

COMMISSION ON WARTIME RELOCATION
AND INTERNMENT OF CIVILIANS



726 JACKSON PLACE, N.W. □ SUITE 2020 □ WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506 □ 202/395-7390

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Issued November 18, 1981
For Immediate Release

CHURCH GROUPS, EXPERTS ON IMPACT OF EXCLUSION
WILL TESTIFY AT COMMISSION'S NEW YORK HEARING

The Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians will hear testimony from church organizations, experts who have studied the psychological and sociological impact of the exclusion, internment and resettlement of Japanese Americans, and from Japanese Peruvians who were moved from camp to work at Seabrook Farms in Cumberland County, N.J., during its day-long hearing November 23, 1981 in New York City.

The Commission was established by Congress in July of last year to investigate the circumstances surrounding the Executive Order 9066 issued in 1942 that led to the exclusion from the West Coast and internment in remote camps of approximately 120,000 Japanese American citizens and permanent resident aliens during World War II.

The hearing will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Terrace Room of the Roosevelt Hotel.

The Commission has already conducted public hearings in Washington, D.C., Seattle, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, Anchorage and the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands in Alaska. More than 700 witnesses, including numerous civic organizations, people who were involved in the decision-making process in 1942 and individuals who were detained in the 10 camps administered by the War Relocation Authority have testified.

Commission Chair Joan Z. Bernstein, a Washington, D.C. attorney, said that the New York City hearing will focus on the experiences of Japanese Americans and permanent resident aliens who lived in the East at the time of the war, on families who resettled in the eastern states as a result of exclusion and internment in the West and on the particular experiences of Japanese Peruvians and Japanese American citizens who were moved to Seabrook Farms in the 1940s.

"We will also investigate the psychological consequences of a government-ordered policy of exclusion of the Japanese Americans from the West Coast on individuals and the impact that internment and resettlement has had on community and family structure. Several witnesses will also deal with the effect of these events on the arts and literature," she said.

Later this year the Commission will conduct a meeting in Boston to consider legal precedents for redress and possible procedural and legislative measures as remedies to prevent a breakdown of the protection of civil liberties in the future.

Members of the Commission in addition to Chair Bernstein are Rep. Daniel E. Lungren, Vice Chair, Long Beach, Calif.; former Senator Edward W. Brooke, a Washington, D.C. attorney; Father Robert F. Drinan, President of Americans for Democratic Action; Dr. Arthur S. Flemming, former Chair of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission; former Justice Arthur J. Goldberg, President of the American Jewish Committee; Father I.V. Gromoff, Unalaska, Aleutian Islands; Judge William M. Marutani, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania; and former Senator Hugh B. Mitchell of Washington state.

A tentative agenda is attached.

BROADCAST MEDIA NOTE: The Terrace Room will be open at 7:00 a.m. to facilitate broadcast equipment set up.

COMMISSION ON WARTIME RELOCATION AND INTERNMENT OF CIVILIANS

Public Hearings on U.S. Detention and Relocation
of Japanese Americans and Others in the 1940's
Tuesday, August 4, 1981
Auditorium (Room 1138), Los Angeles State Office Building, 107 S. Broadway
Los Angeles, CA

