



## JAPANESE AMERICAN DELEGATION TO CUBA TO CELEBRATE "OBON" ON THE ISLAND OF YOUTH

By Kathy Masaoka

On August 4, 18 Japanese Americans from Southern California leave for a 10-day trip to Cuba to meet with the Cuban Japanese in Havana and the Island of Youth. The delegation will observe "obon" (Japanese festival) scheduled for August 12 on the Island of Youth. They will also teach some of the "bon odori" dances that are performed here in the Japanese American community.

The delegation, sponsored by Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress (NCRR), will meet with about 50-60 members of the Society of Japanese in Havana to exchange experiences and to explain the redress campaign. On the Island of Youth the group will also have an opportunity to visit with Japanese families. The delegation hopes to lay the groundwork for future delegations. News of this first Japanese American delegation has been reported in Cuba and the delegation is being greeted and hosted by the official travel organization ICAP/Amistur of Cuba.



Afro-Cuban cultural arts group Los Angelitos performs at the July 7 fundraiser and send-off.



Nobuko Miyamoto, one of the delegates to Cuba, and Nedra Wheeler performs at the fundraiser on July 7.

### BACKGROUND:

This will be the second official exchange between Japanese Americans and Cuban Japanese. Mr. Francisco Miyasaka, Vice Representative of the Society of Japanese in Cuba, came to California in August 2000 and spoke to the Japanese American communities in San Francisco and Los Angeles about the 100-year history of Japanese in Cuba.

During his visit, the idea of sending a delegation from the Japanese American community to the Island of Youth during the obon was suggested. This is the one occasion that the Japanese in Cuba get together as a community. This year about 250 people will gather for the obon. Their obon includes visiting the gravesites, a community potluck, demonstrations of karate, origami making and wearing of the yukata.

### DELEGATION TO BRING MEDICAL SUPPLIES/ JAPANESE FOODS

Another important goal of the delegation is to bring medicine for pain ( Tylenol and Salopas) and gastritis ( Pepto Bismol) as well as Japanese foods ( nori, dried miso

soup, noodles). The Island of Youth community has also requested Japanese vegetable seeds. All proceeds from donations will go to the purchase of these much-needed items, which are difficult to obtain due to the United States embargo and trade blockade against Cuba.

On July 7 the delegation held a very successful and fun send-off party at the Union Center Courtyard in Little Tokyo. The fundraiser included a Cuban dinner, entertainment by Art Ishii's conga group, Afro Cuban music and dance by Los Angelitos, songs by Nobuko Miyamoto and salsa instruction by Louise Mita Jung.

The delegation has raised close to \$3,500 due to the very generous donations from the community. Thank you for your support. There will be a report back complete with slides and videos by the delegation some time in September. T-shirts with this "Obon en Cuba" design are also available for \$10.00. Send orders to NCRR or call the numbers below.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE DELEGATION: SANDY MAESHIRO (310) 837-7989; KATHY MASAOKA (323) 665-5616; EVELYN YOSHIMURA (213) 473-1690.

Donations (cash or check only please) for the Cuba delegation can be made to: NCRR (NIKKEI FOR CIVIL RIGHTS AND REDRESS) with "Delegation to Cuba" noted on the check (DONATIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE)

#### SEND TO:

NCRR  
231 East Third Street G-104  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

### NCRR RECEIVES CCLPEP GRANT

In May 2001, NCRR was granted \$10,000 from the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program (CCLPEP) for an oral history project entitled "Ordinary People, Extraordinary Deeds." This project will focus on the contributions of NCRR members who were active in the formation of NCRR in the early 1980's and the early days of the redress campaign.

Alan Nishio, Bert and Lillian Nakano, Miya Iwataki and Jim Matsuoka will be interviewed and videotaped about their background, their involvement in the redress campaign and community activism.

Sharon Yamato is the grantwriter for this project and will work with NCRR co-chair Kay Ochi to conduct the interviews. The oral histories should be completed by May 2002.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE: REDRESS LAWSUITS UPDATE, BOB BRATT UPDATE, COMMENTARY ON PEARL HARBOR, LAZO FILM TO BEGIN PRODUCTION.



