

11.3 PA onl

pre-war home: Los Angeles 9, East L.A. 1, Salinas 7, San Francisco 5, East Coast
 Stockton 1, Livingston 1, Tacoma 2, Sacramento 2, Portland 2, Seattle 1,
 Dinuba 1, Long Beach 1, Santa Monica 1, Berkeley 4, Lindsay 1, Byron Calif 1
 San Martin, Calif. 1, - 2 - California 1.

(44)

As for the so-called Japanese American Evacuation Claims Act of 1948 and its subsequent amendments, JACL now considers that program to have been totally inadequate, both as to the number of claimants paid and as to the amounts awarded. Fewer than one-third of those evacuated were compensated less than ten cents on the dollar at 1942 prices. While more recent congressional action is repealing the detention provisions of Title II of the Internal Security Act of 1950 and the presidential revocation of the original Executive Order No. 9066 were most welcome and salutary, neither provided even token compensation for the Japanese American experience of World War II.

JACL appreciates its limitations, but it believes that of all Japanese American organizations it is better prepared to spearhead the educational and political campaign required. Nevertheless, JACL understands that it does not represent every individual and organization within the Japanese American community. So, in an unprecedented effort to develop a "community" consensus of the scope and the beneficiaries of any reparations effort, JACL is sponsoring so-called "Community Input" meetings in various centers of American Japanese population and inviting concerned individuals and organizations to attend and contribute their ideas, concepts, and thinking about the many implications of this project. JACL is hopeful that the results will be a realistic, attainable, and worthy congressional request.

INFORMATION QUESTIONNAIRE

We would appreciate your answers in order that we may develop a responsible community consensus as to what the scope of any reparations program should be and what specific provisions should be included in any legislative package. We also hope that these questions will suggest other information and recommendations that you may wish to write on the back of these pages for the development of the consensus we seek.

TOTAL RESPONDENTS - 56

Please answer the following questions.

I. Personal Information

This information is needed to analyze and to better understand the answers and/or responses given.

NO SEX - 1

1. Male 32 Female 23 Nisei 43 Sansei 4 ~~Yansei~~ ISSEI 3 Other ? - 6 9
2. Detained 43 Assembly Center 35 Relocation Center 42 Internment Camp 1 NOT DETERMINED Other 4
3. If Detained, Center Name _____ Total Detention Time: Months _____ Years _____
4. Pre-Evacuation Address _____ (City or Place _____ State _____)
5. How many Major Moves After Leaving Camp _____
6. WWII Veteran 9 Korean 3 Vietnam _____ Other Bulawa - NA NonVeteran 23
7. Received WRA Financial Grant or Aid 17
8. Filed Under Evacuation Claims Act 12 Claim Paid 11 Not Paid 1

Camps detained (if both AC and RC, only RC listed)
 Arizona (Gila Poston) 10, Tule Lake 5, Arkansas (jerome-rohwer 7
 Utah 1, Wyoming 1, (Santa Anita 1)
 Colorado (Amache-Granada) 3, Minidoka 3, Manzanar 3,

- 3 -

II. Eligibility for Reparations

It is generally agreed that the chances for passage of a bill claim-
 ing damages against the Government are the best when eligibility requirements
 for filing claims are strict, restrictive, and most easily defined and justified.

The following should be eligible for "reparations":

1. All Evacuees Detained in WCCA Assembly Centers 44
2. Plus ___ All Evacuees Detained in WRA Relocation Centers 45
3. Plus ___ All "Voluntary" Evacuees 32
4. Plus --- "Enemy Alien" Japanese Internees 26
5. Plus ___ Evacuees from Territories of Hawaii and Alaska 32
6. Plus ___ Those Arrested and Confined in Territory of Hawaii 27
7. Plus ___ Non-"Japanese" Spouses and Children Who Accompanied Evacuees 27
8. Plus ___ All Persons of Japanese Ancestry in Western Defense Command 19
9. Plus ___ Persons of Japanese Ancestry Who Were Forced To Move Or Were Denied "Due Process" in the United States 30
10. Plus ___ Japanese Americans Stranded in Japan During World War II 9
11. Plus ___ Persons of Japanese Ancestry Evacuated from Latin American Countries and Detained in United States 13
12. Plus ___ Others (explain) IN SERVICE BEFORE WWII = 4 NOT DETAINED
SPUITS USE
INTERNEES = 1
13. Plus ___ Heirs of Eligible Persons 18

The Following should NOT be eligible for "reparations":

1. Those Who Requested Repatriation To Japan 24
2. Those Who Renounced United States Citizenship 22
3. Those Who Refused To Report For Military Service 19
4. Those Who Accepted Evacuation Claims Act Awards and Signed Receipts "In Full And Complete Settlement Of All Claims Against United States" 4
5. Dependents ___ Students 1 Minors 2 Infants 7
6. Others (explain) _____

III. Computing Reparations

Perhaps the most difficult issue is finding the most acceptable formula for determining the amount of reparations JACL should seek.

