

* * * WEEKLY UPDATE * * *
APRIL 26, 1985

To: Members, NAJC Council
From: National Redress Co-ordinator
#525 - 890 West Pender Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6C 1J9
(604) 662-3200

1. This update covers the period from April 13 to 25.
2. Art Miki reported that he will be attending a community meeting in Montreal on April 28. Report to follow.
3. Attached is the "Interim Statement" on the first half of the \$80,000 grant. The second portion is due to arrive any day now.
4. We are waiting for the grant to arrive before we go full steam ahead on the production of the second issue of the NAJC Newsletter. It should be ready for distribution around May 10-15.
5. Any comments on the distribution of the first issue of the NAJC Newsletter? Any special problems?
6. Attached is Maryka Omatsu's report on her trip to San Francisco as part of the Negotiation Team's effort to establish contact with the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) and to receive information on the Japanese American redress movement.
7. Attached is an article from The Toronto Star reporting on a recent argument in the House on the government's method of handling redress thus far.
8. Congratulations to Roger Obata for responding so quickly to the resolution from the Ontario veterans opposing compensation to JCs. Attached is his letter printed in the Globe and Mail, April 17.

Another JC veteran, Stum Shimizu, who chairs the S-20's history committee, sent us his response to the Ontario vets. Attached is his letter which was published in the Globe and Mail, April 20.

9. On Tuesday, April 16, Stum Shimizu, Roger Obata, and Harold Hirose joined me by long-distance for a two-hour call-in radio show with Dave Barrett. I was asked to help organize the program to answer the Ontario veterans' resolution. Barrett was extremely supportive for our redress cause. Although we had the usual kind of false arguments against compensation ("Look what the Japanese did to our soldiers in Hong Kong"; "There was a security threat"; etc.), a surprising number of people spoke for compensation, which indicates that public opinion appears to be shifting in our favour.

At the end of the program, Barrett conducted a poll for and against compensation. He warned me beforehand that his particular audience would probably vote 10 to 1 against us. The vote came out almost 50-50, with just under 50% of 139 callers voting for compensation.

Barrett was pleased by the unexpected support--which included a number of veterans. The show was taped and copies are available upon request at cost.

10. On Friday, April 19, Cassandra Kobayashi and I met with Mike Harcourt, Mayor of Vancouver, to explain the present situation with the government. Also present was Fred Yada, Vice-President of the Vancouver JCCA. Fred is Harcourt's friend, and he was kind enough to arrange the meeting on our behalf. After updating Mr. Harcourt on our meetings with the government, we talked about the Vancouver JCCA's plans to restore the lights in our War Memorial in Stanley Park and to undertake some necessary repairs. The City has given the JCCA \$1500 towards the cost of this project, with the remainder expected from our community. (More on this project later.) We also discussed the support for the NAJC from the Toronto City Council, in particular the proposed \$5,000 grant. Harcourt asked for specific details on this proposal. We plan to approach the Race Relations Committee of the City Council to seek official backing for the NAJC from the Council. As we ended the meeting, it was clear that Harcourt wanted to see the redress issue resolved to the satisfaction of our community.

11. A press release outlining our current situation with the government was issued on April 23 simultaneously in Toronto, Winnipeg, and Vancouver. We held a press conference in Vancouver at the Japanese Language School (475 Alexander St.) and reporters from radio, T.V., and the newspapers attended. A copy of the release is attached.

12. April 24: We just received an encouraging letter (attached for your information) from the Manitoba Intercultural Council containing two important resolutions. This is yet another sign that concern for redress as a justice issue is being shared by more and more Canadians.

13. April 24: Dick Nakamura from Victoria was in Vancouver and dropped in for a brief visit. He reported that the NAJC Vancouver Island Redress Committee is planning a meeting for Sunday, May 26 (place to be decided) to strengthen the communication network on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. For more information, contact Dick (604 - 477-5628).

14. Attached for your information is a letter from a veteran to the Globe and Mail editor on April 24, opposing the Ontario Command's resolution.

15. Attached is a copy of a letter from Art Miki to Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, April 22, requesting a meeting.

