

East Coast Japanese Americans
for Redress

Father Ismael Gromoff

September 23, 1981

Dear Commissioner Gromoff:

We would like to commend you for the dignified manner in which the CWRIC hearings have been conducted thus far. The opportunity for Japanese Americans to testify about the World War II concentration camp incarceration and resulting disillusionment, loss of livelihood, rupture of family life, and extraordinary mental anguish has been an important step forward for our communities.

We are writing to inform you of the development of plans in the New York area for a Commission hearing. It is our understanding that a decision has been made to come to New York in mid-November for a hearing. We understand that the scope of the hearing, date and details have not been formalized. We encourage and invite your attendance at this hearing.

Through the New York hearing, we want to accomplish the following:

1. Educate the Commission on the critical impact of the evacuation on Japanese Americans now residing in the New York/New England area and to formally record our recommendations for redress and reparations;
2. To address the moral and human rights issues of the evacuation;