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To: Michi Weglyn .. Stella Maris Clinic, PO Box 435123, San Ysidro, Ca. 92143

Fax (011) 526 63 468 50 (2)pages August 4, 1995

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A Tribute to Walter M. Weglyn by his friends

Walter M. Weglyn, husband of author Michi Weglyn (Years of Infamy), died on ______, at _____ at the age of 69. Following the Kristalnacht pogram in 1939, Walter, then 12 years old, secured the last space on a transport of 2,000 Jewish children accepted by Holland at a special childrens' camp in Rotterdam. With Hitler's conquest of the Lowlands, few of the children survived the the aerial bombings. Luckily, Walter had been taken from the camp by a wealthy Jewish industialist and given sanctuary, but his benefactor was killed, and Walter fled from shelter to shelter-eleven in all. After the war he found out that he and one other child were the only ones of the 2,000 who survived the war. In "What Evils Men Do" (by Harvey Shapiro, Publisher Julian Messner), Walter's wartime odyssey is included with Anne Frank's story as well as other survivors.

Walter's parents were interned at Theresiendstat concentration camp in Czechoslovakia, but survived the war. His mother's memoir (ed. by Lechner and Moos) was published by her hometown of Ulm as a fiftieth anniversary commerative. It received widespread publicity in Germany and was favorably reviewed by scholars of the Holocaust in Europe and the United States.

Walter Weglyn had retired in 1988 as a creator of perfumes for International Flavors and Fragrances. Throughout the years, he has given full support and assistance to his wife's research and writing efforts. According to Michi, "he forced me to persist in finishing Years of Infamy which exposes the damning indictment against F.D.R. and his lackeys, even when it became obvious that no publisher would touch the manuscript. He considered it my life mission and would not let me give up."

He loved James Omura's challenge to the Tolan Committee in 1942:
"Has the Gestapo come to America?"

He was passionately committed to others who were disadvantaged or suffering oppression everywhere. He shared his wife's zeal in Asian American civil rights issues and gave much support to the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee and all resisters of conscience in the WWII concentration camps for Nikkei. He shared his wife's determination on other issues such as redress for Peruvian kidnapees, railroad and mine workers and other Japanese Americans who were summarily ousted from domiciles within the Western Defense Command prior to and following the issuance of Proclamation No.2.

At his request there will be no funeral nor memorial. In lieu of tokens of sympathy, donations can be made to SAVE THE CHILDREN (Westport, Conn.), the Salvation Army, or the Michi Nishiura Weglyn & Walter Weglyn Endowed Chair for Multi-Cultural Studies (Cal Poly Pomona Foundation), Cal State Poly University, 3801 W. Temple Avenue, Pomona, Cal. 91768.

Michi: final draft...I got in all your corrections, I think. Frank suggested the rewording on the publicity about Mrs. Weglyn's memoirs. I believe it reads better.

I do have about 3 extra black and white photos than the 13 for the vernacular newspapers. I am also holding the negative for you. *

-page two of two pages-

*You will note that the prints are not as sharp as the color snapshot used to make the negative. I am informed that this is due to the fact that the printer did not have access to the original negative. In any event, I think the black & white snapshots came out fine.