May 22, 1943

Dear Mr. Farrington:

With further reference to your letter of April 17, in which you transmit the cases of several Japanese Americans who desire to return to their homes in Hawaii, I can give you the following information.

Citizens of Japanese ancestry are eligible for return under the same conditions as are applicable for all other Hawaiian residents. The return of these citizens is governed by a policy established by an agreement between the Commanding General, Hawaiian Department, and the Commanding General, 14th Naval District.

The dominating factors in granting permission for the return are that the individual is not, for a number of reasons, excluded from returning to the Islands, and the availability of transportation. Bona fide residents do not come within the category of those excluded. However, each case in which the applicant claims residence will be carefully examined.

The procedure for these people to return is as follows: They will make application to the Military Governor of Hawaii, stating the facts in the case, i.e., that they are bona fide residents of a particular locality and the reason they are presently on the Mainland, and requesting return on some approximately specific date.

As you know, the transportation situation is acute and information given by the Commanding General, Hawaiian Department, indicates that a large number of residents who already have been approved for return are awaiting transportation.
I am returning herewith the letters which you enclosed with your letter of April 17.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM P. SCOBEX
Colonel, General Staff
Executive

The Honorable J. R. Farrington
Delegate from Hawaii
House Office Building
Washington, D. C.