16. April 25: Art Miki asked that the "Resolution from Toronto North York Chapter, NAJC", which just arrived in the mail, be attached to this update for consideration by Council members.

17. Any important redress news in your area? Send us the information.

Roy Miki

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JAPANESE CANADIANS

National Executive Office: 735 Ash Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3N 0R5

INTERIM STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS - REDRESS NEGOTIATIONS

OPERATING EXPENDITURES - (to March 22, 1985)

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Office:

Rent	300.00	
Telephone and Telegraph	1,101.63	
Materials (stationary etc.)	1,059.39	
Bank Charges	<u>3.00</u>	2,464.02

Personnel:

Redress Co-ordinator *	8,395.45	
Co-ordinator's Assistant **	3,000.00	
Lawyers Fees	<u>3,500.00</u>	14,895.45

Meetings:

Negotiation	5,680.23	
National Council (Calgary)	13,908.64	
Local	<u>2,544.37</u>	22,133.24

Communications:

Newsletter (English and Japanese)	2,000.00	
Publications and Promotions: English	3,898.61	
: Japanese	<u>500.00</u>	4,398.61
Translator Service	300.00	
Postage and Shipping Charges	<u>523.84</u>	7,222.45

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES for the period 46,715.16

DEDUCT:

Grant received from The Secretary of State of Canada	<u>40,000.00</u>
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TOTAL DEFICIT FOR THE PERIOD - February 1, 1985 to March 22, 1985 (6,715.16)
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Respectfully submitted this 22nd day of March, 1985, at the City of Winnipeg in the Province of Manitoba.

HAROLD A. HIROSE, Treasurer, N.A.J.C.

* Amount includes 2 months salary @ \$3604.55/mo. and 3 months personnel benefits (to replace benefits from regular employer) totalling \$1186.35

** Includes 2 months salary.

MEMO TO: Negotiating Team NAJC
FROM: Maryka Omatsu
DATE: April 2nd, 1985
RE: JACL Meetings in San Francisco

BACKGROUND:

The NAJC was informed that the Canadian Government was in contact with the American Government on the issue of Japanese Canadian/American redress. There was some concern from the JACL regarding the impact of a possible settlement of the JC claim for a \$6 million trust fund on their claim of \$1.5 billion. As well the NAJC was interested in knowing just how far the JA's were to having a vote in Congress on Bill HR 422. This is the Bill that adopts the recommendations of the Congressional Committee on JA redress. As well, the negotiating team had indicated at our last session in Toronto March 1985 that legal strategies be examined for possible adoption by the NAJC.

Accordingly, Roy Miki and I went to San Francisco to meet with the JACL, lawyers groups and the JA press. Roy and I divided up our schedule and met with different people for the most part. I would like to share my information and thoughts with you, from my 4 day visit (March 28-31, 1985)

On Mar. 28, I spoke with Chester Tanaka head of the "Go for Broke" JA WWII War Vets; 2) with John Tateishi, Redress Director, JACL; & * 3) over dinner with the lawyers involved in reviewing and overturning the criminal convictions received by Korematsu, Hirabayashi and Yasui for curfew & internment violations.

On March 29, I met with Ron Wakabayashi National Director, JACL
* 2) then with Cliff Ueda, former President JACL & * 3) John Tateishi, JACL.

On Mar. 30 I made a presentation to the National Committee for Redress & Reparations and then discussed some of the legal problems that the JA lawyers had, that evening.

On Mar. 31 I continued my discussions with the coram nobis case lawyers.

(NB* indicates meetings where both Roy & I were present)

INFORMATION RECEIVED:

From the conversations that I had with JAs over the 4 days we discussed for the main part the following 5 issues: 1) neutralizing the opposition: white WWII war vets; 2) relations with the Japanese Government; 3) an evaluation of the Congressional Commission process; 4) community involvement & awareness of the redress issue; and 5) legal cases & strategies .

