we ought to change our name. However, we can't change now because we have a good reputation with the government."

This really disgusted me because Yatabe was still talking about the same trivial stuff he used to talk about on the coast. The trouble with all these guys is that they have a Nihonmachi mentality and a little Tokyo perspective and with it they are blindly trying to get along in a big time world. They're only 20 years behind time and they don't know it.

Then I went over to the WRA and saw Frank. While we were copying the records Booth came storming along and said he was never so mad in his life. He said that Illinois Central had been phoning him all afternoon but he refused to talk to him. We asked him what was up and he told us that the I.C. had sent a recruiter out to camp who was unusually successful. He said that this big Irishman must have promised everything because in a few weeks he got more people signed up than any other recruiter. "I.C. did not clear with the union or the WRA. They promised

housing but that housing was sub-standard and not fit for human habitation. Furthermore, the union had announced that they would go on a strike tomorrow if the Nisei go to work. We must get housing for those boys and we must get them new jobs even if we have to close up our office tomorrow to do it. I told those boys not to go to work tomorrow but I didn't tell the I.C. that I told them that. And so now, that there is such a mess, the personnel man is calling frantically, but I won't answer. I'm not going to answer. I'm just going to let them sweat. Let them think that there's going to be a big strike tomorrow and then next time they'll see things better. I'll see this thing through or I'll resign from my job."

(This is the first WRA version of the I.C. incident. There are five other versions available in the WRA files.)

Japanese American Citizens League

An All American Organization of American Citizens

National Headquarters

413-415 BEASON BLDG.

TELEPHONE 5-6501

SALT LAKE CITY 1, UTAH

July 20, 1944

To the Community Council and Block Managers:

The Japanese American Citizens League has requested the War Department's permission to schedule a lecture tour for PFC Higa, a member of the famed 100th Infantry Battalion until he was wounded and sent back to this country. PFC Higa has made appearances in some of the relocation centers and in Denver and Salt Lake City. Requests for his appearance have been so great that the JACL decided to take steps to arrange for his tour where our chapters are established.

PFC Higa has been most valuable in giving first hand information as to the soldier's life on the battlefield, what they need, what they want, what they are thinking, the relationship between the Nisei soldiers and their fellow soldiers, and numerous other questions which have been uppermost in the minds of relatives and friends since the boys have gone overseas.

In arranging the itinerary, we have reserved some time for his appearances in the relocation centers. Such being the case, if your center residents desire him to visit you, we would suggest that you contact the War Relocation Authority in Washington through your project administration immediately. PFC Higa is tentatively scheduled to start from Spokane, Washington, on August 15.

We have no doubts that every relative and friends, especially the Issei parents, will benefit from his talks since he is fluent and will address in Japanese.

Sincerely yours,

Japanese American Citizens
League

by Saburo Kido
National President

Japanese American Citizens League

An All American Organization of American Citizens

National Headquarters

413-415 BEASON BLDG.

TELEPHONE 5-6501

SALT LAKE CITY 1, UTAH

August 16, 1944

To the Community Council and Block Managers:

With the active participation of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team on the Italian front, the casualty list has been mounting rapidly.

Heretofore, when there were few mainland Nisei mentioned in the War Department bulletins' casualty list, JACL was glad to report to the hometown papers on the Pacific Coast in order to inform the people of the Nisei's sacrifice for their country. However, we are no longer able to do this.

Also, the bulletins carry the names of the nearest kin and the present address which makes it impossible for us to ascertain from when the Nisei was evacuated. And the list is published about a month or two after the telegrams informing the nearest kin are dispatched.

Realizing that the Nisei soldiers have volunteered for the defense of their country and to make the lot of all persons of Japanese parentage in this country secure, we believe that it is necessary as an educational program to inform the hometown people. In this connection, we believe that a department should be established which will handle this matter of corresponding with the hometown papers.

High schools, colleges and universities from which the Nisei graduated should also be informed in order that the Nisei's name may be included within the Honor Roll.

Inasmuch as you are best qualified to carry out this important task, we wish to make this suggestion. We believe this is one way in which we can make the sacrifice of our Nisei soldiers an active and living thing.

Sincerely yours,

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

Taburo Hido
National President

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T 6.11

Japanese American Citizens League

An All American Organization of American Citizens

National Headquarters

413-415 BEASON BLDG. TELEPHONE 5-6501
SALT LAKE CITY 1, UTAH

August 18, 1944

To the Community Council and Block Managers:

The Japanese American Citizens League is planning to file briefs as "amicus curiae" in the Korematsu and Endo cases in the United States Supreme Court this fall. As you know, the Korematsu case will test the constitutionality of the evacuation and the Endo case will decide the extent of the authority of the War Relocation Authority. Both of these cases will decide fundamental constitutional rights of Nisei citizens.

