

February 23, 1945

Mr. Thomas Masuda
Attorney at Law
134 North La Salle Street
Chicago 2, Illinois

Dear Mr. Masuda:

Many thanks for your kind letter of February 14, and regret this long delay in replying. It was, Tom, indeed a pleasure to have heard from you.

Anent the property in question, I have had a similar inquiry from the Alien Property Control Office, routed through WRA. Through the Project Attorney, Mr. Barrett, I have requested the opinion of the Office of the Solicitor what effect or effects it will have if I answered the above inquiry or if I don't. The opinion has not to date been received.

The entire property, together with some household furnitures and fixtures of mine, are left in the care of Mr. Rudolph Maedel, the former owner of the property. I am enclosing a copy of the contract with him, which is self-explanatory, and will answer many of your inquiries. By this time, however, I presume that the balance to be paid on the purchase contract should be less than a thousand dollars, excepting interests.

You write that you wish to close the guardianship estate, if possible. I do not presume to know what the laws are; I do sincerely hope, however, that if possible you should continue in the above capacity at least for the duration and act in Elmer's behalf. Naturally I expect to reimburse you for the past and future premiums on the guardian's bond.

I am particularly interested in receiving your opinion as to whether legally you, as guardian and attorney in fact of my brother, possess authority to sell or otherwise dispose the property, acting under my request. After all, as you are rather aware, the whole property is mine; I made all the payments.

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Mr. Thomas Masuda

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Although my brother had expatriated to Japan, at that time there existed no Statute requirements that he renounce his American citizenship and it is my presumptive belief that the Alien Property Control Office does possess no legal standing and authority to either confiscate or otherwise dispose the property. However, I would very much appreciate if you could at your convenience follow-up on this.

Whatever information, or actions you can advise to protect our interest will be greatly appreciated, and please rest assured that I will find and make some arrangement to compensate you for your services.

With many thanks and hoping to hear from you soon,

Gratefully yours,

Yoshio Urakawa
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Hant, Idaho

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