1) Neutralizing the Opposition: According to Chester Tanaka about 2 years ago the white WWII vets were mounting a campaign of opposition to JA redress. Although the JA vets were themselves divided on the issue of JA redress, those among them who supported redress decided to tackle this problem. They threatened to march on Washington; went to their local chapters, made presentations & won over as many as they could; developed a photo display which has toured the country; and finally en masse they went to the Vets national meeting, distributing "Go for Broke" buttons, lobbying delegates to vote for their motion. This motion stressed "motherhood" issues such as fighting for the rights under the American

Constitution, the right of all Americans to Constitutional protections and the outstanding valour of the JA war vets. The motion passed. Chester Tanaka said that the motion was so worded that it would have been difficult for people not to have supported it. The passage of the motion effectively has halted this source of opposition.

2) Relations with the Japanese Government: Wakabayashi is going on his 3rd visit to Japan. It is an official visit during which he will meet with PM Nakasone, the American consul, LPD members, as well as Government & business leaders over the course of 1 week. Wakabayashi said that the JACL visits are not publicized to the American press but are made known to the American Government. The visits developed over a period of years after contacts had been made with the various Consuls in the US who made Tokyo aware of the JA redress movement & the necessity of the Japanese Government to familiarize itself with the issue of racism towards Japanese especially as it might affect trade relations.

3. Congressional Commission (Tateishi) Having received favourable recommendations from the bi-partisan US Commission, the JACL believes that the Commission route was the correct one to have taken. Pre-Commission, the JACL had adopted the position of \$25,000. per individual. There was backlash both inside & outside the JA community. The decision to take the Commission route passed by only 1 vote at the JACL national convention. However, the Commission recommendation of \$20,000. has made the total figure of \$1.5 billion less contentious & easier to defend.

4. Community (National Committee Redress & Reparations) The NCRR is primarily San-sei & involved in community development (similar to Vancouver JCCP & the Sodan-kai in Toronto). It has performed the function of the community education/awareness arm of the JACL. The NCRR organized community involvement in the Commission hearings by preparing witnesses, packing the Commission hearings, arranging translation, fund raising etc.

The NCRR felt that JA community interest & knowledge of the issues increased because of the Commission experience. There are/were divisions between JACL & NCRR. The NCRR described itself as involved in the JA community & the JACL as involved in the non-JA community doing lobbying, p.r. etc. However, JA success required both JACL & NCRR participation.

5. Legal Cases (Asian Am. Lawyers Assoc & Coram Nobis lawyers) These lawyers were not involved in redress; they did legal work on cases for JA clients. Although they support redress they do not take direction from either the JACL or the JA community organizations. They have worked over the past several years on their estimate 1,000 hours each without payment. They did not participate actively in the Commission hearings. The JACL had their own JA lawyer.

They believe that it is better to receive a court decision vacating the criminal convictions than to receive a Government pardon-apology, which the US Government offered them for 2 reasons; 1) the JAs were not guilty, the law was wrong & a pardon does not recognize that fact; 2) the publicity value.

CONCLUSIONS

I came away with 3 strong impressions 1) the defusing of white vets racism by appealing to a commonly held value ie the Constitution & democracy was a brilliant strategy. 2) the Commission required a great deal of work--first to get a Commission (lobbying), getting the Commission to hear JA testimony at night with translation in JA centres etc. took 10,000's hours of free labour. It would not have succeeded without both the JACL & NCRR. 3) the JA lawyers have made good & new law, the WWII decisions have been overturned.

I would like the negotiating team members to consider all avenues pursued by the JA because I think we could benefit from their experiences.

Kind regards
Maryha

TORONTO STAR APR. 17/85

PM, Liberals trade insults on Japanese Canadian talks

By Joe O'Donnell Toronto Star

OTTAWA — Liberal MPs and Prime Minister Brian Mulroney shouted accusations and insults at each other as one of the most heated exchanges in months erupted in the House of Commons yesterday.

Mulroney is a "hypocrite" for not living up to his election promise to compensate Japanese Canadians for their treatment during World War II, the Liberals charged.

But Mulroney, at times red-faced and bellowing and twice cut off by Speaker John Bosley, launched a scathing counterattack, accusing the Liberals of refusing to compensate Japanese Canadians when they were in power.

The Prime Minister, however, would not offer new initiatives aimed at reaching a agreement with Japanese Canadians.

Sergio Marchi, the Liberal critic for multiculturalism, sparked the fireworks.

