

October 1, 1941: Report by correspondence to National J.A.C.L. on the proposal for mass demonstration & program by Southland Japanese for United China Relief; copies of the following letter were sent to Walter Tsukamoto, Dr. Harry Kita, Ken Matsumoto, and Fred Tayama, on J.A.C.L. National hqtrs stationery:

"Mr. Saburo Kido
1623 Webster Street
San Francisco, California

October 1, 1941

"Dear Saburo:

"Your summary of reasons for our polite declination of the proposal from Harry Maizlish was concise, complete, and accepted without dissent at an emergency Southern District meeting, 5 p.m., Los Angeles J.A.C.L. office today.

"Attending were: Fred Tayama, Frank Ishii, George Inagaki, Frank Ono, Kiyoshi Higashi, Shigemi Aratani, Joseph Shinoda, and myself. It was decided in advance that such word would be tactfully conveyed to Maizlish.

"With the exception of Aratani & Shinoda, the group set out for KFWB & Maizlish; after a full hour of talking with him & being talked at, I don't think any of us had materially changed his mind. We were skeptical, cautious, unconvinced. As agreed in advance, however, we went to Culver City to the Selznick Studio.

"I write this in sequence to prepare you for what ultimately transpired.

"Unlike Maizlish with his flair for Hollywood press agency ballyhoo and colossal talk, we found (and I confirmed this afterwards with all who went) that Selznick, a second general Russian Jewish American, to be distinctly sympathetic and understanding of the Citizens League's position in the matter.

"The proposed program underwent some drastic changes from the original--in that office filled with us, Selznick's numerous secretaries and lieutenants & a considerably subdued Maizlish.

"First, Selznick immediately recognized the danger of the program as being misinterpreted as 'cheap' Hollywood publicity--a stunt. He acknowledged the risk of the Citizens League, quickly admitted the likelihood that misunderstood, the program might defeat its own purpose.

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"By his more deliberate approach to the problem, I sensed he won over the confidence of the League representatives. You may confirm this by contacting the others who also went.

"His suggestion was that the Italian Americans, German Americans, Mexican Americans, Finnish Americans and all other racial groups in L.A., with their organizations, be brought into the list of sponsors with the Japanese American Citizens League. The beneficiaru would still be United China Relief. However, the main theme would be: 'This is America.'

"The program would find participation by the Citizens League to give proper balance and perspective.

"We asked Selznick (and I made special point of this in view of national publicity) what assurance we could get of favorable support from national publications. Selznick promised that he personally would get the support of Henry Luce (Time & LIFE). Maizlish had earlier in the evening tried to phone C. Thompson, a LIFE representative in Chicago and said so at this time; selznick, however, insisted that only Luce would do in this case and promised that much assurance as a pre-requisite to anything done on our part.

"There are a score of other details which ought to be set forth, but the foregoing should give you some of idea as to why the entire group--all of us who went--came back in favor of going ahead.

"With the proposal that Maizlish first tossed into our laps, and with all the information which you and Tsukamoto & Mike had to go on, we were in unanimous agreement with you. This was particularly true of George Inagaki.

"I am inclined to believe that, pending definite word on the promises made to us tonight, unless we take advantage of the opportunity presented to us as the program was outlined by Selznick, we will awake to find that we have missed the bus. Fred is writing you separately. I shall write at greater length when I have greater leisure this evening. This is being pounded out at 1:00 a.m. before I retire. I trust the foregoing has placed some new light on the matter.

Sincerely,

Togo Tanaka"

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As part of the National J.A.C.L. publicity program, the following release was submitted today for approval of Saburo Kido and national headquarters:

(A three-column cut loaned to us by the Los Angeles Times was reproduced in 100 different mats, with the following caption & story:)

"IN LOS ANGELES a recent Army induction center brought out this racial mixture: (l. to r.) front row--Arnold Lewin, Maurice Kamenier, James Messina. Second row--Ben Baldi, Kiyoshi Oda, Alex Mechikoff, Adolph Meyer. Third row--Walter Henryson, Abraham Stone, Bill Comerford, Roy Scott. (L.A. Times photo)

"THE JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE, representing 150,000 Americans of Japanese extraction and their parents, subscribes sincerely to the belief and faith that America is a land of but one people, gathered from many countries.

"FROM THE BOOK of America's Making, 71st Regiment Armory, New York, the Citizens League offers this quotation as most clearly expressive of the photograph above:

"'At the altar of America we have sworn ourselves to a single loyalty. We have bound ourselves to sacrifice and struggle, to plan and to work for this land. We have given that we may gain, we have surrendered that we may have victory. We have taken an oath that the world shall have a chance to know how much good can be gathered from all countries and how solid in its strength, how wise, how fertile in its yield, how lasting and sure is the life of a people who are one.'

"(We invite your editorial comment and enclose a news mat with the permission of the Los Angeles Times if you should find this release newsworthy).

Very sincerely,

Publicity Chairman
National Japanese
American Citizens
League."

October 3, 1941: Reply to our letter of September 30 arrived today from Major Edward Morton, Provost Marshal, Camp Callan, San Diego. The letter we sent on newspaper letterhead:

" THE RAFU SHIMPO
L.A. Japanese Daily News

September 30, 1941

"Major Morton
Provost Marshall
Camp Callan, California

"Dear Sir:

"Members of our staff have reported rumors current in Los Angeles to the effect that 'several cases of disloyalty' to America among American-born Japanese young men in Selective Service at Camp Callan have occurred.

"The rumors, unfounded or not we would not know, alleges an incident in which an American soldier of Japanese descent was placed in the guardhouse when he answered in reply to the question: 'If we get into a war with Japan, what will you do?' His alleged reply: 'Fight for Japan.'

"This incident is supposed to be have been followed by general questionings of all American-born Japanese at Camp Callan, whereby many more were supposed to have served time in the guardhouse.

"The rumor, like many others from apparently irresponsible sources, have become sufficiently widespread that we feel it merits some attention; hence this letter.

"This particular rumor is in such marked contrast to the general official reports we have received regarding Americans of Japanese extraction in the United States Army that we would appreciate hearing from you, if any such official information is available on this matter. Please be assured of our complete cooperation.

"I trust we have not encroached too much upon your time in contacting you this way. May we hear from you at your earliest convenience?

Very truly yours,

TT:gky

Togo Tanaka, English Editor"

* * *

The following reply came in today's mail:

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"COAST ARTILLERY REPLACEMENT TRAINING CENTER
Camp Callan, San Diego, California

October 2, 1941

"Mr. Togo Tanaka
Editor 'The Rafu Shimpo'
104 No. Los Angeles St.
Los Angeles, California

"Dear Sir:

"I am surprised to learn from your letter of September 30, 1941, that rumors tending to reflect unfavorably on American-born Japanese young men at Camp Callan are being circulated in Los Angeles.

"The nature of my duties here is such as to enable me to know the facts about matters of this sort, and I am in a position to state that these rumors are without foundation. It gives me pleasure to inform you that no soldier of Japanese parentage has ever been in the guard house here and that nothing has ever occurred at Camp Callan that could in any way reflect on the loyalty of any American-born Japanese on the post.

