

# Washington, D.C.: Public Relations: Press Releases: Jan. 2007

Senator Daniel K. Inouye Papers

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# Dan Inouye

U.S. SENATOR FROM HAWAII

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## **SENATOR INOUE TO ADDRESS MILITARY CONFERENCE**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2007**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Honolulu, Hawaii – On Thursday, January 4<sup>th</sup> U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye will address the attendees of the Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Council's Military Partnership Conference. He will deliver keynote remarks during the Conference lunch which begins at 12:00 noon at the Hilton Hawaiian Village, Coral Ballroom.**

**The topic of Senator Inouye's speech will be the Iraq War which is dividing our nation. It will be the first time he makes public comments on the war and the difficult road ahead.**

**STATEMENT BY U.S. SENATOR DANIEL K. INOUE**

**WELCOMING REPRESENTATIVE MAZIE HIRONO  
TO THE 110TH CONGRESS**

**Congressional Record  
Monday, January 8, 2007**

**Mr. President, it is my pleasure to welcome the newest member of the Hawaii Congressional Delegation, Representative Mazie Hirono, to the 110th Congress.**

**Representative Hirono has previously served the State of Hawaii as Lieutenant Governor, Hawaii State Representative, and Deputy State Attorney General, and I am confident she will continue her distinguished record as a compassionate, tireless, and courageous public servant through her service in Washington as a member of the United States House of Representatives. She embodies the best of Hawaii and our nation.**

**As a young girl, she and her mother and two brothers immigrated from Japan in search of a better life. The life they found in Hawaii was marked by struggle and hard work. But, more importantly, Mazie Hirono found hope and self-reliance.**

**She also learned an important lesson that still guides her today. "My mother taught me that no circumstance is beyond the power of courage, and that when you know what is right you must find the will to act, even against the greatest of odds," she says. That uncommon spirit, from an uncommon mother, defines Mazie Hirono.**

**Mr. President, I kindly ask you and my colleagues to join me in welcoming Representative Hirono to the 110th Congress of the United States.**

January 10, 2007

To: Senator

Fr: Mike

Re: local media requesting your reaction to the President's State of the Union address

KITV (ABC)

Please call assignment editor Wanda Weir, 808-535-0420, and she will pass you off to a reporter.

KHNL (NBC)

Please call assignment editor Garrett Kamemoto, 808-847-1112, and he will pass you off to a reporter.

KGMB (CBS)

Please call 808-973-9889, and ask for either assignment editor Brenda Salgado or producer Christi Young. Once the connection is made, you will be transferred to a reporter.

KHON (Fox)

Please call assignment editor Sheryl Turbeville, 808-591-4291. She will pass you off to a reporter.

Associated Press / Honolulu

Please call 808-536-5510, and ask for reporter Greg Small. He has been assigned to interview you.

Honolulu Advertiser

Please call the Advertiser's Washington correspondent Dennis Camire at his office, 202-906-8110.

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

Please call reporter Richard Borreca at 808-294-7593.

**NEWS DIGEST  
PRE-SPEECH COVERAGE  
on  
President Bush's Speech on Iraq  
Wednesday, January 10, 2007  
Washington, D.C.**

**AP/Washington - OUTLINE OF THE SPEECH**

**Bush will tell the nation Wednesday night he will send more than 20,000 additional American forces to Iraq, acknowledging that it had been a mistake earlier not to have more American and Iraqi troops fighting the war, a senior administration official said.**

**Seeking support for a retooled strategy to win support for the unpopular war, the president also will acknowledge that the rules of engagement were flawed, White House counselor Dan Bartlett said.**

**Bush is to explain why a gradual buildup of about 20,000 additional U.S. troops, along with other steps expected to include pumping \$1 billion into Iraq's economy, is the answer for a more than 3 1/2-year-old war that has only gotten deadlier with no end in sight.**

**Bush will say that the infusion of additional American forces will depend on Iraq taking specific steps to curb sectarian violence and making other moves to deal with political and economic problems. The first batch of new U.S. troops is expected to be in Iraq within three weeks.**

**Bartlett also said that Bush will "make very clear that America's commitment is not open-ended, that benchmarks have to be met, that milestones have to be reached both on the security side but just as importantly on the political side and the economic side. It will be unequivocal in President Bush's speech tonight that the Iraqis have to step up."**

**Washington Post - BUSH AT ODDS WITH HIS GENERALS**

**When President Bush goes before the American people tonight to outline his new strategy for Iraq, he will be doing something he has avoided since the invasion of Iraq in March 2003: ordering his top military brass to take action they initially resisted and advised against.**

Bush talks frequently of his disdain for micromanaging the war effort and for second-guessing his commanders. "It's important to trust the judgment of the military when they're making military plans," he told The Washington Post in an interview last month. "I'm a strict adherer to the command structure."