Tentative Witness List

- 9 a.m. Opening Statement by Congressman Daniel Lungren of Long Beach, Vice Chairman.
- 9:05 - 10 a.m. Statements of elected officials:
U.S. Senator S. I. Hayakawa of California
Mayor Tom Bradley, City of Los Angeles
Edmund D. Edelman, Chairman, Board of Supervisors, Los Angeles County
Michael Antonovich, Member, Board of Supervisors, Los Angeles County
Barbara Marumoto, Hawaii State Representative
Mas Fukai, Councilman, Gardena City Council
- 10 - 10:40 a.m. Property/Business Loss:
Frank Chuman, Los Angeles
Katsuichi Fujita, Torrance
Enosuke Amemiya, Gardena
(Interpreter, Ms. Chizu Amemiya)
Clarence Nishizu, Fullerton
(Interpreter, Koyuki Kato, Los Angeles)
- 10:40 - 11:10 a.m. Psychological Impact:
Akiyo Decoyd, Torrance
Veronica K. Ohara, Los Angeles
Mary S. Oda, North Hollywood
Joyce S. Tamai, Orange
- 11:10 - 11:40 a.m. Health Impact:
Mary F. Kurihara, Los Angeles
Mabel T. Ota, Los Angeles
Yoshiko A. Taketa, Monterey Park
Kim Abe Webster, Monrovia
- 11:40 - 12:20 p.m. Impact on Japanese American Community
Lucie Cheng Hirata, Asian American Study Center, U.C.L.A.
Roy Nakano, Gardena Committee for Redress/Reparation
Alan T. Nishio, Little Tokyo Peoples' Rights Committee
Luke Murase, Little Tokyo Service Center
- 12:20 p.m. - 1:20 Lunch Break
- 1:20 - 1:35 p.m. Japanese Americans Citizen League
Multi-media presentation
- 1:35 - 2:10 p.m. Impact Of F.B.I. Activities
Ben Kawahata, Monterey Park
Amy I. Mass, Hacienda Heights
Katsuyo Oekawa, Los Angeles
Sally Kirita Tsuneishi, San Gabriel
Vernon Yoshioka, San Diego

- 2:10 - 2:30 p.m. Voluntary Relocation:
Miyeko Matsunaga, Torrance
Alfred K. Nabetz, Huntington Beach
Henry S. Yamaga, LaHabra
- 2:30 - 3:10 p.m. Discriminatory Experiences:
Ken Hayashi, Los Angeles
Albert Kurihara, Los Angeles
Katsumi Yagura, Harbor City
Hannah Takagi-Holmes, Los Angeles
- 3:10 - 3:50 p.m. County/Regional Organizations
Robert O'Brien, American Friends Service Committee
Harry Kawahara, Japanese American Citizens League, Pacific
Southwest District Council
Morris Kight, Los Angeles County Human Relations Committee
Carole S. Morita, Southern California State Bar
- 3:50 - 4:10 p.m. Psychological Impact:
Elizabeth Nishikawa, Los Angeles
Irma B. Roth, Rosemead
William M. Shigeta, Los Angeles
Mitsuye Uchida, Los Angeles
- 4:10 - 4:35 p.m. Economic Impact:
Harry Okazaki, Los Angeles
Henry Sakai, Long Beach
Haruko Shida, Monterey Park
Tom Watanabi, Los Angeles
Joe C. Yamamoto, Gardena

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TENTATIVE AGENDA

Monday, November 23, 1981

Roosevelt Hotel, New York City

9:00 to 9:30 a.m. Opening remarks
Statements by public officials

9:30 a.m. through the morning

Testimony will be presented by the following:

Dr. John Coventry Smith, representing the National Council of Churches
Dr. Howard E. Spragg, executive vice president, United Church Board for
Homeland Ministries, United Church of Christ

The Seabrook Farms experience:

Mr. Ginzo Murono
Mr. Arthur Shinei Yakabi
Mr. Charles Nagao

Other experiences:

Mrs. Mitsuye Kamada
Ms. Grace Iijima
Mr. Jack Tono
Kazu and Takeru Iijima
Mr. Karl Akiya

1:30 p.m. through the afternoon

Other experiences:

Dr. Kinichi Iwamoto
Mr. Tatsuji Shiotani
Col. Angelo de Guttadauro
Mr. Kinnosuke Hashimoto
Mrs. Tsuyako Shimizu
Mr. Hiroshi Matsuo

Studies of psychological, educational and sociological impacts:

Dr. Setsuko Nishi, Professor of Sociology, Brooklyn College
Mr. Robert Moteki, executive director, Long Island Consultation Center
Dr. James K. Morishima, Associate Professor of Education and Chair of
Higher Education, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
Mr. Tadashi Tsufura, principal, the Greenwich Village School

Cultural impacts:

Ms. Emi Tonooka
Ms. Mine Okubo
Ms. Catherine Okada Robin
Mr. Henry Sugimoto

Panel of Sansei witnesses from the New York City area.

