

Please keep confidential

1333 Gough St., D-10
San Francisco, CA 94109
July 20, 1987

Mrs. Michi Weglyn
957 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10028

Dear Michi:

Thanks for your letter.

The NJAHS commemorative booklet draft is in the hand of the typographer. There is some dissatisfaction in that certain info could not be included because we couldn't verify it, or because of space, or the deadline was upon us for submission. In general, however, we hope there are enough pertinent info there to make the booklet both worthy and informative.

Yes, I am amazed at Bendetsen's reply to Phil Nash. His defective thinking on Japanese Americans has not changed at all since 1942. He just cannot see us as Americans at all. All he sees is that we're the same as our then enemy--the Japanese Imperial Army of the 1930's and 1940's.

I have not seen the book about Mike, "They Call Me Moses." What self-adulation! I cannot believe it! Mike M. did not react with anger to the persecution of his fellow Japanese Americans as did Moses to the persecution of his kinsmen by the Egyptians. Mike did not lead the Japanese Americans from their birthplace (America) to a new land to build their spiritual and national identity. Moses led his people to liberation from servitude. Mike and JACL did not. Instead, they preached compliance and servitude to the very force that was persecuting them. The title Mike chose is most inappropriate!

Each national JACL president appoints a new Pacific Citizen board chair. I suggested a woman from northern Calif., a former member of the Pacific Citizen board and a very capable person. I also know that another excellent name had been suggested to the president from southern California. I was informed by a friend and a supporter of the new president that these suggested individuals were not appointed because "they didn't support me for the presidency" at the convention. Peggy Sasashima Liggett, an attorney, was instrumental in maneuvering the proxy votes to have the present president elected at the Chicago national JACL convention.

JACL is split by factions within the board. A movement to oust the present National Director was initiated from a faction of

the national board. I believe it is politically motivated. The turmoil within the organization is real. The "manual" controversy is just another example of a power struggle, the process which some of us think is against the bylaws of the organization.

JACL, I believe, needs a re-dedication to the declared principles of its own organization. Factional power struggles within the organization have diminished and diverted its energy away from what we should be doing.

Enclosed is a xerox copy of the print I am seeking. I did find one at the National JACL Hqs office; but it is a poor copy. For this reason I am seeking a better one. The booklet will have to go with the poorer print if I am unable to get a better one. Even if too late for the booklet, we can still use a better print for exhibit and other purposes.

Former Supreme Court Justice Arthur Goldberg will be the keynote speaker at the October 1st ceremony on the West steps of the Capitol building. All five Nikkei members of Congress will be participating. Senator Dan Inouye will be giving the main address at the Arlington Memorial amphitheater on October 2nd.

It is interesting how correspondence and telephone can effectively communicate. During the "Tokyo Rose" campaign, I sought and got valuable advice from Judge Robert Takasugi of Los Angeles. I did not meet him face to face until over three years later. It is the same with Aiko Herzig-Yoshinaga, who has also been so helpful. I have yet to meet her face to face --which I am looking forward to in October.

San Francisco, as usual, is cool--often very cool. No one can dispute Mark Twain when he said, "The coldest winter I spent was a summer in San Francisco." It is mid-July, but it isn't unusual to see people wrapped in thick jackets.

With warm regards to Walter. Take care.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Elia'.