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LAW OFFICES
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WASHINGTON, D. C.

SUITE 510-512

STERLING 3-5764

October 14, 1954

Mr. Lawrence Miwa
508 West 114th Street
New York 25, New York

Dear Mr. Miwa:

Thank you for your 12 October letter and enclosure, which I have carefully reviewed. I think your letter for your brother's signature to Mr. Nakata raises cogent questions which Mr. Nakata ultimately must answer satisfactorily. Accordingly, I suggest that you preserve the substance of your draft for submission by your brother to Mr. Nakata at a later stage in that correspondence, and that your brother's initial inquiry be very brief, apparently innocuous, and conceal your own position so far as possible. In negotiations of this type in which time is not a factor, it has been my experience that advantage is generally to be gained by getting the other fellow to expose his position first.

Therefore, I suggest that your brother's initial letter on this subject run as follows:

1. Retain the first paragraph as it appears in your draft.
2. Retain the first sentence of the second paragraph as it appears in your draft.
3. Substitute for the balance of the second paragraph of your draft, and for the rest of pages 1 and 2 of your draft this language:

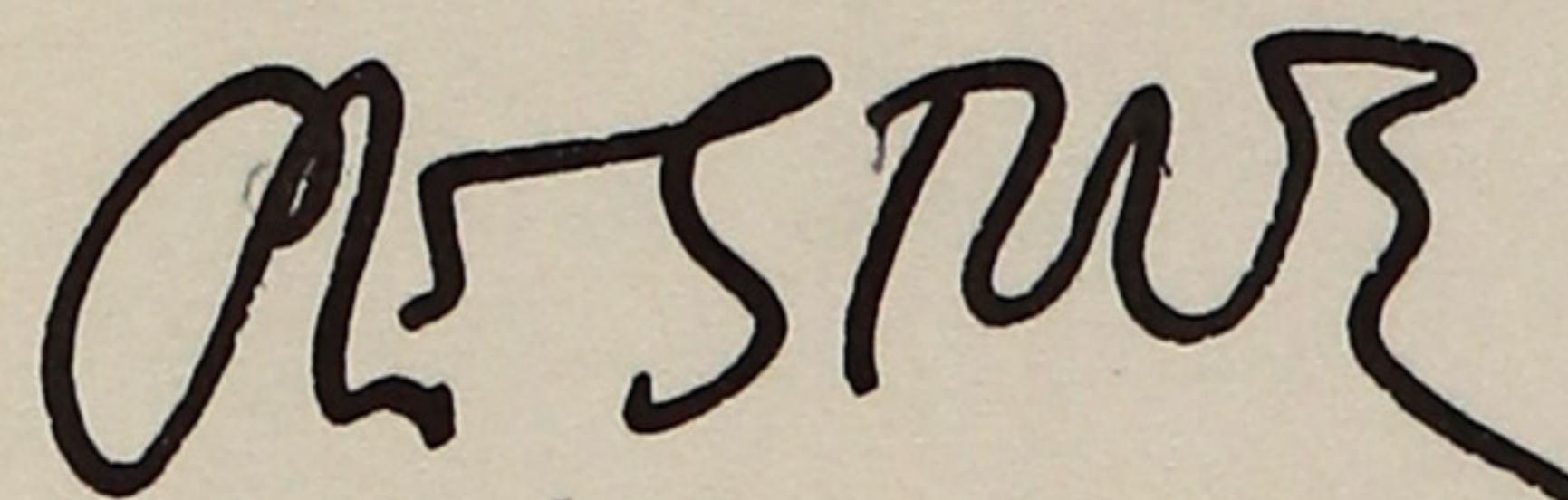
"Accordingly, I had asked Lawrence to look into this matter, and I know that he has conducted some correspondence with the Department of Justice in August. The Office of Alien Property tells him that the value of my father's vested property is approximately \$150,000.00. This comes as a surprise to us because we had the impression that its value was substantially higher. Since you have been in Hawaii and knew the business, I would appreciate whatever information you can give me which will help explain this matter. For example, have you any reason to believe that there was anything irregular about the way in which the government handled the property or sold the property which might have occasioned this lesser valuation, or are there any claims against the property? I would like to have any particulars in this general connection which you may know about".

4. Retain the last two paragraphs of your draft (beginning with "Coming back to . . ."). This will leave the letter for your brother's signature to consist of four paragraphs, the first and third and fourth to be identical with the first and last two paragraphs of your draft; the second paragraph to contain the first sentence of the second paragraph of your draft plus the language suggested above.

It is my thought that if Mr. Nakata is forthright, he can only answer the letter as revised above by explaining something about his claim. How much he explains and how accurately he explains it will naturally be of interest to us in knowing how to deal with him as all the facts are unfolded.

When your brother receives a reply, he should immediately send a copy to you so that we can consider the next step. At some stage, as I have indicated above, we shall probably want to use much of the content of your present draft. Therefore, I am retaining the carbon which you sent me until that time arrives.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "O. E. Stone". The signature is stylized and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being prominent.

O. E. STONE

OES/b