

October 8, 1945

NAME

M. Yamataka 1416B

We are taking this opportunity to express our sincere appeal to you in connection with the pending situation where the deportation of all renunciants is considered the most imminent issue.

As the evacuation of our minority group from the West Coast was an unparalleled event in the history of this country, the conducting of the mass renunciation hearing in the midst of a society which was not considered free is still a greater catastrophe and is an action contrary to the principle upon which this nation has been founded. We feel that you are familiar with the underlying principle of a democratic institution, but heretofore we never had the occasion to realize the practicability of exercising our civil rights. We must all awaken from the feelings of false sense of security, and commence immediately with legal action to preserve our sacred birthright.

Undoubtedly you are aware of the fact that this center is noted for the existence of unfounded rumors, and it was due to the weakness of our mind and our vulnerability to these rumors that many of the innocent people became hopelessly enmeshed in this dreadful predicament. We also know as a fact that there still exist in this center a group of individuals who delights in the thought of opposing our sincere motive, and we cannot for one moment stop or spare any mercy upon such individuals. For the first time in our lives, we are given the opportunity to express our thoughts and to exercise our civil rights; by the institution of this case we are in a position to contribute to the welfare and the well being of this country.

We feel that it will be quite profitable to turn over the pages of the American history and view that George Washington and his valiant men endured greater hardship than us to win the fight against the tyrannical rule of their mother country.

The principles and ideals for the preservation of one's civil rights has been promulgated in the first ten amendments of our constitution and is generally referred to as the Bill of Rights. In World War II, our country's policy were expressed to fight for the ideals of Four Freedoms and the liberation of this world from oppressive rule; but we know for a fact that she has failed miserably in her home front by evacuating our minority racial groups from our former homes. Also it should be noted that no time in the history of this country has the rights of individual citizens been so completely disregarded as was during the conducting of the mass renunciation hearing in this unfree society. Through authoritative sources we are quite definite that the attitude of the Justice Department are for mass deportation of all renunciants. However under the rights and privileges granted to us under our constitution we should immediately initiate legal action to contest the pending issue. We must also be aware of the fact that though the war has been won it is still necessary to exert all efforts for the preservation of the principles for which this war has been fought for. In this country, we are given the opportunity to challenge the government on such an issue and rectify any mistake which the administrative branch of the government should make. Thus it is a challenge to all renunciants and such challenge should be accepted by all to prove that we are just as loyal to the cause of democratic ideals as those person who have fought so bravely and valiantly for the successful

prosecution of this war. We hope that all the renunciants and those who are sympathetic to our situation will accept this challenge and fight this issue to the bitter end. We appeal to you and hope that you will act in accordance to your respective means. Those in an unfortunate position should not be disheartened by this fact, but should make all attempts to support our sincere cause. Undoubtedly there are many questions that are pervading in your minds and we shall attempt to clarify some of these problems. Many people are under the impression that the American Civil Liberty Union were not interested in our cause, but we wish to inform you that their organization were merely handicapped by their limited budgets. They are wholeheartedly behind our movement to organize our defense committee, and we are constantly in contact with their organization. Also another problem which arise to the mind of each renunciant is the matter of financing their individual case. We wish to state and know as a fact that whenever an unlimited sources of fund are necessary in contesting any issue, it may be construed as very difficult to win such an issue. However in our case we are confident that by commencing such legal action it will tend to hasten the change in the government policy. We are also confident that some reasonable arrangements may be made with our attorneys in matters of individual fees. Presently we are aware of the fact that the government is very much interested in effecting some modification in their set policy of deportation; but we cannot for one moment rely on such information as the only assurance for attaining our ultimate goal are by instituting legal action. Although our initial group is very small we have accepted this challenge and obtained legal counsel through the assistance of the American Civil Liberty Union in San Francisco; Messrs. Collins and Wirin have sent to us their representative, and he is here today to assist us in filing of our individual case. We feel that you should make all efforts to fight this pending issue, as it will ultimately effect each and everyone of you. Any further informations concerning our groups's action may be obtained at 2602-D. We feel that it is your individual duty to make all efforts to join the ranks of those individuals who have accepted the challenge of the democratic institution.

We are confident that you will give us your fullest cooperation so that we shall ultimately attain complete victory.

DEFENSE COMMITTEE

諸君

我等の運動は、去る十月二日第十七区食堂にて開催されし報告会に於て辯護士との会見時間の餘りにも僅少と有りし爲、説明の不徹底に終りし事は甚だ遺憾なりしも、専ら重大性に鑑みて種々最後討對策を講じその間司法省役人其の他の非公式な情報に接して我々の進む途も唯一つ残された感を深くするものである。

左に重要な諸点を挙げて諸君の再奮起を促すものである。

一、米國民權自由保護協会は我等の問題に最大の關心を持ち飽くまで我等の權利獲得のために助力を惜しまざるものである。

二、而して起訴有効期間も末日に迫りて、現在唯一の問題は運動資金捻出が可能であるか否かである。米國民權自由保護協会からは即時運動資金捻出方を要求しつゝある。

三、茲に於て當事者としての考へては辯護士の来るまでに假に百二十五弗の金を出し得る者の署名を集めつゝあり。(再交渉の結果、民權保護協会から本日コリンス氏の來所を得たり。)

四、現在までの米國の方針を考へる時我等には十二分の勝味あるを知り諸君の此の問題に対する再認識を乞ふ看である。

我々は確固たる信念を持ち民權擁護の爲に諸君の再決心を切望す。

左の諸点について詳細なる情報を得たき人は二六区ニDに早速個人として來られたし。

十月八日

同志