Should it seek a lump sum total for the entire program? And should this total amount be divided equally among all eligible claimants? Or, should each individual claim on his own account?

If each eligible party is to claim as an individual, how does one distinguish and differentiate between claimants, such as from the infant and the adult, from one who left camp early for schooling and the one who remained until the centers were closed, from those who volunteered for military service and those who volunteered for sugar beet harvesting, from one who was injured while in camp and those who evacuated "voluntarily", etc.

1. Establish Special Commission To Determine Total Amount of Group Reparations 17
2. Allow Commission To Set Criteria and Procedures for Individual Claims 13
3. Authorize the Courts To Determine Total Amount of Group Reparations 7
4. Permit Courts To Determine Criteria and Procedures for Individual Claims 4
5. Specify Total Reparations for All Eligibles In Proposed Bill \$ 50 Million = 1
1 Billion = 1
6. Provide Guidelines and Procedures in Proposed Bill for Individuals 12
7. If Individual Payments, How Much Per Person Is Reasonable \$ 5M-5 20M-1 50M-1
10M-6 25M-1
8. Or, Should Individual Payments Be Only For Detainees 3 How Much Per Day \$ _____
9. Combination, Lump Sum Per Individual Plus "Per Day" if Detained 9
10. Re-Open, with Amendments, 1948 Evacuation Claims Act 4
11. Other (explain) Seattle Plan - 1

IV. Reparations Beneficiaries

While it would appear most simple and equitable if the individual American Japanese who were victims of World War II mistreatment were the direct beneficiaries of any reparations program, most knowledgeable Washingtonians agree that the Congress would more likely authorize reparations appropriations for a lump sum payment to a foundation, commission, organization, program, or project that would administer the payment for the "good" of, and in the public service of, those of Japanese ancestry, particularly those remaining victims who are in urgent "need" of financial and other aid, than for individual payments to thousands.

An exception to such lump sum payments to individuals is in amending the Japanese American Evacuation Claims Act of 1948. And, even in this case, the amendments would have to be "reasonable" and justifiable.

Moreover, in any individual payment program, Congress no doubt would consider the relatively high cost of the administration and settlement of each claim.

Although it is recognized that all persons of Japanese ancestry in this country suffered to some extent in World War II, the degree of deprivation and hurt varied even among Evacuees. So, any general automatic payment to individuals would be unfair to some and overly generous to others.

World War II ended more than three decades ago. Most of the Issei who were subject to Evacuation or internment, for instance, are now dead and more often than not their heirs are not in financial need. Any direct payments to individual victims would probably take so long because of bureaucratic operations that help from an organization or foundation, for example, would be much quicker, expeditious, and probably more helpful in the case of older Issei.

On the other hand, since individuals were mistreated and humiliated and lost individual property and economic opportunities, it would seem only logical and proper that reparations should be paid to the individual victims or their lawful heirs.

Reparations should be paid to either individuals or organizations.

1. Individual 29 Arbitrary Group Lump Sum 1 Individual Claims 6
2. Organizations:
 - (a) Federal Commission 4 All or Majority Japanese American Members 5
 - (b) Non-"Japanese" Organization 1 Japanese American Organization 3
 - (c) Single National Japanese American Organization 4
 - (d) Regional JA Organizations 2 Local JA Organizations 1
3. If the reparations total is given to an organization, for what purposes should these funds be spent?
 - (a) For JA community services, including needy Issei 15
 - (b) For JA legal defense and anti-defamation work 10
 - (c) To strengthen United States-Japan relations 7
 - (d) To promote and improve JA image in United States 7
 - (e) Scholarships for JAs 8 Based on Need 4 On Merit 4

Ind. payments but allocate funds of
deceased Issei to org. to help elderly
Issei & Nisei