

5 April 1945

The Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

When I left Formosa for the United States in 1938 I had to travel on a Japanese passport, although I am a Formosan of Chinese descent, and therefore I was registered as a Japanese national on my arrival in this country. Accordingly, on the outbreak of war with Japan I was classed automatically as an "enemy alien".

I am writing you with the earnest hope and desire that (1) my status be changed from that of Japanese national to Chinese Formosan, and therefore that I may be classed as a friendly alien rather than enemy alien; and that (2) every effort be made to allow me to receive American citizenship.

I wrote the Secretary of State to inquire concerning the Government's attitude toward Chinese Formosans living in this country at this present time. Mr. Edwin F. Stanton, Deputy Director, Office of Far Eastern Affairs, gave me an encouraging answer and advised me to communicate with the Department of Justice. I am enclosing copies of this correspondence, together with a recommendation from my supervisor in my previous position in the Navy Department, and one from my present supervisor in the War Department.

I was born at Tainan City, Formosa, of Chinese descent. In September 1938 I entered this country for the purpose of studying at the Divinity School, University of Chicago. I completed my ministerial training at the University in 1941, receiving the degrees of Master of Arts and Bachelor of Divinity, and subsequently served two years in the Church as a minister under the supervision of Dr. Harrison Ray Anderson, a minister of the Fourth Presbyterian Church, Chicago.

As a Formosan of Chinese descent, I have no sympathy with the imperialistic program of Japanese Government. My people in Formosa have suffered greatly for half a century under Japanese rule, and are hopeful of a speedy deliverance from Japanese dictatorship

Because of these feelings, and for no other reason, I gave up my ministerial work about one year ago, to accept an offer from the Naval School of Military Government and Administration at Columbia University, New York. At the termination of that project I came to work in the Military Intelligence Service of the War Department in Washington. I have been very glad of these opportunities to help America in its war with Japan and to do my very best for final victory over Japan.

The fact that I am performing these services, which I do willingly, while classed as an enemy alien gives me much mental distress and has from time to time seriously interfered with and delayed my work for the Government agencies.

As the only civilian Chinese Formosan now resident in this country, my status is a unique one. I earnestly desire to be considered by the United States Government as a friendly alien, as is the case of Koreans in this country, and I trust that it will be possible to arrive at a definite conclusion in my behalf.

I shall deeply appreciate your favorable consideration and your further advise as to any necessary steps.

Yours sincerely,

Ai Chi Sai
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Washington, 6, D. C.