

1333 Gough St., D-10
San Francisco, CA 94109
February 10, 1989

Mrs. Michi Weglyn
957 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10028

Dear Michi:

Thanks for your letter.

Meeting with twelve of the Heart Mountain resisters was an enlightening experience. Many veterans had accused them of being "cowards" to avoid war injuries. Other Japanese Americans pointed to "family pressure" for the resisters' action.

I asked each one their personal reason for their action. I was amazed at the strong personal commitment each had for their rights as individual citizens. Among those I spoke to, there was no family pressure either way. Their decision to resist, however, did put their families in a precarious and difficult position in the camp. After all, they were not at Tule Lake, and the atmosphere was heavily influenced by the JACL line of cooperation at all cost with authorities.

What is amazing to me is that so many young teenagers took the stand they did and were ready to undergo the suffering which went with their decision. The decision to resist was not done lightly. They did as a group what Hirabayashi-Yasui-Korematsu did as individuals. My respect and admiration for them have been greatly enhanced.

One of the resisters I met had wife and children in camp. Imagine what this family went through. His wife, who was also present at the meeting, brought the children to her mother who was at Topaz in central Utah so that she could attend the trial in Cheyenne.

Another resister told me that even when he was in jail, JACL representatives came to harass him with story of the "shame" he was bringing to his family, etc. Apparently, there was no attempt to try to understand the resisters' commitment to a principle.

.../2

Mits Koshiyama is an amazing individual. He was deeply hurt by how the Japanese American community, and particularly the JACL, treated the resisters. He is eloquent and is a perfect spokesperson for the group. I met his wife, son and daughter at their home. It is an outstanding family.

At present I'm busy putting together a camp exhibit for the NJAHS. I want the exhibit to give a more comprehensive and a truer overview of the Japanese American camp experience.

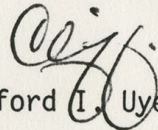
The dissidents were an integral part of the Japanese American wartime experience. They cannot continue to be ignored.

I want to try to break the stereotype of wartime Japanese Americans as robots programmed to follow their "leaders'" instructions. That there were resisters to the gross injustice is a salvation to our conscience. We are like all other Americans--cut us and we bleed; strike us and we hurt; abuse us and we resist. Some will take an extreme recalcitrant measure if they perceive no hope. We should not be expected to behave otherwise.

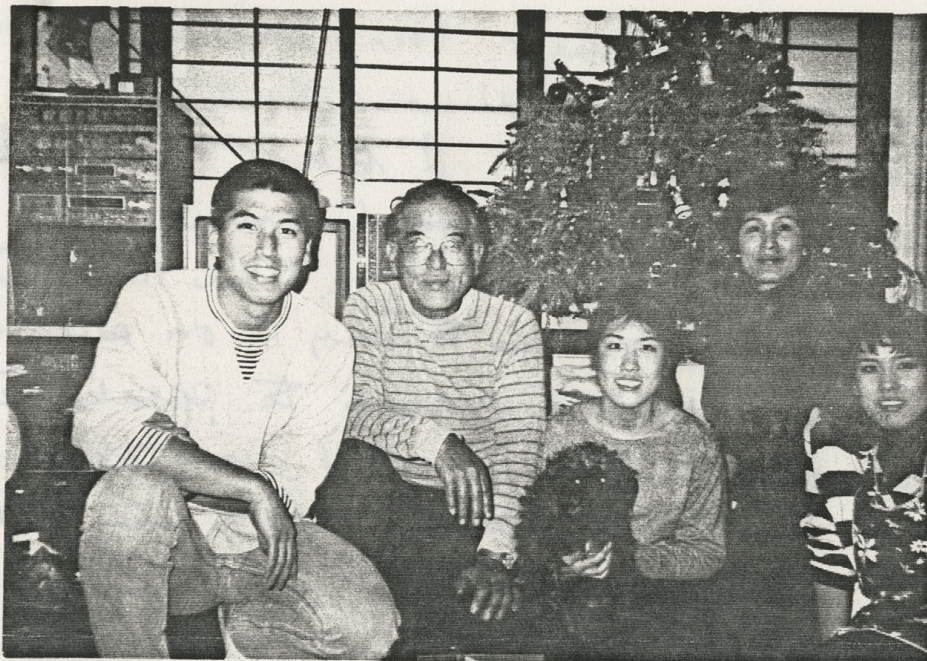
I, for one, am glad to learn that there were resisters during the Japanese American incarceration years. The resisters were the moral soldiers who restored faith in ourselves. That there were so many of them is most gratifying.

Regards to Walter.

Sincerely yours,



Clifford I. Uyeda.



