

NATIONAL COALITION FOR REDRESS/REPARATIONS
TESTIMONY QUESTIONNAIRE
4/20/81

A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Name BYRON SUNAO GOTO
2. Address 552 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NYC NY 10027
3. Phone Number 663 0111 Age 62
4. Sex Male ☒ Female ☐
5. Are you (circle one):
U. S. Citizen Naturalized Citizen Permanent Resident
6. Generation (circle one):
Issei Nisei Sansei Yonsei Kibei

B. BASIC INTERNMENT INFORMATION

1. Were you interned during World War II? Yes ☐ No ☒
2. Where were you living at the time you were interned?
CALIFORNIA (LA)
3. Were you attending school? Yes ☒ No ☐
4. Were you employed? Yes PARTIAL No ☐
Occupation _____
5. How old were you at the time of internment? 22
6. Where were you interned?
Assembly Center _____
Concentration Camp _____
7. Were you interned with the rest of your family? Yes ☐ No ☐
If not, why? _____
Where was your family interned? _____
8. How long were you interned? (circle one)
0 - 1 yrs., 1 - 2 yrs., 2 - 3 yrs., 3 - 4 yrs., over 4 yrs.

B. BASIC INTERNMENT INFORMATION (continued)

9. What type of financial losses did you incur as a result of the evacuation and internment? (check items)

Home _____ Boat _____
 Business _____ Automobile _____
 Property _____ Personal Belongings _____
 Farm _____ Other major items _____
 Farm equipment _____

10. Estimate your monetary losses (or your family's, if you were not of age at the time) due to the internment. Include loss of home, business, lost income, property, etc. (Based on value of 1942 dollar) Circle one:

Less than \$2,000	\$15,000 - \$20,000
\$2,000 - \$5,000	\$20,000 - \$30,000
\$5,000 - \$10,000	\$30,000 - \$50,000
\$10,000 - \$15,000	Over \$50,000

Unknown

11. Other losses/hardships suffered during internment (e. g. illness, separation of family, lost educational, or employment opportunities). Please explain:

C. VIEW/IMPRESSIONS OF CAMP LIFE

1. What was your reaction and your family's reaction to the order to evacuate?

2. How much time were you given to prepare for the evacuation?

3. What did you take?

C. VIEW/IMPRESSIONS OF CAMP LIFE (continued)

What did you leave behind? _____

4. Describe the living conditions in camp, e. g. the barracks, mess halls, bathrooms, food, medical facilities.

5. Describe the difference between the assembly center and the concentration camp.

6. How were you transported from your hometown to the assembly center, and from the assembly center to the concentration camp?

7. What were your first impressions and thoughts when you arrived at camp?

8. Did living in camp affect your family relations? Yes _____ No _____
If so, how?

D. POST-WAR EXPERIENCE

1. After the war, did you or your family suffer from any of the following problems: (please check)

Job discrimination _____

Acts of violence or terrorism
committed against you _____

Unable to return to former job _____

Economic hardship _____

Unable to return to pre-war residence _____

Belongings or property lost or damaged after
return _____

Psychological trauma or physical problems
(such as ulcers, alcoholism, depression
due to hardships) _____

Unable to return to high school, college or other schooling _____

Other hardships or problems _____

Please explain: _____

2. What did you do following camp? (e. g. occupation, continue education)

3. Where did you resettle?

4. Do your children know about how the concentration camps affected you/your family? Yes _____ No _____

5. Do you find it difficult to discuss the camps? Yes _____ No _____

If so, why? _____

E. OPINION ON REDRESS/REPARATIONS AND OTHER COMMENTS

1. Do you support redress/reparations for Japanese Americans interned and/or affected by E. O. 9066 and related military orders?

Yes ☒

No

2. What forms or redress/reparations do you favor? (please check)

Individual payments ✓

Japanese American Community Fund

Overturning legal justification for evacuation

Educational remedies (e. g. education about the camps in the public school system)

All of the above ✓

Other forms of redress/reparations you support

3. If you support individual payments, how much do you think each individual should receive? (circle one)

Up to \$10,000

\$25,000

\$50,000

\$15,000

\$30,000

More than
\$50,000

\$20,000

\$40,000

4. If you support the idea of a Japanese American Community Fund, what purposes would you see it serving?

Community services (e. g. issei care, youth services) _____

Housing for families, issei

Educational purposes

5. Other comments: