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File Folder JAPANESE INTERNMENT SIGNING CEREMONY
08/10/1988

FOIA

F05-0004/01

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WAKAMATSU

4

DOC NO	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
1	LIST	RE ATTENDEES AT SIGNING CEREMONY	10	ND	B6

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 10, 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR ELIZABETH BOARD

FROM:

CHARLES BACARISSE 

SUBJECT:

Japanese Internment Reparations Interviews

Following the signing ceremony in Room 450, interviews were conducted out in front of the OEOB.

George Sakaguchi, Mary Tsukamoto, Sam Nakano and John Hayashi were interviewed by Potomac News

Cherry Kinoshita, Denny Yasuhara, Chuck Kato and Diana Kato were interviewed by Bonneville News

Hitshi Kajihara was interviewed by Tom Grose of Thompson Newspapers

Shiela Kast, of ABC, and Andrea Mitchell, of NBC, interviewed Congressman Robert Matsui (D-CA)

WE NEED THE FOLLOWING GUESTS
TO COME FORWARD TO THE PODIUM
AFTER THE EVENT. MEMBERS OF
THE MEDIA WANT TO INTERVIEW YOU.

- | | | |
|---|------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | GEORGE SAKAGUCHI | } Potomac - Judy Leon |
| 2 | SAM NAKANO | |
| 3 | JOHN HAYASHI | |
| 4 | CHERRY KINOSHITA | } Bonnaville |
| 5 | DENNY YASUHARA. | |
| 6 | CHUCK KATO | |
| 7 | DIANA KATO | |
| 8 | MARY TSUKAMOTO | } Tom Bruce Thompson |
| 9 | Hitshi Kajihara | |

**JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION
COMMITTEE PROPOSED LIST FOR WHITE HOUSE SIGNING CEREMONY**

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2. Grayce Uyehaha
1535 Marlboro Road, West Chester, PA 19382
3. Harry Kajihara
1000 West Devonshire Drive, Oxnard, CA 93030
4. Grant Ujifusa
Reader's Digest, Pleasantville, NY 10570
5. Mike and Etsu Masaoka
5406 Uppingham Street, Chevy Chase, MD 20815
6. Cherry Kinoshita
3520 South Thistle Street, Seattle, WA 98118
7. True Yasui
1150 South Williams Street, Denver, CO 80210
8. Bert Nakano
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9. Denny Yasuhara
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10. Shig Wakamatsu
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11. Ron Wakabayashi
JACL, 1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115
12. John Tateishi
11 Inman Avenue, Kentfield, CA 94904
13. Clifford Uyeda
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14. William Marutani
8112 Algon Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19152
15. Mollie Fujioka
1874 Meadow Lane, Walnut Creek, CA 94595
16. Henry Tanaka
2192 Grandview Avenue, Cleveland Heights, OH 44106
17. Mae Takahashi
5721 North 1st Street, Fresno, CA 93710
18. Tom Kometani
4 Jessica Lane, Warren, NJ 08054
19. His Hasegawa
3562 Crawford, Idaho Falls, ID 83401
20. Cressey Nakagawa
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21. Art Morimitsu
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22. James Tsujimura
22 NW Lovejoy Street, #504C, Portland, OR 97210
23. Peggy Liggett
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24. Gene Takamine
18971 Crimson Circle, Huntington Beach, CA 92646