Left to right

Son Chris - wants to go to Law School

me - no hope

June - UCLA student (3rd year)

mom - Hard worker

Karol - U.C.S.F. Will graduate this year
from pharmacy school

also - Miki, our dog

This is from a
ms I'm working
on. Michi

March 15, 1989

Dear Mary and Bill,

So good that all is A-OK with you Bill! Enclosed is a copy of a letter I received from one of the Heart Mt. resisters who lives in San Jose, Mits Koshiyama*, who certainly has a high achieving family. He spent several years in the federal pen. But he's managed to do well for his family as a gardener. Aren't they a handsome looking bunch!

We had a few copies left of YOI that's been riding around in the back of the car for God knows how long. I asked Walter to lug them back from the garage, and herewith enclose a copy for you. I hope it saves you the trouble of ordering a copy for your Puerto Rican lawyer friend. I also gup up a copy of that document I mentioned. Can't find the original so I'm sending one of the appendices for a forthcoming project. Hope it will be helpful. I think it's rotten, by the way, the way the INS is locking up Latin Americans, willy nilly, in Harlingen, Texas as though they are of potential danger.....They certainly don't do the same with white folks trying to make into our country.

Back to Mits. Bill, you are now a real hero to more people than you'll ever know. Even some yets have expressed their admiration for your candor and courage in giving credit to those who stood up for ~~KKKIX~~ not going along with a horrific constitutional wrong.

Continue to stay well. And we earnestly hope that your son-in-law, who has had to suffer so much, is holding his own and gaining in strength. With all your worries, you did an extraordinary deed in giving long-due honor to a few people who really deserved the accolades. Of course, we think you two top everyone else!

Love, hugs,

* Good goat, here I am at P.O. Forgot to make copy! Michi + Walter

Mits writes: "When I saw 'Coln of Honor' I couldn't believe it when an ex-GI named William Koshiyama of NKC said that the Resisters were right. I bet he had a lot of pressure from JACL + the GIs to change his mind. For a war vet from the 442nd to say something like that takes a lot of courage. For someone to say it on such a program showed a person who is willing to speak the truth. If you know him, please tell him that I was really impressed & that we really appreciate what he said."

March 15, 1989

Dear Mary and Bill,

So good that all is A-OK with you Bill! Enclosed is a copy of a letter I received from one of the Heart M. resisters who lives in San Jose, Nita Koshiyama, who certainly has a high achieving family. He spent several years in the federal pen. But he's managed to do well for his family as a gardener. Aren't they a handsome looking bunch!

We had a few copies left of YOI that I've been riding around in the back of the car for God knows how long. I asked Walter to let them back from the garage, and herewith enclose a copy for you. I hope it saves you the trouble of ordering a copy for your Puerto Rican lawyer friend. I also dug up a copy of that document I mentioned. Can't find the original so I'm sending one of the appendices for a forthcoming project. Hope it will be helpful. I think it's rotten, by the way, the way the INS is looking up Latin Americans willy nilly in Harlingen, Texas as though they are of potential danger.....They certainly don't do the same with white folks trying to make into our country.

Back to Mits. Bill, you are now a real hero to more people than you'll ever know. Even some vets have expressed their admiration for your candor and courage in giving credit to those who stood up for KKKK not going along with a horrific constitutional wrong.

Continue to stay well. And we earnestly hope that your son-in-law, who has had to suffer so much, is holding his own and gaining in strength. With all your worries, you did an extraordinary deed in giving long-due honor to a few people who really deserved the accolades. Of course, we think you two top everyone else!
Love, hugs,
Bill

HEMISPHERIC COOPERATION WOULD LEAD TO SWELLING OF HOSTAGE RESERVE BUILD-UP

SECRET
IMMEDIATE ACTION

CDC-S 014.311 Alien Enemies
(9-24-42)

1st Ind.

/gen

HQ. CARIBBEAN DEFENSE COMMAND, Quarry Heights, Canal Zone, Sept. 30, 1942.
TO: Chief of Staff, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.

2. There is now a concentration camp in Puerto Rico. It is recommended that any enemy aliens taken into custody by the United States in Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands or by the British in their possessions north of Latitude 14° 15' be interned in Puerto Rico. South of the above line they should go to Trinidad.

