



## National Council for Japanese American Redress

925 West Diversey Parkway Chicago, Illinois 60614 August, 1983

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- \*designates ronin, contributors of \$1,000 or more. Some remain anonymous.

Dear Friends,

A good friend of ours, Jeremy Mott, recently decided to become a ronin supporter of the redress movement. He pledged \$1,000. What touched me was his gratitude for our movement's gift of renewal to his own life. My wife, Yuriko, came to know Jeremy from her days of working with him at the Midwest Committee for Draft Counseling. I was impressed by the way the draft counseling movement began to redress the gross imbalance between the Selective Service System and the ordinary citizen-supplicant. The committee trained counselors and gathered, interpreted, and diseminated information so that young men could at least have a fighting chance on a truly life and death issue. I remember my own helplessness in being unable to challenge the stigma of my 4C classification (undesireable alien) during World War II. That movement has been a worthy model for us to consider. Japanese-American victims in seeking redress and exercising their democratic franchise are bringing a gift to America. We are attempting to repair a serious breach in our Constitution. That Jeremy Mott, who did so much for our young men in a time of great national trauma, should find renewal through our movement affirms and supports us.

Like the draft counseling movement, ours has been a financially self-sustaining movement. All our support comes from individuals, such as you. We have no angel, no institutional source. (Early on, we did receive a grant of \$7,500 from the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries of the United Church of Christ which was of significant help in starting our legal campaign. This year we received \$1,000 from the Crossroads Fund to help us buy a micro-computer.) We raised and spent well over \$100,000. These are "effective" dollars since none has gone for the usual expenses of salary and rent; we remain a completely voluntary organization. They cover legal fees, expenses for our newsletters, long-distance telephone calls, printing, copying, postage, travel, and supplies.

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The results are impressive. Our newsletter is four years old. We supported the first Lowry Redress Bill by lobbying and speaking before Senate and House committees. We made the decision for an historic class action lawsuit. We amassed tens of thousands of pages of documents of primary historical references. We testified and organized testimony and provided first-hand reports on the activities of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians. We've talked in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, New York, Salt Lake City, Washington D.C., and Toronto.

The voice of Japanese America has been heard. We are knocking on the door of the courts with, at long last, a strongly worded, comprehensive, uncompromised statement of our injury. Its a moment of truth for us -- a moment already months long which may stretch into years. We need your continued encouragement and support.

The movement has served as renewal for many of us. It's great to feel alive at fifty-five! You get life by giving it.

Peace,

William Hohri Chairperson

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National Council for Japanese American Redress

	Yes, I support our legal initiative.	
	\$1,000 as one of the Forty-seven Ronin.	
	\$500 as a measure of my commitment.	
	\$100 and my hope that hundreds more will do the same.	
	\$ and my very best wishes for success.  (All contributors will receive our newsletter.)	
Name		
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