"To the best of my knowledge, the record Japanese-Americans are making for themselves at Camp Callan is excellent. All the reports I have received concerning them are very favorable indeed. I am glad to be able to give you this information and I authorize you to give it any publicity you may desire.

Very truly yours

(signed)

EDWARD MORTON
Major, C.E.
Provost Marshal"

* * *

The National Headquarters of the Japanese American Citizens League today sent me stationery supplies for my work as "National Publicity Director" with headquarters in our newspaper office, 104 No. Los Angeles Street. An initial appropriation of \$250 has been made for the work, and I am instructed to expend it in the preparation of releases for newspapers, daily & weekly & otherwise.

Using the new stationery on which my new title is printed erroneously as "Natoinal Publicity Director",

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I write the following letter to National President Saburo Kido:

"October 3, 1941

"Mr. Saburo Kido
1623 Webster Street
San Francisco, California

"Dear Saburo:

"The stationery and envelopes arrived today. You will note the typographical error which occurred in the printing, and which may call for a legitimate request on our part to either reprint or discount.

"I have enclosed a letter received by a member of our staff from Congressman Jerry Voorhis, regarding the once-scheduled Dies Committee hearings on the Japanese situation. You probably have noticed the Associated Press dispatches from Washington, D.C., reporting that Senator Gillette (of Iowa) and Senator Johnson (of California) have proposed a special Senate Committee to investigate espionage and subversive charges of Japanese and other Axis powers.

"This is merely to inform you that we have made note of the item, filed it away, are making contacts, and awaiting word from National headquarters regarding the release of our next piece of publicity.

Sincerely,

Togo Tanaka

TT:gky
Enclosure"

* * *

The enclosed letter was a copy of one received from Congressman Jerry Voorhis by Sam Hohri:

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(COPY AS OF ORIGINAL)

JERRY VOORHIS
12th Dist. California

SECRETARIES
V. R. Long
Harold Herin
Duane DeSchaine

HOME ADDRESS:
R.F.D. No. 1 Congress of the United States
San Dimas, California

House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

COMMITTEES:
Flood Control
World War Veteran's September 27, 1941
Legislation
Public Lands
Rivers and Harbors

ADDRESS
501 House Office
Building
Washington, D.C.

Mr. Sam Hohri
THE RAFU SHIMPO
104 N. Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mr. Hohri:

I want to thank you for your very fine letter of September 12th, concerning the proposed Dies Committee hearings on the Japanese situation and concerning the attitude of various groups among your people.

I, frankly, have not been consulted at all about this proposed hearing, although I have been familiar with some of the reports which have been submitted to the Committee about the matter. I would doubt very much that any open hearings are going to be held on the subject, so I do not think you need be concerned about that phase of the situation.

However, I do agree with you that it is most important that everything possible be done to make a demonstration of the real facts regarding the attitude toward the United States of those citizens of Japanese ancestry, and I will be glad to do anything I can along this line. Should hearings be held, you may be certain I would try my very best to see that they were fair and properly balanced.

Sincerely yours,

(signed)

JERRY VOORHIS

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Based on some of the statistical estimates that we have been making in various English section articles, the following release was prepared for me by Grace Yoshino, staff member and secretary who is doing the bulk of the work on my assignment as National J.A.C.L. publicity director. The following is on "Nisei Family Life" and is to be forwarded to San Francisco for approval:

"NISEI FAMILY LIFE

"Two striking features may be instantly noticed in a Japanese daily newspaper in Los Angeles. Death notices, printed in black-bordered obituaries appear regularly every day in the Japanese language section. Intention-to-wed notices and marriage stories appear as regularly in the English language section.

"Of California's 96,000 Japanese population, over 65,000 are American-born Nisei, an estimated 3,800 are Sansei, while the remainder are the older alien Japanese immigrants.

"The Nisei are beyond the point of numerically increasing. The Issei are dying off at a rate where it is estimated nearly all of them will be gone within a decade.

"By the time the Nisei reaches the age of graduation from high school, there is little doubt left in his mind as to where he plans to live the rest of his life. In 1937, '38 and '39, a questionnaire was placed in the hands of over 3,100 Nisei students graduating from high schools in Southern California. Among the questions was:

"'Have you made up your mind where you plan to make your home and seek a future for the rest of your life? If so, where? Elaborate.'

"Results of the survey showed that 2,993 answered 'the United States'; 45 were 'uncertain'; and the remainder said 'Japan'. The average age of this group, surveyed over a three year period, was 17 years, 10 months.

"The survey was conducted by Togo Tanaka and Louise Suski, both alumni of the University of California at Los Angeles and English Editors of the L.A. Japanese Daily News.

"It was part of an investigation to determine on what basis truly effective editorial guidance could be given to the American-born Japanese.

"The average Nisei is a complete foreigner in Japan. There are exceptions, but the fact is clear that 99 per cent look upon America as the only home they know.

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"Regarding the current danger of wars abroad and the threat to our national security, the L.A. Japanese Daily News in its September 1, 1940, issue said:

"Whatever the view of his critics, the American-born Nisei is loyal to these United States.

"His home, his place, his future is in America and his stake is America's destiny. He will fight for America without question should the necessity arise, but he is by nature pacifistic, for his whole future revolves on peace and the ways of peace.

"He is by number, one of the smallest globs in the mulligan stew of the U.S. melting pot. He could hardly survive a war, particularly a war which would involve his Pacific world.

"He must fight, however, that his place in America remain secure, that the status he has won after years of discrimination, heated 'yellow peril' scares and the sweat of exploitation, is not swept away in the first wild wave of hysteria, should the tom-toms of total war continue to beat in the charnel house of Europe. For the Japanese have come a long way since that day when the first immigrants were landed in San Francisco, human labor stock for the mines and the railroad lines yet unborn, for the great valley farms.

"And they still have a long way to go until that day when job and housing discrimination disappears, when nisei labor can command the same wages as Caucasian Americans, when the Japanese will have emerged from their 'ghettos' on the wrong side of the railroad tracks.'

"Out of this background emerges one important fact regarding the Nisei. They are permanent residents. They are planning for the future on that basis. They are American citizens.

"They differed in these vital, important respects from their parents, who were alien immigrants, whose initial plans, by and large, were not to become permanent residents.

"By the time the Nisei reaches adulthood, he is aware of racial discrimination and types of persecution which still exist. Those who seek refuge by turning to Japan discover that despite their facial characteristics, and features, they are American.

"Five out of Six Nisei have never seen Japan. Of those who have, over half were taken over by parents before these Nisei were of high school age. Of those who go to Japan, over 95 per cent we go for a traveler's or tourists' tour or for a study of the language but not for permanent residence."

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Another release prepared today for the National J.A.C.L. is intended to be the first in a series:

"NISEI PROBLEMS (Series No. 1)

From the files of the National Publicity Director
JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

"To National Officers

"Purpose: to draw your suggestions, advice, opinion regarding subsequent publicity relating to 'American standards of housing among the nisei.'

"Background: In most west coast cities, racial restrictions as to use and occupancy bar American-born Japanese from residential areas in which they would qualify in every other requirement except race. In Los Angeles, for instance, two out of ten real estate properties permit those of the Japanese race (Negroes & other Orientals are also barred), while eight are closed to them.