But over the past two months, as the security situation in Iraq has deteriorated and U.S. public support for the war has dropped, Bush has pushed back against his top military advisers and the commanders in Iraq: He has fashioned a plan to add up to 20,000 troops to the 132,000 U.S. service members already on the ground. As Bush plans it, the military will soon be "surging" in Iraq two months after an election that many Democrats interpreted as a mandate to begin withdrawing troops.

Pentagon insiders say members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff have long opposed the increase in troops and are only grudgingly going along with the plan because they have been promised that the military escalation will be matched by renewed political and economic efforts in Iraq. Gen. John P. Abizaid, the outgoing head of Central Command, said less than two months ago that adding U.S. troops was not the answer for Iraq.

#### Washington Post - BUSH SEEKS TO BLUNT DEM CRITICISM

President Bush gravely warned House Democrats yesterday that America's credibility would be shattered if the United States pulled its troops from Iraq, forcing close ally Saudi Arabia to look elsewhere for protection and potentially destabilizing Egypt, the region's most populous country, according to participants in the meeting.

But Democrats in both the House and the Senate signaled that they will actively oppose his plan to send several additional U.S. combat brigades to Iraq, the first of which -- made up of about 3,500 troops from the 82nd Airborne Division -- could move relatively quickly into position from its current assignment in Kuwait. Bush's decision, which he will announce in a speech tonight, is rapidly becoming the first test of wills between the Republican president and the new Democratic-controlled Congress.

Senate Majority Leader Harry M. Reid (D-Nev.) said the chamber will debate and vote next week on a resolution opposing any increase in U.S. troop strength in Iraq. He predicted that the resolution will pass with overwhelming support from Democrats and Republicans alike.

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Rep. Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.) will

introduce legislation that goes significantly further than Reid's plan. Under their bill, Congress would have to approve any additional troop deployments and any additional funding for the president's plan.

**NYTimes.com - 'SURGE TROOPS' TO HAVE LIMITED ROLE**

President Bush will announce tonight that the additional American troops he plans to send to Baghdad will act only in support of Iraqi forces, and that they are being sent only because the Iraqi government has promised a "fundamental" change in policy, a top White House official said this morning.

Dan Bartlett, the White House counselor, said that as a "precondition" for the increase in American forces, the government of Prime Minister Nuri Kamal al-Maliki has agreed to assign more Iraqi troops to the capital and to remove restrictions on their operations that had protected Shiite militias tied to his political allies.

[Bartlett] did not address the question of what Mr. Bush planned to do if Iraq fails to carry out the agreed-upon steps. But he said on several of the shows that "America can't want this more than they want it themselves."

. . . Mr. Maliki gave a different picture of the agreement reached with Mr. Bush on the new strategy during a two-hour videoconference last week.

He said that Mr. Bush would announce measures "to speed up the building and arming of Iraqi forces, increasing Baghdad's security in order to stabilize it and supporting the government in the economic field," according to The Associated Press.

Mr. Maliki said that Mr. Bush "wanted to express his continued commitment to support" his government.

**New York Times - DEMS PLAN VOTES AGAINST IRAQ PLAN**

Democratic leaders said Tuesday that they intended to hold symbolic votes in the House and Senate on President Bush's plan to send more troops to Baghdad, forcing Republicans to take a stand on the proposal and seeking to isolate the president politically over his handling of the war.

