

Drinnon's KEEPER OF CONCENTRATION CAMPS

That so much is revealed in declassified and newly-freed government documents speaks to how much was kept from us during the war. Makes journalists and artists job so difficult, because until now all we've had is the WRA-JACL sanctioned version of history. Drinnon speaks to the link between the two.

(paraphrase of Newsweek review of civili war book)
For more than 45-years, Bill Hosokawa's JACL-sanctioned histories have served as the standard history of JA. That's long enough. Every generation needs its own histories and it's time now to retire Hosokawa's to advisory status--books on call for occasional consultation. Richard Drinnon's single volume looks like the standard for the next 4 decades. As Michi Weglyn's was the standard for the last decade.

Two things, sets context for indian termination. He also exposes the WRAJACL link.

So much of our history is tied up with xeroxes of govt documents. My own study, like that of Michi's, Omura's, Aiko Herzigs, is cluttered with the stuff. Michi was first to use those documents to, as William Hohri puts it, place the blame where it lies. NOW Richard Drinnon comes forward with this volume. (Has it ever been reviewed in the Pacific Citizen?) Frank Chin, Jeff Chan, Lawson Inada and Shawn Wong are due with another book that's been held up in publication.

do a lot of name dropping to satirize Masoka

Alan: write with a personal edge to it, based on your personal response to the new evidence and the stories brought forth by Frank Emi and Jimmy Omura at the AAAS conference.

Let's set the record straight. x years ago Michi Weglyn in correspondence to friends first proposed the rumor experiments theory. Frank Chin picked up the theme and developed it into indoctrination centers in the forthcoming and long-delayed BIG AIEEEEE. But Richard DRinnon, of Amherst, is the first to get into print what may become our new view of looking at the camps. That they were indoctrination centers run by the goernment to

I picked up the copy of KEEPER OF CONCENTRATION CAMPS by Richard Drinnon that Michi Weglyn had sent just over a year ago and finally began reading it. I started taking notes on Dillon Myer and the use of the internment camps as indoctrination centers for assimilation through the collusion of the JACL and the WRA, a "traditional symbiosis of jailers and trustees."

The book is indeed truly staggering. In his preface Drinnon makes the point that "cultures die hard," and he shows that it wasn't just the uprooting and impounding that did so much damage, it was the fact they fucked with our minds and broke up our communities. He makes the point dillion myer represented an ethic that was traditionally hostile to the survival of seperate peoples with seperate cultures--so why did the JAACL honor the man for so-called "human conservation," and is so doing claim to represent all of Japanese America? I love the prologue where he describes what's left of the ten "jap camps," I heard the same term used when filming the movie at Tule Lake, and the eleventh, secret, penal colony, the isolation center at Leupp, Arizona.

The second half of Drinnon's study looks at how Myer went from jailer to terminator.
banality of evil.

Michi's book was the first landmark book. Drinnions is the second. We expect Th,e Big AIEEEE to be the third.