(Sansei literally means the third generation of persons of Japanese ancestry.)

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TENTATIVE WITNESS LISTS

Monday, November 2, 1981

Senate Caucus Room, 318 Russell Building, Washington, D.C.

9:00 a.m. Call to Order

9:10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Karl R. Bendetsen, former Assistant Chief of Staff, Western Defense Command and Fourth Army, and commanding officer of the Wartime Civil Control Administration

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Dr. Milton S. Eisenhower, former first director of the War Relocation Authority

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Edward J. Ennis, former director, Alien Enemy Control Unit of the War Division, Department of Justice

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Laurence I. Hewes, former Western Region Director, Farm Security Administration

4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Calvert L. Dedrick, former statistician of the Census Bureau, detailed to the Wartime Civil Control Administration

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Tuesday, November 3, 1981

Senate Caucus Room, 318 Russell Building, Washington, D.C.

9:00 a.m. Call to Order

9:05 a.m. - 11 a.m. John J. McCloy, former Assistant Secretary of War, War Department, 1941 - 1945

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Philip M. Glick, former Solicitor, War Relocation Authority

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COMMISSION ON WARTIME RELOCATION
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PUBLIC HEARING
REVISED AGENDA

THURSDAY, JULY 16, 1981
Washington, D.C.

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Senate Caucus Room, Russell Building

- 9:00 Call to Order by Chair, Joan Z. Bernstein, Esq.
- 9:00 - 9:20 a.m. Congressional statements
Senator Henry M. Jackson, Washington
Congressmen George E. Danielson, 30th District, CA
Congressman Sidney R. Yates, 9th District, IL
- 9:20 - 9:50 a.m. Mike M. Masaoka
Consultant, Washington, D.C.
National Secretary and Field Executive of the
Japanese American Citizens League in 1942
- 9:50 - 10:50 a.m. Panel of national Japanese American organizations
Japanese American Citizens League
Dr. James Tsujimura, national president, and
Mr. Minoru Yasui, chair of the National
Committee for Redress
National Council for Japanese American Redress
Mr. William Hohri, chairman
National Coalition for Redress/Reparation
Mr. Bert Nakano, spokesperson
- 10:50 - 11:10 a.m. Aleutian/Pribilof Island Association

Tom Teleada

JOAN Z. BERNSTEIN, ESQ., CHAIR

CONGRESSMAN DANIEL E. LUNGREN, VICE-CHAIR

HON. EDWARD W. BROOKE, MEMBER □ FATHER ROBERT F. DRINAN, MEMBER □ ARTHUR S. FLEMMING, MEMBER □ HON. ARTHUR J. GOLDBERG, MEMBER
FATHER I.V. GROMOFF, MEMBER □ HON. WILLIAM M. MARUTANI, MEMBER □ HON. HUGH B. MITCHELL, MEMBER □ PAUL T. BANNAI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

THURSDAY, JULY 16, 1981

11:10 - 12:30 p.m. Panel of Legal Organizations
Bay Area Attorneys for Redress
Mr. Dennis Hayashi
California State Bar
Ms. Lori Suzuki
Mr. Dean Ito Taylor
Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund
Mr. Stanley Mark
Mr. Arnold Kawano
Asian Pacific American Bar Association
Ms. Margaret Chao
Mr. Ronald Ikejiri
Mr. Floyd Shimomura

12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Break

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1:30 - 3:00 p.m. Panel of major national organizations
American Civil Liberties Union
Mr. Edward Ennis, national chairman
American Friends Service Committee
Mr. Louis Schneider, executive secretary
Leadership Conference on Civil Rights
Mr. Ralph Neas, executive director
NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund
Mr. Jack Greenberg, director-counsel