Put in camps

He accused Mulroney of refusing to meet with the Japanese Canadian Association, "even for five minutes," despite repeated petitions, phone calls, letters and Telexes "asking for a meeting so that a mutually-agreeable proposal can be obtained."

About 21,000 Japanese Canadians — 17,000 of them Canadian citizens — were stripped of their rights and property and placed in work camps during the war. Their property, which included homes and fishing boats, was sold off for a fraction of its worth.

Mulroney reminded the Liberals that when he first raised the issue of compensation in the Commons last June, it was then-prime minister Pierre Trudeau who said no — "and all the Liberals cheered."

Mulroney called that "a black day for the Liberal party and it was a black day for civil liberties in this country."

Since then, he said, Multiculturalism Minister Jack Murta has held meetings with Japanese Canadian representatives and made "significant offers" to them, including a formal apology and \$6 million.

Door open

"And my door remains open at all times," Mulroney added.

The last talks broke off in March when the Japanese Canadians rejected the government's offer. There have been only informal talks since then.

The Japanese Canadians have not set a figure on compensation, but some have suggested a \$500 million fund for the survivors of internees and the 11,000 affected people who are still alive, plus a

See PM/page A4

Leadership of Legion

By Myo In
T. Shostak
525 St. Anne's Avenue
History Committee
Edmonton, AB

TORONTO STAR APR 17, 1985

PM called a hypocrite over Japanese Canadians

Continued from page A1
general trust fund to benefit the community.

The Liberals under Trudeau offered an expression of "regret" over the affair, but no money.

In the Commons yesterday, Mulroney responded to jeers — including Ottawa Vanier MP Jean-Robert Gauthier's shout "You're a bloody liar" — by telling the Liberals: "You should be ashamed of yourselves."

Nastier turn

The exchange then took an even nastier turn when Marchi said Japanese Canadians watching daily question period in the Commons "would be just disgusted to see the partisan response of this Prime Minister."

Mulroney's government is only offering compensation on its terms, Marchi said. "The truth of the matter is that you are holding a gun to the community's head and saying: 'If it's not my way, it is no way.'"

"They are not satisfied with the response of your government," he added.

Liberal leader John Turner then pressed Mulroney, in the third consecutive question on the issue, to live up to his campaign promise to redress the injustice.

"He is now the Prime Minister of this country and he leads the government," Turner said. "He promised a settlement . . . on a basis acceptable to them. That has not happened. Those negotiations have been unilaterally imposed. What is he going to do about it now?"

But Mulroney again refused to announce new initiatives or plans to meet with Japanese Canadians.

He said all Liberals except Turner — "who had the courage to stand up and disagree with that

band of sheep at the time" — cheered Trudeau's refusal to compensate Japanese Canadians.

"You were opposed to redress the Japanese," Mulroney shouted, when for the second time, Bosley cut him off.

"This House is not a place for members to shout at each other across the aisle," Bosley lectured the Prime Minister.

Outside the Commons, Murta said that he senses no urgency in meeting with Japanese Canadians because he has not been contacted

by them for an immediate meeting. If he is, he said, he will meet with them "right away."

But Marchi said there have been several attempts recently by the Japanese Canadian Association to set up a meeting with Mulroney, all to no avail.

"He (Mulroney) refuses to do that, despite his opposition days and during the (1984) election campaign saying he would do that (meet with Japanese Canadians), exactly. So Mr. Mulroney is certainly being a hypocrite in terms of his past promises," Marchi said.

GLOBEY MAIL
APR 24 1985

Redress for Japanese

As an overseas veteran, I wish to express my dismay at the position adopted by the Ontario Command of the Royal Canadian Legion (Legion Against Compensating Japanese — April 12).

Your article states that 195,000 vets are represented by the Legion's Ontario Command, but I am confident that there are many other vets who would join me in saying that, on this issue, the Legion does not speak for me.

I hope the Legion's Dominion Command will reject the shamefully racist position of its Ontario counterpart and instead press the federal Government to make suitable amends to our victimized Japanese fellow Canadians for the disgraceful action taken against them by the Canadian government at that time.

