

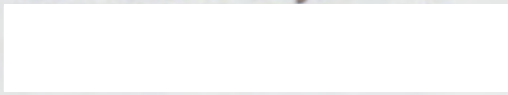
MIDWEST REGIONAL OFFICE

Japanese American Citizens League

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WILLIAM J. YOSHINO
REGIONAL DIRECTOR

September 9, 1983

Ms. Frances Tojo


Dear Frances:

Thank you for your letter of September 6, 1983.

I was unaware of the National Public Radio program until you mentioned it in your letter. I would appreciate a copy of the tape if it is not an inconvenience.

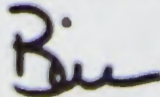
Technically, programs offered on television and radio are covered by copyright laws which preclude further use without the permission of those holding the copyright (in this case the producers). The Supreme Court will, in all likelihood, rule on the use of videotapes in 1984.

Regarding a reply to the Gradison letter, I thought Roger Daniels' response handled the subject matter very well. As Daniels' states, the Japanese American experience was so unique, it precludes precedent. The situation of slavery was a societal institution not affirmed by government action as in the case of the internment. Professor Daniels does mention the XIII Amendment as having "helped ameliorate the legal condition of Blacks". I would add that this process has continued to the present day with the passage of civil rights legislation in the 1960's, the adoption of affirmative action in employment, and the extension of the Voting Rights Act.

The "separate-but-equal" laws were affirmed as the rule of law in the Supreme Court decision of Plessy v. Ferguson in 1896. This case was subsequently set aside in the 1954 Supreme Court decision of Brown v. The Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas which found that separate facilities were inherently unequal.

I hope these comments have been of help in clarifying the issue.

Sincerely,



Bill Yoshino

National Headquarters, San Francisco, California