25. Gary Glenn
85 Wendell Street, Cambridge, MA 02138
26. Ruth Hashimoto
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27. Harry Kubo
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30. Clarence Nishizu
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31. Robert Moteki
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32. Tom Shimasaki
2902 West Main Street, Visalia, CA 92391
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34. Joe Rauh
3625 Appleton Street, Washington, D.C. 20008
35. Ralph Neas
LCCR
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36. David Brody
ADL
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37. Ruth Flower
FCNL
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41. Mitsuye Endo
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42. Kango Kunitsugu
507 Towne Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90013
43. Toy Kanegai
1857 Brockton Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90025
44. Gene Doi
5267 Greenpoint Drive, Stone Mountain, GA 30088
45. Sumi Koide
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46. Toshi Yamamoto
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49. Chiye Tomihiro
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56. Sandi Kawasaki
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70. Phil Shigekuni
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73. James Purcell
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74. Robert Pirosh
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- ★ 75. Mieko Kosobayashi
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84. June Goto
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2. Steve Provost
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State of New Jersey
Trenton, New Jersey 08625
3. Congressman Dick Cheney
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4. Senator Alan Cranston
SR-225, United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515
5. Congressman Jack Kemp
R-2252, House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
6. Congressman Pat Swindle
C-331, House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
7. Congressman Henry Hyde
L-2104, House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
8. Senator Robert Dole
SH-141, House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
9. Congresswoman Patricia Saiki
L-1407, House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
10. Honorable William Bennett
Secretary of Education
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11. William Kristol
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12. Congressman Hamilton Fish
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1. Senator Daniel K. Inouye
SH-722 United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515
2. Senator Spark Matsunaga
SH-109, United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515
3. Congressman Norman K. Mineta
R-2350, House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
4. Congressman Robert T. Matsui
R-2419, House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
5. Congressman Barney Frank
L-1030, House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
6. Senator Alan Cranston
SH-112, United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515
7. Congressman Peter Rodine
R-2462, House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
8. Congressman Tom Foley
C-1210, House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
9. Congressman Tony Coelho
C-430, House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
10. Congressman Don Edwards
R-2307, House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
11. Congressman Robert Kastenmeier
R-2328, House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
12. Speaker Jim Wright, Congressman from Texas
L-1236, House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
13. Congressman Mike Lowry
L-2452, House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

14. Senator John Glenn
SH-503, United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515
15. David Pryor
SR-264, United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515
16. Majority Leader Robert Byrd
SH-311, United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

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1. Tom Boyd
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Washington, D.C. 20530
2. John Bolton
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Washington, D.C. 20530
3. Richard Valentine
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6. Carol Crawford
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7. Constance Horner
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4. Burton Pines
President
Heritage Foundation
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5. Paul Weyrith
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6. Stuart Rothenberg
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7. Lane Terrance
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9. Ms. Jennifer D. Dunn
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2. Carol Strobel
c/o Congressman Norman Mineta
R-2350, House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
3. Cherry Matano
c/o Senator Spark Matsunaga
SH-109, United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515
4. Alma Henderson
c/o Senator Spark Matsunaga
SH-109, United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515
5. Margaret Kamisky
c/o Senator Daniel Inouye
SH 722, United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515
6. Kaz Oshiki
c/o Congressman Robert Kastenmeier
R-2328, House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
7. Ed Hatcher
c/o Congressman Robert Matsui
R-2419, House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
8. Belle Cummins
c/o Congressman Barney Frank
L-1030, House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENTS

To: Officer-in-charge
Appointments Center
Room 060, OEOB

Please admit the following appointments on Wednesday, August 10, 19 88
for Mary Ann Lanchantin Leg. Affairs
Kevin Kruke of OPL :
(NAME OF PERSON TO BE VISITED) (AGENCY)

Please See Attached List

MEETING LOCATION

Building Rose Garden

Requested by Kevin Kruke

Room No. _____

Room No. 128 Telephone x7120

Time of Meeting 2:00 pm

Date of request 8/9/88

Additions and/or changes made by telephone should be limited to five (5) names or less.

APPOINTMENTS CENTER: SIG/OEOB - 395-6046 or WHITE HOUSE - 456-6742

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name

BOARD, ELIZABETH: FILES

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File Folder

JAPANESE INTERNMENT SIGNING CEREMONY 08/10/1988

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F05-0004/01

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RE ATTENDEES AT SIGNING CEREMONY

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8/10/88 Japanese
Internment Signing
Ceremony

PRESERVATION COPY

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Res

August 8, 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR MARI MASENG

FROM: ALAN M. KRANOWITZ Alan -
SUBJECT: Signing Ceremony for Japanese Internment
Legislation

The Japanese Internment legislation has arrived and, at B's direction, my staff is working with Rebecca's staff to put together a "concept schedule proposal" for a ceremony on Wednesday -- either Roosevelt Room or Rose Garden depending on the size of Public Liaison's list of proposed attendees.