The JACL is filing its briefs at the solicitation of the American Civil Liberties Union which feels that some Nisei group should represent the viewpoints of the Nisei in general. At the time of the evacuation from the Pacific Coast, the JACL had a membership close to 20,000 and therefore felt it was in a position to speak for the Nisei. However, today we do not enjoy such a large membership. Such being the case, if we should file briefs, we will have to speak for our members only unless we are able to obtain the consent of other Nisei.

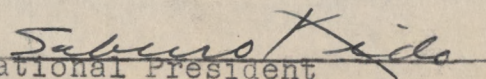
We have appropriated the sum of \$1500.00 for these test cases. A research man is already gathering data for the briefs. The attorney has been retained. It seems to us that it would be more appropriate and effective if we can speak for our members and other Nisei.

The cost will not differ whether we speak merely for our members or for a larger number. Therefore, we are appealing to your group as representing the people of the relocation centers whether you can obtain the consent of the Nisei in your center to permit the JACL to represent them in these test cases.

It will be clearly understood that we speak for the Nisei residents of your center only in these two test cases and nothing more.

We shall appreciate it very much if we can have some reply from you in the very near future.

Cordially yours,


National President

For Better Americans in A Greater America

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

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THE PACIFIC CITIZEN
415 BEASON BUILDING
SALT LAKE CITY 1, UTAH

October 4, 1944

Dear Reader:

Do you believe in the Pacific Citizen? Do you think we are helping the Nisei cause? If so, we need your help. And badly, too.

The Pacific Citizen has come to be recognized as an outstanding publication, the voice of the Nisei. It is nationally known today. Its most important function has been to perform the necessary mission of disseminating proper and true information concerning persons of Japanese ancestry in this country.

The business end, however, has not been satisfactory. The expenses have exceeded cost. Last year the Xmas edition was the thing that saved us from financial embarrassment, most possibly disaster.

If you are interested in the continued publication of the Pacific Citizen, please insert your name and address in the forthcoming Xmas edition. The cost is only \$1 per person. Advertising space is \$3 an inch.

Help us to solicit ads from your friends so that the Xmas edition may become a directory for all evacuees. Friends naturally would like to know where others are today.

Also, if you can spare a little cash, we shall appreciate a donation towards the Pacific Citizen fund.

Sincerely yours,

Hito Okada
Business Manager

The Pacific Citizen
415 Beason Building
Salt Lake City 1, Utah

Enclosed please find \$_____ for which kindly insert the following in the forthcoming Xmas edition:

Rate: \$1 a name and address or \$3 an inch

Japanese American Citizens League

An All American Organization of American Citizens

National Headquarters

413-415 BEASON BLDG.

TELEPHONE 5-6501

SALT LAKE CITY 1, UTAH

J. A. C. L.

MID-WEST OFFICE

189 W. MADISON ST., RM. 100A
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Nov. 8, 1944.

Mr. Frank Miyamoto,
6148 So. Greenwood,
Chicago 37, Ill.

Dear Mr. Miyamoto:

We have been informed of your membership in the organization and of your interest in the local JACL Chapter.

We would be most happy to notify you of our meetings and any activities here.

The enclosed forms have been sent to those who wish to become a charter member of the Chicago Chapter and we would appreciate you becoming a member.

A meeting of the local chapter is now being planned.

Sincerely yours,

Mary M. Yatabe

Mary M. Yatabe
Secretary

.....
Mr. Frank Miyamoto
6148 South Greenwood
Chicago 37, Illinois

OCT 5 - 1944

.....
Subscription to the Pacific Citizen

From. Sept .30, .1944

To. . Sept .30, .1945 \$ 2.50

If you have sent us a renewal, please disregard this reminder
and accept our thanks.

I, _____ wish to be
(please print your name)
affiliated with the proposed Chicago Chapter
of the J.A.C.L. as a charter member and here-
with attach one dollar for the organizational
fund.

name _____

address _____

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Do)
Do not) put me down for a years subscription to the Pacific Citizen.
Enclose \$2.50 with each subscription.