## THE STRUGGLE FOR REDRESS CONTINUES IN THE COURTS

By Richard Katsuda

Just as there remains a push for redress legislation in Congress, several redress lawsuits continue to keep pressure on the Department of Justice. Although the case of Kato v. U.S. was denied by the Federal Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, the plaintiffs' attorney, Paul Mils, has entered a petition for writ of certiorari to the U.S. Supreme Court to hear the case.

The internees bringing this action are Kay S. Kato, a U.S. citizen, interned while a lawful resident of San Francisco on a merchant visa from Japan; Jane Yano, a U.S. citizen born into internment where her parents were detained after the internment orders had been rescinded; and four members of the Ogura family, Japanese citizens who had been seized and abducted from Peru, interned in the U.S., then deported to Japan as exchange hostages.

The plaintiffs charged the U.S. with a continuing policy of discrimination for refusing to grant them redress, but the Court ruled that all legal action was barred by the statute of limitations. An amicus brief in support of the petition has been written by international law scholar Natsu Saito and filed with Eric K. Yamamoto of the University of Hawai'i School of Law and Dale Minami of Minami, Lew and Tamaki.

The case of NCRR and Suzuki v. United States was also dismissed by the Federal Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. In this case, NCRR charged the U.S. government of malfeasance for failure to invest the redress fund as required by the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

NCRR, represented by Christopher Prince, stated that, had the government properly invested the Fund, there would have been sufficient money to fund the entire \$50 million intended by Congress for public education (only \$5 million was awarded) and to redress Japanese Latin Americans with the same measure of justice that Japanese Americans received. Attorney Prince and NCRR felt that they could not pursue the case any further.

There have also been developments in three cases similar to that of Carole Song and her attorney Lisa Ikemoto. Ms. Song is in the category of redress claimants who were born after their parents had "voluntarily" left the West Coast or had left camp. After a lawsuit by Linda Consolo, in which her attorney Gerald Sato successfully argued that Ms. Consolo had been prohibited from returning to her domicile, the Office of Redress Administration (ORA) made claimants in this category eligible for redress.

ORA, however, set an eligibility cutoff birthdate of January 20, 1945, by arguing that because the last main order rescinding exclusion from the West Coast took effect on that date and that anyone born after that date was no longer legally prohibited from returning to their domicile.

Ms. Song was successful in winning redress, as the Court agreed with her that her parents had not received adequate notice that they could return to their West Coast domicile after the government's order to rescind the exclusion orders.

Carol Higashi, represented by Julia Mass and Scott Yamaguchi, was not successful with her case before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. Wendy Hirota, whose father was subject to an individual exclusion order, and her attorneys, Alex Fukui and Patrick Hattori, await a hearing date and site. Robert Murakami, represented by John Ota (an NCRR member in the San Francisco Bay area), also awaits a hearing date.

Please read the Campaign for Justice insert for details on the JLA lawsuits. NCRR wishes to express its appreciation to Alex Fukui, Lisa Ikemoto, Julia Mass, Patrick Hattori and Scott Yamaguchi, member of the Japanese American Bar Association who have worked very hard over the last few years with NCRR on these lawsuits. They and other lawyers were honored at the 2001 Day of Remembrance for their pro bono work on the redress cases (see inset photo).



## UPDATE ON BOB BRATT: REDRESS ADMINISTRATOR WAITING FOR JUSTICE

By Kay Ochi

Bob Bratt, former Director of the Office of Redress Administration, met with NCRR and community friends on July 8, 2001 to provide an update on his ordeal involving the 3-1/2 year investigation by the Inspector General (IG) of the Department of Justice (DOJ). Bratt also expressed thanks to those who have rallied to his support and have helped with his legal defense fund.