3. a. The Panama Sector includes the South American countries of Colombia, Ecuador and northern Peru and all the Central American countries.

b. These countries have been willing to arrest enemy aliens only because of continued pressure by the United States and with the understanding that the internees will be sent to the United States. These countries will decline to stand any of the expense of the internment of enemy aliens. It would be most unwise to attempt to intern them in these countries because any enemy alien with funds at his disposal can easily escape internment by bribery. It would also be most unwise for the United States to furnish any of these countries funds for the internment of enemy aliens or to go into partnership with them on the maintenance of any local internment camps. In the opinion of this headquarters there is but one practicable solution to take when we are able to get any of the Latin American countries to arrest a dangerous enemy alien, and that is for the United States to take the alien into custody at the earliest possible moment.

c. (1) The Isle of Pines is not a desirable location for an internment camp for enemy aliens from Latin America because there is no communication with it either by air or water. There is no airfield and no boats stop there. In order to get enemy aliens from the Latin American countries to the Isle of Pines they will have to be assembled in Panama and moved by transports that are instructed to stop there, or boats will have to be provided for special trips. Except for the difficulty of communication the Isle of Pines is a satisfactory location.

(2) No agreement should be entered into with the Cuban government for joint supervision. If it is decided to establish an internment camp on the Isle of Pines the necessary ground should be secured from the Cuban government and the camp constructed and operated entirely by United States authorities, whether it is the Army or the Dept. of Justice is immaterial.

(3) The transportation problem will not be eased by an internment camp on the Isle of Pines for enemy aliens from Latin America. Approximately the same amount of transportation will be required to get them there as to send them to the United States and additional transportation to feed them. It must be remembered that none of the Caribbean islands is self supporting in food stuffs.

d. It is recommended that enemy aliens from the Panama Sector be sent to the United States as at present rather than interned on the Isle of Pines.

For the Commanding General:

H. C. INGLES,
Brigadier General, G. S. C.,
Chief of Staff.

"These countries have been willing to arrest enemy aliens only because of continued pressure by the United States."

FROM COLLECTION OF
MICHIO NISHIURA WEBGLYN

NY Times 1/16/70

Ex-Officer Says Army Spies on Civilian Activists

UCLA Asian American Studies Center (Wt FXI)

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15 — A former Army intelligence officer said in a magazine article today that nearly 1,000 plainclothes Army investigators keep track of civilian political activity across the country and submit regular reports to a collection headquarters at Fort Holabird in Baltimore.

Christopher H. Pyle, a former captain in Army Intelligence who is now studying for a doctorate in political science at Columbia University, said Army detectives attend political rallies, protest marches and other gatherings, but base most of their reports on the files of "municipal and state police departments and of the F.B.I."

"To assure prompt communication of these reports," Mr. Pyle said, "the Army distributes them over a nationwide wire service. Completed in the fall of 1967, this Teletype network gives every major troop command in the United States daily and weekly reports on virtually all political protests occurring anywhere in the nation."

Mr. Pyle said the investigators monitor "protest politics" ranging from Ku Klux Klan rallies in North Carolina to meetings of the Women's Strike for Peace in Philadelphia.

"Today, the Army maintains files on the membership, ideology, programs, and practices of virtually every activist political group in the country," he said.

The article was published today in The Washington Month-

1,000 Plainclothesmen Said to Report on Virtually All Political Groups

ly, a magazine focusing on problems in American politics and government.

'Blacklist' Alleged

Mr. Pyle also said in the article that the Army "periodically publishes an eight-by-ten-inch glossy-cover booklet known within intelligence circles as the 'blacklist.'"

Mr. Pyle said this is an encyclopedia of profiles of people and organizations who, in the opinion of the intelligence command officials who compile it, might 'cause trouble for the Army.'

The surveillance program was started in 1965, Mr. Pyle said, but at that time was designed only to give military officials early warning of possible civil disorders. The program was gradually widened to include most forms of political protest activity, he said.

The investigators are all Army personnel, he said. About 75 per cent are enlisted men and 25 per cent are lieutenants or captains, Mr. Pyle added in a telephone interview, saying that the detectives have top-secret clearances.

The Army also plans, according to Mr. Pyle, to link its Teletype systems to a computerized data bank at Fort Hol-

bird, to which Federal agencies such as the Secret Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Central Intelligence Agency will have access.

Spokesmen at the intelligence command at Fort Holabird and at the Pentagon declined comment on Mr. Pyle's article.

Mr. Pyle, 30 years old, received an Army commission upon graduation from Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Me., in 1961 after being in the Reserve Officer Training Corps. He obtained a delay on his active duty and received a law degree from Columbia as well as a master's degree in political science.

He entered the Army in 1966 as a first lieutenant and was assigned to the intelligence branch at Fort Holabird. Mr. Pyle was discharged in 1968.

Canadian Wins Ford Suit

Special to The New York Times

TORONTO, Jan. 15—Nathan Phillips, former Mayor of Toronto, won a judgment of \$79,587 today against the Ford Motor Company of Canada, Ltd., and a distributor for what the Ontario Supreme Court held was a failure of the braking system in his Lincoln Continental, which struck a utility pole. The company said it was appealing the judgment.