Jim MacDonald
Ottawa

Japanese-Canadian war veteran offended by group's reasoning

The article in The Star, Don't compensate Japanese-Canadians, Legion group says (April 12), needs to be challenged.

According to this report, the Ontario Command of the Royal Canadian Legion has endorsed a resolution opposing financial compensation for Japanese-Canadians who were incarcerated for seven years and had their homes and properties confiscated during World War II. The reason given for this opposition is that "if Japanese-Canadians are compensated for the seizure of their property, then Canadian veterans who were held prisoner in Japanese concentration camps during the war, should receive compensation from the Japanese government."

As a Japanese-Canadian, and a World War II veteran in the Canadian army, I am gravely offended by this senseless reasoning. Is the Legion saying that Canadian citizens of Japanese descent were all enemies of Canada during World War II? Are they unable to differentiate between the true enemy and citizens of Canada?

Why would we have served in the armed services of Canada had it not been for our loyalty to Canada? How many Canadians would have volunteered for the armed forces while their families were incarcerated in concentration camps? Let's be fair about this.

ROGER OBATA
Islington

GLOBE MAIL APR. 20, 1985

Leadership of Legion must take moral stand

gion and Carl Vincent have demonstrated that a positive stand on a national issue such as the Hong Kong tragedy is a project worthy of their existence.

In 1942, Japanese-Canadian property, business and homes were confiscated without regard to recommendations from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or the Pacific Command attesting to the loyalty and trustworthiness of these citizens. Included in this wholesale confiscation was the property of Issei, naturalized Japanese-Canadian veterans of the First World War, 54 of whose names can be found on the Vimy Ridge Memorial and scattered Canadian graves in France as well as the memorial in Stanley Park, Vancouver.

In 1919 there was a failure in the moral leadership of the Royal Canadian Legion when it did not vigorously support the granting of provincial voting rights in British Columbia to those returning veterans in 1919.

It was not until 1925 that these

Canadians veterans of the First World War formed their own legion (#9) and were successful in obtaining the rights due all veterans. In April, 1931, through their own struggles, Japanese-Canadians were granted the right to vote in provincial and federal elections. These rights were not granted to their sons and daughters.

In 1942, the moral bankruptcy of the leadership of the Canadian Legion resulted in the insult and incarceration as "enemy aliens" of their Canadian brother veterans of Legion #9 and their families.

Should there be no support of Japanese-Canadians in general from legion affiliates, the Ontario Command should have taken the leadership for their Canadian brother comrades of the First World War and their Canadian sons and daughters. It is not too late, however, for the Dominion Command to show its moral leadership on behalf of the one remaining First World War veteran, Masumi Mitsui M.M. of Hamilton, Ont., in acknowledging the injustices done to his Canadian comrades and their families in 1942. Surely the Dominion Command can differentiate between a Canadian of Japanese ancestry and a citizen of Japan.

Membership in the Ontario Command would be better served if its leadership were to recommend a reading of contemporary history such as The Enemy That Never Was, by Ken Adachi, The Politics Of Racism, by Ann Sunohara Gomer, or We Went To War, by Roy Ito.

T. Shimizu
S-20 & Nisei Veterans
History Committee
Etobicoke, Ont.

The Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Command, will be tabling a resolution with the Dominion Command recommending "no compensation for Japanese-Canadians" for confiscation and disposal of homes, business and property during the Second World War (Legion Unit Faults Japanese Payment - April 12).

James Forbes, assistant provincial secretary of the Ontario Command, is quoted as stating the legion's "simple stand on the issue" was "the decision of the government of the day."

The "decision of the government of the day" also resulted in the tragedy of the Canadians at Hong Kong. The legion has fought a long and successful struggle against the ineptness and ill-considered decisions of the "government of the day," so that Hong Kong veterans would be compensated for their suffering. Carl Vincent, in his book No Reason Why, has documented the "political bungling" and "military ineptitude" that resulted in the Hong Kong tragedy. The Canadian Le-

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JAPANESE CANADIANS

National Executive Office: 735 Ash Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3N 0R5

April 23, 1985

PRESS RELEASE

At the latest meeting with the Honourable Jack Murta, Minister of Multiculturalism, in Winnipeg on March 30, 1985, NAJC President Art Miki asked for agreement on a Feasibility Study concerning a proposed socio-economic study of losses suffered by Canadians of Japanese ancestry during and after World War II. Support for the Feasibility Study had been received in earlier meetings with government officials acting on Mr. Murta's behalf. Mr. Murta said that he appreciated the value of the study as a documented record of the wartime experience, but the government decided not to accept the NAJC's request. He explained that government had used the term "compensation" but they had never intended direct compensation to Japanese Canadians, and that support for a socio-economic study might commit them to that direction.