NCRR set up the Robert Bratt Legal Defense Fund in February 2001. According to NCRR treasurer Suzy Katsuda, donations from the community totaled over \$5,000 by June. To date, a check for \$3,700 from the defense fund was sent to his attorney to help with current efforts to get information from the DOJ about this long investigation. Although this information should be available to him under the Freedom of Information Act, the attempts have been unsuccessful so far. He also awaits a response from the DOJ about the results of his polygraph test in which he earned the highest score possible. His legal expenses so far have exceeded \$70,000.

Last September, accusations of Bratt's "egregious misconduct" as a senior manager in the Criminal Division of DOJ appeared in a 414-page report by the IG. As reported in the *Washington Post* article, DOJ spokesman John Russell said that the conduct "didn't meet the threshold of a violation of federal criminal statutes."

Bratt responded in the press that the IG's office "is out of control. The IG could not find a flyspeck of evidence of any illegality on my part." Bratt and several senior managers have since addressed one of the issues and repaid the government for the difference in the cost of several first class flights and coach fares.

Bratt retired from DOJ in August 2000 and has been working for Scientific Applications International Corporation (SAIC) in telecommunications.

"Seeing Bob again reminded me of how fortunate the JA community was to have someone like Bob running the ORA. He has great ability; he knew how to get things done. He had understanding and commitment. We should do everything we can to help him," commented Miya Iwataki, former Legislative Director of NCRR.

"During the redress hearings the individual stories of many Nisei led to its most soul wrenching moment when each person came to realize that they were being victimized by their own government!" stated Jim Matsuoka, NCRR member.

"The echoes of those moments were just as agonizing, hearing it these many years later from Bob Bratt, who is now in the ludicrous position of paying thousands of dollars in lawyers fees to protect his reputation."

NCRR urges community members to make donations to the "Robert Bratt Legal Defense Fund/ NCRR" c/o NCRR, 231 E. 3rd St. Suite G-104, Los Angeles, CA 90013. Donations are tax-deductible. For further information contact NCRR at (323) 680-3484.



## PEARL HARBOR IS NO HISTORY LESSON

NCCR Commentary by Jim Matsuoka

**P**earl Harbor, the three-hour Disney blockbuster is a shameless attempt to turn a tragic moment in history into box office dollars. The millions spent wining and dining the media and on creating a carnival-like atmosphere for the premier of the movie at Pearl Harbor made it clear that making a "blockbuster" profit for the studio was the bottom line of the entire three-hour venture.

The Hollywood industry's insensitivity to both the dead and the living in the search for the almighty dollar is a deplorable example of trying to turn a profit over people's misery.

Pearl Harbor still resonates deeply in the memory of Japanese Americans who will not be allowed to forget that "day of infamy." For the Americans of Japanese ancestry in Hawaii who were a large part of the civilian population, the raging battle at Pearl Harbor meant injury and death.

Of the 48 reported civilian casualties in Honolulu and in the area surrounding Pearl Harbor, some 23 were Japanese American. In addition, hundreds were wounded as a result of the attack. The fact that the Japanese attack killed and injured many of Hawaii's Japanese Americans is a historical fact hardly mentioned and totally ignored in the movie.

This isn't surprising since Asian Americans and Japanese Americans know by now not to expect to be included in films other than in instances reserved for stereotypical roles. True to form, the trauma of the Asian civilians of Hawaii remained invisible and the movie "Pearl Harbor" failed when given the opportunity to portray the effects of that day on the Japanese American community in Hawaii.

For the Japanese American residents on the mainland, the bombs at Pearl Harbor also fell into their lives. The attack on Pearl Harbor led to the imprisoning of some 120,000 citizens and resident aliens for no reason other than their racial ancestry. December 7, 1941 meant the loss of jobs, homes, farms and businesses that had taken a lifetime to build up.

It also took away liberty and robbed the internees of all the dignity accorded each citizen by the Constitution. It destroyed communities, shattering families and reduced the individual to only that which could be carried in two hands to a "relocation" camp.

For most Japanese Americans, the justification for using the tragedy at Pearl Harbor was lost when the impact of Pearl Harbor on the lives of Japanese Americans never made its way into the movie.