**New York Times - SURGE EXPECTED TO PULL 6 GUARD BRIGADES TO IRAQ**

**President Bush's plan to increase troop levels in Iraq is expected to require the Army eventually to send as many as six National Guard combat brigades to Iraq, beginning in 2008.**

**The increased demand on the National Guard in coming years is a likely byproduct of Mr. Bush's decision, expected to be announced in a speech Wednesday night, to send five active-duty combat brigades, or about 20,000 troops, to Iraq, starting at the end of this month, according to current and former officials.**

**Two of those brigades are likely to be in place in Iraq by mid-February, with the rest flowing in one a month until May, according to a military official with access to a recent version of the plan. The Bush blueprint also envisions sending two additional Marine battalions to Anbar Province, as well as delaying the departure of 2,200 additional Marines now in the province.**

**In a government-wide effort to expand the American commitment to Iraq, a program to operate Provincial Reconstruction Teams in Iraq will be doubled and renamed as Provincial Support Teams, a senior administration official said Tuesday. Currently, the United States operates seven of these teams and allies operate three; the Bush plan will call for adding nine more. They will be staffed by personnel from across the government — the Departments of State, Defense, Agriculture and Justice — to help neighborhoods manage economic and political development, the official said.**

**January 10, 2007**

**To: Senator**

**Fr: Mike**

**Re: News organizations requesting your reaction to the President's speech**

**KITV (ABC)**

**Please call assignment editor Wanda Weir, 535-0420, and she will pass you off to a reporter.**

**KHNL (NBC)**

**Please call assignment editor Garrett Kamemoto, 847-1112, and he will pass you off to a reporter.**

**KHON (Fox)**

**Please call Jason Horiuchi on the assignment desk, 591-4291. He will interview you.**

**Honolulu Advertiser**

**Please call the city desk, 525-8090, and one of the editors on duty, Andy Yamaguchi or Dan Woods, will pass you off to a reporter. That reporter will probably be Johnny Brannon.**

**Note: You may also be asked about your health, and if you know who might be Admiral Fallon's replacement at Pacific Command.**

# Dan Inouye

U.S. SENATOR FROM HAWAII



**\$197,000 APPROVED FOR INTERIM RESTORATION OF WATER  
TO PARTS OF THE KOHALA DITCH, INOUYE AND AKAKA ANNOUNCE**

**Thursday, January 11, 2007**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**U.S. Senators Daniel K. Inouye and Daniel K. Akaka announced today that the U.S. Department of Agriculture has approved \$197,000 to assist the Big Island's Kohala community with the restoration of the flow of water for parts of the Kohala Ditch irrigation system.**

**The system, which has served the community well, was developed in the plantation era 75 years ago. But the passage of time and a lack of maintenance have taken their toll.**

**Senators Inouye and Akaka said a federal-private partnership, the Biosystems Technology Oversight Committee, recommended funding the pumping of water from two existing wells into portions of the Kohala Ditch to provide a supplemental source of water while the main portion of the irrigation system is undergoing repairs. The failure of the system at one of the major intakes for the irrigation system cut off the flow of water through the 75-year-old Kohala Ditch, leaving agricultural businesses and portions of the community without a source of irrigation water. Businesses impacted included farms, ranches, and agricultural tourism operations.**

**"Senator Akaka and I are pleased that the Biosystems Technology Oversight Committee provided the leadership in assisting the Kohala community with this initiative," Senator Inouye said. "Without assistance from this program, the community had very few options for an interim operation while a longer term solution is implemented. While this assistance from the Department of Agriculture is both timely and appreciated, Senator Akaka and I**

**are fully aware that this initiative is also temporary and partial.”**

**Senator Akaka added: “Senator Inouye and I are also aware that there are users of the irrigation system who will not benefit from this effort, and this is not acceptable. We will continue to work with the community to seek a long-term solution that will benefit a broader portion of the community. There is no doubt in our minds that a reliable irrigation water supply is critical to the sustainable agriculture in the Kohala region.”**

-30-

**January 11, 2007**

**Mr. Alan McNarie  
Senior Contributing Editor  
Hawaii Island Journal**

**Dear Mr. McNarie:**

**U.S. Senator Conrad is scheduled today to reintroduce the 2005-06 agriculture disaster relief package that contains provisions that aid Hawaii. Senators Inouye and Akaka are co-sponsors of this legislation.**

**This measure contains the same provisions that the Republican majority rejected last year.**

**I believe the questions you pose are answered by the following joint press release that Senators Inouye and Akaka issued on December 5, 2006:**

**INOUE AND AKAKA CRITICAL OF REPUBLICAN RESISTANCE  
TO DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOR HAWAII'S AGRICULTURE SECTOR**

**Tuesday, December 5, 2006**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**WASHINGTON — U.S. Senators Daniel K. Inouye and Daniel K. Akaka said today they were extremely disappointed that an amendment that would have provided emergency agricultural disaster relief to Hawaii was rejected by the Republican-controlled Senate.**

