MEMORANDUM

FROM: MICHELLE

PROOFED BY: VAN and MARIE
MEMORANDUM

TO: SENATOR INOUYE
FROM: Michelle
DATE: December 14, 2005
RE: Research process and documents obtained from National Archives regarding Japanese-Latin American deportation and internment by the United States Government

On November 18, 2005, I met with you to discuss a project for my fellowship. You proposed that I research documents that would show that the United States government had the intention to deport and intern Japanese-Latin Americans (JLAs) from countries, such as Peru, Brazil, Chile, Panama, and Bolivia.

In order to familiarize myself with the topic, I borrowed books on the matter from the Library of Congress. One book I found particularly useful in detailing the history of the JLAs was *The Japanese in Latin America*, by Professor Daniel Masterson from the US Naval Academy. According to the book, on September 1, 1939, the State Department created the Special War Problems Division to arrange for the deportation, internment, and exchange of JLAs. Numerous other agencies, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Justice Department, and the Immigration and Naturalization Service were also involved in the eventual deportation and internment in the United States of nearly 3,000 JLAs. By late 1943, the deportations and internments of JLAs dropped off considerably as the perceived Japanese threat to Latin America subsided. Most of the JLAs were interned at three camps in Seagoville, Kenedy, and Crystal City in Texas.

The Japanese deportees from Latin America were brought to the U.S. as “enemy aliens,” their passports having been confiscated. The Spanish and Swiss Embassies, which acted as mediators between the United States and Axis nations, expressed Tokyo’s protests about the internment program, calling the JLAs “prisoners of war.”

I contacted Professor Masterson for guidance on where to begin researching at the National Archives. He suggested that I begin with the Special War Problem Division files (Record Group 59), part of the larger Department of State files.
Based on my readings, I chose to research the Latin American countries with the largest number of interned JLAs. Below are figures by country:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
<th># JLAs DEPORTED/INTERNED</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>1,737</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
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<td>283</td>
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<td>Uruguay</td>
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<td>Venezuela</td>
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After researching the Special War Problem files, and speaking to a Military Archivist, I expanded my search beyond civilian agency files to include military documents, particularly those of the Wartime Intelligence Agency (Record Group 226).

Both the Special War Problem files and Wartime Intelligence Agency files contain substantial evidence to confirm that the United States made bilateral agreements with Latin American countries to deport and intern JLAs. Attached are documents relevant to these bilateral agreements. It does not appear that the United States made any unilateral agreements with Latin American nations to deport and intern JLAs. However, according to Professor Masterson, Resolution 20 of the Foreign Ministers Conference at Rio de Janeiro (Rio Conference) in January 1942 mentions the United States’ intent to deport and intern Axis nationals (e.g. German, Italian, Japanese) living in Latin American.

Both sets of files also contain a significant number of documents with details on the names of JLA individuals who were deported, specific details about the JLA internment camps, and the United States’ intention to use some of the deported JLAs as civilian exchanges for U.S. prisoners of war.

It is interesting to note that each Latin American nation made unique bilateral agreements with the United States to remove JLAs. For example, the Peruvian Government’s policy was more of an ethnic cleansing, as it sought to rid the nation of all of its nearly 25,000 Japanese residents. Chile and Bolivia temporarily jailed JLAs at the behest of the U.S. Government and then sent them to the United States for internment. Brazil, with more than 250,000 Japanese residents, restricted JLAs to their existing colonies, while vastly limiting their liberties, since it was too costly for the U.S or Brazilian governments to relocate this many individuals. Mexico interned a very small number of JLAs, and distanced itself from making bilateral agreements with the United States after the Mexican Revolution. Instead of sending JLAs to the United States, the Mexican Government removed them from Baja
California and coastal areas and relocated them inland to residential areas in Guadalajara.

Based on my conversations with Professor Masterson and my research at the National Archives, I realize that there is a wealth of information on the JLA internment; however, it seems difficult to find the ‘smoking gun’ documents that prove the U.S. government’s intentions. Inferences of U.S. intentions regarding JLAs can be made from a majority of the documents, but I have yet to come across any direct statements or orders in my research.

If there exists any ‘smoking gun’ document, I would recommend that research be continued at the National Archives. I would suggest that civilian and military files on Peru be thoroughly searched, as Peru deported the largest number of JLAs, and of all Latin American nations, it had one of the more specific bilateral agreements with the United States.

There are a few individuals that I found to be very helpful throughout the process, and suggest that the next researcher continue to communicate with these contacts. First, Professor Daniel Masterson has been extremely useful by offering his assistance in research at the National Archives, and has offered to testify, when the time comes, as he has a sincere dedication to the JLA matter. Second, Dr. John Taylor and his colleague, Wilbert Mahoney, who are Military Archivists at the National Archives, were helpful in guiding me in the right direction, as the Archive system can be very complex and complicated to someone who is unfamiliar with the archive filing system.

The books that I found useful include The Japanese in Latin America, by Professor Daniel Masterson, and Adios to Tears, by Seiichi Higashide. Other books that I was not able to locate, but presume would be very useful are Pawns in a Triangle of Hate, by C. Harvey Gardiner, and The Japanese Thread, by John Emmerson.

I truly enjoyed the opportunity to work on this issue. My only regret is that I wish I were able to speak to you earlier about this project so that I would have had more time to conduct research. Thank you for giving me this wonderful opportunity to work with experts on the issue, to conduct research at the National Archives, and to help advance the justice movement for the JLAs and their families.
Following are summaries of the individual documents I found that are relevant to the bilateral agreements between the United States and Latin American nations to deport and intern JLAs.

**Brazil**

*Intelligence Division, Navy Department report. From U.S. Naval Attaché, Brazil. March 11, 1942.*

Discusses plans for a large scale movement of Japanese nationals from Brazil to the United States, and the cancellation of Brazilian nationality of those Japanese by birth engaged in the fishing industry. Also mentions that the U.S. government must take a firmer attitude for the adoption of deportation projects.

**Panama**

*State Department letter. From Edwin C. Wilson, U.S. Ambassador to Panama, to the Secretary of State. January 14, 1942.*

Refers to the Rio Conference agreement to deport and intern JLAs. Ambassador Wilson states that the U.S. is fully prepared to construct concentration camps and cover all expenses in connection with the interment of these enemy aliens. He also suggests that JLAs be sent to the United States and maintained there by the U.S. as Panamanian internees.

*War Department letter. From B.M. Bryan, Office of the Provost Marshal General, to Department of State. November 25, 1942.*

Regarding the treatment of Japanese nationals from the Republic of Panama during the time they were in the custody of the U.S. Government.

**Peru**

*Department of State memo. From Division of American Republics. April 9, 1942.*

References measures which Peru might take to improve its cooperation with the United States. Requests assurance from the State Department that drastic and restrictive measures will be taken in the immediate future to control the very dangerous potentialities of Japanese nationals in Peru.
Panama, January 14, 1942.

AIR MAIL
No. 503.
CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Internment of Enemy Aliens in Panama.

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to correspondence exchanged with the Department in reference to the understanding reached with the Minister for Foreign Affairs regarding the internment of enemy aliens in Panama. As mentioned in my strictly confidential despatch No. 300, of October 20, 1941, it appeared possible that in the event of war the situation as regards internees would develop in such a way that the Panamanian authorities would abandon their desire to have these internees maintained on Panamanian territory, and would prefer to have them sent to the United States, as Panamanian internees, as was done during the last war. I am glad to report that this has in fact turned out to be the case. Following recent conversations with General

ANDREWS,
Andrews, I suggested to the Foreign Minister the desirability of reconsidering the question of keeping interned enemy aliens in Panama with the consequent necessity of construction of an internment camp, difficulties of guarding and feeding the internees, giving them medical care, etc. I stated that while we were fully prepared to go ahead on the lines of our agreement with Panama to construct at our cost this concentration camp and cover all expenses in connection with the internment of these enemy aliens, nevertheless I felt it desirable to raise the question of reconsidering the entire matter, with the suggestion that these enemy aliens might, if the Government of Panama so desired, be sent to the United States and maintained there by the United States as Panamanian internees, as was done during the last war.

Yesterday Acting Foreign Minister Coyfia informed me that after discussion of this matter with the President and the Cabinet he was authorized to inform me that the Panamanian Government had reconsidered the matter and now desired to abandon the project of interning these enemy aliens in Panama, agreeing instead that they should be transported to the United States and interned there as Panamanian internees.

I have informed the Commanding General of the foregoing and steps have been taken to halt the construction of the proposed internment camp.

I suggest that the Department request the War Department to issue the necessary authority to General Andrews for transportation of these Panamanian internees to the United States. It will not be possible to begin the transportation of these internees for some time yet, since the United States Army Intelligence Officers and the Panamanian National Police must still review the great majority of the records of the interned aliens in order to determine those who should be placed at liberty and those concerning whom there exists evidence of dangerous activities warranting their internment for the duration of the war.

Respectfully yours,

Edwin O. Wilson.

