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Mrs. Takako Kawahara Taki
802 - 20th Ave. So.
Seattle, Washington

Dear Mrs. Taki:

Enclosed find a copy of the conclusive "ORDER, JUDGMENT AND DECREE EXECUTING MANDATE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT" in mass equity suit entitled Abo, et al., etc., v. McGranery, etc., et al., Consolidated Number 25294, in the U. S. District Court for the Northern District of California, Southern Division, which forever cancels your renunciation and declares you to be a native born citizen of the United States.

The original judgment of the district court was in your favor. The defendants appealed but the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit affirmed the decision in your favor on January 17, 1951. The defendants' petition to the U. S. Supreme Court to review and reverse the judgment as to you was denied on October 8, 1951. In consequence, the Mandate of the Court of Appeals was handed down on Oct. 17, 1951. Thereafter, on May 29, 1952, U. S. District Judge Louis E. Goodman signed the conclusive judgment in your favor.

The entry of the conclusive judgment brought to an end the litigation I commenced on your behalf to cancel your renunciation and to have you declared to be a native born citizen of the United States. The judgment cancels your renunciation ab initio, that is to say, from the beginning. This means your renunciation was void from the time it was made and, in consequence, you always have been and still are a U. S. citizen.

The conclusive judgment is against the Attorney General of the United States, the U. S. Attorney for the Northern District of California, the Commissioner of Immigration, and the District Director of the U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service for the Northern District of California. It prohibits them and their agents, servants, employees and representatives from interfering with your rights, privileges and immunities of U. S. citizenship.

You are free to exercise and enjoy all the rights, privileges and immunities of United States citizenship. You now may register as a voter and vote at elections. You can purchase and lease land and buildings, hold public office, obtain civil service positions and public employment on the same basis as any other citizen. You cannot be classed or treated as an alien. You cannot be required to register as an alien or to apply for an alien registration card.

You now can obtain a California fishing license and all other licenses on the same basis and at the same rates as other citizens. You can obtain a U. S. passport to travel abroad and to re-enter the United States without filling out the special affidavit form which is required of renunciants whose status has not yet been completely determined. In California and other States where old age pension laws provide pensions only for citizens you will, in course of time, become

eligible for such old age pensions because you are a citizen of the United States. You cannot be subjected to the payment of taxes which are imposed upon nonresident aliens. You can be taxed only on the same basis as other citizens. If you are in Japan and are of draft age you should notify your local draft board in the United States of your address.

If you are in Japan you can apply to the nearest U. S. Consul for a U. S. passport. There you can use the enclosed certified copy of the conclusive judgment in your favor to prove your renunciation has been cancelled and that you are a native-born citizen of the United States.

If the Alien Property Custodian office seized and vested your property you should promptly make claim for the return of that property if you have not already done so. You can file your claim within two years from the date the property is vested. Claim forms can be procured from the Office of Alien Property, Department of Justice, Washington, D. C. Even if the property was vested and has been disposed of and you failed to make claim for it in time it finally may be possible for you to have a bill introduced in Congress by a Senator or Representative to restore the property or its value to you.

If the Attorney General of California commenced escheat proceedings against you under the California Alien Land Law and you lost your land or if you settled the suit you can ask the Assemblyman or State Senator for your district to introduce a bill in the State Legislature to repay you the value of the land lost or the amount of money you paid to settle the suit.

The Japanese American Citizens League, Mike Masaoka, Saburo Kido and Joe Masaoka who were among its officers, and A. L. Wirin, Fred Okrand and Frank Chuman, who are supposed to be attorneys at law practicing in Los Angeles, the newspaper "Pacific Citizen", Roger Baldwin, the American Civil Liberties Union of New York of which he was the head and its branch office in Los Angeles were unfriendly to renunciants from the very beginning of the renunciation program. Those persons and organizations not only refused to help the renunciants but did much to endanger and injure the mass lawsuits and thereby occasioned a great number of renunciants a great deal of harm. You will recall that Wirin was the attorney who testified in 1945 before the Dickstein Congressional Committee that all renunciants should be deported to Japan.

The only organization which was friendly to the renunciants and tried to help them was the American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California of which Ernest Besig is director. Its office is situated at 503 Market Street, San Francisco, California. This organization steadily gave favorable publicity to the cause of the renunciants and gave the mass lawsuits its moral support. If you wish to show your appreciation for what it did you can become one of its members or a subscriber to its publication.

You need not be ashamed of the fact that you once renounced citizenship. You did so because the government took advantage of you while you were held in duress by the government and were deprived of practically all the rights of citizenship and had no opportunity to make a free choice in the matter. Inasmuch as your renunciation is declared by the conclusive judgment to have been void ab initio, that is to say, from the beginning, you do not have to reveal to anyone that you once renounced citizenship. The records of your voided renunciation in possession of the Attorney General of the U. S. are

not open to public inspection. My records are confidential and are not subject to examination by anyone. The only other records of your renunciation are those of the Court and these consist chiefly of pleadings.

I am delighted that this litigation has terminated successfully for you. It is my hope that finally all those still in the mass suits likewise may have their renunciations cancelled by court judgment and their citizenship recovered.

You should keep the enclosed certified copy of the conclusive judgment in your favor as a memento of the ordeal you have undergone and also as a document which demonstrates that you are a citizen of the United States.

The Tule Lake Defense Committee repeatedly has requested you to pay your share of the costs, fees and expenses involved in carrying on this difficult litigation through the District Court, the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court. Especially do you owe thanks to Committee members Tetsujiro Nakamura, Toraichi Kono, Harry T. Takeuchi, Hiroyuki Taketaya, Roger Narimatsu, Harry Uchida, Masaru Yamaichi and the other hard-working members of the Committee. If it had not been for the complete devotion and splendid work of the Committee your case could not have been brought to a successful conclusion.

You have received the benefits of the Committee's efforts and unselfish devotion. However, to date you have not cooperated with your Committee by meeting your share of the financial obligation. You should cooperate with the Committee by paying your share promptly. In so doing you will meet your burden and also help the other renunciants in the mass suits who have not yet been as lucky as you have been in having your renunciation cancelled and your citizenship restored. You should remember that those who have borne their share of the costs, fees and expenses thereby made it possible to bring your case to a successful conclusion.

Very truly yours,