"THE FOLLOWING NEWSPAPER REPORT APPEARED IN THE DAILY NEWS, LOS ANGELES, Page 17, on August 12, 1940. In itself, the report demonstrates certain obstacles faced by American-born Japanese in any housing undertaking; but more than that, it demonstrates an unfortunate lack of understanding of the resident Japanese in California today by persons of responsible position. COUNCILMAN LEWIS EVANS, referred to in the following story, has since died. COUNCILMAN ARTHUR BRIGGS has returned to private law practise, having lost in the last L.A. Municipal election.

"The story:

H o u s i n g P r o j e c t
C a l l e d w e d g e i n
w a r w i t h J a p a n

"'War with Japan, no less, was foreseen by City Councilmen yesterday if the Pacific Investment Company is allowed to subdivide a tract for Japanese homeowners near the Baldwin hills.

"'So rabidly intense were the war fears of some councilmen that they decided to prolong the delightful agony of their suspense by continuing indefinitely the application of the investment company for subdivision.

"'The 'yellow peril' seemed to assume its most frightful and horrendous aspect in the mind of Councilman Evan Lewis.

"'This is no small matter', Councilman Lewis orated. 'Smaller matters than this have caused wars.'

"The

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"The speaker paused for effect as listeners recalled the imperial ambitions of Adolf Hitler and his kaiser before him.

"This subdivision might get us into war with Japan,' the embattled councilman went on. 'How? I'll tell you how! There are hundreds of people involved.

"This includes Japanese who might buy lots in this subdivision, and white people who would suffer if the Japanese moved in.'

"Why the people of this district might rise up against the Japanese in a body, and there might be a bloody fight.

"There's a lot more to this movement than appears on the surface. Japan is promoting a war with the United States, and is ready to stab us in the back. Any excuse will do--a race riot would be as good as anything else.'

"Councilman Arthur Briggs had a good word for Americans of Oriental descent, however.

"As citizens of the United States, these American-born Japanese must be presumed loyal until they have been proved otherwise,' said Briggs. 'Like all other human beings, they must love their native land, where they have grown up and been educated.'

"Councilman Briggs said he knew many American born Japanese who were 'just as good citizens as you or I.'

"Councilman Harold Harby, in whose district the Japanese would vote if their subdivision was approved, opposed the subdivision, but was not as violent in his language as Councilman Lewis.

"Councilman Harby put his objection on less emotional grounds. Construction of homes in the area, he suggested, would be dangerous because of inflammable peat beds and because the first Japanese subdivision might be the opening wedge for another.

"I have heard of a private housing project in this district for Caucasians only,' he said, 'which would cost \$3,500,000. If the Japanese subdivision is approved this larger housing project would have to go elsewhere.'"

* * *

October 20, 1941 -- There is growing uneasiness all about, and talk of war seems to increase. Everyone is hoping against it. H. T. Komai's thinking on this is typical of the Issei, I think. I drove him home the other night; we got to talking about war, its prospects, the future of the Pacific area, discrimination, race, color. H. T. has been in America over forty years; he came here as a young man. He says from the first he never registered the births of his four sons and daughter with the Japanese Consulate; he intended from the outset for them to become Americans in fact as well as citizenship. H. T. is proud of his race, though he is much more Americanized in his manners, thoughts and ideals than he himself realizes. Some day, maybe fifty years in the future, America and Japan will go to war, H. T. predicts. "It won't be in my lifetime, it will be in yours and my sons," he says. This present tension will be settled without actual war, he believes. The clouds that seem about to burst will dissipate; it's happened before, he recalls, in 1923-24, "when the Exclusion Act was passed" and again at the "height of the Manchurian Incident." The real big crisis in which the United States and Japan will be fighting each other, H. T. predicts, will be a terrible race war--a war of color--in which the white and yellow races will engage each other for the supremacy of the next few centuries. At this point, H. T. runs into some confusion in his thinking because he doesn't know how to advise his own sons if such a war of color is to face them in their generation. He says he realizes that none of his sons is "Japanese" in the true sense of the word; he has raised them to be "American". There is some conflict within the old man, and at this point, he engages in flights of fancy, interspersed with recollections, apparently without bitterness, of the injustices of racial discrimination and the incidents he has encountered in California.

I am making preparations for a flying trip to Washington, D.C. and New York. H. T. seems to be glad that I am making the trip. I am a little anxious, as is Jean; our baby is due in February.

October 21, 1941 -- Gene Hagberg called me on the telephone this afternoon; he said: "Togo, don't make that trip. I'm telling you as a friend. Is there any way you can get out of it." He didn't elaborate. He puzzles me. I have a feeling he is suspicious of Gongoro Nakamura with whom I am making the trip. From other sources too, there seems to be some undercurrent of feeling that my consenting to make the trip is against my personal best interests. On the other hand, this is an opportunity to travel, see the country, meet people, and expand a rather limited newspaper experience.

October 23, 1941 -- There is uneasiness all about; international situation, but you can bet almost anyone that there won't be war--and find no takers; everyone seems to think things will pull through without an actual break. Underneath the optimism, however, many of the older business men are worried.

We took off this morning from United (Union Air Terminal) in Burbank on a Western Air Express plane headed for Las Vegas, Nevada. Gongoro nakamura's wife, his daughter Mitsuko and his two sons were at the airport to bid him bon voyage. Every seat on the plane is occupied; we made successive stops at Las Vegas, Salt Lake City, Denver, Omaha, then Chicago.

October 24, 1941 -- Checked out of Hotel Stevens, boarded Pennsylvania Central Airlines plane for National Airport, Washington, D.C. Unfinished business of correspondence attended to: with Edward Stickney, field secretary for the 3rd District Supervisor in Los Angeles; to Dr. Edward Nance, dentist in the L.A. downtown Roosevelt building, alumnus of U.S.C. who seems to feel war is coming and says that if it does, "it would be better that they put all Japanese in camps where we'd know they couldn't do any harm" (and I'm paying the guy practically 400 bucks for teeth repairs); to Judge Ray Brockmann of the Municipal Court, Los Angeles, who has dropped down to the office on several occasions, and we've gone out for lunch. His most recent visit was occasion for this comment: "Togo, I'm coming down oftener now before it becomes impossible for me to be seen with anyone with a Japanese face."; to Hugh Osborne, Imperial County Supervisor, secretary for the Associated Farmers in El Centro, American Legionnaire and apparently a Republican; Jean and I have entertained him at home; he seems to be active in helping the El Centro chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League. ... arrived at the Washington National Airport, it's beautiful and modern, at 3:07 p.m., taxied to Wardman Park Hotel, called office of Senator Elbert Thomas of Utah for appointment, made it; called Executive Mansion for appointment with Mrs. Roosevelt, got it. Nakamura wants to see Mrs. Roosevelt too; this is not his first time in Washington, D.C.; he studied here as a young man.