EOM.ebp
Special Division,  
Department of State,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:

The Provost Marshal General has directed me to reply further to your communication dated October 12, 1942, SD 740.00115, Pacific War/1004, inclosing a copy of memorandum No. 438 dated October 1, 1942, from the Spanish Embassy concerning a protest made by the Japanese Government about treatment reputedly received by Japanese Nationals apprehended in the Republic of Panama and transferred to the United States.

Attached hereto for your information is a copy of an indorsement dated November 18, 1942, by the Commanding General, Caribbean Defense Command, Canal Zone, concerning the matters contained in the memorandum of the Spanish Embassy.

Yours very truly,

B. M. Bryan
Colonel, F. A.
Director, Aliens Division.

Incl.  
Cy. Ind., 11-18-42
HEADQUARTERS PANAMA CANAL DEPARTMENT, Quarry Heights, C. Z., 18 November 1942.

TO: Provost Marshal General, Aliens Division, War Department, Washington, D. C.
THRU: Commanding General, Caribbean Defense Command, Quarry Heights, C. Z.

1. The following information is submitted regarding the treatment received by Japanese Nationals from the Republic of Panama during the time they were in the custody of the United States Government:

On December 8, 1941, Japanese Nationals were placed in the Canal Zone Internment Camp which was located in the Quarantine Area of Balboa, Canal Zone. The compound in which the internees were detained was inclosed by a wire fence some eight (8) feet in height and was topped by an eighteen (18) inch barbed wire apron. The Internees were quartered in the standard United States Army pyramidal type tent which was provided with a wooden flooring. Army Engineers constructed the section of flooring for the tents. These Engineers performed the greatest part of the work with the Japanese assisting by carrying lumber and other materials used in the construction. The work performed by the Japanese was not compulsory and was done in a cheerful and cooperative manner.

At no time was any sort of punishment meted out to the Japanese Nationals as no occasion arose to warrant any disciplinary action.

The sanitary conditions were subject to rigid daily inspection by the Camp Commander, the Department Provost Marshal, the Department Health Officer, and the Department Surgeon.

Latrine facilities were provided of the standard Army type pit latrines. At the time that Japanese internees were placed in the Camp, pit latrines and temporary shower bath facilities for males were available. The latter consisted of duck board platforms, overhead shower heads, all inclosed by a latrine screen. By December 16, 1941, temporary wooden buildings with sewerage facilities were provided for both latrines and showers.

Every care was taken to prevent spread of disease and inconveniences of the internees and there were no cases of sickness resulting from unsanitary conditions.

In the Japanese compound there was set up a standard United
When internees were admitted to the internment camp, they were each given a physical examination comparable to that given to applicants for enlistment in the United States Army. From the first day the camp was in operation, there was a daily sick call held for each nationality so that any person could attend merely by coming to the Office of the Camp Surgeon at the specified hours. No permanent record was kept of the sick call.

From the records in this office and from interviews with officers in charge of the Canal Zone Internment Camp, it can definitely be stated that there were no "serious deed" as alleged by the Japanese Imperial Government, and that treatment accorded their nationals during their period of internment in the Canal Zone Internment Camp was strictly according to the Rules of Land Warfare, and the Geneva Convention of July 27, 1929, relative to the treatment of prisoners of war and civilian internees.

2. In conclusion, it has definitely been determined that all enemy aliens interned at the Canal Zone Internment Camp were treated with great care and kindness, and at no time was any suffering or hardship endured by any internee.

For the Commanding General:

/s/ HUGH J. DEEKEY,
Lieut. Colonel, A.G.D.,
Asst. Adjutant General.
MEMORANDUM

The Department of State refers to memorandum no. 438 dated October 1, 1942, from the Spanish Embassy in charge of Japanese interests in the continental United States, and to the Department's acknowledgment of October 12, 1942, transmitting a protest made by the Japanese Government regarding treatment alleged to have been received by Japanese nationals apprehended in the Republic of Panama and transferred to the United States.

The Embassy is informed that this matter has been investigated and in substance the following facts have been obtained:

On December 8, 1941, Japanese nationals were placed in the Canal Zone Internment Camp which was located in the Quarantine Area of Balboa, Canal Zone. The compound in which the internees were detained was enclosed by a wire fence approximately eight feet in height and was topped by an eighteen inch barbed wire apron. The internees
were quartered in the standard United States Army pyramidal type tent which was provided with a wooden flooring. Army engineers constructed the section of flooring for the tents. These engineers performed the greatest part of the work.

The Japanese, however, were of assistance in carrying lumber and other materials which were used in the construction. The work performed by the Japanese was not compulsory and was done in a cheerful and cooperative manner. At no time was any sort of punishment meted out to the Japanese nationals since no occasion arose to warrant any disciplinary action.