During the meeting, Mr. Murta further clarified that his proposed \$6-10 million educational trust fund should be understood, not as a form of compensation, but as a "memorialization" of the wartime mistreatment of Canadians of Japanese ancestry. Mr. Miki reported that in community meetings across Canada the government's redress package is considered unacceptable as a meaningful settlement. Instead, there is strong interest in compensation based on a socio-economic study setting out, in an objective and professional manner, a record of losses.

In a follow-up letter, Mr. Miki reminded Mr. Murta that Prime Minister Brian Mulroney had used the word "compensate" in his May 16, 1984 statement in the Globe and Mail when he declared: "If there was a Conservative government I can assure you we would be compensating Japanese Canadians." Furthermore, the communique issued by Mr. Murta's office on December 15, 1984, stated that "discussion has started on: ...the amount and nature of compensation."

Mr. Murta's response to the NAJC is the latest in a series of government actions backing down from their commitment in December, 1984 to negotiate a redress settlement. At that time, a communique from the office of the Minister of Multiculturalism announced the establishment of a negotiation process and the start of discussions on the timeframe for negotiations, the wording and content of the acknowledgement of injustices suffered, the amount and nature

...2

of compensation, steps to prevent a recurrence, and the possibility of meetings between government officials and Japanese Canadian communities across Canada.

In early January, just after the negotiations had begun, the government announced that they were not negotiating but only "consulting," and that their proposal for a \$6-10 million trust fund was the most the Japanese Canadian community could expect as redress. The NAJC denounced the government's approach as unacceptable in light of the December, 1984 agreement, and then learned that the government was inviting representatives of ethnic communities to Ottawa for a ceremonial presentation of the government package. This unilateral action was stopped when the NAJC held a press conference in Ottawa on January 28, 1984 opposing the government's plans to push their proposal through the House without the NAJC's agreement.

Mr. Murta has stated publicly that the government will not compensate Japanese Canadians on an individual basis. It should be emphasized that the NAJC has never demanded dollar for dollar compensation. The property, income, insurance, pension and educational losses were staggering. This is why a settlement figure that bears no relationship to the injustices suffered will be perceived as unfair by Canadians from all ethnic backgrounds. A resolution that only "memorializes" the wholesale confiscation and liquidation of properties and the forced dispersal of innocent citizens, solely on the basis of their ancestry, is a serious affront to our country's struggle to evolve a social system that guarantees the protection of civil rights.

The redress issue is timely in Canadian history. As Section 15 of our new Constitution comes into effect, we have an opportunity to confirm our commitment to the equal protection of the rights of all individuals. The incarceration of Japanese Canadians reminds us graphically of the horrifying consequences of discriminatory policies, and makes all the more urgent the need to take action to prevent other innocent individuals from suffering the same injustices.

In this respect, the recent resolution passed by the Ontario command of the Royal Canadian Legion opposing compensation for Canadians of Japanese origin is a cause for concern. The Ontario veterans' association apparently reasons that if Japanese Canadians are compensated, Canadian prisoners of war should be compensated by the government of Japan. Even in 1985, there still persists

the failure to recognize that Canadians of Japanese ancestry are citizens of this country who were wrongfully interned by their own government. The Ontario Command's resolution ignores the fact that Japanese Canadian veterans in both wars and their families were subject to uprooting, internment, and the confiscation of property as civilians in their own country. Worse still, it demeans those Japanese Canadians in both wars who gave their lives in the service of this country.