3:00 - 3:20 p.m. Americans for Historical Accuracy
Ms. Lillian Baker

3:20 - p.m. Individual statements
Dwight Chuman, editor, Rafu Shimpo,
Los Angeles, CA
Mary Yuri Kochiyama, New York
Tom Kometani, Warren, New Jersey
Nobu Miyoshi, Philadelphia, PA
Pat Okura, Washington, D.C.
Paul Sakai, Glen Burnie, MD
Kinzo Yamamoto, Springfield, VA

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TENTATIVE AGENDA

Public Meeting of the Commission on
Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians

Wednesday, December 9, 1981
Agassiz Theater (Harvard University)
5 James Street, Cambridge, Mass.

Hosted by the Harvard Foundation of Harvard University

9:30am - 12:15pm Panel Discussion on Redress and Reparation

Panelists: Professor Lawrence Sager, New York
University Law School
Professor James Henderson, Boston
University Law School
Professor Ralph Johnson, Visiting
Professor, Harvard University Law
School (Visiting from the University
of Washington Law School, Seattle)
Dr. David F. Musto, Yale University,
Professor of Psychiatry and History
of Medicine
Gerald Stern, Esq., Executive Vice
President and Senior General Counsel,
Occidental Petroleum (Author of Buffalo
Creek Disaster)

*effects on
reparation
psychological
injury*

12:15pm - 2:00pm Lunch

2:00pm - 5:30pm Panel Discussion on Preventative Measures

Panelists: Professor Vern Countryman, Harvard
University Law School
Professor Peter Irons, University
of Massachusetts, Amherst
Professor Alan Dershowitz, Harvard
University Law School
Professor Henry Monaghan, Boston
University Law School

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Issued July 28, 1981
For Immediate Release

COMMISSION SCHEDULES LOS ANGELES HEARINGS
ON WARTIME INTERNMENT OF JAPANESE AMERICANS

The Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, which held two days of hearings in Washington, D.C. earlier this month, will continue its examination of the facts and circumstances surrounding the evacuation and detention in relocation camps of approximately 120,000 Japanese Americans and Japanese nationals during World War II with a series of public hearings in Los Angeles, Calif. on August 4, 5 and 6.

The Commission, created by Congress in July of last year, will begin its hearings at 9 a.m. on August 4, at 1 p.m. on August 5 and at 9 a.m. on August 6. The hearings will be held in the auditorium (Room 1138) of the Los Angeles State Office Building, 107 S. Broadway. The Los Angeles hearings will be chaired by Rep. Daniel E. Lungren (R-Calif.), Vice Chairman of the Commission.

"We have been established by the United States Congress to inquire into the decisions and mistakes of our past and that is important evidence of the essential integrity of our system," Lungren said. "It is the mark of an honest, just and noble people that we can recognize the error of our World War II internment of Japanese American citizens and that we are intent on learning from our error and avoiding any future such infringement of constitutionally protected liberty."

In addition to reviewing the facts and circumstances surrounding the 1942 Executive Order cited as the authority for the evacuation and internment of civilians, Lungren said the commission will also review directives of the United States military forces requiring relocation and detention, and ultimately will issue a report of its findings and recommendations.

"The challenge to those of us on this commission is to determine how we effectively create--as some have called it--an insurance policy so that such actions are not repeated in the future," Lungren said. "The question of monetary recompense is just one issue--among many--to be considered."

(MORE)

The first day of the Los Angeles hearings will begin with testimony from several elected officials including Senator S. I. Hayakawa, Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley and Chairman of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Edmund D. Edelman.

Other opening day testimony will be received from Japanese American businessmen who suffered property and business losses, various local and regional Japanese American organizations, and many individuals whose testimony will address the impact of F.B.I. activities, the psychological and health consequences of relocation and internment, the economic impact on Japanese American families, and the history of discrimination against persons of Japanese ancestry.

