

WAR DEPARTMENT
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE
WASHINGTON

5 April 1945

The Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

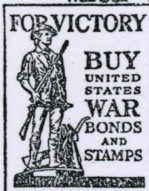
It has come to my knowledge that my friend Mr. Ai Chi Sai, a Formosan of Chinese ancestry, is seeking to have his official status in this country altered from that of an "enemy alien" to that of a "friendly alien". For the reasons here set forth briefly I urge that every favorable consideration be given his request.

Mr. Sai is a member of a distinguished and influential Christian family resident in South Formosa, of which I have considerable personal knowledge. His father, a doctor of medicine, is a large property holder and proprietor of a hospital in Tainan City, and his brothers are doctors and business men. After a great deal of effort and difficulties with the Japanese Government in 1938, Mr. Sai succeeded in securing permission to leave Formosa to come to this country to study at the Divinity School, University of Chicago.

Since Formosa was seized by the Japanese, natives of the island have been forced, reluctantly, to travel on Japanese passports. Mr. Sai, therefore, automatically became an "enemy alien" at the outbreak of the war. Because he is a native of Formosa and not a Japanese and because his country, together with our Allies, has promised to free that island from Japanese rule (The Cairo Declaration), Mr. Sai desires action now to forestall any technical complications which might arise for him when that objective has been accomplished. He certainly does not wish to continue to be classified as a Japanese national after his native island has been freed.

He proposed to ask for a status similar to that enjoyed by many Koreans resident now in this country, i.e., that of a "friendly alien". Mr. Sai, to my certain knowledge, is the only civilian Formosan native of Chinese ancestry resident in this country. He therefore has been unable to claim support from any organized group such as individual Koreans have enjoyed.

He has worked diligently in the past for Columbia University on behalf of the U.S. Navy (under my direction) and is at present working for the Military Intelligence Service, War Department General Staff. He is a man of highest personal integrity and has convincingly demonstrated his eagerness to be of all possible service to the United States and to the United Nations. With this in mind he hopes to free himself to the embarrassment of "enemy alien" classification which might stand in the way of his usefulness to the United States when we set about freeing his island homeland.



After three years residence and study of conditions in Formosa immediately before the war, and after three and one-half years of special study of the Formosan problem since the war began, I am satisfied that Mr. Sai's status should be that of a "friendly alien" available for any service the United States might call upon him to perform, and free ultimately to return to his island home as a recognized Formosan rather than as a Japanese subject.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ George H. Kerr
GEORGE H. KERR
Lieut., USNR

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