

RECOMMENDED PROPOSAL FOR ACTION

Winning reparations/redress for Nikkei will not be an easy task, nor will it come about in a short period of time. We cannot expect the U. S. government, which incarcerated Japanese in the first place, to willingly and quickly respond to our demands. Therefore, the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations is committed to building a strong, united, broad-based movement to win redress/reparations and justice for Japanese people.

Winning redress/reparations will entail:

- Uniting Nikkei throughout the country. We must develop strategies to reach out and involve Nikkei of all generations around this important issue. We must try to bring into the redress/reparations movement a wide range of community groups and organizations, including churches, cultural groups, community service agencies, progressive community organizations, workers organizations, students, and others. Uniting the Nikkei community also means striving to unite with other groups actively seeking redress/reparations, such as the Japanese Americans Citizens League and the National Council for Japanese American Redress.
- Educating and building support from all sectors of the American public. We can expect our cause to find support, especially from other nationalities who have suffered similar experiences in this country. We must make the true history and circumstances of the concentration camps as well as our call for justice known to the public at large. We should seek support from all progressive minded people, including church groups, trade unions, etc.

I. Commission Hearings

In the upcoming months, the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Citizens will be conducting hearings throughout the country to determine "whether" wrongs were committed and, based on their investigation, may recommend some form of redress. The Commission hearings are a focus of activity in Japanese communities throughout the country and will provide an important vehicle for the NCRR to voice its call for redress/reparations.

The following is the proposed plan of action recommended by the NCRR's Steering Committee:

A. Mobilize for the Commission hearings:

The focus of the NCRR's activities subsequent to the National Conference should be to organize the Nikkei community to attend the hearings in order to voice our anger at the concentration camps and our demand that justice be given now by the U. S. government.

The NCRR should present its demands for monetary compensation, including individual payments and community fund, and urge the Commission to recommend legislation embodying these points as well as others.



RECOMMENDED PROPOSAL FOR ACTIONI. Commission Hearings (continued)

- B. Los Angeles and San Francisco should be key areas of mobilization for the NCRR. The NCRR should conduct intensive education and publicity, e. g. community-wide meetings and programs, house meetings, etc., to organize for the hearings. The NCRR should organize speakers to testify at the hearings, including nisei, issei and sansei, who will relate their personal experiences, as well as testimonies from a wide range of community groups and individuals. We should strive to present a strong, united voice for redress/reparations and address all aspects of the losses suffered by Japanese- property losses, dispersal of communities, loss of identity and culture -- all due the camps.

Outside the hearings, we should hold educational rallies/picketing. The purpose of these actions would be to support the call for redress/reparations being made inside at the hearings. They should be widely publicized and educational.

- C. Sites where the NCRR is not located: At other hearing sites, e. g. Fresno and places outside of California, we should, depending on available resources, try to send a NCRR speaker and make contact with other pro- redress/reparations groups and individuals in order to present supporting testimonies.
- D. Working to get more California hearing sites: The NCRR should conduct a petition drive and letter writing campaign to local Congressmen and the Commissioners, once named, in order to get more hearing sites in California, where the largest population of Japanese exist. We recommend at least, San Jose, Sacramento, San Diego, and Stockton be added to the list of sites.
- E. If, however, other sites are not designated, the NCRR should mobilize all regionals to attend the SF and LA hearings.

II. Petition Drive

The NCRR should conduct a petition drive starting with the Nov. 15-16 Conference. The petition should state support for the NCRR's 5 points and should be circulated throughout the country and presented before the Commission as testimony.

III. Media Campaign

The NCRR should carry out an ongoing media campaign, including specific plans for the hearings, ongoing submittal of articles to community and city newspapers, appearances before local tv and radio stations, etc.

- IV. Throughout the life of the Commission, the NCRR should pursue all avenues to influence a favorable recommendation

RECOMMENDED PROPOSAL FOR ACTIONV. February 19 Nation-wide Action:

The NCRR should hold some type of major action nation-wide on February 19, to be coordinated with local Day of Remembrance activities and co-sponsored with as many groups as possible, e. g. the Asian Pacific Student Union. The purpose of these actions should be educational as well as to pressure the Commission to grant redress/reparations.

The NCRR should work with other Asian Pacific Islander groups to make redress/reparations the theme for Asian Pacific Heritage Week.

VI. Legislative/Legal Strategies

The NCRR should initiate and support any legislative and/or legal strategy, such as the Lowry Bill, which would result in monetary compensation and other forms of redress.

VII. Newsletter

The NCRR should publish a newsletter that would contain coverage of the activities of the NCRR as well as the whole redress/reparations movement.