



JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE
NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR REDRESS

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS: 1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, Calif. 94115 (415) 921-5225
WASHINGTON OFFICE: 1730 Rhode Island Ave. N.W., Washington D.C. 20036 (206) 223-1240
John Y. Tateishi, Chairman — Ronald J. Ikejiri, Washington Representative

MAY 19 REC'D

May 16, 1980

Mr. Ed Nakawatase
American Friends Service Committee
1501 Cherry Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Dear Ed:

I trust by now you've received the 200 Redress booklets. They were shipped to you late last week at your above address. As I mentioned on the phone, they're being sent to you with our compliments--the least we can do in return for your help.

I've enclosed a copy of a draft resolution, the one we discussed when we last talked. What we would like is some kind of endorsement from the AFSC in support of the Redress issue. Because the AFSC makes it a practice not to endorse political candidates or issues, I've tried to make the draft resolution as innocuous as possible. I'd appreciate your help in attempting to get it through your Community Relations Committee, and please feel free to change it in any way you feel necessary.

I'll have to check around the office here to find out if we have a listing of our chapters by geographical areas. I've enclosed a district breakdown of chapters, but the problem with it is that the chapter names don't always tell you where the chapter is located. If I can find a more specific list, I'll forward it to you under separate cover.

Thanks for your help on the Redress matter. If I can assist you in any way, don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

John Tateishi, Chairman
National Committee for Redress

Encls.

bcc: Cherry Tsutsunaida, Bill Ioshino

WHEREAS, in the spring of 1942, over 120,000 men, women, children and infants--the vast majority of whom were native-born Americans--were abruptly and forcibly evicted from their homes in the West Coast and placed in governmental detention camps, and

WHEREAS, no charges were ever filed, no hearings or trials were ever held, no credible claims of wrongdoings were lodged against these victims, who were imprisoned for more than three and a half years, and

WHEREAS, some thirty-eight years have passed without a thorough inquiry into the treatment of Japanese Americans in this unfortunate chapter of American constitutional history, and

WHEREAS, the American Friends Service Committee was the only national organization in 1942 to come to the aid of Japanese Americans in their travails, and

WHEREAS, the American Friends Service Committee as an organization continues now as it did then to believe in the principles of human dignity and freedom from human suffering;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the American Friends Service Committee expresses its support of the efforts of the Japanese American Citizens League and Japanese Americans throughout the United States in their call for a reckoning of the injustices suffered in 1942, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the American Friends Service Committee go on official record to support the current efforts of the Japanese American Citizens League to bring to a final close this dark page in the history of the United States.