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ASIAN AMERICANS FOR ACTION

Mr. and Mrs. Tak Iijima
900 West 190th Street
New York, New York 10040

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Iijima;

Banzai Baby!, congratulations on the demonstration during the Hiroshima Day commemoration.

By way of introduction, I was the fellow who requested your address when you attended the civil rights meeting in Nihonmachi-Christ Church.

Because I had to leave early we had no formal introduction, but Neil Gotanda was good enough to ^{get} your name and address.

It's good to hear that Nisei, and Asian-Americans are taking a more active role in the civil rights battle, and besides congratulating you people in this role, I want to see if I could carry this particular battle nationally.

An apology or statement from former Chief Justice Earl Warren for his major role and slandering the Japanese-American, and evacuation.

Up to now it's been a one man crusade, by Edison Uno (very active in civil rights) the reactions and replies that he received from Warren have been nil. Therefore I feel that since letters don't get any response than a more active national role by concerned Nisei would be a good approach.

I don't know if you know the background material on this, but let me briefly bring you up to date:

1. Jerry Enomoto sometime ago sent a letter to then Chief Justice Warren, using his title as President Of The JAAC, asking for the above, but no reply was ever received.
2. Edison Uno, plus others have written, with no replies or a clerk writing back stating that there would be no reason to bring up the subject.
3. When Warren Spoke here recently (several months ago) Ray Okamura, handed him a flyer, and asked for a statement, he told Ray "I don't apologize for past actions, besides that's history!"
4. We're waiting here on the west coast for any public appearance that he'll make, so that we'll confront him directly, and I think this is the type of pressure he understands..

Warren will receive at The Freedom House in New York October 14th their

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annual award, enclosed is the news clipping. If a Nisei group could give him a reception there in a form of informative leaflet, or actually confronting him on the issue, where he would have to make some type of statement.

If you or any Nisei are interested in a nation wide campaign on this issue would you let me know. By the way I think the JACL is still playing footsie on this issue also, therefore it'll have to be a dedicated group of Nisei who'll bring the horse to the feeding trough.

Edison is having a brochure designed and printed up so that we can eventually distribute them nationally and have a factual leaflet.

Although the fight has been going on for many moons, it hasn't been organized or nationalized, so you have anything in the way of planning, maneuver, or direction to go, please let me know.

I've written to some people in Los Angeles, so eventually there will be Nisei pressure groups where ever he speaks publicly.

Thanks for your time, and if you think that a national drive in this direction is a good idea, let me know.

Respectfully yours

Phil Ihara
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Enclosed are comments on Warren, and a copy of that news release about the award.