The sanitary conditions were subject to rigid daily inspections by the Camp Commander, the Department Provost Marshal General, the Department of Health Officer, and the Department Surgeon.

Latrine facilities were provided of the standard Army type pit latrines. At the time the Japanese internees were placed in the Camp, pit latrines and temporary shower bath facilities for males were available. The latter consisted of duck board platforms, overhead shower heads, all of which
of which were inclosed by a latrine screen. On or before December 16, 1941 temporary wooden buildings with sewerage facilities were provided for both latrines and showers.

Since every care was taken to prevent the spread of disease and the inconveniences of the internees, there were no cases of sickness resulting from unsanitary conditions.

In the Japanese compound there was set up a standard United States Army field kitchen which was operated by personnel from the United States Army under the rigid supervision of an officer of the Army. So far as sanitary conditions were concerned the field kitchen conformed to the standards of the United States Army. After the mess was completely organized and in operation, the Army cooks were displaced by Japanese nationals who had volunteered for this work. This action was taken in order that food, which was prepared under the supervision of an Army cook, would be prepared so far as practicable in accordance with Japanese tastes and standards.
The investigation has further revealed that the responsibility for the property of enemy aliens in the Republic of Panama was solely a function of the Custodian of Enemy Alien Property for the Republic of Panama who is reported to have performed his duties in a very satisfactory manner. Funds that were confiscated by the authorities of the United States Army from the Japanese were carefully handled. As each internee was processed, his monies were taken from him and placed in an envelope bearing his name, nationality, serial number and the amount and kind of monies taken. From these envelopes separate accounts were set up for each individual and the total amount deposited to the credit of the Canal Zone Internment Camp Fund in the Chase National Bank, Balboa Branch, Balboa, Canal Zone. Later, upon the transfer of the Japanese nationals to the United States, these funds were transferred on February 25, 1942 by the military Custodian to the Custodian of Enemy Alien Property for the Republic of Panama.

With regard to the Japanese internee named "Alejandro" concerning whom it is stated in the protest from the Japanese Government
Government as set forth in the Legation's memorandum under
reference that "neither the American nor Panamanian author-
ities gave him medical attention until the second of May
when he was placed in a hospital and where he died the same
day" the investigation has disclosed that one Alejandro
Ouchi, ISN-EP(J)-239-CI, was interned at the Camp. He,
however, departed for the United States on April 2, 1942.
Prior to the departure of the Japanese nationals for the
United States the Camp Surgeon submitted a report to the
Camp Commander outlining all serious cases of illnesses.
In this report there is no record of the sickness of any
person named "Alejandro".

Each internee, when admitted to the Internment Camp,
was given a physical examination comparable to that given
to an applicant for enlistment in the United States Army.
From the first day the camp was in operation there was a
daily sick call held for each nationality. Any person
could attend the sick call by reporting to the Office of
the Camp Surgeon at the specified hours.

A thorough investigation has revealed that there
were no "serious deeds" as alleged by the Japanese
Government.
Government and that the treatment accorded Japanese nationals during the period of their internment in the Canal Zone Internment Camp was strictly in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva Prisoners of War Convention of July 27, 1929.

All Japanese nationals interned at the Canal Zone Internment Camp, the Embassy may be assured, were treated with proper regard for the obligations of this Government and with due consideration and at no time did any of them endure any suffering or hardship.

Department of State,

Washington, February 17, 1943

740.00115 Pacific War/1150
MEASURES WHICH PERU MIGHT TAKE TO IMPROVE ITS COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED STATES

With reference to the measures of cooperation which this Government is prepared to extend to Peru, the following are points of assistance which Peru might make in return:

1. Settlement of foreign debts owned in the United States. No serious attempt has been made to make any payments on the debt owed to American nationals. While it is asserted that the financial position of Peru would not allow any such payments, it is, at the same time, true that regular payments are made on the sterling debt. The American loans were, for the most part, put to productive use and the Peruvian people are still enjoying the benefits therefrom. It would seem that the United States should receive first consideration in any debt settlement.

2. There are several claims outstanding on behalf of American citizens some of which are old. No interest has ever been shown by the Peruvian Government in doing anything about these claims. On the contrary, the Government
paid off Japanese claims recently with amazing rapidity and almost no complaint about the sums involved. Another example of chary treatment of United States interests was the settlement with United Aircraft after a ten-year argument and at a fraction of the original claim. Caproni interests were paid off in full and expeditiously.

3. Economic controls. To-date the control of Axis funds has been very slip-shod. The same has been true on other economic measures against the Axis. Mr. Dasso asserts that he has a good control measure prepared. If so, that should relieve that situation.