October 25, 1941 -- Nakamura's number one job here, chronologically speaking, is to try and get some relief for the Issei business men whose funds have been frozen because of the Treasury Department ruling affecting aliens who have been abroad (to Japan) subsequent to June 16, 1940. After that, he would like to get some definite assurance from the Department of Justice legally defining the status of the Issei as permanent residents. This will bolster the confidence of

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Issei community leaders on the west coast in fair treatment by the government "just in case" war bursts. Nakamura is titular kingpin of the Issei community. He is president of the Beikoku Chuo Nihonjin Kai (Central Japanese Association of America) and chairman, I understand, of the Jikyoku linkai (Emergency Committee). He is a good-humored, even dispositioned man, either in his late forties or early fifties, rather stocky and chubby of build; he stands about five feet four inches tall and must weigh in the neighborhood of 150 pounds. He wears horn-rimmed glasses, is rather ruddy complexioned. He speaks English very well for an Issei, though with a trace of accent. He came to the United States as a very young man, studied law at the University of Southern California, he says. Because he is an alien ineligible for citizenship, a fact which he deplors very much but about which he is hopeful "because I think America will some day give me an opportunity to become a citizen", he cannot practise before the bar in California. He refers to himself as a legal counsellor, is referred to in the Japanese language as "Nakamura bengoshi" (attorney Nakamura), although there are some Nisei attorneys here who make it a practise to refer to Issei "legal counselors" as "interpreters". Nakamura has been associated with several Caucasian attorneys who collaborate with him in trial cases.

I am enjoying Nakamura's company; he's a pleasant egg and I gather he is something of a professing Christian; he will pray at the drop of the hat or the sound of a tambourine (hallelujah!), but withal he has a good sense of humor. I lie awake some seconds at night speculating on what he would think of the unredeemed heathen in whose company he happens to be.

Conversation with Nakamura gives one some idea of where the areas of tension and concern exist among West Coast Japanese, especially Southern California. I am beginning to seriously doubt whether the Central Japanese Association of America represents the rank and file of Issei residents. Certainly it represents the more financially secure people; it may represent the leadership element in the various local communities; but then in Los Angeles alone there is the rival Shoko Kai Gisho (Chamber of Commerce and Industry) of Southern California and the third rival Rafu Nihonjin Kai (Los Angeles Japanese Chamber of Commerce as it was known, but literally translated, Los Angeles Japanese Association). Issei operators of the hotels on East Fifth Street, better known as Skidrow, have reported hoodlum trouble already in that area. Operators of retail produce stores at the Produce Merchants Association meeting report that there is a whispering campaign already afoot to poison Southern Californians against trading at any of the Japan-

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ese-owned or operated stores. Rumors are that "Japs are spraying arsenic" on vegetables and "housewives beware".

Nakamura tried to see John W. Pehle, Jr., assistant to the Secretary of Treasury, about the matter of funds freezing. He got as far as Charles Schwarz, press relations officer of the department, in room 388 of the Treasury Building at 15th & Pennsylvania. Then he was referred to two young men in a building on the other side of town, apparently built as an apartment and commandeered by the expanding gov't agency. Neither B. L. Timmons nor A. U. Fox, assistants in the Division of Foreign Funds Control could give Nakamura much encouragement in the matter of unfreezing Issei bigwigs' funds except to reiterate regulations already published and issued. I've a feeling Nakamura almost anticipated this; he can at least report back to the Los Angeles committee that he tried, though unsuccessfully.

October 26, 1941 -- Word from the staff in Los Angeles says that the National J.A.C.L. headquarters in San Francisco claimed in a press release that I am representing the League in Washington, D.C. I should hear from Saburo Kido or Mike Masaoka tomorrow, letter says.

This being Sunday, I spent all day with Nakamura. We started off at 10:45 a.m. and attended services at St. Thomas Apostle's Church, chiefly because it is located across the street from our hotel, the Wardman Park. Just before noon we landed at St. John's Episcopal, 16th & H Streets, across from the White House; this time because Nakamura has been asking everybody "where does the President go to church?" Pastor of St. John's is Rev. Leslie Glenn, whom we both met, thanks to a friendly assistant pastor, Rev. John G. Magee; we accepted an invitation to have coffee in the parish following St. John's services. Rev. and Mrs. Magee, I learned, are returned missionaries from China. Rev. Magee was former head of the International Red Cross and was at Nanking in 1937 when Japan's troops sacked the city. Nakamura invited Magee to join us for lunch. Magee invited us to lunch with him tomorrow. I wanted to see Mount Vernon, so Nakamura decided to come along too. Enroute to the bus station, we passed the beautiful St. Patrick's Catholic Church, and Nakamura insisted we go in again, "just to see the interior". I picked up a Catholic newspaper for which I left a dime; it's lead editorial takes the hide off (metaphorically speaking), Gypsy Rose Lee. We resumed our pilgrimage to Mt. Vernon, but enroute once again passed the old Ford's Theatre which is now a museum of Lincolniana. We both started up the steps at the same time, so browsed in the place for 45 minutes. Nakamura seems to be a great admirer of Abraham Lincoln. We bought a few souvenirs. Finally we boarded the bus for Mt. Vernon, crossed the Potomac on the Arlington Bridge, passed the National Airport where we landed. The driver says it's the largest airport in the world and will have cost \$15,000,000 when completed. Had afternoon snack at Mt. Vernon's Little Hatchet Inn; what a delicious morsel of southern fried chicken, hot buns and honey, fresh garden peas, corn pones! Nakamura made quite a point out of being sure that we visited the grave of George Washington; Mt. Vernon is remarkably well preserved, and it is beautifully situated, that is, the Washington mansion. On returning to Washington, D.C., we noticed the bulletin at the St. Margaret's Episcopal Church announcing a talk by Bishop Houghton, British missionary returned from China, was scheduled to speak that night. Nakamura wanted especially to hear him, so I decided to go along too. I feel thoroughly churched, and how.

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October 27, 1942 -- The Central Japanese Association leaders apparently have stressed the matter of getting frozen funds loosened up a little bit, for Nakamura spent most of his day still ramming away on this assignment. So far, nothing encouraging. It does not look like any general release for the Issei men of some means who visited Tokyo for the 2600th Centennial celebration last year; and it is chiefly this group more or less that has been "frozen". Nakamura has been referred by Treasury officials to a Mr. Morrill and a Mr. Slade who are with the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco.

I sat in the Senate gallery this noon and listened to the debate on revision of the Neutrality law. Heard Sen. Tom Connally (D.) Texas say: "If Hitler should conquer Great Britain, then, with the collaboration of some other Pacific power, he could be in a position to close the Far East to us--possibly the Philippines." Then Sen. Claude Pepper (D.) of Florida added: "We need repeal of these amendments to make effective, to make practicable, to make real our program under lend-lease. It is for our own self-defense that the repeal of amendments is necessary." The debate was intensely interesting, and I thought of sending an article back to the staff. But the English Section has seldom printed such articles, the level of interest of the average Nisei reader of the Japanese dailies is so far removed from such a scene.

Dropped in briefly this morning and met the office staff of Senator Elbert Thomas (D.) of Utah. Mrs. Elaine Richards is secretary; she and her husband were married in the Morman temple in services where couples are united not only for this span of our mortal coil but for the hereafter too (this revises my ideas about Mormans); Paul Badger is a '34 graduate of the University of Utah; George Nisson, and Clare Nelson, just turned 21 and still studying, law, I believe. Also in the office of Senator Thomas' daughter, Chiyo; that's a Japanese name.