The government has recognized the enormous social and economic impact of the wartime injustices on the Japanese Canadians affected. They have agreed that redress must begin with an official Acknowledgement of the injustices. However, to be truly meaningful in terms of the current Canadian standard of justice and fairness, the Acknowledgement must be accompanied by a form of compensation which reflects, however minimally, the actual losses suffered. Finally, the redress settlement must include some sincere attempt to initiate protective measures so that others will not experience the injustices inflicted on Canadians of Japanese ancestry.

At this time, Mr. Murta has indicated his willingness to meet with the Council to discuss the government's position.

The NAJC will continue to seek co-operation from the government to achieve a mutually acceptable redress settlement. The organization is presently considering viable options in an attempt to resolve the impasse that appears to have developed. A position in response to the government's present approach will be established at the next NAJC Council meeting, planned for June.

NAJC Redress Coordinators Office #525 - 890 West Pender Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6C 1J9
Phone (604) 662-3200

Sincerely,

Terry J. Prychitko, C.A.,
Chairperson.

Manitoba

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JAPANESE CANADIANS
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Manitoba
Intercultural
Council

April 18, 1985.

The Editor,
NAJC Newsletter,
525 - 890 West Pender Street,
Vancouver, B.C.
V6C 1J9

Dear Sir:

I recently received through the courtesy of your National President, the March 1985 issue of the NAJC Newsletter. May I congratulate you on a professional and extremely informative newsletter. I look forward to reading future issues.

The Manitoba Intercultural Council was established by an Act of the Legislature in 1983 to provide to the Government of Manitoba information and advice on all ethnocultural matters in the Province. Every ethnocultural community has the opportunity to elect a representative to the Council.

Your readers will be interested to know that the following motions were passed at the Council's meeting of November 24, 1984:

1. That the Manitoba Intercultural Council urge the Provincial Government to urge the Government of Canada to acknowledge and apologize for the mistreatment of people of Japanese origin resident in Canada during and after World War II and that tangible compensation be provided to those directly affected.
2. That the Manitoba Intercultural Council urge the Government of Canada to acknowledge and apologize for the mistreatment of people of Japanese origin resident in Canada during and after World War II and that tangible compensation be provided to those directly affected.

We have written to Prime Minister Mulroney in this regard.

Sincerely,

Terry J. Prychitko, C.A.,
Chairperson.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JAPANESE CANADIANS

National Executive Office: 735 Ash Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3N 0R5

200 William Roe Blvd.
Newmarket, Ontario
L3Y 5N3

April 22, 1985

April 16, 1985

The Right Honourable Brian Mulroney
Prime Minister
House of Commons
OTTAWA, Ontario

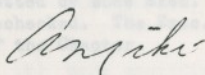
Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

We were pleased to hear your statement in the House of Commons on April 16, 1985 that your "door remains open to them (Japanese Canadian community) at all times" in response to questions concerning the progress of redress for Japanese Canadians.

Since your election the National Association of Japanese Canadians has requested a meeting with you numerous times, most recently on March 25, 1985.

The National Association of Japanese Canadians is very concerned about our differing positions and we believe that a meeting with you at this time would help establish a mutually acceptable method for resolving the redress issue. Therefore, we are requesting a meeting with you at your earliest convenience.


Sincerely yours,



Arthur Miki Kobayashi, corresponding secretary, is out of town on President, NAJC signing for him.

Kindest personal regards.

cc Hon. Jack Murta
John Turner
Ed Broadbent
Sergio Marchi
Ernie Epp
NAJC Council members

Sincerely,
TORONTO NORTH YORK CHAPTER, NAJC

per: Bill Kobayashi,
Corresponding Secretary

280 William Roe Blvd.
Newmarket, Ontario
L3Y 5N3

April 16, 1985

Mr. Art Miki
President, NAJC
735 Ash Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3N 0R5

Dear Art:

Re: Resolution from Toronto North York Chapter, NAJC

We enclose a resolution from the Toronto North York Chapter, NAJC, and request you to send copies, as soon as possible, to members of the National Council, and ask for a reply. The Toronto situation urgently requires early correction, and its far-reaching nature, beyond a local Toronto matter, seriously reduces the effectiveness of the national organization.

The resolution is fairly long, including specific items considered relevant. However, should you consider greater impact will be gained by abridging, please do so.

