



NCCR BANNER

National Coalition for Redress/Reparations

LOS ANGELES

244 So. San Pedro St., #411
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 680-3484

BAY AREA

1911 Bush St., #1-G
San Francisco, CA 94115
(415) 922-1534

SAN JOSE

241 No. 17th Street,
San Jose, CA 95112
(408) 292-6938

August
1996

Redress Update

79,900 Receive Redress; Campaign Continues

The Office of Redress Administration (ORA) reports that 79,900 redress payments have been made to date and more payments are scheduled. Two groups of potential recipients are awaiting the publication of amendments to the regulations of the Civil Liberties Act in the Federal Register which will make them eligible to be redressed.

Minor Relocates

The minors who relocated to Japan during World War II after having been evacuated and interned are one of the groups previously denied redress. The Federal Register is expected to be printed by the end of August; minor relocatees may receive their reparations by the end of September.

Children born after camp/ after evacuation

The children of evacuees who relocated to interior states or who were born after their parents left camp were previously ineligible for redress. The amendment which makes them now eligible is expected to be published sometime in the fall.

ORA Community Workshops

The ORA is sponsoring community workshops to provide an update and answer questions:

Tues., Sept. 24 Little Tokyo, JACCC 6:30 PM

Wed., Sept. 25 Gardena, Nakaoka Ctr. 6:30 PM

If you have questions about your case and can attend a workshop, call the ORA's toll-free helpline to let them know that you will be attending (1-888-219-6900) so that they will be best prepared to assist you. All interested community members are invited to attend.

3,500 "Unknowns"

With only 24 months remaining before the close of the ORA, NCCR is concerned about the 3,500 evacuees/internees whose whereabouts is currently unknown. The alphabetical lists of "Unknowns" are currently being printed in the RAFU SHIMPO in installments. The lists are also on display at various churches and centers. Please call the ORA Helpline if you know about any of the people on the list.

If your church or organization is able to display the names, please call Kay Ochi (213) 651-5200 to receive the entire listing.

120 Students, Teachers & Community Members
Learn about Internment Issues at NCCR
Workshop

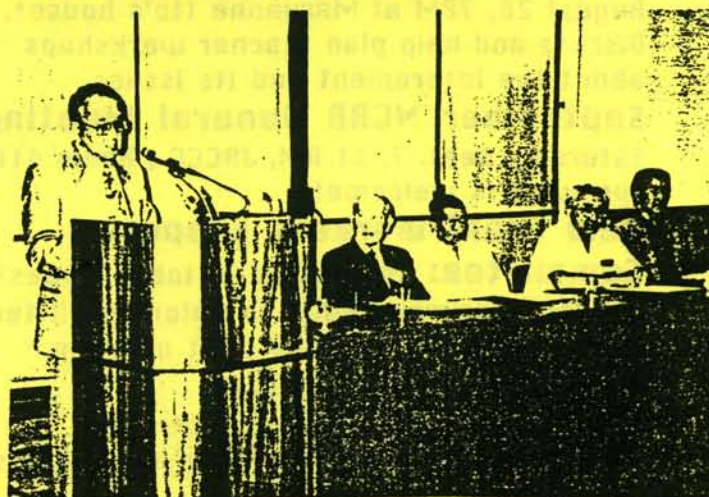
"When Justice Was Denied"

A day-long workshop was sponsored by NCCR's Education Committee on May 18, 1996, at Cal State Long Beach. Highlights of the workshop included the keynote address by Professor Yuji Ichioka, a personal perspective on the camps by George Kiriya, Los Angeles Unified School District Board Member, small group sessions with former internees Dorothy Shundo, Sumi Seki, Toshi and Jim Ito, Jim Matsuoka, and Ruth Yomogida.

Ichioka discussed the government's use of euphemisms such as "non-alien" instead of citizens, relocation, evacuation, and assembly centers to "sanitize" the situation.

The focus of the afternoon was the panel who discussed the "loyalty questions" and involvement in the armed services. Panel members spoke about the varying responses to the questions:

Cedric Shimo of the 1800 Labor Battalion dissented while serving in the military, Ben Ogami's "no-no" answer was made out of obedience to his mother, Hank Yoshitake joined the 100th Battalion/ 442 RCT, while Frank Emi and Yosh Kuromiya chose to resist the draft.



Panelists at the NCCR Workshop were Yosh Kuromiya, Cedric Shimo, Ben Ogami, Hank Yoshitake and Frank Emi.

Boycott the New Otani Hotel!

NCRRC supports the workers' efforts for fair treatment and the right to organize at the New Otani Hotel. The Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees Union, Local 11 called for the boycott after the hotel fired three workers for their union involvement, the hotel let go of its entire security department without notice, and it continued its misinformation campaign about the union and continued to intimidate and harass.

The National Labor Relations Board ruled the firing of the three workers to be illegal. The NLRB also ordered the hotel to stop the use of surveillance cameras to intimidate employees. NCRRC has been part of community delegations in attempts to mediate with the management. The management's response to a community delegation in summer 1994 was to call for an immediate vote of the workers, a move which completely dismissed the requests and concerns of the delegation. The management failed to meet with a subsequent community delegation, thereby dismissing its concerns totally.

How You Can Get Involved:

NCRRC Issues Committee: Wednesday, August 21, 7PM. at Mary Katayama's house*. Discuss current issues and concerns with an interesting group of people. Young adults are especially encouraged to check this out!

NCRRC Education Committee: Monday, August 26, 7PM at Maryanne Ito's house*. Discuss and help plan teacher workshops about the internment and its issues.

September NCRRC General Meeting: Saturday, Sept. 7, 11 AM, JACCC, Room 410. Everyone is welcome!

New Otani Workers Support

Committee: Interested in labor issues? Support workers' rights to unionize? Attend the support committee's next meeting.*

Campaign for Justice:

Learn more about the Japanese Latin Americans' continuing struggle for redress. See the story on side 2.

*Call NCRRC at (213) 688-3484.

Japanese Latin Americans Struggle for Redress

Former Japanese Latin American (JLA) internees and their families, Japanese American community organizations and redress activists are joining to establish "The Campaign for Justice: Redress Now for Japanese Latin American Internees." NCRRC is a founding member of this campaign.

The goals for the Campaign for Justice reaffirm the goals of Japanese American redress: to seek an apology to former JLA internees, monetary compensation, and education of the public, including full disclosure of what occurred and acknowledgment of the role played by the U.S. government in bringing thousands of JLA's to the U.S. during World War II and imprisoning them in Crystal City, Texas.

Although a small number of JLA's have received redress, the majority have not, based on the citizenship/residency requirement in the existing legislation.

The Campaign for Justice is preparing to bring a lawsuit against the government. Also, the campaign encourages the community to help by: learning more about the JLA wartime experience, sharing your time, skills and contacts with the campaign, or making a financial contribution.

For more information, contact Ayako at (310) 202-6212.

Bruce Yamashita Honored at April Reception

On April 26, 1996, NCRRC and UCLA's Asian American Studies Center sponsored a program and reception for Bruce Yamashita.

Yamashita's victorious court case against the Marine Corps earned him a commission as a captain in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. The case caused systemic changes in military practices. The primary example being that racial slurs during training are not acceptable.

His narrative of the five year court case and pursuit of justice was compelling and personal. He expressed appreciation to all who supported him through this very difficult time.

Captain Yamashita is currently an attorney in Washington, D.C.