



JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

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April 30, 1979

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Mr. Henry Miyatake
5412 123rd Avenue S.E.
Bellevue, WA 98006

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Dear Henry:

MS. LILY OKURA
Vice President
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Vice President
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GEORGE KODAMA
Secretary/Treasurer

Last Saturday, at the Manzanar pilgrimage, I heard Frank Abe speak as a representative of the "Days of Remembrance of Seattle." The views that Frank expressed were essentially the same criticisms as expressed in the letter of the Seattle chapter to all JACL chapters, that is, the criticism of the JACL Redress Committee's decision to take the commission approach.

MS. CATHY HIRONAKA
NYCC Chairperson

FRANK IWAMA, Esq.
Legal Counsel

Chairperson
Governor's Caucus

Since Frank made his comments from a written speech, and since the Redress activists in the Seattle area are in close contact with each other, I'm sure by now that you're well aware of what Frank said. My purpose in writing to you, however, is not to enter into a debate on the issue.

Unfortunately, because the views of Days of Remembrance are diametrically opposed to those of the National Committee for Redress, this seems to have become an either/or situation. I was hoping that, since both groups are working for the same cause, I would be able to resolve the differences and unify the effort towards Redress. Obviously, I haven't been able to do this insofar as Seattle is concerned. Consequently, what I would like to know, and indeed what I need to know, is where you stand on the Redress Committee's decision: do you support the JACL National Committee for Redress or do you support the Seattle Days of Remembrance?

My point is quite simple, and let me be completely frank with you in this: if your support is with Days of Remembrance, I don't see how, in good conscience and with honesty, you can choose to remain on as a member of the National Committee for Redress. Although we haven't had a lot of personal contact, I know you well enough to know that you're not a hypocrite and not one to play two sides of the fence.

The fence, as it were, was set up by Frank's speech at Manzanar. Had I not been there, I would not be writing to you now. But what I heard was an official position being stated publicly (as opposed to within the rank and file of JACL) and an attempt to rally community support in opposition to the Redress Committee. And this being the case, I need to know where you stand.

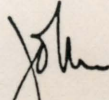
Of course, I would like to have your support because you have a

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knowledge of the Redress issue which I feel is invaluable, but at the same time I understand your frustration and disappointment. I would welcome your continued support, but I would also understand if you decided to resign from the Committee.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



John Tateishi
Chairman
National Committee for Redress

cc: Dr. Clifford Uyeda
Dr. Jim Tsujimura
Karl Nobuyuki
Debbie Nakatomi