



NEW YORK CHAPTER
Japanese American Citizens League

50 West 67th Street, Suite 6B

New York, N. Y. 10023

Dear Bill and Mary,

Feb. 1976

I am writing today hoping somehow to convey to you this enthusiasm that I feel. It is as though I have, at long last, discovered the book that I have looked for over the years in bookstores and libraries and have never found -- a book I would have loved to have personally written, for it is as though it were my story. It rings true; it makes me feel proud. That is how intensely I feel about it.

I am writing to you about Michi (Nishiura) Weglyn's tradition-shattering, extraordinary new book entitled YEARS OF INFAMY: THE UNTOLD STORY OF AMERICA'S CONCENTRATION CAMPS. It's a treasure. The riches are the never before revealed truths contained within its covers. They are overwhelming in their impact, mind-boggling. "Devastating" in the words of Wayne Horiuchi, the Japanese American Citizens League's official representative in the nation's capital.

Or, as the publisher has aptly summarized the book's contents: "If FDR were alive today, YEARS OF INFAMY would be his Watergate."

The impressive 350 page illustrated volume, with a powerful introduction by James Michener, exposes with supportive documents -- many of them reproduced -- the appalling rationale behind the totally unjustified, unconstitutional, criminal, wartime incarceration of a blameless minority. All based on a fictitious "military necessity."

"You will swear, you will cry, you will feel bitter, but you will surely begin to see the pieces of the puzzle come together as you keep asking yourself over and over, 'how could it have happened!'" was one former inmate's reaction. Another: "... the book gave to me an elated feeling of liberation ... I can't help feeling this tremendous relief. It reminds me of how I will feel when I finally have everything in the yard and house squared away. As if I'm free to die since all the laundry is done and put away."

I personally believe that, in this special year of our nation's Bicentennial, YEARS OF INFAMY is must reading in terms of our reparation drive; moreover, it should be given the widest possible exposure in communities everywhere, for it conveys a message of special urgency to all Americans who think "it can never happen again."

Cordially,

Ruby

Ruby Yoshino Schaar
Executive Director

SEND ME:

_____ Copies of YEARS OF INFAMY @ \$9.95 \$ _____
Shipping & Handling @ \$.35 per book \$ _____ Total \$ _____

MAIL TO:

Name - PLEASE PRINT

(Address)

(City, State & Zip)

Make Check Payable to: JACL - BOOKS
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