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
BEASON BUILDING
SALT LAKE CITY 1, UTAH

ASSOCIATED MEMBERS DIVISION
Membership Application Form

Name _____ Occupation _____
Place of Birth _____ No. Years at Present Address _____
Date of Birth _____ Sex _____ Originally from _____
Married _____ Children _____ Membership since _____
Religion _____ in _____ Chapter _____
Political Affiliation _____ Person to notify in case of
School _____ accident: _____
Voluntary Evacuee _____ Resettled Relocatee _____ Local Resident _____
Pacific Citizen Subscription _____

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

I, the undersigned, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I do hereby forswear and repudiate any other allegiance which I knowingly or unknowingly may have held heretofore; and that I take these obligations freely, without any mental reservations whatsoever or purpose of evasion. So help me God.

Subscribed and sworn to before the _____
following witnesses, this _____ (Signature)
day of _____ 1944 _____ (Street Address)
at _____ (City) (State)

Witness _____

Witness _____ (Chapter Name) or
(Associated Members Division)

Eastern Office:
Room 1109
299 Madison Ave.
New York City 17, N. Y.
Phone: Murray Hill 2-2459

Mid-West Office:
Room 1008
189 W. Madison Street
Chicago 2, Illinois
Phone: Franklin 8840

Japanese American Citizens League

An All American Organization of American Citizens

National Headquarters

413-415 BEASON BLDG.

TELEPHONE 5-6501

SALT LAKE CITY 1, UTAH

August 18, 1945

Tri-State Office:
615 E. & C. Building
17th and Curtis
Denver 2, Colorado
Phone: Cherry 5990

San Francisco Office:
1860 Washington Street
San Francisco 9, California
Phone: Tuxedo 5212

To The Community Councils of All Relocation Centers:

The Japanese American Citizens League has been devoting its efforts to helping those who have come out to resettle. We realize that our contribution has not been too great in view of our limited funds and small staff.

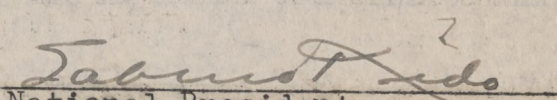
As to matters between the War Relocation Authority and the center residents, the community council has acted as spokesman. We have been interested in what was transpiring and have been following developments.

Now that the WRA is beginning to close the centers, the JACL has been requested by its Caucasian advisory board and other friendly organizations in San Francisco to assume an active role.

Inasmuch as we have had no part in the deliberations or in the formulating of the policies by the community councils in behalf of the residents heretofore, we are not certain whether the enclosed resolution expresses the thinking or the desires of the center residents. It was forwarded to national headquarters for approval from San Francisco by those friends who have been interested in the resettlement and the evacuee problem.

We are reluctant in interfering with the prerogatives of the community councils. Therefore, before taking any action, we are submitting the matter for your opinion. Your immediate reply will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,


National President

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

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HAWAII

DR. MILES E. CARY.....Honolulu, T. H.

A RESOLUTION ON THE RESETTLEMENT OF AMERICANS OF JAPANESE DESCENT

WHEREAS, Relocation of our American citizens and residents of Japanese descent from War Relocation Authority centers on a humane and just basis has motivated the interest of the national organization of the Japanese American Citizens League; and

The Japanese American Citizens League believes the federal government, as the prime mover in the evacuation, has an inescapable moral and legal responsibility toward these evacuees which does not end with the closing of the centers; and

The Japanese American Citizens League, and informed Americans who are cognizant of the WRA program, favor the early resettlement of evacuees wherever they elect to go, are, nevertheless deeply disturbed by the precipitate means, inflicting demonstrable hardships upon evacuees, with which the War Relocation Authority seeks to gain this admittedly desirable end; and

Persisting in these methods of compulsory resettlement adds further inhumanities and injustices upon these evacuees and inevitably aggravates community tensions in already congested housing areas; n o w t h e r e f o r e

BE IT RESOLVED: That we reaffirm the government responsibility toward these federally displaced people, who normally maintained unusual records for self-dependency, by recommending this FIVE POINT PROGRAM:

(1) That evacuees shall not be evicted from the centers until an adequate plan -- adapted to each individual or family, including available housing and means of support -- is devised, according to good social work methods.

(2) That a center or housing projects close to the evacuees' point of origin be employed as an Interim Center for those who have not been able to make adequate resettlement plans within the center closing deadline dates.

(3) That a Maintenance Center, as close as possible to the evacuees' point of origin, be created for those 60 years and older; widows and soldiers' wives with children; and others, unemployable and incapacitated, whose return to their original communities would necessitate their becoming public charges.

