

"THE VOICE OF THE NISEI"

To the Gentlemen of 17 years to 38 years of age:

As you know, fellow Americans, at last they did recognize and realize that we are Americans. We are going to be drafted soon, just like an American outside enjoying the freedom and liberty. But, don't you think they should reconsider steps that they had taken?

As we believe that Mr. Roosevelt's speech at the Congress was not merely an excuse to draft us to soldiers and die in vain, we are demanding the following as an American Citizen:

1. Personal apology from Gen. DeWitt regarding his statement "Jap is Jap" and be expelled from his office. We also want apology from Mayor Bowron and Governor Warren, and American Legion of California.
2. Freedom, Rights and Privilege should not be denied in California, militarily, economically and politically.
3. Open the barb-wire and withdraw the Guard-duty of M. P.
4. Sugh signs as "No Jap", "You Rat", "No Orientals or Colored Admitted", and etc. which were familiar in California, must be taken down throughout the United States.
5. No discrimination upon the Japanese securing occupations.
6. Every opportunity must be given to Japanese soldier for advancement in the Air Corps, in the Army, and in the Marine Corps.
7. Japanese soldier must be mixed with other Caucasian soldier to fight side by side.

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Yasui comments: Damfool childishness and nonsense. In the first place, what is meant by "they"? Surely, the federal government is not to be saddled with responsibility; isn't this an American question to be worked out by all of us?

Point 1 is silly, because an apology, if obtainable, would signify nothing. DeWitt's statements disqualifies himself; his apology would be no better. Let's prove that we are loyal Americans, and the apologies will follow. Truth is more important than apologies anyway. Point 2 presupposes that California is the only place in the U.S. Nisei from California have the "california-psychology" too, it seems. Point 3 forgets that relocation is open to all, and that the barbed wire fence is no longer a symbol of incarceration; the function of the M.P.'s is misunderstood. No. 4 is matter of education and not of federal control. No. 5. is frequently a matter of personal quali

fication, altho some merit in this point. Wording is certainly indicative of lack of education.

Point 6 seems to conclude that "Japanese soldier" is synonymous with AMERICAN SOLDIER; still race-conscious, huh? If this thing is matter of race, what on earth have we to complain about? It's more than race involved; we ought to eliminate racial thinking on our part. Point 7 has merit, qualified by same criticism as to designation of nisei as "Japanese soldier"..... but what the hell, we're Americans, aren't we, and not "Japanese soldier", thank you!

Must have been written by some sour kibeï, or some issei, or even possibly an uneducated, disgruntled nisei, judging from the grammar employed and the thoughts expressed.