

MIDWEST REGIONAL OFFICE

Japanese American Citizens League

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WILLIAM J. YOSHINO
MIDWEST DIRECTOR

April 28, 1988

Mr. David Roth
Midwest Director
Institute for American Pluralism
The American Jewish Committee
55 East Jackson Blvd., Suite 1880
Chicago, IL 60604

Dear David:

Thank you for your call of congratulations last week on the passage of the redress legislation in the Senate. Your concern, support, and active contribution on this issue over the years has been greatly appreciated by JACL.

I recently had a conversation with Cherry Kinoshita, JACL Vice President for Public Affairs. Cherry indicated she had met you during your last visit to Seattle and that you had discussed with her briefly the existence of foundation(s) in the Jewish community established to do research and develop programs which combat anti-Semitism.

You may be aware that the redress legislation provides for a "Civil Liberties Public Education Fund." Should the President sign the redress bill into law, a tremendous opportunity will be created to advance public awareness, education, and research on the incarceration of Japanese Americans and other similar instances of civil rights abuses.

It sounds as though the foundations you describe have some similarity to the Fund which could be created by the redress legislation. We would be very interested in any further information you may have on the foundations as possible research and programmatic models for the Civil Liberties Fund.

Following is a description of the Fund:

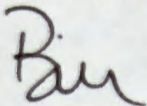
1. To sponsor research and public educational activities so that the events surrounding the relocation and internment of United States citizens and permanent resident aliens of Japanese ancestry will be remembered, and so that the causes and circumstances of this and similar events may be illuminated and understood;

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2. To fund comparative studies of similar civil liberties abuses, or to fund comparative studies of the effect upon particular groups of racial prejudice embodied by Government action in times of national stress;

3. To prepare and distribute the hearings and findings of the Commission to textbook publishers, educators, and libraries.

Sincerely,



Bill Yoshino

cc: Cherry Kinoshita