The resolution was initially drafted by Stan Hiraki, first vice-president, on April 11 for the Executive Committee. Stan and I were asked to redraft and polish, and it was further vetted by some Exec. members on April 14. The final draft has been rechecked. The Exec. Comm. authorized sending it to you in the name of the Chapter.

Bill Kobayashi, corresponding secretary, is out of town on business so I am signing for him.

Kindest personal regards,

Sincerely,

TORONTO NORTH YORK CHAPTER, NAJC

Kunio Hidaka

per: Bill Kobayashi,
for Corresponding Secretary

Enc.

RESOLUTION TO: NAJC National Council, National Executive and
Art Miki, President

FROM: Toronto North York Chapter, NAJC

SUBJECT: Toronto JCCA and Rits Inouye, President

WHEREAS, the Toronto JCCA has not held an Annual General Meeting nor an election of Executive Officers since March 1980, and its Executive Committee and President, Rits Inouye, do not represent Toronto Japanese Canadians in crucial matters currently central to the activities of the NAJC, and Toronto Japanese Canadians are without proper representation on the NAJC National Council; and

WHEREAS, the Toronto JCCA Executive Committee and President have acted in a manner seriously prejudicial to and in opposition to the best interests of Toronto Japanese Canadians and the NAJC, such as:

- (a) disruption of initial redress organizational meetings in the summer of 1983, and by a serious breach of good faith in September 1983, by distorting the agreed to representation of a Toronto Redress Committee, by improperly packing the meeting and converting the form of organization to serve only JCCA purposes as the Toronto JCCA Redress Committee;
- (b) subsequently, to date, by deceptive misinformation and deliberate obstruction opposing all positive and beneficial initiatives, such as public information meetings, for Japanese Canadian redress;
- (c) more specifically, by resolution dated November 21, 1984, declaring that they do not support the redress program of the NAJC;
- (d) illegally, without authority of a proper or general meeting, contrary to the JCCA constitution and without regard to the supposed representative structure of the Toronto JCCA Redress Committee, its two officers, Rits Inouye and Jack Oki, under the name of the Toronto JCCA, by individual letter, purported to expel each redress committee member who did not support them but remained loyal to the NAJC;
- (e) by resolution of March 27, 1985, with Rits Inouye voting in favour, the Toronto JCCA Redress Committee declared its support for the Japanese Canadian National Redress Committee of Survivors;

- (f) Rits Inouye, in neglect of her position as the Toronto NAJC Council representative, refused to cooperate in the NAJC fund drive and distribution of the Newsletter;
- (g) again, contrary to the requirements of her NAJC position, she has refused to report information or distribute copies of communications received from NAJC headquarters;
- (h) even after being requested by Art Miki who came from Winnipeg to address the meeting, she failed to notify Toronto residents except her few JCCA Executive supporters of the March 10, 1985 public meeting at the Dovercourt Japanese United Church; the organizing task consequently fell on Toronto North York Chapter members who made the meeting a success despite Rits and her supporters' actively disruptive tactics;
- (i) Rits Inouye now openly declares her support for the Committee of Survivors; and

WHEREAS, the Toronto North York Chapter is the only organized body in the Greater Toronto Area supporting the NAJC;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the National Council, the National Executive and the National President, each to the limit of their powers and ability, correct the long overdue, destructive and intolerable situation described above, by:

- (a) full recognition, immediately, of the Toronto North York Chapter, NAJC, as the representative body for the Greater Toronto Area, under the name, Greater Toronto Chapter, NAJC;
- (b) recognising representatives of the Greater Toronto Chapter as Council members to exercise five votes;
- (c) immediately, revoking the five votes on the Council by the Toronto JCCA representative;
- (d) as a defensive measure, to protect its own well-being and integrity, the Council suspending recognition of the Toronto JCCA and Rits Inouye as a Council member, for neglect of duties and responsibilities to the NAJC, and as the Toronto representative; and
- (e) removing Rits Inouye from all NAJC committees.

TORONTO NORTH YORK CHAPTER, NAJC

for Kunio Hidaka

Per: Eill Kobayashi,
Corresponding Secretary

April 16, 1985