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FRANK S. SATO
INSPECTOR GENERAL
VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

Frank S. Sato was appointed Inspector General, Veterans Administration by President Reagan, July 31, 1981, after confirmation by the United States Senate. He is responsible for all audit and investigative activities within the Veterans Administration as outlined in the Inspector General Act of 1978, P.L. 95-452.

From May 1979 to January 1981, Mr. Sato was the first Inspector General of the Department of Transportation. From October 1974 to May 1979, he was the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Audit) and from March 1977 to May 1979, he concurrently served as the first Director, Defense Audit Service. He was associated with the U.S. Air Force Auditor General and the Office of the Secretary of Defense for 25 years. Mr. Sato was an officer in the U.S. Air Force from 1953-1955.

Mr. Sato is a Past National President of the Association of Government Accountants. He is also a member of the American Institute of CPAs, the Virginia Society of CPAs, the Association of Federal Investigators, and the National Association of Asian American CPAs. He is Chairman of the Training Committee of the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency established by President Reagan. He serves on the Advisory Board, National Commission on Fraudulent Financial Reporting (Treadway Commission), AICPA Special Committee on Standards of Professional Conduct for CPAs; the Northern Virginia Community College Accounting Advisory Committee; the Federal Audit Executive Council; the Board of Directors, Interagency Auditor Training Center; and the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum. He has served as guest lecturer at the Air Force Comptroller School, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. He also served on numerous Chapter and National Committees of the AGA; the AICPA Governing Council, the AICPA Federal Government Executive Committee, the AICPA Governmental Accounting and Auditing Education Subcommittee, and the AICPA Advisory Committee - Industry and Government; the Committee on Independence of Government Auditors, National Intergovernmental Audit Forum, Committee for Members Not in Public Practice (Virginia Society of CPAs); and the Single Audit Steering Committee established by the Joint Financial Management Improvement Program, JFMIP.

Mr. Sato is the National President (1984-1986) for the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), and was the National Secretary/Treasurer (1982-1984). He was incarcerated with his family from 1942-1945 along with 120,000 Japanese-Americans. His civic involvement and commitment to responsible Government is forged by his life experience.

Mr. Sato received a BA degree from the University of Washington and is a CPA, and Certified Internal Auditor. He received the Association of Government Accountants Distinguished Leadership Award in 1978, the Department of Defense Distinguished Civilian Service Award in 1979, and the Association of Government Accountants Gold Medal Award in 1981. He was a recipient of the SES Meritorious Executive Award by President Reagan in 1985.

TESTIMONY OF THE
JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

SUBMITTED TO
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
JUCICIARY SUBCOMMITTEE
ON
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW AND
GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

April 28, 1986

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Subcommittee, I am honored to appear before you as National President of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL). I appreciate the opportunity to speak in support of H.R. 442, the Civil Liberties Act of 1985.

The Japanese American Citizens League is the oldest and largest organization of Americans of Japanese ancestry. Japanese Americans founded the JACL in 1929 in response to the racism and legalized discrimination against persons of Japanese ancestry. We are committed to the American ideals of justice and democracy. We believe that through a national organization, we can better exercise our rights as American citizens. For more than half a century, the JACL has worked to secure justice and equal opportunity for Americans of Japanese ancestry and all Americans.

In 1970, the JACL began discussing the issue of redress on behalf of all Japanese Americans who were forcibly evicted from their homes and incarcerated in American concentration camps. For the past sixteen years, redress for the wrongs committed has been a priority issue for our organization.

The JACL efforts were undertaken with the hope that it would lead to some measure of assurance that a similar constitutional injustice would not be repeated.

In 1979, the JACL became the chief proponent of legislation to establish a federal commission to conduct the first official investigative review of the facts and circumstances surrounding the exclusion and detention of Japanese Americans.

Although some forty years had passed, the incarceration and accompanying stigma of dishonor, disloyalty and shame had made it almost impossible for Japanese Americans to speak publicly. However, with a courage based upon faith in our Nation's ability to correct and remedy past injustices, victims of the wartime internment came forward to testify before the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians.