Made a brief call at the office of James Allen, who is press relations assistant to the Attorney General, and talked with an M. E. Gilfond. The Rafu Shimpo would like to be placed on the mailing list of the Department of Justice press releases. Made appointments to see other members in Justice Department on return from New York.

Took off from National Airport, accompanied by Nakamura who also has business in New York. I am representing the Rafu Shimpo at the Foreign Language Newspaper Press Conference at Columbia University Club called by the ~~Americanism~~ Education Program, a government program financed jointly by the W.P.A. and Department of Justice.

* National Citizenship

October 28, 1941 -- Sent the following wire to The Rafu Shimpo today:

HOUSE COMMITTEE IMMIGRATION SESSION
WEDNESDAYAM NIJUKOKUSEKI HR 5879 BILL
BY REPRESENTATIVE SAMUEL DICKSTEIN
NEW YORK TO AMEND NATIONALITY ACT 1940
MAKES FAILURE TO EXPATRIATE NIHONSEKI
PUNISHABLE BY DEPORTATION BILL SPONSORED
BY WAR DEPARTMENT INTRODUCED SENATE SB
1949 BY ROBERT REYNOLDS NORTH CAROLINA
WILL AFFECT ALL NATIONALITIES HAVING
DUAL CITIZENSHIP BUT SAID AIMED PRIMARILY
NISEIWARD STOP OUTLOOK SEEMS ENACTMENT
CERTAIN WITHIN FORTNIGHT OR SOONER BILL
STATES ANY NATIONAL OF US NATIVE BORN
OR NATURALIZED WHO IS CONSIDERED UNDER
LAWS OF FOREIGN COUNTRY TO BE CITIZEN
OR SUBJECT OF SUCH COUNTRY OWING ALLEGIANCE
THERETO MAY BE REQUIRED BY US COMMISSIONER
TO MAKE (1) FORMAL RENUNCIATION OF US
NATIONALITY AND FACE DEPORTATION OR (2)
FORMAL OATH ALLEGIANCE IN NATURALIZATION
COURT TO U.S. NOT MUCH DEBATE EXPECTED
STOP TO READ NISEI CREED AT COMMITTEE
SESSION TOGO

Met William F. Russell, Director of the National Citizenship Education Program, at the Columbia University Club last night. This one of the reasons for the trip eastward, in my opinion. Also met Read Lewis and James Gordon of the American Common Council for American Unity, formerly the Foreign Language Press Service. Visited their offices. Attendance at this meeting the result of a letter which we at The Rafu Shimpo received:

NATIONAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION PROGRAM
Washington, D. C.

William F. Russell
Director

October 16, 1941

Dear Sir:

It will give me much pleasure if you or a representative of your newspaper could attend a press conference with me on Monday evening, October 27, at 8:30, in the Columbia University Club, 4 West 43rd Street, New York City.

The purpose of this press conference is to explain the purpose of the National Citizenship Education Program and to bespeak your cooperation.

The National Citizenship Education Program

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was created by President Roosevelt on June 30th last at the request of the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the Department of Justice. This Program is supported by more than fourteen million dollars in WPA funds and by three and a half million dollars from the Department of Justice.

There are approximately five million non-citizens in the United States. Many of these wish assistance in acquiring command of the English language and in learning the principles of the democratic form of government in order to secure citizenship. The National Citizenship Education Program plans to extend and improve the quality of classes to assist these non-citizens. It wishes the non-citizen to know of this opportunity to take advantage of it if he so desires.

It is the aim of the NCEP to help bring unity to the American people in times like these. There are many conditions which are making this situation difficult for the non-citizen. Whatever an educational program can do to eliminate or alleviate these evils, we want to do. We know that much of the success of this program will depend upon the helpful cooperation of the foreign language press, and your criticisms and suggestions will be most welcome and appreciated.

I regret that the rules of the Columbia University Club do not allow us to extend the invitation to ladies.

Yours very truly,

s i g n e d
Wm L Russell

I brought before the meeting the problem of the non-citizens of Oriental extraction; they're ineligible to citizenship. There were some delegates from foreign language newspapers who didn't know this.

There is some activity in Los Angeles among the Japanese Issei to seek American citizenship eligibility for long time permanent residents. Dr. P. M. Suski, who founded the English Section of The Rafu Shimpo, composed the following "Memorial" which I presented to the meeting: (Dr. Suski is an Issei)

"A MEMORIAL TO THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

"GREETINGS:

"WHEREAS, the government of the United States of America

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is in imminent danger of becoming involved in war with the Imperial Japanese Government; and

"WHEREAS, that eventuality would result in grave complications among the Oriental populations of this country, who would be subjected to great injustices by virtue of the policies of a nation over whom they exercise no control and to whom they owe no real allegiance; and

"WHEREAS, this group, consisting principally of Chinese and Japanese persons who are legally admitted into this country prior to the Oriental Exclusion Act of 1924, have demonstrated their true loyalties and allegiances to their adopted country by concrete actions of exemplary citizenship far exceeding those expected of native citizens; and

"WHEREAS, the present untenable situation of demanding loyalty and patriotism on the one hand and refusing the rights of citizenship on the other hand to these people seems to be a travesty upon our American traditions of fair play and democracy, which has permitted all other immigrants to prove their allegiance by taking out their naturalization papers; and

"WHEREAS, many of the past arguments and feelings which have mitigated against the favorable consideration of this measure for those of Asiatic birth are no longer valid, as witness the following discussion of the main considerations which affected public opinion and legislation at the time of the Exclusion Act: (1) LABOR TROUBLES. The fight against cheap labor was justified at that time but as these people are here and have found their places permanently among us, the labor situation would not in any degree be affected by the legislation suggested herein. (2) BIRTH RATE. Early statistics from the Orient gave grounds for alarm because the birth rate over there was so much higher than it was here that it was feared that we would in a few generations be crowded out entirely by the descendants of these peoples. Actual statistics since then tend to disprove this idea and show that the birth rate for the Orientals living in this country is slightly less than for the white races. (3) ASSIMILABILITY. This was once the greatest argument used against the Orientals as desirable citizens, but this contention is no longer true in the face of the facts which prove that they have taken their rightful place in our respective communities and live the lives of normal Americans, that they perform all the acts of good citizens except that of the franchise, that they are proud to send their sons into the armed forces of the United States even though they realize that their own children may be asked to fight against the land of their birth. Statistics show that they are, as a whole, more law-abiding

than any other group, that they participate more generously in civic enterprises than any other race, and that they have fewer persons on governmental relief than any other nationality. Whatever justification there may have been for the Exclusion Act does not apply to this group who are here in accordance with the law and at the invitation of American industry and agriculture, and who have demonstrated their ability to live among us in peace and as good neighbors, and who have earned the right to citizenship by dint of years of honest toil in industries which have contributed much to the development of the United States and particularly to the west; and

"WHEREAS, these innocent victims of a vicious international system would be the targets of jingoism, hysteria, and the persecution in all its multitudinous possibilities in the event of an armed conflict between the governments of the United States and Japan unless they, especially the Japanese, could show their citizenship papers, which would at least tend to lessen the horrors of war-time discriminations levied against them because of physical characteristics; and

"WHEREAS, a precedent exists for the action requested in the Congressional Act which conferred citizenship upon some five hundred Orientals who served in the armed forces of the United States during the first World War;

"NOW THEREFORE, WE, the undersigned citizens of the United States of America, in the interests of fair play, sportsmanship, and those democratic principles of justice and equality for all those who have demonstrated their loyalty and faith in this great nation of ours, DO MEMORIALIZE THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO ENACT THE NECESSARY LEGISLATION IMMEDIATELY TO PERMIT THE ORIENTAL RESIDENT ALIENS WHO ARE LAWFULLY IN THIS COUNTRY TO BECOME NATURALIZED CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES UPON THE SAME BASIS AS THE NATIONALS OF OTHER POWERS."