Rather, the lurid scenes of exploding battleships and deadly bombs was calculated to pander to the taste of a younger generation of moviegoers who were brought up by Hollywood to expect nonsensical violence and fast action in their films. It is no mere coincidence that this action-fed group constitutes the largest body of America's moviegoers.

To use such a tragic event to boost box office dollars without providing a more inclusive and historically accurate story as to all who suffered, is truly an unconscionable use of a major American catastrophe.

### NCCR BRIEFS

February 19—Over 200 people attended the Day of Remembrance, emceed by Tritia Toyota and keynote speech by Alberta Lee (see photo).

June 28-July 1—Completed another year of cosponsoring Summer Activist Training with KIWA, Pilipino Workers Center, Thai CDC and Garment Workers Center and trained 20 young people.



## LAZO FILM TO BEGIN PRODUCTION IN OCTOBER: EXTRAS, PROPS AND FOOD NEEDED!!

By Janice Yen



Production of *Stand Up for Justice*, the docudrama about Ralph Lazo and his experiences at Manzanar concentration camp, has been delayed from June to October 2001. The unforeseen delay, however, will allow Visual Communications and NCCR additional time to supplement our resources for the project. It also means that we won't have to film at Manzanar in the hot summer sun!

As our filming costs will probably exceed our budget, we're looking to businesses and

individuals for donations:

- \* Donation of food and drinks to feed a cast and crew of 25 persons. Filming will last at least seven days so we'll need three meals a day for the week. Donations of 16mm film stock for the filmshoot and building materials for the props will be appreciated.

- \* Volunteers to help set up and serve food and to serve as extras in the crowd scenes. Seventy-five persons of all ages are needed for the scene of Issei and Nisei getting on the train to Manzanar.

- \* We'd like to borrow artifacts from the 1940's. Suitcases and trunks that internees would have used to pack for camp, garden tools from that era, a couple of early 1940's bicycles, one or two vintage automobiles or pickups from the 1930's to 1941, a 1940's basketball, and household items from that time period. Most items can be rented from commercial prop houses, but are very expensive. If you have a 1940's car in your garage, please give us a call! These items will be borrowed for just one or two days and will be returned to you.

Ralph Lazo was a Mexican American who spent just over two years at Manzanar as a voluntary internee. His closest friends were fellow high school students of Japanese descent who were abruptly and involuntarily removed from their homes and communities by the U.S. government in 1942. Ralph decided, much to the surprise of his Nisei friends, to join them on their train to Manzanar. At Manzanar he stayed in camp barracks, was befriended by Issei internees, and graduated from Manzanar High School in 1944. He maintained lifelong friendships with his Japanese American friends.

Visual Communications (VC), with a reputation as a premier media arts center devoted to honest and accurate portrayals of Asian Pacific Americans, will produce *Stand up for Justice*. Linda Mabalot is the executive producer of *Stand Up for Justice* and the Executive Director of VC. She has supervised production of numerous television documentaries and dramas. John Esaki, Director, is on staff at the Japanese American National Museum (JANM) Media Services Department, and has produced and directed many films during his sixteen-year career at VC and JANM. His latest, *Harsh Canvas: The Art and Life of Henry Sugimoto*, was featured at this year's New York Asian Cinevision Film Festival. Producer Amy Kato has been a staff member at VC since 1981 and has produced many films including *Maceo: Demon Drummer from East L.A.* Michael Chin, Director of Photography, has served as cinematographer on numerous award-winning films including *Chan in Missing*, and *Nisei Soldier*.

NCCR serves as advisor to the project. NCCR's Education Committee collaborated with VC to preserve, summarize, and index the thirty-five-hour videotape of the 1981 Los Angeles Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians Hearings, and the relationship continues with the Lazo film. *Stand Up for Justice* has received grants from the federally funded Civil Liberties Public Education Fund and the California State Civil Liberties Public Education Program.

For more information and to donate to the film project call NCCR at 213-680-3484. Leave a message and we'll get back to you within 48 hours.



## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

Are you an NCRR member? Join or renew now and support continuing efforts for redress, civil rights and social justice!

