

6.6.

August 11, 1954
2400 So. High St.
Denver, Colorado

Mr. Robert Murakami
P. O. Box 157
Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear Mr. Murakami:

Thank you very much for your letter of July 20, 1954, advising me of the steps to be followed on the matter of alien property which belongs to my late father. I read your letter very carefully and I made up my mind to take up some actions toward the returning of my father's property to us.

Prior to my receiving of your letter, I wrote letters to the Department of Justice and Senator Millikin from the State of Colorado, requesting them to give me some information on what happened to the property confiscated. I received the answers from both of them this week, and therefore enclosed the copies of their letters, to be shown to you as the valuable reference to my case in point.

According to my own judgment on the analysis of these two letters along with reference to your letter of July 20, 1954, I have come to the following conclusions. It seems that the requirements imposed upon me are:

(a) To fill out the Schedules 9A. (Characterization of individual claimant, I think, is to be made on me.)--In the separate copy of the Schedule 9A, I have filled out all the information needed. If any further information concerning with my status is required on this Schedule, Please let me know. I am in doubt about whether the Department of Justice wants to have the information on me or on my father on this Schedule. I believe that since the first claimant (my father) is dead, I would be the person to fill out the paper. Will you kindly make this point clear to me.

(b) To have the Will probated and recognized. I would like to ask you to do this and also file the new claim under my name in Washington D. C. along with a certified copy of my father's death certificate as being explained in the letter from the Department of Justice to me. In other words, I would like to have you perfect my title to the proceeds of the property confiscated and also send any other necessary papers or documents to Washington D. C. according to your own judgment and discretion.

(c) To establish the eligibility of my father to claim the property. According to the letter from the Office of Alien Property, the fact must be established that my father was deprived of full rights of Japanese citizenship after his repatriation. I believe that I can gather substantial evidence upon how much he was oppressed and why he was not engaged in any business in Japan after his repatriation to that country. It may be properly said that the

written evidences to prove his eligibility other than that on the deprivation of his Japanese citizenship were destroyed by the atomic bomb dropped on our house in Hiroshima. Though I am not sure on this particular point, I will ask my mother and brother in Japan to gather any written or unwritten evidences which might prove his eligibility and have them sent to me so that I may file them with the Department of Justice.

(d) As to the eligibility of the successor-in-interest, I cannot say much except that I am an American citizen and may be eligible to the return of the confiscated property according to my father's Will. If there are any opinions you would like to add on this point, will you please let me know.

(e) Besides the four items (a,b,c,d,) explained above to you, I would like to have any other information from you that is useful to me in regard to the confiscated property.

Upon my graduation from the University of Denver, I am going to the East to attend New York University this fall. On a way to New York, I decided to stop over at Washington D. C. to make the direct negotiation with the Department of Justice. Dr. B. Johnson, the professor of economics at the University of Denver who had been in Washington D. C. , arranged the meeting for me with Mr. Edward Knapp, or Mr. Oliver Stone, who is a prominent lawyer in the Capital. I will meet them with the understanding that they would help me even though I cannot pay them satisfactorily because of my financial difficulty.

I shall itemize again the things which I would like to have you do or to have you know.

(1) Please proceed with the probation of the Will and file the new claim along with any other necessary papers or documents.

(2) Until I see Mr. Knapp or Mr. Stone, will you please not proceed any further except that part explained in (1) above. I will forward the information I may obtain from them to you as soon as I reach New York.

(3) As to the cost involved in administering the Will, I understand from your letter of July 20, 1954 that it will run from \$100 to \$150 or perhaps \$ 200, not adding any legal fee to it. Will you please charge the expense to my sister on the deferred charge basis or any other means of payment at your own discretion.

(4) As to the legal fee, in case that the said proceeds were returned to me, I am told that 10% of such proceeds will be charged to me. To put it in a definite term, it will be \$13,000, (10% x \$130,000) which seems very high. I would like to make my point clear in such a case that the legal fee I am intending to pay is the amount of money which is proportionate to the effort done by you in legal transactions in administering the Will. Therefore, after the administration of the Will, will you please let me know the reasonable amount of the legal fee you would like to charge on the account of the administration without any consideration on whether the proceeds would be returned. I will have to be definite on this because of my extreme financial difficulties. Please understand my situation in which I have no access to the means of getting a large income at this moment or in the near future.

(6) Will you please send me any important advice you may be able to give me before I go to Washington D. C. at the following address before or on 8/24/54. Next page.

(5) I also advised my sister to see you again about at the time this letter is received by you, so that she may have the fairly thorough knowledge of what I am trying to do with the property confiscated. Will you please explain to her the cost of administration and the legal fee incidental to such procedure. If she acknowledges that the cost including the legal fee in administering the Will is agreeable to her, it seems that she is satisfied with my actions to have the Will probated under your kind cooperation.

Continued
from (6.).

Lawrence Miwa
c/o Fumio Ozawa
2727 Curtis St.
Denver, Colorado

I thank you again for your help.

Yours very truly,

Lawrence Miwa
Lawrence Miwa