There seemed to have been considerable interest in the foregoing statement at the Press meeting; the statement itself, as a resolution, is too lengthy and not expertly worded; but it does point out the exclusion of Oriental non-citizens from the National Citizenship Education Program. In discussion of program plans, it was decided, however, that Oriental non-citizens would also be included in the dissemination of releases. There doesn't seem to be quite the feeling that war with Japan is imminent, here in New York, as one does get the feeling in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C.; this is purely personal, however.

October 29, 1941 -- Back in Washington, D.C., having flown in again--from New York. At hotel a message from the office of Congressman Samuel Dickstein granting me an appointment. The National Japanese American Citizens League had made the arrangements; I am to testify for the J.A.C.L. before the House Committee on Immigration and Naturalization on HR 5879. It is a measure introduced by Rep. Dickstein (D.) of New York "to amend the Nationality Act of 1940, approved October 14, 1940, for the clarification of the dual citizenship status of certain persons and for other purposes."

Nakamura went to the session to listen in; he spent the morning meeting with a Dr. Henry Hazard of the Division of Naturalization and Immigration. Nakamura's concern is great over the legal status of the Issei Japanese in the event of war. He insists they are not out and out enemy aliens but that they are permanent residents; and because they are not eligible for naturalization like other immigrants, he thinks some special arrangement should be made for them by a fair-minded government.

The hearing this morning before the House Committee on Immigration and Naturalization lasted three and a half hours. It was evident that the bill HR 5879 was drawn up with the Nisei specifically in mind; it is also directed toward dual citizens among Germans and Italians, especially young men in the army. A veritable parade of witnesses testified before the Committee, in the following order this morning: Edward Shaughnessey, Deputy Commissioner of the Division of Immigration; Brigadier General Sherman Miles, U.S. Army, G-2, War Department; Mr. Read Lewis, executive director, Common Council for American Unity; Mr. A. Hirschfield, Hebrew Aid Society of New York; Togo Tanaka, English Editor L.A. Japanese Daily News, representing the National Japanese American Citizens League; Kilsoo K. Haan, Sino-Korean People's League; Samuel W. King, Delegate-at-large to Congress from Hawaii.

As a result of today's hearings, Nakamura sent in the following report to his Welfare Committee of the Central Japanese Association:

"House Sub-Committee headed by Congressman Kramer of Los Angeles, including Hawaii Delegate King, will collaborate with U.S. Army and War Department for the revision of certain sections of the proposed bill. A meeting is to be called, according to Mr. Kramer, early next week.

"Togo has been invited by Col. R. S. Bratton, Chief, Far Eastern Section, War Dept., Room 2731, Munitions Bldg., phone BR 2054 (War dept), confer in the revision

of the dual citizenship bill before final enactment.

"Congressman Mason of Illinois and members of the House sub-committee have clearly stated that they recognize the danger of the bill becoming law that might be used as a 'vehicle of witchhunting' and have given assurances every precaution will be taken so that such consequences may not result.

"We have made a score of new, and we hope, valuable official contacts, presented our views and made available for the first time, information regarding resident Japanese from our own sources rather than those of foreign propagandists.

"Whether or not the Issei will be classified as 'enemy alien' in the event of hostilities, still occupies discussion on our calls.

"I called today at the office of the honorable Senator Hiram Johnson of California and talked with Miss Mary Connor, his secretary. The Senator is deeply buried in the Neutrality Law revision debate. I likewise paid visit to office of Senator Sheridan Downey, who is now in Los Angeles; I met and talked with Mr. Walter Phair, his secretary. Another visit to the office of Senator Elbert Thomas today, and another appointment has been made for a meeting at 9:30 Thursday morning.

"Togo has called upon Senator Guy Gillette (Democrat of Iowa), and discussed with him our problems, asked Senator's aid in 'including, not excluding, our American resident Japanese among the loyal citizens.' The Senator has invited both the National Japanese American Citizens League and the Central Japanese Association to participate in the hearings of his proposed five-man committee to investigate Pacific coast activities of Japanese. More about this later.

"Please bear with us and make this point clear to all members. The Treasury Department is being pushed tomorrow through Senator Thomas, with whom we plan to discuss the matter. The outlook as far as release of all accounts blocked, at this time is not

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encouraging. We are pressing for every consideration, in order to facilitate business transactions among blocked accounts. General release, however, is out of the question, we have been informed to date; we are pushing the matter to the limit, please be assured.

"We are preparing brief questions for our meeting Friday afternoon with Mrs. Roosevelt. If any members of the Welfare Committee have suggestions or instructions, please forward them immediately.

"Will you kindly inform our families that everything is well with us, we are keeping healthy despite the hours. Our very best regards to the Welfare Committee. Tell Rev. Yamazaki we are still awaiting reply to our wire from Bishop Tucker. Newspaper clippings show he has been on a tour of the east, probably has not yet returned to Richmond.

Respectfully submitted,

Gongoro Nakamura."

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The following letter reporting on the day's activities was sent to H. T. Komai on October 29, on Wardman Park Hotel stationery:

October 29, 1941

"Dear Komai San:

"It has been a very full day & the report copy is enclosed. I had exactly 22 minutes on the witness chair before the House Committee on Immigration & Naturalization session this morning, during which I was able to inject the Japanese American Creed and statements regarding our loyalty into the official record.

"This is to call your attention to the fact that even before my early arrival at Congressman Charles Dickstein's office, where the hearing was held, Kilsoo K. Haan was there with his prepared testimony. With him was a Mrs. Crowley (Miss Harriett Swenney) Editor of the Hawaii Sentinel, a Mrs. McNair, and a Mr. Lee. Haan made the same statements which appear in the Senate resolution submitted by Senator Gillette on Oct. 2, 1941, charging subversive activities by resident Japanese of the West Coast. The presentation was exaggerated, statements false, misleading among those that were also true.

"He quoted from a recent Japanese Section article in The Rafu Shimpo allegedly giving information on how to register for the Japan military draft. Also a questions and answers forum was quoted from Uncle Fujii's Japan-California Daily, although that publication was not openly named. The total effort was to cast discredit and doubt upon the loyalty of the nisei to America and to stir suspicion on the issei. "The English & Japanese sections of The Rafu Shimpo are in contradiction. They do not agree," Haan charged at the hearing.