NCRR Membership (tax-deductible):

\$30 One-year

\$15 Students and low-income

\$500 Lifetime membership

Please make checks payable to NCRR

Mail to: NCRR

231 E. Third Street G104

Los Angeles, CA 90013

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Street Address

City

State, ZIP

"Asian Americans: the Movement and the Moment"; A History Through Word and Image

UCLA Asian American Studies Center announces the publication of "Asian Americans: the Movement and the Moment": a 350 page illustrated, oversized book that includes contributions from 25 writers and 50 artists.

"Asian Americans: The Movement and the Moment" captures the heart and soul of this nation-wide Asian American movement of the 60's and 70's through the words and images of those of us who lived it; "a people's history", if you will. "Asian Americans: the Movement and the Moment" is an anthology of writings from activists of Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Pilipino, and Vietnamese heritage, representing a wide range of issues and geographic areas. The anthology contains a wealth of graphics and photographs contributed by artists nation-wide and priceless archival images from the Yuri Kochiyama, Steve Louie and Ang Katipunan Collections. The anthology was developed under the guidance of editors Steve Louie and Glenn Omatsu, and Graphics Editor, Mary Uyematsu Kao; themselves thirty-year veterans of the Asian American movement. This anthology will be integrated into Asian American Studies curricula nation-wide and will, no doubt, be cherished in homes for generations to come. People of all nationalities can learn from our history and draw parallels to their own.

The anthology is due out in August. To order an anthology, send \$15.00 plus \$5.00 for shipping & postage to:

UCLA Asian American Studies Center

Publications

3230 Campbell Hall

Box 951546

Los Angeles, California 90095-1546

Make check payable to: UC Regents

Or email: [aascpress@aasc.ucla.edu](mailto:aascpress@aasc.ucla.edu)

A one day symposium on "Asian Americans: the Movement & the Moment"; with many of the contributors and editors present, will be held September 29 at UCLA.

For more information contact : 310-825-2974



NIKKEI FOR  
CIVIL RIGHTS & REDRESS

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(213) 680-3484

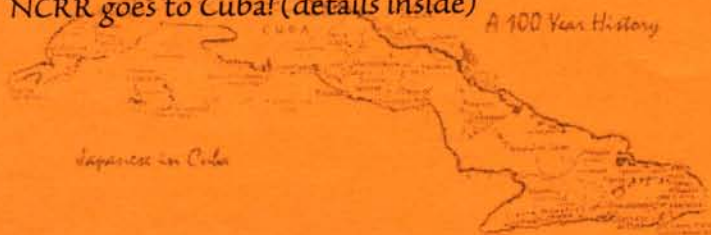
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NCRR is now online! Check out the latest

NCRR events, news and issues at

[www.ncrr-la.org!!](http://www.ncrr-la.org!!)

NCRR goes to Cuba! (details inside)





# CAMPAIGN FOR JUSTICE

Redress Now for Japanese Latin Americans!

July 2001

## Senator Inouye Introduces Redress Bill in Senate

On July 26, 2001, Senator Daniel Inouye (D-HI) introduced the Wartime Parity and Justice Act of 2001 (S 1237) in the U.S. Senate. S 1237 serves as the companion bill to H.R. 619 currently in the U.S. House of Representatives, which was introduced in February 2001 by Rep. Xavier Becerra (D-CA, 30). As with H.R. 619, Senator Inouye's bill seeks to resolve the remaining redress issues for Japanese Americans and Japanese Latin Americans. S 1237 would also provide:

- ❖ \$45 million in public education funding to fulfill the education mandate of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 (CLA);
- ❖ Redress for Japanese Americans who have been unjustly denied under the CLA for technical reasons; and,
- ❖ Redress equity for Japanese Latin Americans who suffered civil and human rights violations by the U.S. government during World War II.

S 1237 has been referred to the Senate Judiciary committee.

