

Reparations Committee
Chicago Chapter JACL

March 1, 1976

Edison Uno Reasons for seeking reparations

1. to force the government to admit moral and legal liability for injustice to Japanese Americans
2. to force the government to pay monetary damages for mental anguish, suffering caused by evacuation and detention
3. has the potential to provide millions of dollars for our community's needs
4. to vindicate the question of the loyalty and patriotism of Japanese Americans
5. to prevent the government from repeating such actions against other American citizens
6. has educational value for informing millions of Americans about the evacuation
7. to provide security for our own and future generations.

The funds could be used to construct multi-purpose community centers, national headquarters and regional offices.

P.C., 1/24/75

Masamune Kojima, PSWDC Gov. Points to be considered before seeking reparations through legislative means

1. JACL could lose tax-exempt status by lobbying
2. IRS might investigate JACL
3. might lead to further split in leadership, membership
4. would take time and manpower away from current needs of Issei
5. bad timing - state of economy; influx of Vietnamese refugees might stir racism

Harry Honda article P.C., 5/9/75

Barry Matsumoto memo (April 1973) Alternatives for reparations

1. Based on evacuation and detention - would limit payments to those who were actually interned
2. Include all Nikkei residents of Western Defense Command non-evacuees also suffered.
3. Payment to general fund rather than to individual claimants. Seems to favor scholarship fund as a reminder of injustice to Japanese Americans.

P.C., 8/1/75 - 8/15/75

John Dean

Stated that he has collected materials for years on the unjust treatment of Japanese Americans during WW II. Feels the government owes some sort of restitution and offers his aid after his prison term is served.

Playboy, January 1975

Evacuation Redress Committee, Seattle JACL Chapter 11/19/75

Reparations should be paid from a special IRS trust fund using federal income tax payments from Nikkei for a ten year period. Disbursements would be made to verified application claims filed by both individuals and groups.

This plan would eliminate the need for direct congressional appropriation.

Mike Masaoka

P.C. Holiday Issue, section D, Dec. 19-26, 1975

Supports reparations and lists several alternative forms, but seems to prefer some sort of public trust to be administered, possibly by JACL, for specified purposes such as scholarships, loans, retirement and medical treatment, etc. for evacuees.

Bill Hosokawa column on John Dean's speech in Annaheim.

Dean seems to feel that the form of redress is not really important. But the drive for reparations has its greatest value in educating the American people about the evacuation.

Kaz Oshiki and Wayne Horiuchi warn that the campaign for reparations may be long, costly, likely to stir opposition, and has no assurance of success.

P.C., 10/3/75