

REPARATIONS

Redress Workshops Scheduled in Los Angeles

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Department of Justice and the Office of Redress Administration (ORA) today released a schedule of workshops for the Los Angeles area where members of the Japanese American community will be offered one-on-one assistance with their redress cases.

The workshops will be led by a team of ORA representatives who will provide on-the-spot answers to questions on individual case status and required documentation.

"The workshops are part of a new outreach strategy for 1991. In 1990 we set out to educate and inform—in 1991, our educational role continues, but our focus shifts to direct person-to-person casework in the community," said Robert Bratt, administrator of ORA. "We've held over 25 successful workshops this year, meeting with approximately 2,000 redress recipients," added Bratt.

As of May 31, 1991, ORA completed payment to 25,000 redress recipients in the first payment

group—those born before July 1, 1920. Individuals in this age group who did not receive payment will be among the first paid in fiscal year 1992 beginning October 1, 1991. These individuals are encouraged to attend a redress workshop to check on their case status.

"The second payment group, individuals or their heirs born between July 1, 1920, and December 31, 1927, are also encouraged to attend," said Bratt. "They are currently scheduled for payment in fiscal year 1992, which begins Oct. 1, 1991.

In cases where all necessary documentation is submitted to ORA at the workshops, we may be able to provide on-the-spot case verification for this payment group," he said.

Individuals in this age group would bring a birth certificate and a recent bank statement or utility bill which contains their name and current address. These documents will allow the ORA to begin the verification process for the next payment

group. In cases where one's name has changed since internment, such as by marriage, a marriage certificate should be brought as evidence of the name change.

Workshop participants are encouraged to bring any correspondence received from the ORA and all documents pertaining to their redress claims.

The following is a schedule for the workshops:

Little Tokyo Towers, 455 E. Third St., Los Angeles, Aug. 12, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

San Fernando Valley Japanese Community Center, 12953 Branford St., Pacoima, Ca., Aug. 13, 4 to 7 p.m.

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