Speechwriters will need to move quickly on remarks for the POTUS. Carol Crawford at OMB is the key substance person on this issue.

cc: B. Oglesby
Rebecca Range

Elizabeth,

Per your request I'm forwarding this, however, it doesn't look very useful.

John

P.S. If we receive any further material we'll pass it along.

Dec. 15, 1945

General Stilwell Pins DSC On Sister of Nisei Hero In Ceremony at Masuda Ranch

"Vinegar Joe" Participates in Americans United
Rally in Santa Ana; Film Stars Pay Tribute
To Combat Record of Japanese American Troops

SANTA ANA, Calif.—Arriving by plane from Washington, General Joseph W. Stilwell pinned the D.S.C. on little Mary Masuda Saturday morning, Dec. 8, in a simple ceremony on the porch of her small frame shack near Talbert, Orange County.

It was the same humble home from which a self-appointed vigilante committee had attempted to drive her a few months before, when she was one of the first Nisei (Americans of Japanese ancestry) to return from relocation centers to California's farmlands.

On Dec. 8 newsreel cameras ground, radio mikos edged in and press photographers shot from many angles to record this presentation of the Army's second highest medal earned by Mary's dead brother, Kazuo Masuda, who was killed at Cassino last year.

The former commander of the China-Burma-India theater of war, "Vinegar Joe" Stilwell, spoke in his traditional democratic manner as he made the award posthumously to Mary Masuda, who like her brother had stood up against the forces of fascism.

Kazuo, staff sergeant with the famous 442nd Infantry Japanese American Combat Team, had ordered his men back and single-handedly advanced through heavy artillery fire, carrying a mortar. Bracing it in a helmet packed with dirt, he poured round after round into the Nazis for twelve hours. A few weeks later in a similar lone advance he was killed, at Cassino on the Italian front. But his men were safe.

That is why Kazuo could not be present to accept the General's medal. His sister Mary, not unlike Mary Pickford in stature and poise, took it for him, with tears in her eyes. Her parents and two of her three living brothers were present on the little porch. All her brothers were or are in the Army.

General Stilwell said as he met Miss Masuda at the ceremony, "I have never yet found a Nisei who didn't do his full duty right up to the hilt. I feel it an honor to be delegated to make this award."

The Distinguished Service Cross did not remain where he pinned it, for Mary turned and fastened it on her mother's dress in recognition. It was Mary, however, who

& Drum Corps played an old war tune.

Louise Albritton, motion picture star born in Texas, gave a sketch telling how the Texas Lost Battalion were saved by the Nisei soldiers. Robert Young did the Arch Oboler bit, "I Have No Prayer." Ronald Reagan, until recently an army captain, spoke on behalf of the American Veterans Committee, of which he is an officer, saying:

"Blood that has soaked into the sands of a beach is all of one color. America stands unique in the world, the only country not founded on race, but on a way—an ideal. Not in spite of, but because of our polyglot background, we have had all the strength in the world. That is the American way.

"Mr. and Mrs. Masuda, just as one member of the family of Americans speaking to another member, I want to say for what your son Kazuo did—Thanks!"

Harry Flannery as M. C. pointed out that four years before to the day America in one day, shocked by Pearl Harbor, achieved unity. And, he continued, on this "United America" day, when "Americans-All" gathered in Santa Ana Bowl to honor General Stilwell after the occasion of his presentation to Mary Masuda, perhaps it was not too early to begin peace-time unity.