"I shall bring home a comprehensive report, mention this now to stress the fact a very close watch is being maintained here over BOTH sections of the newspaper.

"Congressman Kramer (L.A.) with whom I sat and talked during most of Haan's testimony, said that our physical presence alone did much to answer Kilsoo Haan's accusations. He commended us for being present, suggested we go out to dinner together sometime this week, I shall do so.

"Mr. Nakamura was in the audience during the testimony and will have a detailed report from the spectator's point of view on our return.

"As for Haan's malicious accusations, he was preceded to the witness stand by myself and followed by Samuel

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W. King, delegate from Hawaii, who refuted most of Haan's charges.

"The net result was that Haan was more or less classified as an alien paid propagandist agent interested in Korean independence and sowing seeds of misunderstanding and distrust among American citizens.

"Several men, officers from the War Department, have given me their cards and invited visit to their headquarters for consultation and discussion on the Dual Citizenship Bill. Our participation in the revision and amendment of the measure has now been made possible, if we act.

"I am leaving other information for the Chu Nichi report.

"Both Mr. Nakamura and I were totally exhausted after today, dropping off to sleep before 7 p.m. I've just awakened to finish the reports. It is now 10 p.m. He is now resting. I enjoy his companionship very much; he is a thoughtful and considerate man, and together we can cover three times as much ground as either one of us could alone. With kindest regards to the staff and hello to Akira,

Sincerely,

Togo "

October 30, 1941 -- Nakamura's signature went on the report to the Welfare Committee of the Central Japanese Association, covering our day's activities. Actually, I composed the thing in English for him, and he made his revisions. We had spent the day together, so one report was sufficient for both our purposes. I mailed a duplicate to H. T. Komai and the newspaper staff. The report is as follows:

"REPORT TO THE MEMBERS
Of the Welfare Committee

Washington, D. C.
Report No. 6
October 30, 1941

"BLOCKED ACCOUNTS

"We conferred for half an hour this morning with Senator Elbert D. Thomas, asking his advice regarding blocked accounts & what steps might be taken to get them released. He virtually confirmed what we had previously learned from the Treasury Dept Division of Foreign Funds Control. He went into greater detail, however. explaining the situation to us.

"CONCLUSION: He advises us not to seek a blanket release for all blocked accounts because it may result in an even more difficult procedure. While it may be a handicap and some red tape to residents in making applications with the Federal Reserve Bank regularly, he pointed out that far more complicated alternatives could be imposed by the Treasury Dept.

"The Government is NOT going to take away anyone's money or property. Its record in this respect is good, and there is no fear that is justifiable in this regard. It may be somewhat bothersome, but we must remember these are days of great emergency. I would advise that you follow the individual rulings of the Treasury Dept. If you wish, you could facilitate such rulings by making definite contacts with those in charge at the San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank." he said.

"STATUS OF THE ISSEI PERMANENT RESIDENTS

"We sounded out Senator Thomas' opinion regarding the desire of Issei to get U.S. citizenship, and the proper procedure in seeking it. I pointed out our wish not to be classified as 'enemy alien', our general and specific qualifications for U.S. citizenship. He is a man of high character, sincere,

honest, as everyone recognizes. He feels it would be an exceedingly difficult task. 'It is something you just cannot legislate,' he says. There is still a tremendous barrier of prejudice among some California Congressmen, and opposition would be very great.

"Togo inquired if a Congressional resolution recognizing these permanent resident non-citizens as loyal to America might not be initiated, concluding that this would at least express the Issei permanent residents' desire to be included among Americans rather than excluded. Senator Thomas feels this would be a less difficult job, might be advisable, but would still encounter some opposition.

"WE FOUND THAT OPPOSITION in a 50-minute discussion with Representative Charles Kramer, 13th California District, Los Angeles, whom we met late in the afternoon.

"Congressman Kramer is Chairman of the House Sub-Committee on Immigration.

"We conversed with him at length on various aspects of our problem. Both Togo and I, comparing our reactions and notes after the meeting, feel that:

- "(1) Mr. Kramer is misinformed regarding resident Japanese
- "(2) His concept of the Issei and Nisei is out of date, old, no longer valid
- "(3) He at present displays little sympathy or understanding of our situation, this however may be due to his lack of true knowledge on the matter.
- "(4) He would very much rather discuss politics and his votes in the 13th District than talk about our Issei problem.

"SIDELIGHTS: Rep. Kramer's language is colorful, sometimes rough. He freely uses the terms "Nigger" "Chinaman" "Chink" "Jap". He is the first legislator here we have met who has not even been cordially sympathetic to the problem we are trying to solve. His office is decorated with scores of autographed photos of Hollywood film luminaries. Although chairman of the House Sub-Committee on

Immigration & Naturalization preparing the Dual Citizenship bill HR 5879, he says he is not acquainted with the nationality laws of foreign countries. His attention perked up when Togo mentioned the Los Angeles County Central Democratic Committee of which Togo is a member of the Advisory Board.

"We are planning to break bread with Rep. Kramer and continue discussions before our return.

"A CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION to give permanent resident Issei some kind of status other than 'alien' may be possible, however.

"Representative Jerry Voorhis of San Gabriel California with whom we both met and talked for about 8 minutes this morning, expressed a very sincere and encouraging interest in this matter.

"Although we had no appointment, and he was scheduled to leave the city for a round of speaking engagements, he very kindly granted us time for a brief interview.

"He is a very high type man, of strong principles deeply humanitarian, liberal. In person, he confirmed his reputation, with which both Togo and I were familiar.

"HE CALLED OUR ATTENTION to his introduction in Congress of the Statement issued recently by the Northern California Committee for Fair Play to Resident Citizens & Aliens of Japanese Race. This Committee, you know, is headed by Governor Olson and Dr. David Barrows as chairman. Rep. Voorhis had the complete statement published in the Congressional Record of October 21, 1941.

"He expressed a willingness to aid us in whatever way he was capable of doing.

"We are making arrangements to secured an appointment with him on his return.

"THESE ARRANGEMENTS are being made for us by Mr. Hubert Geyer, nephew and secretary of the late Congressman Lee Geyer (Gardena, California). We met and chatted with Mr. Hubert Geyer, had lunch with him and discussed various matters, getting his advice and opinion. We were introduced to Mrs. Lee Geyer, widow of the late Congressman, a very charming and gracious woman with whom we enjoyed a 30-minute visit. She is leaving for home in Gardena on Saturday.

"JAPANESE LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS

"Togo conferred for 45 minutes with two officials of the War Department in the Munitions Building this afternoon while I called at the office of Mr. J. Ennis, general counsel for the Division of Immigration and Naturalization. Mr. Ennis was not in; I met and talked with the office secretary, Miss Myer, made appointment again for tomorrow morning. I was referred to Mr. Ennis yesterday when I called upon Mr. Perry of the Division.

"I have asked Togo to make arrangements for me to meet with the two officials he conferred with today, so that I may get additional advice and instructions: Colonel Rufus S. Bratton, General Staff Corps, Chief of the Far Eastern Section, U. S. Army, and Major Wallace Henry Moore, General Staff Corps.