4. Subversive activities. While Peruvian cooperation in this respect has been better than in some other countries, it still leaves a good deal to be desired. The Government has been most unwilling to cooperate in the expulsion of dangerous Axis non-officials and while it apparently has finally agreed to expel some, there will be a good many who will be left at liberty.

Censorship has been most inadequate. Some months ago the definitely pro-American postal censor was fired and he was replaced by a friend of a Foreign Office official who has strong Nazi sympathies. Under the tutelage of this individual censorship operates principally in favor of the Axis. Much the same type of lax censorship control exists with relation to telephone and telegraph services.
services. The same type of censorship prevails with regard to propaganda where the control is mildly unsatisfactory.

One serious leak which may be irremediable is through the Falange. A strong conservative Catholic bloc is very friendly with the Franco partisans, and there seems to be no doubt that this channel is being used by the Axis not only for espionage purposes but also for propaganda. The difficulty here is that Franco sympathizers are found in the most important positions in the government. Their elimination would require a rather drastic check-up.

The most serious situation concerns the Japanese. There are perhaps 30,000 of them in Peru well-placed and concentrated. Perhaps 5 to 10,000 of them are under military discipline and are armed. The Peruvian Government is seriously concerned over this situation and Peruvians in general bear no love for the Japanese, but so far as I know action has never passed the querulous stage. It seems to me that above all else some very definite assurances should be obtained that drastic and restrictive measures will be taken in the immediate future to control the very dangerous potentialities of this concentration.

5. Military
5. Military cooperation. The Peruvian Government has expressed so far willingness to cooperate in the defense of its coast within the limits of its ability. A few reports are seen around here about the effectiveness of this control, but there are reports which indicate that supervision, particularly in the Talara oil fields area, leaves a good deal to be desired.

6. One of the most dangerous situations in Peru exists in the Foreign Office where a definitely pro-Axis hierarchy has itself well entrenched. The Foreign Minister himself is not above suspicion, but regardless of his real sentiments, his dilatory tactics have played into the hands of the Axis. Report after report from Lima mentions the slowing down of cooperation on the part of Peru due to the quibbling and back-tracking of Foreign Office officials. This condition is too general to be mere coincidence or bureaucratic inefficiency. Mr. Norweb himself has stated that he never knows what the Foreign Minister's last word will be.
WHEREAS: At the eighth International Conference of American States held at Lima in December 1938, the Governments of the American States reaffirmed in the Declaration of Lima their continental solidarity, and their purpose to collaborate in the maintenance of the principles upon which this solidarity is based, and to defend their absolute sovereignty against all foreign intervention or activity;

WHEREAS: The Second Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the American Republics, which was held at Havana in July 1940, in accordance with agreements approved at previous Inter-American Conferences, including the Declaration of Lima, adopted a Resolution known as Resolution XV, which declares:

"That any attempt on the part of a non-American State against the integrity or inviolability of the territory, the sovereignty or the political independence of an American State shall be considered as an act of aggression against the States which sign this declaration.

"In case acts of aggression are committed or should there be reason to believe that an act of aggression is being prepared by a non-American nation against the integrity or inviolability of the territory, the sovereignty or the political independence of an American nation, the nations signatory to the present declaration will consult among themselves in order to agree upon the measures it may be advisable to take.

"All the signatory nations, or two or more of them, according to circumstances, shall proceed to negotiate the necessary complementary agreements so as to organize cooperation for defense and the assistance that they shall lend each other in the event of aggressions such as those referred to in this declaration."

WHEREAS: The United States of America and the Republic of Peru, reaffirming their faith in the foregoing principles, recognize the necessity of reaching an agreement, regarding cooperative measures for Hemisphere defense in their respective territories and territorial waters, agree upon the following:

ARTICLE 1
ARTICLE I

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Peru agree that either country may undertake, in accordance with such plans as may be agreed upon between their appropriate military and naval authorities, operations on or over the lands and in or over the territorial waters of the other country for the purpose of Hemisphere defense, and to that end may do with the cooperation of the other Government any and all things necessary to carry out and to maintain such operations.

They furthermore agree that if for purposes of Hemisphere defense either Government should request the cooperation of the other Government for defense against non-American aggression, the Government whose assistance has been requested will come to the aid of the other Government in every practicable way.

ARTICLE II

Any defense installations which may be made by either Government under Article I shall be for the joint use of the contracting parties on a fully cooperative basis.

ARTICLE III

Articles of every description imported into the United States of America or the Republic of Peru for use for the purposes described under Article I will not be subject to the payment of customs duties or any other fees or charges.