It was Scout Josh Wilson of Orange Empire Council, Boy Scouts of America, who had led the Allegiance of the Flag. "... with Liberty — and Justice — for ALL."

And it was the Santa Ana Army Air Base Band that played "America the Beautiful" as the audience filed out . . . with many a choke

alone had faced the barrom vigilantes on May 1st when she refused to be frightened from her home

The former commander of the China-Huama-India theater of war, noted for his straight forward Americanism, said later in the day at an afternoon rally at Santa Ana

shed out . . . with many a choke in the throat.

Santa Ana extends to all cities the idea—"United America Day."

And little Miss Mary Masuda, attractive Nisei girl, has gone back to run her ten-acre farm with her elderly parents and her veteran brother who assists her.

Talbot will not see such doings.

2nd Page

"The amount of money, the color of one's skin . . . do not make a measure of Americanism. A square deal all around; free speech; equality before the law; a fair field with no favor; obedience to the majority;—an American not only believes in such things, but he is willing to fight for them.

"Who, after all, is the real American? The real American is the man who calls it a fair exchange to lay down his life in order that American ideals may go on living. And judging by such a test, Sgt. Masuda was a better American than any of us here today."


The General gave the names of winners of the Congressional Medal of Honor—only one surviving—to show that this highest of all military awards had gone to Americans of many races, of Mexican, Italian, Polish, German and other ancestries.

Ronald Reagan, Louise Allbritton, Robert Young, Harry Flannery, Will Rogers Jr., Richard Low, Chris-Pin Martin, Don Whedlin, Alex Havier and others were on the program, coming down from Hollywood for the occasion. There were also short talks by leaders of several races, including Ruby Merkeley Goodwin, Dan Marshall, Roque E. DeLa Yala, Maurice Kazan and Walter Hilborn. Protestant, Catholic and Jewish religious leaders gave invocations, and the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, Veterans of Foreign War and American Veterans Committee were represented. Also, the Spanish-American War Veterans Five

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date: August 8, 1988

TO: Mari Maseng

FROM: PHILLIP D. BRADY 
Deputy Counsel to the President

As we discussed, please find attached a letter from Rose Ochi recommending that the President make reference to a statement he made in 1945 on the World War II sacrifices of all races in any statement (signing ceremony) he makes in signing the Japanese internment compensation legislation.

Hope this is helpful.

ROSE MATSUI OCHI

ATTORNEY AT LAW 730 SOUTH LINCOLN AVENUE, MONTEREY PARK, CALIFORNIA 91754 (818) 573-0324

Phillip Brady:

If a signing ceremony is being planned, I would suggest that you contact Bob [redacted] Chairman of the Cal. Rep. Party, who I would like to suggest a few invitees including Steve Nakashima, Head of Japanese American Veterans for Reagan.

Phillip Brady
Acting Counsel
to the President
White House,
Washington, D.C.

Again, thank you for your assistance.

Dear Mr. Brady:

ROSE OCHI

As a followup of our telephone conversation yesterday, I am forwarding to you a copy of an article which appeared in the Pacific Citizen, December 15, 1988 edition, which includes Ronald Reagan's quote on behalf of the American Veterans Committee, saying:

"Blood that has soaked into the sands of a beach is all of one color. America stands unique in the world, the only country not founded on race, but on a way --an ideal. Not in spite of, but because of our polyglot background, we have had all the strength in the world. That is the American way...."

Such beautiful and fitting remarks could be repeated by the now President of the United States as he signs the historic redress legislation.

Please thank the President for his leadership in upholding the truly American ideal of a country willing to recognize its past mistakes and make amends. This is what makes us so very unique and special in promoting fairness and understanding throughout the nation and the world.

As a former internee, National Vice President of Japanese American Citizens League and first JACL Legislative Education Committee, Legislative Strategy Chair, I am so very personally delighted after a long struggle, to reach this glorious culmination-a victory for all Americans.

Sincerely Yours,

Rose Matsui Ochi
Rose Matsui Ochi