## CFJ Delegation to Washington, D.C.

Redress delegates were in Washington D.C. from July 6 - 13, 2001 to push forward legislative and litigation efforts. Our trip was successful thanks to the delegates and our many individuals and organizations who have supported our redress efforts. Delegates on this trip included: Grace Shimizu from El Cerrito, CA; Art Shibayama from San Jose, CA; Karen Parker from San Francisco, CA; Casey Peek from Berkeley, CA; Mariko Nakanishi from Los Angeles, CA; Yoshie Tanabe from Hawaii, John Amerson from Coppell, Texas; and Hiroshi Dodohara from Maryland.

One of the goals was to educate Congress about our issue and lobby Congress for H.R. 619. We had nearly 50 congressional meetings and community meetings. We especially targeted Republican members for their sponsorship and members in the Judiciary Committee and Immigration and Claims Subcommittee, which is where the bill has been assigned.

Delegates and other supporters in the D.C. area also attended the court hearing in the *Shibayama v. USA* lawsuit at the U.S. Court of Federal Claims. (Please see reverse for more information on the Shibayama court hearing.)

## The Wartime Parity and Justice Act of 2001 Needs Your Support

Both H.R. 619 in the House and S 1237 in the Senate need your support to pass this session! We need constituents to contact their representatives in Congress and urge them to support H.R. 619 and S 1237. As of July 28, 2001, 41 Congress members have cosponsored H.R. 619. We need additional cosponsors, particularly Republican members of Congress and members of the Judiciary Committee, to move H.R. 619 forward. S 1237 also needs co-sponsors, particularly in the Senate Judiciary Committee. (Please go to [www.congress.gov](http://www.congress.gov) for updates on the bill status)

### House Judiciary Committee

(Immigration and Claims Subcommittee members are in bold)  
(Co-sponsors of H.R. 619 marked with an \*\*\*)

Republican Members	Democratic Members
Mr. Sensenbrenner (WI) (chairman of Judiciary)	Mr. Conyers (MI), *** ranking
Mr. Hyde (IL)	<b>Mr. Frank (MA)</b> ***
<b>Mr. Gekas (PA)</b> (chairman of Subcommittee)	<b>Mr. Berman (CA)</b> ***
Mr. Coble (NC)	Mr. Boucher (VA)
<b>Mr. Smith (TX)</b>	Mr. Nadler (NY) ***
<b>Mr. Gallegly (CA)</b>	Mr. Scott (VI)
Mr. Goodlatte (VA)	Mr. Watt (NC)
Mr. Chabot (OH)	<b>Ms. Lofgren (CA)</b> ***
Mr. Barr (GA)	<b>Ms. Jackson-Lee (TX)</b>
Mr. Jenkins (TN)	*** (Ranking Member of subcommittee)
Mr. Hutchinson (AK)	Ms. Waters (CA) ***
<b>Mr. Cannon (UT)</b>	<b>Ms. Meehan (MA)</b>
Mr. Graham (SC)	Mr. Delahunt (MA)
Mr. Bachus (AL)	Mr. Wexler (FL) ***
Mr. Scarborough (FL)	Ms. Baldwin (WI)
Mr. Green (WI)	Mr. Weiner (NY)
Mr. Keller (FL)	Mr. Schiff (CA) ***
<b>Mr. Issa (CA)</b>	
<b>Ms. Hart (PA)</b>	
<b>Mr. Flake (AZ)</b>	

### Senate Judiciary Committee

Democratic Members	Republican Members
Mr. Leahy (VT) (chairman)	Mr. Hatch (UT) (ranking)
Mr. Kennedy (MA)	Mr. Thurmond (SC)
Mr. Biden (DE)	Mr. Grassley (IA)
Mr. Kohl (WI)	Mr. Specter (PA)
Ms. Feinstein (CA)	Mr. Kyl (AZ)
Mr. Feingold (WI)	Mr. DeWine (OH)
Mr. Torricelli (NJ)	Mr. Sessions (AL)
Mr. Schumer (NY)	Mr. Smith (NH)



## Court Hearing in *Shibayama v. USA* lawsuit

Oral arguments were heard on July 6, 2001 at the U.S. Court of Federal Claims in the case *Shibayama v. USA*. Isamu "Art" Shibayama, appeared on behalf of himself and his brothers Kenichi Javier and Takeshi Jorge, before Judge Marian Blank Horn in Washington, D.C. The Shibayamas were represented by noted human rights attorney Karen Parker. She urged the court to address the merits of their case.

