

## SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

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Starting in 1940 United States cryptanalysts were reading Imperial Japan's secret diplomatic codes through a system called MAGIC. After the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians had submitted its findings to the Congress and the President in early 1983, several newspaper articles appeared criticizing that Report on grounds that the Commission ignored the role of MAGIC in the decision to exclude and incarcerate the west coast Japanese Americans in 1942. These stories accuse the Commission of "shoddy research and workmanship," and are attributed to or written by one man, a former official of the National Security Agency. In June 1984 he took his story, "MAGIC and the Japanese Relocation and Internment," to the Congress through the House subcommittee hearing on H.R. 4110, the counterpart bill to S.2116, and has directly attacked the loyalty of Japanese Americans by attempting to overturn the findings of the last 40 years of authoritative historians and researchers on this subject. The people and the Congress deserve to have those allegations analyzed. Because the Commission's term has expired, I have undertaken to provide that review.

The Commission was unaware of the existence of MAGIC, according to Mr. David D. Lowman. However, transcripts of Commission hearings clearly establish that the intercepts were discussed as early as 1981. One witness who mentioned the cables was the Assistant Secretary of War, John J. McCloy. Mr. Lowman states that espionage information contained in MAGIC "was passed on to the intelligence people (G-2) in Gen. John L. DeWitt's Western Defense Command." DeWitt's assistant chief of staff in charge of the forced removal program, and his counter-intelligence chief both testified that they were unaware of any information on espionage or sabotage by Japanese Americans. Senior Navy officials supported the forced exclusion of the Japanese Americans, claims Mr. Lowman. The representative of the U.S. Naval Historical Center testified that the Navy **did not** take a position on wholesale "evacuation" of these people from the west coast and, in fact, the Navy's expert on "The Japanese Problem" recommended that they be accorded treatment on an individual basis.

MAGIC messages containing data on west coast airplane production are characterized by Mr. Lowman as "espionage nuggets." Those messages give no indication that the information was obtained through clandestine means. As a matter of fact, contemporary newspapers of that time contained essentially the same detailed information which he describes as "espionage nuggets."

He has extracted portions from documents or books which, when quoted in full, support the Commission's findings. **Not one** of his secondary sources establishes any connection of MAGIC with the decision to exclude and detain the Japanese Americans.

MAGIC was a rich source of intelligence information, but the requirement for a more effective system than that under which MAGIC had been developed emphasized the need to evaluate, corroborate, and provide a wider view than that of MAGIC alone. This was recognized at War Department level in January 1942. All of Mr. Lowman's MAGIC references are dated pre-1942.

This analysis of Mr. Lowman's statement reveals the inadequacy of his research, misuse of authoritative sources, misinterpretation and editorializing of intercepted cables which have led him to view MAGIC as containing information to indicate that Japanese Americans were actively engaged in spying and, therefore, that MAGIC was a significant factor in the decision to exclude the Japanese Americans from the west coast. A review of the cables themselves fail to support his interpretations.

The statement by Mr. Lowman falls into that category of **opinion**, not **fact**, that to this day holds Japanese Americans accountable for actions of Japan, whether those acts are the attack on Pearl Harbor or the current issue of the unfavorable balance of trade between the United States and Japan.



Footnotes (continued)

groups is mute evidence of the strong adherence to their provinces of origin, the like of which is more pronounced among the Nipponese than any other nationalities. This is due to the importance placed on the family system in Japan where all the families are registered regardless of their residence elsewhere.

"The various attacks being made upon the loyalty of Japanese Americans to the United States by various groups in California and by some congressmen from the west coast brought up the problem of dual citizenship status for action. During October 1941, Secretary of War Stimson drafted proposed legislation to eliminate the complications of dual citizenship." [Dual citizenship was not a problem faced by Americans of German or Italian descent. It was a problem unique to the Americans of Japanese descent who were required to register in the prefecture of their parents' birthplace.]

Dec. 13, 1943, [Document 33 1.3 Guy W. Cook Nisei Collection, University of the Pacific], REPORT OF THE SPANISH CONSUL, Dept. of Justice CONFIDENTIAL classification, is relative to the uprising at Tule Lake Segregation Center. The problem of dual citizenship was evident when many Americans of Japanese descent asked for expatriation to Japan. The Tule Lake Segregation Center riots, participated in by so many American-born Japanese, gave comfort and aid to the enemy, Japan, who made much propaganda from these reports.

- 8 One fourth of all Americans of Japanese descent in the 10 WRA centers, was only 15 years of age, and the rest were mostly youngsters. Among the latter group are those who have written the legislation 40 years later, asking for monetary reparations and an apology. Members of the Coalition for Redress and Reparations, are either too young to remember WWII, or weren't even born. Representing this group are Mary Kochiyama and Pat Sumi, identified members of the Communist Party who went with Eldredge Cleaver to Hanoi broadcasting anti-American propaganda during the Vietnam war. Another activist is Warren Furitani who had to be expelled from hearings in Sacramento and Sonoma because of his violent behavior and foul language.

- 9 Almost 3000 Japanese Americans spent the war years at colleges and universities throughout the United States, thus having a four year jump on returning G.I.'s. Ironically, almost 10,000 Japanese aliens and their American-born children asked to come into the relocation centers for the duration of the war. They were unaffected by E.O.9066, Feb. 19, 1942, which applied to the West Coast War Zone only.

- 10 Bert Webber's "SILENT SIEGE: Japanese Attacks Against North America in World War II" (1984 release), gives documented details about Japan's frantic effort to build "the bomb", with Japanese submarines travelling to Europe for uranium; Webber tells what became of Japanese cyclotrons when American occupation forces in Japan discovered them at war's end.

Imperial Japan was working desperately on its own atom bomb, and our atomic scientists working on "The Manhattan Project" were well aware of the "race" to develop an atom bomb. Dr. Albert Einstein warned President Franklin D. Roosevelt that "we have to be first",

*This woman is so irrational that it almost pays to be on her hit list!*