

RAFU SHIMPO

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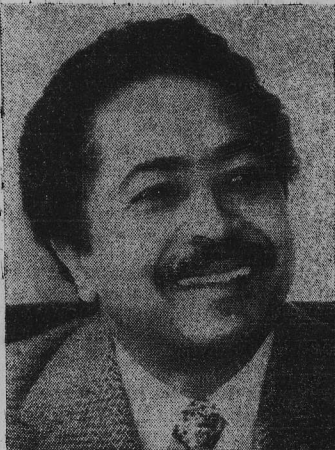
## Dymally to Introduce NCRR Redress Bills Dec. 8

The National Coalition for Redress and Reparations announced today that Rep. Mervyn Dymally (D-Gardena) will introduce two NCRR reparations bills into Congress on Wednesday, Dec. 8. The bills provide reparations to Japanese American and Aleutian individuals and their communities for losses suffered during their forced evacuation during World War II.

The first bill calls for a direct payment of \$25,000 to each evacuee or his or her heirs. Evacuees who suffered losses greater than \$25,000 may file suit for more compensation through enabling legislation included in the bill. The second bill is a community redress act which provides for a three billion dollar appropriation to be distributed to the Nikkei and Aleutian communities. The purpose of the community funds is to help restore the economic and social well-being of the communities. Control of the funds will reside with eight regional board of directors, the members of which will be elected by their communities. A national board will oversee the local boards, an NCRR press statement said.

National Coalition spokesman Bert Nakano said "these two bills are the culmination of two years of very hard work by members and supporters of NCRR. Congressman Dymally and his staff have spent countless hours working with us to develop the bills, and to them we are very grateful."

Asked why the bills are being introduced this year when there is



Rep. Mervyn Dymally  
To Introduce Redress Bill

no chance that they can be acted upon by Congress, Nakano replied, "There are three reasons why we wanted to introduce them this year. First, we want to make the reparations issue public, to draw attention to it and to build support for it. A bill in Congress will do that. Secondly, we want the community want. We hope the the Commission on Wartime

Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC) to know what type of reparations many of us in the community want. We hope the commission will take notice and issue similar recommendations. Thirdly, we would like the various redress/reparations groups to gauge their positions against ours. By having the bills out in the community we'll be able to hammer out one bill in the next Congress which will represent the desires of a majority of the Japanese American community."

"The day is drawing nearer for the issue of meaningful reparations to be settled by the U.S. government. We have no illusions that Congress will immediately and completely redress the Nikkei and Aleut evacuees without a massive effort by the Japanese community and our supporters to lobby Congressmen," the NCRR statement said. "We are in the process of gaining more endorsers and supporters to help in the lobbying process. Momentum is definitely growing for the reparations movement as shown by the actions of the California and L.A. County governments to give compensation to their former Nikkei employees fired during World War II. With fired during World War II. With see justice served."