ARTICLE IV

The Government establishing or constructing any defense installations under this Agreement shall bear the cost of any indemnification or damages occasioned by the establishment or construction of such defense installations.
ARTICLE V

A Commission composed of Military, Naval and Air representatives of the two Governments will meet in Lima as soon as practicable, for the purpose of making Combined Plans for military cooperation.

ARTICLE VI

A permanent commission composed of Military, Naval and Air representatives of the two Governments will be organized in Lima for the purpose of collaboration in the planning and execution of such operations as may be necessary to make effective the Combined Plans agreed upon. The United States representatives of this Commission may be the Chiefs of the Military, Naval or Air Missions serving in Peru, or special representatives designated for this purpose. This Commission will be assisted by the personnel composing Military, Naval or Air missions serving in Peru without prejudice to existing contracts.

ARTICLE VII

This Agreement, which shall be in force from the day of signature, shall continue in effect for the period of the present emergency and may continue thereafter, if, in the opinion of the two Governments, there still exists danger of aggression by a non-American power against an American power.

ARTICLE VIII

The two Governments will maintain this Agreement confidential until such time as they agree that it shall be made public.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, duly authorized for the purpose, have signed and sealed this Agreement in duplicate, in the English and Spanish languages, at Washington, ..........
SUBJECT Speech delivered by Haya de la Torre:

Transmits a translation of -, head of the Apra Party in Peru, to a secret session of the directors of the Party in Lima on July 28, 1942.

For the original paper from which reference is taken

See letter

(Dated Sept. 30, 1942 From Justice Dept. (Hoover))

File No. 300.20225/107
ISSUED BY THE INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
OFFICE OF CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
NAVY DEPARTMENT

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

Serial No. 20-49

Monograph Index Guide No. 1222-22

From: Capt. G. B. A. T. U. (Ret'd.) at No. 38 January Date: March 11, 1945

Reference: ADMN No. 3132-46, 3/7/45

Source Code: T. C. M. S. No. 3200, 3/7/45

Evaluation: Available

Subject: INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS WITH OTHER NATIONS

The following paragraphs are extracted from the report made by the source mentioned in the summary:

The state of the radio continues to be peaceful. An energetic application of governmental measures is continuing to consolidate radio transmitters and antiaircraft measures in a few areas. A few units have been moved into the State of Paraguay into lines not on the basis of a demand for the raising of Japanese military activity. If the information given in this account has been received due to lack of direct communication, the local authorities are seeking advice from other nations and persons suspected of Japanese connections as a result of frequent arrests. A former a police of the German Consul in Paraguay is also under arrest because of participation in the escape of the "HITLER" sailors (see Note 1). Substantial information leading to the belief in the existence of Japanese activities for other than economic or social purposes has been gained by numerous raids on Japanese residences. A brother of an Imperial dancer and a Japanese Havani artist holding a military commission are among those seized. A summary of interrogations, investigations in the Japanese sector are proceeding slowly.

Plans are being developed for the large-scale evacuation of Japanese nationals from strategic and vulnerable areas to the interior of the State and the evacuation of Brazilian nationals to other Japanese by birth expelled in the fishing industry. A firm attitude on the part of the Federal Government will be necessary for the adoption of these projects.

The elimination of doubtful personal and replacing reliable personnel and competent delegations at all important points continues in the reorganization of the political police although financial difficulties are impeding this program.

With the adoption by the regional command of a more energetic and cooperative attitude, friction between political police and regional command has been reduced.

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This reproduction of this material in any form is not authorized except by specific approval of the Secretary of the Navy.
Major France is exercising the function of secretary due to the serious illness of Reguira.

T. L. RIDDE
1st Lieut., U.S.N.
Ass. Naval Attaché

Forwarded:

W. L. Kline

Mr. L. Killian,
by direction.

Original via air.
Copies via sea.
TO: SENATOR

FROM: VAN and MICHELLE

PROOFED BY: JAMES and MARIE
Dear xxxxx:

On December 14, 2005, I received a report from Michelle T. Sugi, who has worked in my office since September 2005 as the Japanese American Citizens League Mike M. Masaoka Fellow.

I assigned her to research documents that would show the United States’ involvement in the deportation, internment, and exchange of Japanese nationals living in Latin America during World War II. Ms. Sugi’s research at the National Archives, and her communication with military and civilian personnel who are experts on the issue, allowed her to complete a comprehensive report, which is attached for your review.

I share Ms. Sugi’s report with you since you have expressed support for legislation that would provide redress for the Japanese Latin Americans who were affected by this program. In the spring of 2006, I plan to introduce the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Latin Americans of Japanese Descent Act, which would establish a fact-finding commission to extend the study of the 1980 Japanese American Commission to find facts surrounding the relocation, internment, and deportation of Latin Americans of Japanese descent. I look forward to your continued support of this very important issue.
On December 14, 2005, I met with you to discuss my report on the research I conducted on the Japanese Latin Americans. You asked that I draft a cover letter for the report, which would be sent to supporters of Japanese Latin American redress.

