



RAFU SHIMPO

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Five Days Remain in U.S. Redress Program

Community groups encourage potential eligible persons to submit claims to the ORA immediately.

The national Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), National Coalition for Redress and Reparations (NCRR) and others concerned with gaining justice for Nikkei former internees, are urging any and all potential eligible persons to submit their reparations claims to the Office of Redress Administration immediately before the historic Civil Liberties Act of 1988 sunsets next week.

After Monday, Aug. 10, the U.S. government will no longer have authority to make redress payments to those Nikkei deprived of their civil and human rights during World War II.

In 1942, approximately 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry and legal permanent residents were evacuated from their West Coast homes and in most cases were interned in American concentration camps.

Forty-six years later, the U.S. government acknowledged and apologized for this grave injustice with passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. This legislation authorized the payment of \$20,000 and a letter of apology to each individual who suffered as a result of Executive Order 9066.

All eligible persons must have been living on Aug. 10, 1988.

The redress door is quickly closing, as redress advocates search for four groups of individuals:

1. The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Redress Administration (ORA), has published a list of unknown individuals. There are 1,500 Japanese Americans who were identified in historical internment records who have not been accounted. Community members are encouraged to review this list for family members or friends. This list is

available through ORA, JACL and NCRR.

2. With the *Ishida v. United States* decision on May 27, 1997, children born in the interior during the West Coast exclusion period—from March 19, 1942 through Jan. 20, 1945—to a parent from the West Coast who had been evacuated from the West Coast or interned, became eligible for reparations. Any eligible children of evacuees must submit their claims by Aug. 10.

3. Japanese American miners and railroad workers who were fired during World War II—and their families—may submit claims. In this special category, researchers Michi Weglyn and Andrew Russell have uncovered and turned over to ORA documentation showing that these railroad and mining workers' families experienced economic destruction due to the actions of the FBI.

4. Finally, with the settlement of *Mochizuki v. United States*, 1,300 Latin Americans of Japanese descent who were

abducted from their homes and interned in the U.S. and v. United States, 10, 1988, are entitled to reparations of \$5,000 each and a letter of apology from the president.

To date, ORA has made total redress payments of \$1.6 billion.

For more information on the redress program or contact:

Office of Redress Administration
P.O. Box 66260, Washington, DC 20035-6260, (888) 213-7329
www.doj.gov/crt/ora/

Japanese American Citizens League
1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115, (415) 921-5222

National Coalition for Redress and Reparations
231 E. Third Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013, (213) 629-2231

Campaign for Justice for Latin Americans
1000 W. Garden Street, Gardena, CA 90248, (310) 473-6134.



(213) 687-0737

Established 1903

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abducted from their countries and interned in the U.S. and were alive on Aug. 10, 1988, are entitled to token payments of \$5,000 each and a letter of apology from the president.

To date, ORA has authorized 81,828 redress payments of \$20,000, totaling \$1.6 billion.

For more information regarding the redress program or claim forms, contact:

Office of Redress Administration,
P.O. Box 66260, Washington, D.C.
20035-6260, (888) 219-6900 (toll-free),
www.doj.gov/crt/ora/main.html;

Japanese American Citizens League,
1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA
94115, (415) 921-5225, www.jacl.org;

National Coalition for Redress and
Reparations, 231 E. Third St., Los An-
geles, CA 90013, (213) 680-3484;

Campaign for Justice (for Japanese
Latin Americans), P.O. Box 214,
Gardena, CA 90248, or call Julie Small,
(310) 473-6134.