The Commission's report, entitled Personal Justice Denied and issued in 1983, represents the first step towards vindicating the honor of Japanese Americans. Following exhaustive historical and legal research, the Commission's findings unequivocally substantiated our belief that the exclusion and detention was unwarranted and unjustified.

The JACL has gone on public record commending the Commission for its thorough investigation, and has endorsed the Commission's five-point recommendation which includes an official apology as recognition of the injustice and an appropriation of \$1.5 billion to provide individual compensation and to establish an educational and humanitarian trust fund. The proposed \$20,000 compensation to individuals affected by Executive Order 9066 is an important symbolic recognition of the personal suffering loyal Americans were forced to experience.

For over a decade, the JACL and the Japanese American community nationwide agonized and struggled to resolve the definition of "appropriate remedies" for the wrongful imprisonment. The process of discussion and debate has resulted in deep and broad support for H.R. 442.

H.R. 442 is an eminently important and good bill. It allows Congress to reassert and reinforce the fundamental and basic democratic principle of personal justice.

No other group of American citizens was forcibly removed from their homes under military guard. No other group of American citizens was imprisoned en masse because of ancestry. The incalculable property losses -- closed businesses, abandoned farms, boarded homes, furnishings sold for pennies on the dollar -- seem unimportant to the personal affront to human values and democratic ideals.

Yet, in spite of the personal loss of freedom, and fully aware that a basic American principle was being violated, Japanese Americans volunteered for military service. From the internment camps and from Hawaii, Nisei formed the celebrated 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the 100th Battalion, and served in Military Intelligence in the Pacific. As a demonstration of their loyalty to their country, over 33,000 Japanese Americans served in the U.S. Military during World War II, the highest percentage of any group of Americans.

It is with this same sense of loyalty and commitment that we pursue passage of H.R. 442. It has been to our great satisfaction to note that other organizations, both local and national have come out publicly in support of redress. A list of major endorsements for redress is attached.

While we, as Americans of Japanese ancestry, have a very personal interest in H.R. 442, we believe it would serve to protect the democratic principles of this great nation for all Americans for all times.

Professor Eugene Rostow once wrote, "Until the wrong is acknowledged and made right we shall have failed to meet the responsibility of a democratic society -- the obligation of equal justice."

The question before you today is not whether the United States can afford to pay for the wrong committed over forty years ago; but rather, can the United States afford to allow the tragic injustice experienced by Japanese Americans during World War II to remain uncorrected and, thereby, become destined to be repeated in the future.

For the Japanese American Citizens League, and for all persons of Japanese ancestry, redress is a matter of deeply felt honor.

Frank S. Sato
National President
Japanese American Citizens League



JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON OFFICE: 1730 RHODE ISLAND AVE. N.W., WASHINGTON, DC 20036 (202) 223-1240
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS: SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94115

ORGANIZATIONAL ENDORSEMENTS FOR REDRESS

The following is a list of major endorsements for JACL's legislative campaign for redress. "Endorsement" often denotes organizational support for the recommendations made by the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, including individual monetary compensation for former internees. The term may also mean that an organization has acknowledged the injustice of the internment, but has not addressed the question of redress.

CITIES

City of Cambridge (MA)
El Cerrito (CA) City Council
Chicago City Council
Marina City Council
Orinda-Lafayette-Moraga Council for Civic Unity
Orinda-Moraga Democratic Club
National League of Cities
New York City Council
Philadelphia City Council
Portland City Council
Richmond (CA) City Council
Sacramento City Council members
Salinas City Council
San Jose City Council
Seaside City Council
Seattle City Council
Watsonville City Council
U.S. Conference of Mayors

COUNTIES

Contra Costa County Supervisors
King County (Wash.) Democratic Central Committee
Placer County supervisors
Marin County Human Rights Assn.
Marin County Human Rights Assn.
Monterey (CA) Board of Supervisors
Multnomah (Ore.) County Commissioners
Sacramento County Supervisors
San Francisco City and County Supervisors
San Mateo Supervisors
Santa Clara County Supervisors
Santa Cruz (CA) Board of Supervisors

COUNTIES (cont.)