(4) That special dependency assistance through the Social Security Agency be provided for those who are relocatable but who require aid to become self-sustaining.

(5) That a special old age federal assistance fund be set up to provide for these displaced aliens who cannot qualify under legal aid categories of their respective states.

That the United States cannot jeopardize its moral leadership among the nations of the world by ill-considered treatment of its own citizens and people dislocated by war.

That this resolution be transmitted to the

President
Secretary of the Interior
Director, War Relocation Authority

Respectfully submitted,

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

English & Japanese section

Editors:

Enclosed are copies of two letters sent to the editor of the Pacific Citizen, organ for the Japanese American Citizens League. They are self-explanatory.

If you can use these two letters in your paper, we feel they will help to spread the movement begun by Mr. Kako.

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE
618 EMPIRE BLDG. CHenry 5990
DENVER 2, COLO.

(From the November 4 Pacific Citizen-Letter Box)

Editor,
The Pacific Citizen

I have noted the statement in Saburo Kido's column of October 21 that Wayne Collins spent \$2,000 of his own money in the Korematsu case and that James Purcell has spent about \$3,000 of his own money in the Endo case. No mention is made of the time the attorneys have spent in these cases, to the detriment of their own private practices.

As a matter of fact, the Northern California Branch of the A.C.L.U. has thus far spent exactly \$1485.16 for the printing of Mr. Collins' briefs in the Korematsu case, while Mr. Collins has contributed the substantial cost of making two trips to Washington besides months of time in working on the case.

Mr. Collins has also prepared briefs for the Northern California Branch of the A.C.L.U. in the Hirabayashi, Yasui, Endo, and Regan cases. The branch has spent exactly \$739.46 in the printing and filing of these briefs and Mr. Collins has not been compensated for his work.

I venture to say that if Mr. Collins were compensated for all the work he has done in these Japanese test cases in accordance with usual fees in the legal profession the bill would run into five figures.

Sixty per cent of the money the branch expended on the Japanese test cases came out of its reserve funds. While we haven't solicited funds from the Japanese in support of these cases, it is interesting to note that out of our expenditure of \$2,224.62 not one cent has been contributed by any person of Japanese ancestry.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Besig, Director

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE
612 EMPIRE BLDG.
DENVER 3, COLO. CH 5906

3801 Vallejo Street
Denver 11, Colorado
November 10, 1944

Editor, The Pacific Citizen
415 Beason Building
Salt Lake City 1, Utah

Dear Sir:

The Ernest Besig letter as director of the Northern California Branch of the American Civil Liberties Union addressed to you in the November 4 issue of the Pacific Citizen astounded me. That the various cases waged on behalf of the civil and citizenship rights of Japanese Americans have been carried on solely without the financial support of those who would derive the most benefit shows an astonishing lack of gratefulness on the part of those of Japanese descent.

One reads how Red Cross and bond drives top quotas in the centers. One sees of many Nisei earning wartime salaries. Apparent, too, are many Nisei enterprises prosperous and thriving. In the face of this, the fact that the efforts of our Caucasian friends goes unrecognized is indeed a strange and paradoxical situation.

It so happens that I am an Issei with children who are American citizens. Though I am an alien "ineligible to citizenship," I feel strongly that the rights which our boys are fighting to maintain overseas should be preserved intact at home. The maintenance of civil rights is one of the homefront battles.

This is a continuing battle, and I am sure as others of Japanese descent become aware of the imperative necessity for this effort, financial support will be forthcoming. To start the ball rolling, I am hereby enclosing my check for \$50. Please convey this to Mr. Ernest Besig with my apologies on behalf of those who are the recipients of their efforts. Express also my confidence that others like myself will join in and that ingratitude is not a quality which can be attributed to Japanese Americans.

Yours sincerely,

T. Kako

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZEN LEAGUE
117 E. EMPIRE BLDG.
DENVER 1, COLO.
NOV 15 1944

Assuming that you are eligible for membership in the JACL, that is, if you are an American citizen, we would like to solicit your joining up in the associated division. Our special membership-subscription combination rate is \$3.50 per year for those in the free area, and \$3.00 for those in the relocation centers. Therefore, with the enclosed notice for PC payment, will you make an additional payment to add up to either, in whichever category you may be. Upon receiving your remittance for membership dues, your card will be forwarded to you, and you shall be placed on our regular mailing list so that from time to time you will receive materials concerning the benefits and welfare of the people of Japanese ancestry.

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