

M E M O R A N D U M  
CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE 1808-A

February 18, 1944

TO: ADVISORY COUNCIL

FROM: Co-ordinating Committee

SUBJECT: Peace Movement Headed by I. Uji of Block 53, Ward 6

Delegation headed by Iwao Uji 5307 - C, Mrs. June Sasaki, 2819 F, and Mrs. Matsuda for a direct consultation with the Advisory Council members, in order to let know their object of activities and subsequent agreement to meet with this Committee upon Advisory Council's suggestion, did not materialize as we anticipated.

Since this Committee through the fielders have been aware of their activity prior to and since the referendum votes, the Committee wishes to inform you of their object of activities for your future reference. Because in view of the greatly improved conditions of this Center, the Committee's work for the immediate future has great connection.

I. Uji of 5307 - C has been greatly connected with the pro status quo group movement in order to destroy the Committee's work up to date. This movement has been originally headed by one Shimonishi of 3705-E, who prior to his detainment in the stockade on November 27, has been a confidential messenger of Kai, who was hiding at that time. Shimonishi was released around January 5; the reason of his release is unknown to this Committee. He has been indirectly supervising the movement of his followers and this status quo group and the apparent sending of secret instructions of Kai, which he received, at that time of release. His statement is responsible for the rumors that all those detained in the stockade will ultimately be released without condition. There is evidence of his connection with Uji of Ward 6 and Tamura of Block 28, who is the parent of Mrs. Sasaki. At that time Kai-Kuratomi gave up; it is definitely known that four persons assigned to carry on Daihyo Sha activities during the leaders' absence (except one) were residents of Ward 6. These are contributing factors for the result of the referendum. As you know, pro status quo overwhelmingly defeated con status quo; specifically, 387 against, 700 for status quo, and 87 blank votes.

On January 30, it was reported by the fielders that in Blocks 27, 28, 29, 49, 52, and 53 signatures of several residents were obtained by these party under pretense that those who sign will have priority on the next exchange boat and partial treatment by the Japanese Government upon return to Japan.

As far as known to this Committee, connection with Tamura and Sasaki are entirely originated by personal feeling -- jealousy. They, Tamura and Sasaki family, repeatedly claimed that they wanted to see once again the Daihyo Sha i power, which will be a satisfaction to their vain prestige. As for Mrs. Matsuda, we, the Committee,



refer you to the Army for her reputation.

This Committee, as you know, has been formed with the sole purpose of restoration of peace in the Center so that every colonist will be released from this sickening atmosphere which existed. With that purpose this Committee's work has been straightforward to invite any suggestions or recommendations from anyone regardless of pro or con status quo. This Committee feels that if such delegation should be interested in the same accomplishment of object as this Committee, why could they not come to us first for consultation? Up to date, we have publicized three times by bulletins and several time verbally through many channels to invite them to come for consultation. However, these parties did not come to us even at the suggestion of Advisory Council. The Committee could not understand and trust their sincerity or their so-called peace movement.

This Committee has been making extensive study and investigation through fielders for any plot and movement of this nature almost daily. Since they have enough courage to approach the Advisory Council and the Council granted such opportunity, this Committee feels that such grant was due to lack of understanding of Japanese psychology and our object. But from the Committee's standpoint such recurrence will tend to bring complete destruction of accomplishment up to date because such opportunity of consultation encourages them. The Committee has been exerting their utmost for our object was restoration of normalcy and peace. We are fatigued mentally and physically and could no longer invite and increase our burden. The reason why we resent such is that we feel that such frivolous action on the part of the Advisory Council will give an impression that the Committee has been discredited and also non-commitment statement are often interpreted in a wrong sense and in favor of those who are against us. We are obliged to exhaust our efforts to rectify such rumors spread by misunderstandings.

We, the Committee, have utmost faith in the Project Director and the Army and all the Advisory Council members. We believe that we have been given free rein for the solution of matters of this nature. We also believe particularly that the Advisory Council members had in mind that with their commitment making, no harm could be done, but we, the Committee, wish to make it clear to you at this time that not only the consultation with such party but colonists, who cannot cooperate with this Committee, should at least confine their efforts for the betterment of their own particular ward or block in which they live. The fact of existing conditions in those blocks from which these delegates care are, as you know, considered the worst incompatible ones. Referendum result was Block 53 -- Against only 30, for 110; Block 28, against 48, and for 87. This Committee has no intention to ask you to stop altogether such interviews or consultation, however, hereafter, please bear in mind that such opportunity given to such party will give an impression that they could consult Administration directly, thereby ignoring this Committee's position.

Perchance that, should you find these delegation more fitted for the work than the Committee, we are always ready to wash our hands on the matter anytime.

Co-ordinating Committee

Byron Akitsuki  
Executive Secretary