"Togo reports that he discussed problems of the language newspapers on the coast with them. Both men are of high type, have a good understanding of the problems of the Issei and Nisei. Furthermore, they know the language newspapers. They are familiar with the publication, and they recognize the discrepancies and differences in attitudes, general policies, and editing between English sections and Japanese sections.

"The impression gained by Togo from the meeting is that the WAR DEPARTMENT is willing and anxious to cooperate and help the language publications. But there must be a housecleaning first, that is, the records must be straightened; a choice must be made. In our attitudes and actions, we must be American or Japanese, only one alone. We cannot be half of either or both.

"The War Department appears to look unfavorably on our newspaper's Japanese section play-up of Japanese Consulate news. These are not normal times. And ties with Japan we must necessarily be looked upon very closely. The War Department is reluctant to criticize and hapr upon these matters, would prefer that the initiative for such changes that might take place among the newspapers would come from the newspapers themselves.

"BOTH COLONEL BRATTON AND MAJOR MOORE have offered their personal assistance and guidance to Togo who has referred to them the CENTRAL JAPANESE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA WELFARE COMMITTEE as the outstanding coordinating organization among the older permanent resident Issei Japanese and the

NATIONAL JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE
as holding a corresponding position among
American citizen Nisei.

"I shall personally report in detail to you
upon my return with further information after
my meeting with the two officers.

"DUAL CITIZENSHIP BILL

"The Sub-Committee hearing on the Dual Citi-
zenship Bill HR 5879 will be held on Wednes-
day of next week.

"Certain revisions are now being worked out
in the bill. Its purpose is clearly stated
as one of bringing the issue of single and
wholehearted loyalty to one country into the
open.

"There is no opposition to the measure or
its stated purpose.

"However, in order to have the records straight,
regarding information and accurate data on the
Americans of Japanese ancestry, the War Depart-
ment has requested that Togo again be present
at the hearing next Wednesday. This request was
made this afternoon.

"Extension on Property Registration

"We are getting definite word regarding property
registration EXTENSION deadline from the Trea-
sury Department Friday morning and will wire
immediately. Word on it is expected to be forth-
coming.

"INSTRUCTIONS TO EIJI TANABE

- (1) Prepare and issue newspaper releases and
-push generally the 'Buy Defense Bonds'
campaign, write letters to all affiliated
associations to that effect.
- (2) Please send us detailed communications on
instructions and reactions from the Welfare
Committee.
- (3) ATTENTION: "We feel it is advisable to make
mimeographed copies of all the reports wive
have sent to you to date and including this
one and mail a copy to every member of the
Welfare ~~Reper-~~ Committee. This is important.
Will you have this done immediately. Best
regards. GONGORO NAKAMURA "

October 31, 1941 -- Nakamura has been trying to get a legal definition of a "permanent resident" from a Major Lemuel Schofield of the Department of Justice. The Central Japanese Association's recently published pamphlet entitled "Americanism", complete with a colored flag, Nisei Creed, Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag etc., is being distributed by Nakamura with officials with whom he feels it will have some influence and make some impression. Nakamura says he called on a Colonel Taylor at the American Legion headquarters in Washington and spent some time at the Americanism Education department of the Legion. Nakamura has been concentrating his efforts around the Department of Justice and returned from one of his calls full of admiration and respect for an Edward J. Ennis whom he said he had met. Nakamura wants to take back with him an official letter from the Department of Justice reassuring all loyal and law-abiding permanent resident Issei Japanese that they will be protected by the United States government in the event of war. At one of his calls, Nakamura was informed by Nathan Franke, secretary to Attorney General Biddle, that the proper man to see about such a letter would be Major Lemuel Schofield.

More on the matter of frozen assets of Issei business men recently returned from Japan: Treasury regulations required their registration with the Federal Reserve Bank by end of October. Nakamura learned today that an extension was to be granted and got a wire off at once to the Central Japanese Association in Los Angeles. Requests for extension of time in filing required forms must be made in writing, individually; and the new deadline has been set for November 29. This applies only to those who are not under General License 68, in other words, was in Japan subsequent to June 17, 1940. This applies chiefly to importers and exporters, and the form to be filled out is TFR 300. The statement issued by Treasury officials which brought some elation to Nakamura was: "Persons engaged in exports and imports of merchandise have been granted an extension until November 29, 1941, for filing reports Form TFR 300 required of them with regard to foreign transactions or operations including any reports of such persons of property... The extension was granted at the request of representatives of export and import trade, and made for the purpose of assuring the greatest usefulness of certain answers to questions relating to Form TFR 300..." Nakamura is fairly certain that his representations have had something to do with the extension. His latest visit, he said, had been with a Mr. Elting Arnold of the Legal Division of the Treasury Department.

The idea of getting further reassurance about the status of the Issei Japanese from the War department has struck Nakamura as something worth trying to get;

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he says he talked with Major Wallace Moore of the War Department this morning about this subject but was not able to get the definite reassurance he hopes for.

I accompanied Nakamura to the American Legion offices at 1608 K Street NW this noon. Colonel Taylor, whom Nakamura wanted to see, won't be back from Indianapolis until November 10. We spent our half hour visiting with a Mr. Francis M. Sullivan, executive secretary of the Legislative Committee who expressed his sympathy for the plight of the Issei "if we run into a shooting war with Japan." Upon learning that we were due for an interview with Mrs. Roosevelt that afternoon, Sullivan said: "Mrs. Roosevelt would be a very influential person on this matter." Sullivan asked us if either or both of us knew "Tokie Slocum." Nakamura, I have gathered, dislikes Slocum, and had little to say about him. Sullivan continued: "All of us around here knew Tokie when he came here a few years back and did some great lobbying for the Oriental veterans' citizenship. Tokie's a great boy, hot headed as they come and a whiz bang fireball. He promised my secretary a fur coat but she never got it", he said winking. Sullivan wants Nakamura to send him copies of the Central Japanese Association's pamphlet on "Americanism"; he also wants Nakamura to send copies to Mr. Homer Chaillaux, Director of the National Americanism Committee of the American Legion at Indianapolis. I had Mr. Edward McGrail, director of publicity for the American Legion, place The Rafu Shimpo on their mailing list.

After a brief meeting with Mrs. Roosevelt at the White House, I sent off the following telegram to the newspaper staff and HT Komai:

WASHINGTON D.C.

WE DISCUSSED RESIDENT WELFARE PROBLEMS
WITH MRS ROOSEVELT WHITE HOUSE FRIDAY PM OUR
INQUIRY REGARDING ISSEI PROTECTION AND STATUS
RECEIVED SYMPATHETICALLY SHE SAID SHE WILL
TALK TO PRESIDENT AND ATTORNEY GENERAL BIDDLE
SHE STRESSED NEED FOR NATIONAL UNITY URGED
OUR PARTICIPATION IN CIVILIAN VOLUNTEER DEFENSE
BELIEVES AMERICA HAS PLACE FOR ALL LOYAL PERSONS
REGARDLESS OF RACE OR CITIZENSHIP STOP SHE WILL
WRITE US REGARDING ATTITUDE AND OPINION OF
FDR AND BIDDLE STOP NAKAMURA PRESENTED COPY
AMERICANISM PAMPHLET STOP TANAKA PRESENTED
COPY CREED STOP