Additional hearings have been scheduled in San Francisco, Calif. on August 11, 12 and 13; in Seattle, Wa. on September 9, 10 and 11; in Anchorage, Alaska on September 15; in Unalaska, Aleutian Islands on September 17; in St. Paul, Pribilof Islands on September 19, and in Chicago, Ill. on September 22 and 23.

Members of the commission are Chairperson Joan Z. Bernstein, a Washington, D.C. attorney and former general counsel of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Vice Chairman Daniel E. Lungren, U.S. Rep., Long Beach, Calif.; former U.S. Senator Edward W. Brooke, a Washington, D.C. attorney; Father Robert F. Drinan, President of Americans for Democratic Action; Dr. Arthur S. Flemming, Chairman of the United States Civil Rights Commission; former Justice Arthur J. Goldberg, President of the American Jewish Committee; Father I. V. Gromoff, Unalaska, Aleutian Islands; Judge William M. Marutani, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania, and former U.S. Senator Hugh B. Mitchell of Washington state.

A complete list of scheduled witnesses on Tuesday, August 4 and the order of their testimony is attached. Witness lists for August 5 and 6 will be available in the hearing room on August 4.

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BROADCAST MEDIA NOTE--A mult will be available in the hearing room and the room will be open one and one-half hours before the hearing begins each day to facilitate broadcast equipment setup.

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Issued October 7, 1981
For Immediate Release

FORMER U.S. OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN RELOCATION, DETENTION OF JAPANESE-AMERICANS TO TESTIFY BEFORE FEDERAL COMMISSION

Former Ambassador John J. McCloy and Dr. Milton S. Eisenhower will be among the former U.S. officials involved in the relocation and detention in remote camps of approximately 120,000 Japanese-American citizens, permanent resident aliens and Aleut natives during World War II who will testify at public hearings of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians in Washington, D.C. on Monday, November 2 and Tuesday, November 3.

The Commission was created by Congress last year to inquire into the facts and circumstances surrounding Executive Order 9066 issued by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on February 19, 1942, review U.S. military directives pursuant to the Executive Order which required relocation and detention in camps of persons of Japanese ancestry, and to make recommendations regarding redress.

"The Commission is not conducting an inquisition or a trial," said Commission Chairperson Joan Z. Bernstein. "Our intent is to seek to understand what happened, how and why. We need to understand how it was that the nation's military and civilian leaders decided to evacuate and confine approximately 120,000 people for no reason other than their ancestry. We need to examine what protections the law offered, and whether those protections need to be expanded. And finally, the Commission must come to grips with the difficult, but crucial question of redress."

Ambassador McCloy was Assistant Secretary of War from 1941 to 1945 and Dr. Eisenhower was the first director of the War Relocation Authority from March of 1942 to June of 1942.

Other key witnesses at the Washington, D.C. hearings include: Karl R. Bendetsen, former Assistant Chief of Staff, Western Defense Command & Fourth Army, who established, organized and directed the Wartime Civil Control Administration; Edward J. Ennis, former director of the Alien Enemy Control Unit of the War Division, Department of Justice; Calbert L. Dedrick, former Statistician in the Bureau of the Census who was detailed to the Western Defense Command & Fourth Army Wartime Civil Control Administration and also served as chief economist of the War Department; Philip M. Glick, Solicitor of the

ADD 1 - Commission

War Relocation Authority, and Laurence I. Hewes, former Western Region Director of the Farm Security Administration.

"Few governments ever acknowledge mistakes, much less authorize serious examinations of them," Bernstein said. "By creating this Commission, the government has told the American people that we are committed enough to our democratic principles to re-examine our actions, inquire into how and what injustice was permitted, and to ask what redress is owing."

The Commission has held earlier hearings in Washington, D.C., Los Angeles and San Francisco, Calif.; Seattle, Wash.; Anchorage, Alaska; Unalaska, Aleutian Islands; St. Paul, Pribilof Islands, and Chicago, Ill. Testimony has been received from hundreds of witnesses, many of whom were forced to leave their West Coast homes, jobs and properties in 1942 and were detained in relocation camps.

