



1-4-1946

W.H. Spillers, Principal, Central Union High School, Fresno to Sam & Kenneth Sakata (1-4-46)

W. H. Spillers

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CENTRAL UNION HIGH SCHOOL

Fresno, California

January 4, 1946

Renunciation
GUY W. COOK
NISEI COLLECTION
University of The Pa

Messrs. Sam and Kenneth Sakata
7306-B
Newell, California

Dear Sam and Kenneth:

I have your air mail letter of December 26, 1945, and was very saddened to learn that you two former Central Union High School students had committed the crime of denouncing your American citizenship and that you had requested to be sent to Japan to live.

I feel I cannot help ^{you} in the matter of being deported from the United States; as a matter of fact, I feel there is no alternative but that you go through with your written request to be sent to Japan. You indicated that you signed this application with reluctance, however, you must have been well informed by your parents of the conditions in Japan as compared with life in a democratic country such as ours. You also indicated that considerable pressure was exerted on you, probably with the threat of physical violence if you would not fall in line with this "propaganda group" as you called it. I am sure you were aware of the fact that while this sort of thing was happening in the camp where you were cared for by the benevolent United States Government, there were other Nisei fighting for the same country, some of them whom you know very well have given their lives for the country you renounced, the country they loved so dearly.

You asked for a statement as to the quality of your citizenship here at school. We cannot make such a statement as there were no incidents to test your citizenship.

With the above in mind, I regret to repeat I have no alternative other than to recommend that you be deported to Japan. With great sincerity, I wish to point out to you two Central Union High School students that you will have the opportunity to take to Japan even in a small measure the attitudes of this country which places supreme importance on the value of the individual. You two will also be able to speak for the good intentions of the United States since

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Messrs. Sam and Kenneth Sakata
Newell, California

you have received such splendid treatment by this Government in spite of the fact that you were considered aliens. This as you know, was not the case in Japan which under the domination of the War Lords was badly mistreating American citizens.

It is very difficult to write a letter of this sort and I hope you will consider me sincere when I say I felt it my duty to write as I have; that it did not come from any ill feeling on my part toward either of you as we always follow the activities and successes or failures of Central students with a great deal of interest and satisfaction or regret as the case may be.

I shall be pleased to have letters from you telling me what you are doing, what you are thinking and how you are being treated.

As per your request, your letter was presented to the faculty and they concur with me in the above statements as indicated by their signatures affixed below.

Sincerely yours,

/s/
W. H. Spillers, Principal
Central Union High School

WHS:EGS

cc: Manager
Tule Lake Relocation Center
Newell, California

Thomas C. Clark, Attorney General
Washington, D. C.

SIGNED:

Lewis E. Carpenter
Fay Kincaide
Elvena V. Peterson
Marty Kaufman
Fred Hartman
Annabel Dreuth
W. H. Schmidt
David Hartman
Walter E. Atwood
Anne Hartz