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AM-REPARATIONS, 420

SAN FRANCISCO -- JAPANESE-AMERICANS HUSTLED INTO ISOLATED CAMPS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES DURING WORLD WAR II SUFFERED FINANCIAL LOSSES AND MENTAL DISTRESS THAT DEFY A PRICETAG, A SACRAMENTO WOMAN TOLD A FEDERAL PANEL WEDNESDAY.

MARY TSUKAMOTO WAS ONE OF 18 SACRAMENTO-AREA RESIDENTS WHO CAME TO TESTIFY AT A HEARING TO DETERMINE WHAT, IF ANY, REPARATIONS SHOULD BE PAID TO JAPANESE-AMERICANS WHO WERE FORCED TO ABANDON HOMES AND BUSINESSES TO LIE IN THE CAPS. SOME 120,000 PEOPLE WERE INTERNED UNDER A PROGRAM ESTABLISHED BY PRESIDENTIAL ORDER.

ABOUT 450 PEOPLE, MANY BORN AFTER THE LAST CAMP CLOSED IN 1946, WERE IN THE GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY AUDIENCE.

MS. TSUKAMOTO SAID MANY OF HER NEIGHBORS WERE FORCED TO MOVE AT HARVEST TIME.

"THEY HAD STRUGGLED HARD DURING THE DEPRESSION TO COME OUT OF IT. MANY OF THEM HAD MORTGAGES TO PAY... IT WOULD BE VERY HARD TO EXPLAIN THE SORROW THAT CAME TO THEM," SHE SAID.

"I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU COULD FIGURE HOW THAT SUFFERING" COULD BE REPAID.

TOM NAGASAWA, AN 85-YEAR-OLD SACRAMENTO MAN, SPARKED ENTHUSIASTIC APPLAUSE WHEN HE CRITICIZED CALIFORNIA REPUBLICAN SEN. S.I. HAYAKAWA'S RECENT REMARK THAT IT WOULD BE A SHAME IF JAPANESE-AMERICANS TOOK MONEY IN COMPENSATION.

NAGASAWA, WHO SAID HE LOST A GROCERY STORE IN OREGON WHEN HE WAS FORCED INTO A CAMP, BECAME AN AMERICAN CITIZEN IN 1974.

THE HEARING WAS THE THIRD IN A SERIES OF PUBLIC FORUMS. OTHERS WILL TAKE PLACE IN SEATTLE, ANCHORAGE, THE ALEUTIAN AND PRIBILOF ISLANDS AND CHICAGO. TESTIMONY HAS ALREADY BEEN GIVEN IN LOS

ANGELES AND WASHINGTON.

THE COMMISSION ON WARTIME RELOCATION AND INTERNMENT OF CIVILIANS IS HOLDING THE HEARINGS TO INVESTIGATE HOW THE INTERNMENT WAS CARRIED OUT AND TO HELP DECIDE WHETHER COMPENSATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE PEOPLE HERDED INTO CAMPS IN REMOTE PARTS OF CALIFORNIA, ARKANSAS, ARIZONA AND ELSEWHERE.

INTERNMENT WAS JUSTIFIED AT THE TIME AS A MEANS OF REDUCING THE DANGER OF SPYING AND SABOTAGE FROM CITIZENS WHO WERE THOUGHT TO BE SYMPATHETIC TO THE JAPANESE.

THE JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE, WHICH LOBBIED FOR THE HEARINGS, HAS NOT URGED THAT ANY SPECIFIC AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION BE PAID. OFFICIALS OF THE JAACL SAY THEY HOPE THE PUBLIC HEARING WILL REMIND AMERICANS OF THEIR NATION'S CONDUCT DURING WORLD WAR II AND THAT THE MEMORY WOULD PREVENT A SIMILAR ROUTING OF CITIZENS

THE NATIONAL COALITION FOR REDRESS AND REPARATIONS HAS DEMANDED THAT EACH VICTIM BE PAID \$25,000.

THE COMMISSION IS SUPPOSED TO MAKE ITS RECOMMENDATION TO CONGRESS BY JAN. 15.

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