



September 30, 1994

**National
Coalition
for Redress/
Reparations**

**Los Angeles
Chapter**
244 So. San Pedro St.
#411,
Los Angeles, CA 90012

213-680-3484

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Deval Patrick, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division
U.S. Department of Justice
10 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Mr. Patrick,

On behalf of the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations (NCRR), we would like to express our sincere thanks for your taking two hours out of your busy schedule to meet with us on September 19. We also deeply appreciate your opening comments which expressed your determination to take an expansive interpretation of the law and your commitment to concerted fact finding in the remaining redress cases. Your concerns are consistent with NCRR's requests over the past couple of years to the Office of Redress Administration (ORA).

NCRR looks forward to working with you and the new Executive Administrator, DeDe Green. Also, we commend your appointment of Bob Bratt as Consultant to the ORA. His appointment will assure the community that you are addressing the important need for continuity at the ORA and that you share our respect for his depth of experience.

In review of the meeting, we would like to share our understanding of areas of agreement and follow-up:

1. The ORA will find the minors (under 21) who returned to Japan eligible for redress. The regulations to the Act will be conformed, and the public comment period will be the shortest allowable term.
2. Claimants who are denied redress will be given a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) form along with the Ineligibility letter in order to receive a record of his/her case. We requested that the time to appeal the denial be extended to accommodate the lengthy FOIA process.
3. An ORA delegation will be going to Hawaii for two weeks in November for fact finding. Redress claims will be considered on a case by case basis. Ms. Green will contact David Flynn about the possibility of his going to Hawaii also.
4. Grace Shimizu will draft language for a possible amendment to the act which extends the date of the closing of camps from June 30, 1946 to late 1947 in regard to the Japanese Peruvians who remained in camp until that time. Also the Department will follow-up with Paul Suddes about the previous discussion about a mailing to Japanese Peruvians through the DOJ.
5. The ORA will hold a workshop in Phoenix, Arizona to assist claimants with

documentation needed to corroborate their claim for redress.

6. We appreciate your willingness to review the Consolo Case, the category of the children of the members of the 442nd RCT, and the Naval Language School children particularly in light of evidence of government action- the Naval Commandant's role as stated in City Council guidelines.

7. We requested that the ORA provide regular updates to the NCRR, Japanese Peruvian Oral History Project, and JACL- possibly quarterly reports of statistics, information. Also, if information is sent to a specific category of claimants, the ORA will send these organizations a copy of the correspondence.

8. We encouraged public hearings in California, particularly in the difficult categories. You have our commitment to assist in every possible way.

Please let us know if there are omissions or discrepancies in this summary. We will be in touch with Ms. Green in the very near future. It was the feeling of the entire delegation that this meeting was very productive, and we look forward to opportunities to meet and discuss issues vital to the successful implementation of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. Thanks, once again, for all of your effort and concern as shared in this meeting.

Sincerely,



Kay Ochi
President
NCRR/Los Angeles



Miya Iwataki
Legislative Chair
NCRR/Los Angeles