Judge Horn expressed her personal sympathies with the Shibayama brothers, and further mentioned that her own parents were excluded from their country of origin. Judge Horn indicated, however, that the court would need to rule on whether or not the plaintiffs met the key requirements for jurisdiction.

The Department of Justice argued that the Shibayama brothers failed to meet the key tests for jurisdiction – that they had not exhausted their administrative remedies at the Office of Redress Administration; that they were barred by the statute of limitations; and that they did not meet the eligibility requirements of U.S. permanent residency.

No decision has yet been made on the case.

## *Shima v. USA* Dismissed by U.S. Court of Appeals

On May 2, 2001, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals dismissed the case of *Shima v. USA* in an unpublished decision. The appellate court ruled that the plaintiff, Koshio Henry Shima, had no grounds to bring claims against the U.S. due to the statute of limitations, and upheld the lower court's dismissal of the case.

In April 2001, the Court of Appeals refused to grant the plaintiff oral argument before the court. Shima, a U.S. citizen of Japanese descent, was one of the over 2,200 Japanese Latin Americans kidnapped and interned in U.S. concentration camps, without a hearing, during World War II. Last year, Judge J. Spencer Letts of the U.S. Central District Court of Los Angeles, dismissed Shima's suit for damages, without allowing oral argument. The Court of Appeals' subsequent refusal to allow Shima to be heard in court was the third time Shima was denied a court hearing by the U.S. government.

Shima has not appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

### Sample Letter of Support (please be sure to send a copy to CFJ-No. Cal)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
U.S. House of Representatives / U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Honorable \_\_\_\_\_:

I am writing to ask that you, as my representative in Congress, be a co-sponsor and actively seek the passage of the Wartime Parity and Justice Act of 2001 (H.R. 619 sponsored by Rep. Xavier Becerra (CA, 30), and S 1237, sponsored by Sen. Daniel Inouye (HI)), which will:

- 1) Provide \$45 million for full funding of the public education mandate of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 (CLA). The U.S. must fulfill its original commitment to the \$50 million as mandated by the CLA, so that future generations will know the complete history of this shameful era in our history when over 120,000 Japanese Americans and over 2,200 Japanese Latin Americans suffered such fundamental violations of their civil and human rights by the U.S. government during World War II, and so that such grave injustices will never be repeated to any others;
- 2) Provide redress for hundreds of Japanese Americans who suffered deprivation of liberty by the U.S. government during World War II but have been unjustly denied redress under the Civil Liberties Act of 1988; and
- 3) Provide redress equity for former Japanese Latin American (JLA) internees, who were forcibly uprooted from their homes in Latin America by the U.S. government for use as hostage exchange for Americans being held by Japan, unjustly imprisoned in the U.S., and have been wrongly denied redress.

Please let me know that you will act to support the righting of this terrible wrong.

Sincerely,

Additional Comments:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### What You Can Do:

- ❖ Call, write, or visit your representatives in Congress and urge them to support H.R. 619 and S 1237! Congress will be in recess in August 2001, which means that Congress members will be in their district offices. Please let them know that this issue is important to you! (Please contact the CFJ so that we can coordinate district visits.)
- ❖ Join the CFJ Redress Delegation in January/February 2002! We are organizing a trip to D.C. for a Congressional briefing, lobbying, and educational outreach. We are hoping for subcommittee hearings in January/February 2002. We need your help to make this happen!

For more information, or, if you would like to make a donation, volunteer, or find out more about what you can do to help, please contact:

No. California Chapter: Grace Shimizu at 510-528-7288, P.O. Box 1384, El Cerrito, CA 94530, jpohp.prodigy.net

So. California Chapter: Mariko Nakanishi at 323-252-8939, P.O. Box 251425, Los Angeles, CA 90025, mjuakanishi@hotmail.com