



2/ ~~KNK~~ SEATTLE REDRESS COMMITTEE, Puyallup, Emi Spmekawa's, 3-8-79

The commission passed, and the Claims Act was dumped. History repeats itself. JACL used by Inouye.

Marutani "integrity, everybody ~~knowing~~ here acting in good faith."

Encourage membership to reaffirm support ~~for~~ the original guidelines of Salt Lake City. Cite original ~~for~~ polls; ~~and~~ size and results.

We went in with confidence that redress could be won through these guidelines. Through consultation with Congress in their offices a good plan that many whites gave a chance of passing. Current ~~&~~ leadership of National JACL campaign seem overwhelmed by size of ~~the~~ task. Haven't studied it, brought it into scale. So unsure, they communicate uncertainty and confusion, even to the volunteers who have come in.

~~What~~ The most powerful Nikkei in congress is pushing the Hawaiian Commission and the Claims Act still hasn't passed. Hawaiian natives fewer and fewer. For Issei, primary concern for speedy passage. For Issei, justice deferred is justice denied. Average age of Issei is 80. The decision to seek a commission is in effect a decision to deny justice to the Issei. In five to ten years, which is what it will take the commission to publish its findings, assuming that the commission moves for redress legislation, the Issei will be gone.

The commission was never discussed at the convention and ~~any~~ any redress meetings since. Mineta "less than 50% chance on a commission bill with anti-commission ~~sentiment~~ sentiment."

--The commissions finding ~~would~~ would have credibility of non-partisan investigation--

We have enough ~~documentation~~ credibility. WRA documents, books, studies, Presidential proclamations. ~~Making~~ Making path of least resistance.

We are not in the position of authority to send this ~~the~~ legislation under the guidelines ~~of~~ set by Salt Lake.

Uyeda: "commission comes within guidelines"

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MIMATAKE: "Opposed, on the basis that the commission does not fulfill the intent of the resolution in Salt Lake City, ~~and~~ and the resolution passed in Sacramento."

OKAMURA: "I vote yes, with reluctance. I oppose the idea of ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> commission in principle. However, due to the political realities as they have ~~developed~~ developed, I agree to go along with it."

SHIGEKUNI: "Yes. If we are to live by our statements that the main ~~is~~ thrust of redress is education, I feel that this is the best way of educating the American public as well as the Japanese community. I feel ~~it's~~ its important that we not go against the best advice of the Nikkei Congressmen."

YASUI: "Reluctantly I too vote yes. I recognize the inherent dangers here involved, but it is my firm conviction that this does not eliminate the ~~mandate~~ mandate of the National Council as enacted ~~in~~ <sup>in</sup> Salt Lake City in July 1978. I believe that those mandates can indeed be carried out through the device of the commission.

tat; "What this (commission) does is take all the onus off this committee to make those ~~the~~ determinations (re: who and how much redress money). In the views of Congress it would be more acceptable if ~~it came from~~ one of their commissions came back and said we've studied the Japanese ~~and~~ American community, , , , ."

Fears that Hayakawa would testify before legislative committee.

YASUI: "We've got ~~several~~ several bad alternatives."

Mineta doesn't believe in commissions, don't do anything a congressional committee wouldn't do. Commission bring in Hayakawa support, so he can testify. Oshiki pushing only fact-finding commission to determine just or unjust evacuation. ~~His~~ His problem with IRS; Hayakawa, and reluctance to pay out money. ~~EN~~ Oshiki says Phil Burton guaranteed passage of Hawaiian native claims bill in House this session. So that Inouye would re-introduce it with chance of passage in House.

NOBIYUKI "I think the commission approach, because it would be largely ~~educational~~ educational, will also ~~provide~~ provide a basis for our chapters to get involved and participate in these hearings and I think that's what has to ~~happen~~ happen. Heck, JACL is not going to be able to run a redress campaign out of the West Coast, let alone ~~Headquarters~~ out of Headquarters. It's going to have to take place in those communities where those populations are and the people there, they decide themselves if they don't want to represent Japanese Americans, ~~and~~ and they don't want to represent the ~~perspective~~ perspective well we're not going to win it anyway and I think we have to accept that fact. It's the community's ~~issue~~ issue, the community's going to have to assume that and carry that forward. (Wilson & all over again, rejecting the mandate entrusted to committees and staff to implement the redress mandate, blaming the community for lack of support, dodging the ~~leadership~~ leadership sought from ~~the~~ the organization.)

UYEDA: "The other alternative to the direct appropriations is all the things we have been talking about for the last 8 years. This (commission) is a different approach. What we're doing now ~~is~~ in & this one h

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is that instead of addressing ourselves to the details of how much and who is going to get it and how, that has sort of been pushed one step beyond and ~~we~~ we're saying that before that we would like to ~~have~~ have the Congress address not this controversial issue among ourselves but the ~~the~~ basic facts that JT ~~mentions~~ <sup>mentions</sup> here (ie ~~commission~~ <sup>commission</sup>) and if this is passed then we felt that we would go for the next step."

UYEDA: The basic concept, not the details. Those (5 National Council guidelines) are details.

OSHIKI: They're guidelines.

MIYATAKE: They're ~~the~~ criteria. If you're not going to follow the criteria..... The National Council didn't authorize ~~the~~ a commission.

MARUTANI: You're right, you're right....(general confusion and muttering)

UYEDA: I wonder if we could eliminate, Min, ~~your referring to the National Council's~~ your referring to the National Council's statement, because that is really detail~~ed~~. As soon as you get all these detail in we're ~~fighting~~ fighting ~~over~~ ~~the~~ ~~details~~ the details again rather than on the broad concept which is on the other one ~~(commission bill)~~ (commission bill)

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