Ventura County Supervisors

STATES

California State Legislature
Hawaii House of Representatives
Minnesota State Legislature
New Jersey General assembly
New York State Assembly
New York State Senate
Oregon State Legislature
Oregon State Democratic Party
Washington State Democratic Central Committee
State of Wisconsin
Western Governors Conference

U.S.

Congressional Black Caucus
Republican Party Platform
Democratic Party Platform

CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS

Salinas Bonsai Club
Satsuma Bonsai Club

ETHNIC/CIVIL RIGHTS GROUPS

American Civil Liberties Union Foundation
ACLU, Monterey County
American Jewish Committee
American Jewish Congress, Executive Committee of N. Cal. Division
Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith
Chinese American Service League

Organization Endorsements for Redress, page 2.

ETHNIC/CIVIL RIGHTS GROUPS (cont)

Jewish Community Relations
Council of the Greater Eastern
Bay
Jewish Community Relations
Council of Greater Philadelphia
Jewish Federation of Greater
Seattle, Community Relations
Council
League of Women Voters, Salinas
National Council of La Raza
Office of Hawaiian Affairs
Pan American Nikkei Assn.
Urban League, Portland
U.S. Commission on Civil Rights,
state advisory chairs

LABOR ORGANIZATIONS

AFL-CIO Executive Council
California Labor Federation,
executive council, AFL-CIO
International Longshoremen's
and Warehouse Union
ILWU, Calif. Auxiliary
Office and Professional
Employees, Local 29, AFL-CIO
Service Employees International
Union, Local 87 AFL-CIO

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Bar Association
American Federation of Teachers
American Orthopsychiatric Assn.
American Psychiatric Assn.
Assn. of Asian American Educators
California Teachers Assn., State
council
National Assn. of Social Workers
Minority Issues Conference
National Education Association
Philadelphia Federation of Teachers
State Bar of California
Conference of Delegates

VETERANS GROUPS

American Legion, Chicago Nisei
Post 1183
American Legion, 6th Dist. Council

VETERANS GROUPS (cont.)

American Legion, Dept. of Illinois
American Legion, 66th Nat'l Convention
Jewish War Veterans of the USA
34th Infantry Division U.S.A.
34th Infantry Division Assn.,
Chicago Chapter
503rd Parachute RCT Assoc. (WWII)
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Veterans of Foreign Wars, Americanism
Committee, Dept. of Calif. 64th
Annual Convention
Veterans of Foreign Wars, Dept.
of Calif.
Veterans of Foreign Wars, 85th
National Convention, submitted
by Depts. of Calif., Hawaii, Ohio
and Oregon
Veterans of Foreign Wars, Dept. of
North Dakota

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

American Baptist Churches, U.S.A.
Buddhist Churches of America
Buddhist Temple of Salinas
Church of Brethren, general board
Congregation of Nevah Shalom
Disciples of Christ, general board
Episcopal Church, executive council
Episcopal Asiamerica Strategies
Task Force, Bay Area Convocation
Immanuel Lutheran Church Society
Japanese Presbyterian Conference
Lincoln Ave. Presbyterian Church
Lutheran Church in America, Com-
mittee of Reference and Counsel
Parkview Presbyterian Church
Presbyterian Church of U.S.A.,
1984 general assembly
Presbytery of the Cascades
Religious Society of Friends, San
Francisco
Trinity Episcopal Church, rector,
wardens & vestry
United Methodist Church, Pacific
and Southwest Conference
United Methodist Church, Board of
Church and Society
United Methodist Church, 1980
general conference

Organizational Endorsements for Redress, page 3.

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS (cont.)
United Methodist Church, U.S.A.,
 general assembly
Diocese of California
Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon
United Church of Christ, 14th
 General Synod

Kindly send any additional resolutions to JACL-LEC; 1730
Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Suite 204; Washington, D.C. 20036.