

SUGGESTED PROGRAM FOR NEW YORK HEARING

Throughout the hearing the coordinating committee had felt it was important to have a good balance between community testimony and "expert" testimony. The Commission has expressed particular interest in hearing more Issei, more about New York Nikkei experience, about the relocation process itself from those who were actually involved in it, from Japanese Latin Americans, and Seabrook.

The hearings have all been organized by panels of people speaking in the same general topic area. Set forth below are the panels which the program committee and coordinating committee were able to come up with. I have taken the liberty of organizing the panels into morning and afternoon sessions.

MORNING

Japanese American Organizations: This panel would be composed of member organizations of ECJAR who wish to give testimony as a group - JACL, CJA, NY Buddhist Church, JA United Church, JAHFA, Niko Niko, 442 Veterans

Politicians: Should be self-explanatory.

Suggestions: Sen Bill Bradley - NJ

Sen. Daniel P. Moynihan - NY

(Sen Jacob Javits - former NY)
poor health

Ted Weiss

Charles Rangel

Percy Sutton

East Coast Experience This would include Nikkei who were not evacuated, people who relocated here.

Confirmed: Yuriko Porter, Bill Kochiyama, Mae Kanazawa, Byron Goto, Min Matsuda, Sumi Koide, Art Kamitsuka, Eddie Shimano

Suggested: Haru Kishi, Yoshio Kishi, Ken Furuya, Kazuo & Emi Yamaguchi, Mits Katagiri, Grace Matsunaga, Suki Ports, Emi Akiyama, Ken Shiotani, Dai Tsuruoka, Motoko Spiegel, Grace Onishi, Setsuko Nishi

Religious/Moral Issues: This panel would address the religious and moral issues of the concentration camps and express their views on redress & reparations:

Suggested: Rev. William Thompson and/or John Coventry Smith - World Council of Churches

Ethical Culture Society

Bishop C. Dale White - Methodist Bishop

Donald Harrington, Unitarian Church

Reparations/Redress: This panel would make specific recommendations for r & r and possibly address the legal precedents for redress and reparations.

Suggested:

Issei: Issei panel would include Ellis Island detention, round up of Issei and Issei internees.

Confirmed: Kinnosuke Hashimoto, Tsuyako Shimizu, Karl Akiya (Kibei), Henry Sugimoto, Isaku Kida (Ellis Island), George Shimamoto

Suggested: Ellis Island: Hiroshi Matsuo, Dr. Iwamoto
Japanese Peruvian: Shigeyuki Nishioka

AFTERNOON

Sociological/Psychological: Panel of sociologists and psychologists who could address the impact of the camps from that angle.

Suggested: List already submitted by Stanley Kanzaki

Seabrook: The Commission has expressed particular interest in the Seabrook experience and our understanding is that there are 10 firm commitments to testify from Seabrook.

Sansei: Sansei or Yonsei could speak to what they feel the impact of the camps has been on them, particularly Sansei from the east coast when there is no community.

Suggested: Greg Morozumi, Joy Kanazawa, Lori Kitazono, Hope Kawashima, Janice Sakamoto, Eric Koide

Resettlement/Relocation: This panel would be composed of people who were involved in the actual relocation and resettlement of people into this area.

Suggested: American Friends Service Committee
Ruth Gage Colby

Scholars: Much work has been done as to the atmosphere of the time - the political, social and international context for the internment of JA's. Scholars from this area have contributed to that body of knowledge:

Suggested: Prof. Richard Polenberg, Cornell University; Conrad Arensberg, Columbia University;

East Coast Experience 2: There will probably be more Nisei who would want to testify from the list of suggested and potential testifiers listed before and others not known at this time.

Human/Civil Rights/Legal: New York has a wealth of human and civil rights organizations. We had thought to draw on some of those resources to speak to the human and civil rights aspects of the camps.

Confirmed: Heywood Burns, National Conference of Black Lawyers

Suggested: Professor Lawrence Sayger, NYU Law School, Ramsey Clark, Legal Services for Elderly

Other Asian Community Support: These would be short statements of support from different Asian organizations who support r/r.

Suggested: Organization of Chinese Americans, Asian students

Other Ethnic Support: Should be self-explanatory

Suggested: Seymour Samet, American Jewish Committee; Vernon Jordan, formerly of National Urban League.

Labor: If there are labor organizations that have taken a position on r/r they could speak here.

Suggested: Sol Chaikin, International Ladies Garment Workers Union

Miscellaneous:

Norman Kurlan, white officer of 442 has volunteered to testify.