



Official Publication

Japanese American Citizens League

EDITORIAL AND BUSINESS OFFICES  
413 BEASON BUILDING  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

PHONE: 5-6501



LARRY TAJIRI, EDITOR

March 8, 1943

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Tajiri, L

Miss Margaret Anderson, Editor  
Common Ground Magazine  
222 Fourth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Miss Anderson:

Thank you for your proofs on the Manzanar articles. I believe that your article presents a clear and fair picture of the unfortunate occurrences at Manzanar in December. In regard to the article however, I believe that the fact that Fred Tayama was the most prominent of the Southern California leaders of the Japanese American Citizens League was an important factor, and in marking him as the #1 target of the anti-democratic group at Manzanar. It is to be regretted that so many of our outspoken citizen leaders have been subject to vicious verbal attacks as well as physical beatings because of their uncompromising Americanism.

There has been a combine instigated by certain vicious minorities in the relocation centers to destroy the Americanism and the faith in democratic processes of the great majority of the evacuees. It may be of interest to you that all of our outstanding citizen league leaders without exception have been subject to either threats or to physical attacks. Saburo Kido, the National President of the J.A.C.L. was beaten on two occasions by pro-Axis hoodlums, while Dr. T. T. Yatabe, past National President was beaten by a gang of fifteen men only last Saturday at Jerome, Arkansas. Threats were also made against Walter Tsukamoto, past National President, and Mr. Tsukamoto was given permission to leave the Tule Lake Center and is now relocated in Cleveland. In fact of thirty men beaten by gangs at the relocation center, twenty-nine were prominent members of the J.A.C.L.

There has been an effort on the part of certain groups to blame the evacuation and all subsequent events, however fantastic this may seem, upon the J.A.C.L. and its leadership. I took the liberty of writing you regarding this because the report on Manzanar pictured Mr. Tayama as an "informer", a report which is grossly unfair to him. Mr. Tayama at present is an instructor in the U.S. Navy Language School at Boulder, Colorado.

Thank you for your suggestion regarding our use of the term "The American Japanese." I realize that in editing a newspaper, one sometimes gets careless with the use of these terms, and I hope to be more careful in the future.

# PACIFIC CITIZEN



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We hope to have Bill Hosokawa join this staff as soon as he is able to leave the Heart Mt. Center.

Americans of Japanese ancestry are at the present time the targets of a vicious, fascist minded combine sponsored by a certain "patriotic" organization and individuals who advocate the wholesale deportation of all persons of Japanese ancestry, a program which smacks of Hitler's solution for minority race problems. We need your help and the help of all decent and fair minded people in combating this combine. This combine is especially effective at this time because it has the backing of several powerful organizations, including the American Legion, and is given lip service by men ambitious for political recognition.

We enjoy reading Common Ground and wish you every success in your fine work.

Very sincerely yours,

PACIFIC CITIZEN

*Larry Tajiri*  
Larry Tajiri 47  
Managing Editor

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P.S. I am sending you under separate cover, a copy of the brief of the Japanese American Citizens League as a friend of the court in the recent Native Sons legal attempt to revoke the citizenship of Japanese Americans.