The hearings on November 2 and 3 will be held each day in the Senate Caucus Room, 318 Russell Building, Washington, D.C., beginning at 9 a.m.

Members of the Commission in addition to Chairperson Bernstein, a Washington, D.C. attorney, are Rep. Daniel E. Lungren, Vice Chairman, Long Beach, Calif.; former Senator Edward W. Brooke, a Washington, D.C. attorney; Father Robert F. Drinan, President of Americans for Democratic Action; Dr. Arthur S. Flemming, Chair of the United States Civil Rights Commission; former Justice Arthur J. Goldberg, President of the American Jewish Committee; Father I.V. Gromoff, Unalaska, Aleutian Islands; Judge William M. Marutani, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania; and former Senator Hugh B. Mitchell of Washington state.

A tentative list of scheduled witnesses and the order of their testimony is attached.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Issued Dec. 2, 1981

**LEGAL SCHOLARS, OTHERS TO DISCUSS REDRESS AND PREVENTION
AT COMMISSION'S PUBLIC MEETING DEC. 9 IN CAMBRIDGE, MASS.**

The legal aspects of redress for Americans of Japanese descent and others interned during World War II and measures to prevent a breakdown of civil liberties in the future will be discussed by legal scholars and other experts December 9 at a meeting of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians in Cambridge, Mass.

The forum, hosted by the Harvard Foundation of Harvard University, will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. in Agassiz Theater (Harvard University), 5 James Street, Cambridge. It is open to the public and news media.

The nine-member Commission was established by Congress in July, 1980, to review Executive Order 9066 issued by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on February 19, 1942, and U.S. military directives that required removal from the West Coast and portions of Alaska and confinement in remote camps of approximately 120,000 civilians, including Japanese American citizens, permanent resident aliens and Aleut native citizens. It is charged by Congress with looking into the impact of removal and internment on the Japanese Americans and others and making recommendations on appropriate remedies.

The Commission has already held 19 days of hearings in Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, Chicago, Anchorage, the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands in Alaska, and New York City and has received testimony from more than 750 witnesses, including numerous civic and religious organizations, people who administered wartime programs affecting Japanese Americans, and hundreds of individuals affected by wartime exclusion policies.

The Commission meeting on December 9 will be divided into two panel discussions that will deal with different legal aspects of the Commission's inquiry. The panel discussion from 9:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. will focus on the legal basis for correcting the injuries suffered by evacuees of Japanese descent and others. Panel members will

include professors of constitutional law, the law of torts, and experts on psychological injuries and on legal cases concerning American Indians.

The afternoon panel from 2 to 5:30 p.m. will explore the legislative and administrative measures that can be taken to prevent a similar incident from reoccurring. Panel members are experts on constitutional law, civil liberties issues, and on the role of government attorneys in the cases involving Japanese Americans.

Chair Joan Z. Bernstein said, "The views of panel members and the discussion between commissioners and panelists will greatly assist in the Commission's consideration of precedents for redress and of measures to prevent such events from occurring in the future. Through our extensive hearings and deliberations we hope to be able to make recommendations on remedies to the Congress which are based on a complete objective and unbiased review."

Commission members in addition to Chair Bernstein, a Washington, D.C. attorney are U.S. Rep. Daniel E. Lungren, Vice Chair, Long Beach, Calif.; former Senator Edward W. Brooke, a Washington, D.C. attorney; Father Robert F. Drinan, President of Americans for Democratic Action; Dr. Arthur S. Flemming, Chair of the United States Civil Rights Commission; former Justice Arthur J. Goldberg, President of the American Jewish Committee; Father I.V. Gromoff, Unalaska, Aleutian Islands; Judge William M. Marutani, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania; and former Senator Hugh B. Mitchell of Washington state.

A tentative list of panel members is attached.