Below is a list of supporters I believe should receive a copy of my report.

Congressman Mike Honda
Congressman Xavier Becerra
Grace Shimizu, Director, Japanese-Peruvian Oral History Project
Daniel Masterson, Professor, U.S. Naval Academy
DOCUMENTS:

☑ Department of State memo, dated November 5, 1941, regarding US-Panamanian “agreement” to intern enemy aliens in Panama in event of war between the US and Japan. (National Archive document) p. 5a sec. 5n. 5-8

“Summary of Proclamations of the President of the US of December 7 and 8, 1941, and January 14, 1942, and of Regulations of the Attorney General Thereunder 1942, Prescribing the Conduct to be Observed by Aliens of Enemy Nationalities,” signed by Attorney General Francis Biddle

Memo from FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover to the US Attorney General, dated December 22, 1941, regarding Western Hemisphere intelligence work and role of the FBI. (Franklin D. Roosevelt Library document)

“Confidential Directive Issued on January 16, 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to the Heads of the Government Departments and Agencies,” regarding FBI’s responsibility for a Special Intelligence Service covering the Western Hemisphere. (Franklin D. Roosevelt Library document)

Memo from Spanish Embassy to US State Department, dated October 1, 1942, regarding Japanese Government protest of the treatment of Japanese in Panama (in Years of Infamy by Michi Weglyn)

Excerpt from memo from Asst. Secretary of State Breckinridge Long to US State Department, dated February 13, 1943,” advising not “to break up family groups of the Japanese and Germans listed for transportation to the [US] for internment,” which could result in reciprocal treatment by German and Japanese authorities. (in Years of Infamy by Michi Weglyn)

Memo from H.C. Ingles (Chief of Staff Brigadier General, G.S.C.) to Chief of Staff, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C., dated December 6, 1942, regarding deportation of enemy aliens from Central America”, showing that the initiative did indeed come from the United States

Memo transmitted in secret code from Marshall to the Caribbean Defense Command Headquarters, dated December 12, 1942, spelling out “these interned nationals are to be used for exchange...” (National Archives document) sec. 3a, sec. 3b, 2, 1.

Memo for James H. Rowe, dated January 26, 1943, regarding deportation and internment of harmless alien enemies from Central and South America, including Jewish refugees. (Franklin D. Roosevelt Library document)

Spanish Embassy memo to US Department of State, dated February 10, 1943, regarding protest by the Japanese Government about the deportations of Japanese from Peru (National Archives document) p. 5a.
Policy memo from L. T. McCollister to all Department of Justice Internment camp employees, dated July 9, 1943, urging them not to discuss camp matters away from the camp. (National Archives document)

Memo from US Acting Secretary of State Breckinridge Long to R. Henry Norweb (US Ambassador to Peru), dated 10/22/43, to impress upon the Japanese government “in graphic terms the situation of Japanese nationals in Peru” to create grounds for the request for repatriation, but not to reveal US interest in the matter. (National Archive document)

Unsigned Department of State memo, dated November 24, 1943, expressing concern about leaving “written evidence” behind that would show the deportations were initiated by the United States. (National Archive document)

Memo from US Asst. Secretary of State Breckinridge Long to US Secretary of State Cordell Hull, dated December 17, 1943, urging that the Attorney General study the question of and take steps towards postwar deportation of “Japanese citizens and American citizens of Japanese race,” including divesture of American citizenship. (Years of Infamy by Michi Weglyn)

Memo from the Spanish Embassy to the US State Department, dated May 31, 1944, regarding protest by the Japanese Government about the deportation of Bolivian and Peruvian Japanese to the US. (Years of Infamy by Michi Weglyn)

Memo from the Spanish Embassy to the US Department of State, dated June 12, 1944, regarding complaints by Japanese internees who were deported to the US on the “Madison” and the “Cuba” ships. (National Archive document)

Secret memo from the Department of State in response to questions from the Department of the Navy, dated August 3, 1944, explaining the agreement between the US and Japan to apply the Geneva Prisoners of War Convention of 1929 to civilian internees. (National Archive document)

Telegram from US Secretary of State Cordell Hull to the Swiss Government, dated September 1, 1944, attempting to negotiate a third exchange of prisoners with Japan. (Years of Infamy by Michi Weglyn)

Telegram from State Department to Berry, dated November 8, 1944, searching for hostages outside the Western Hemisphere in Rumania. (Years of Infamy by Michi Weglyn)

Telegram from Charles Sawyer (US Ambassador to Belgium) to US Secretary of State, dated January 12, 1945, welcoming use of Japanese nationals in Belgium “as hostages for eventual repatriation.” (Years of Infamy by Michi Weglyn)
(National Archive document)

Memo from the Department of Justice, dated October 4, 1946, and contract, signed Oct. 2, 1946, between Department of Justice and Deerfield Packing Corporation (Seabrook Farms) regarding Japanese internee labor
(National Archive document)
National Archives

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

Dr. Michael Hussey
Civilian Archives

Suggests: Decimal Publication
(All located on 4th floor microfilm)

- Brazil/US relations 711.32 LM 157
- Panama/US 711.19 C0031
- Peru/US 711.23 LM 157

Check 711.**115, which indicates “Enemy noncombatants” or “Civilian POWs”

Dr. John Taylor
Military Archives

Suggests:
(Located on 2nd floor, request slip needs to be filled out to be called)

- RG 226: OSS- Wartime Intelligence Agency, later turned into CIA
  - 0 - country, friendly contacts
  - 1 - political intelligence
  - 2 - economic “
  - 3 - military “
  - 4 - naval “
  - 5 - aviation “
  - 6 - catch all (propaganda, press, religion, education)
  - 7 - subversive activities (***)

Also suggests talking to: Wilbert Mahoney, Military Archivist

Look for:
- Special War Problems Division Records, box 19, RG 59
- Franklin D. Roosevelt to Sec. of State Cordell Hull, 24 April 1941, Department of State Records, 740.00115, 1939/1024_RG 59
- RG 226, Box 83, Folder 48
- RG 226 (all past, but Brazil)
- Microfilm: Chile, Bolivia, Paraguay
RG 226, Box 329, Entry 14

Mexico

\[\sqrt{12744c} \text{: Hoover: Movem. of Japanese from 1/12 - (2/24/42)}\]

\[\sqrt{12319c} \text{: American Embassy @ Mexico (1/8/42)}\]

Mexico estab. conc. camp for Japanese undesirables @ 3 places

\[\sqrt{10389c} \text{: Hoover to Donovan: Memo on Jap in Mexico. Advice to leave if imperative (?).}\]

\[\sqrt{15838F} \text{: Report on "drastic action taken by local auth. against Jap. nationals" (1-31-42)}\]

\[\sqrt{12459c} \text{: US Embassy @ Mexico: Re: Mexican action re: Jap. residents (2-2-42)}\]
RG 226, Box 141, Entry 14

CHILE

RG 226, Box 314, Entry 14
Country: Latin America

☑ 12848 S. General
   J.T. Howard to Col. Donovan. A memo concerning Japanese act. & plans for Latin America (2/20/42)

☑ 1816 C G2 report on distr. & act. of Japanese in LA

☑ 23842 R USALLA relations: Rio Conf. 1942, measures to suppress subversive activ.
BRAZIL

\[13654 R\] Japanese details; anti-submarine measures (2-1-43)

\[13791 C\] Hoover to Col. Memo "Japanese in Brazil"
Brazil's attempt against local Japanese concen. camps on island of Ilha Grande, (8-19-42)

\[14774 C\] (2-11-42) Prelim. plans for movement of Jap nationals from strategic areas.

\[13897 C\] Hoover to Donovan: Calves centers of Jap concen.

\[17415 C\] Hoover to Col. "Possible Transfer of Jap from Brazil to Argentina" (6/9/42)
American Embassy, Rio, State Dept.
Lists subv. & anti-subv. activities (3-19-42)
Political & Government:

28336 C - Report on deportation of 15 Japanese
(Dec. 20, 1942)

15166 C - Hoover to CoE. Donovan, Memo on conditions
in Peru. Jap. pop. may be determenent... situation
of Nazis & Jap. internmenet (4/11/42)

11007 C - Copy of Peru declaration of solidarity
w/US re: Japanese (1/12/42)

13280 C - Hoover to CoE. Donovan
Memo on Japanese nationals in custody (3/6/42)

10320 R Preparations to combat possible subversive
activities. Orders issued to prevent movement
of Japanese nationals. (12/8/41)

2296 C Report on Japanese in Peru, activity by Japanese
in relation between US & Peru.
9789C Hoover to Donovan: Memo on Peruvian government attitude toward Japanese

10422C Hoover to Donovan: (1/12/42) Japanese threat in Peru

20367C Japanese infiltration in Peru (7/13/42)
**REFERENCE SERVICE SLIP**

**NAME OF REQUESTOR**

**AGENCY OR ADDRESS**

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