**They said the failure today of the amendment, introduced by Senator Kent Conrad of North Dakota, which also contained disaster relief for ranchers and farmers in the Midwest, reflected the insensitivity of the Republican leadership to Americans in need, and also displayed the inability or unwillingness of the majority leadership to respond to the pressing domestic needs of our nation.**

**“The rejection was heartless and unconscionable,” Senator Inouye said. “I am determined that we will not ignore the issue of emergency agricultural assistance for Hawaii and our nation. This matter will be addressed in the new Congress, which will have new leadership – Democratic leadership.**

**“Sadly, the Second Session of the 109th Congress will end with the current majority leadership failing to pass our remaining domestic-funding bills even though the Senate Appropriations Committee had moved all spending legislation to the Senate floor by late July. The Conrad amendment would have provided much needed assistance to Hawaii’s battered agriculture sector by helping it recover from the earthquake that hit Hawaii on October 15, and from the more than 40 days of torrential rains and thunderstorms that drenched the state earlier this year.”**

**Senator Akaka added: “It is disappointing that the amendment, which provides much needed relief to agricultural communities in Hawaii and across our nation, was not agreed to today. However, I will continue to seek opportunities to ensure that the needs of Hawaii’s farmers and ranchers, who were impacted by the earthquake or the flooding, are met.”**

**The amendment pushed by Hawaii’s Senators would have provided \$19 million in earthquake assistance and \$7 million in flood relief.**

**In earthquake assistance, it would have provided \$10 million for the repair of the Lower Hamakua Ditch (\$6 million), and the Waimea Irrigation System/Upper Hamakua Ditch (\$4 million) systems, both of which were heavily damaged, putting a major strain on the Big Island farming community.**

**Also:**

**\$3 million would have been provided to repair the Kohala Ditch system, which was heavily damaged by the earthquake.**

**\$3 million would have been appropriated to repair broken irrigation pipelines, and damaged and collapsed water tanks.**

**\$2 million would have been used to repair the damaged stone fences that serve as boundaries for cattle ranches in the Kona and Kohala area.**

**\$1 million would have gone to the Emergency Loan Program to cover losses in agriculture income.**

**To address the flooding earlier this year, Senator Inouye had secured amendment language that ensured there would be:**

**\$3 million for the repair of the Kauai irrigation system infrastructure that was damaged when the Kaloko Reservoir Dam broke, and for debris removal.**

**\$3 million in disaster assistance for farmers of sugar beets and sugarcane.**

**\$1 million for crop loss disaster assistance for farmers on Oahu and Kauai.**

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**Aloha,**

**Mike Yuen**

**Office of U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye**

**Washington, D.C.**

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**From:** Alan McNarie [mailto:amcnarie@yahoo.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 10, 2007 8:56 PM

**To:** Yuen, Mike (Inouye)

**Subject:** Earthquakes and ag water

Aloha Mike,

Thanks for responding to my call and offering to answer questions via e-mail. Basically, we're trying to give the community an update on what's happening with efforts to reopen the agricultural ditches that were damaged in the quake last fall.

I understand that an effort to get federal funding to repair the ditches was defeated last year.

What was the main reason (or were the main reasons) why the money failed to pass?

What was the bill number, and how much money was earmarked for the repairs?

Was the money for a specific ditch system, or for all three (Hamakua, Waimea, Kohala)?

Will there be another effort to get the money this year?

If so, is there a bill number yet, and what are the chances of success?

Are there any other federal efforts underway to get the ditches working again?

Is there anything else that you know that would be useful to this story?

Again, thanks. I'm trying to get this story together by Thursday, so I need the answers ASAP.

You can respond via this address, or via [amcnarie@hawaiiislandjournal.com](mailto:amcnarie@hawaiiislandjournal.com) .

--Alan McNarie

Sr. Contributing Editor

Hawaii Island Journal

# Dan Inouye

U.S. SENATOR FROM HAWAII



## **LAID-OFF DEL MONTE WORKERS CERTIFIED FOR FEDERAL AID, SENATORS INOUYE AND AKAKA ANNOUNCE**

**Thursday, January 11, 2007**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**U.S. Senators Daniel K. Inouye and Daniel K. Akaka announced today that the hundreds of workers left jobless when Del Monte Fresh Produce (Hawaii) Inc. abruptly ended its operations in the state have qualified for federal assistance under two special programs.**

**They are certified as eligible for the U.S. Department of Labor's Trade Adjustment Assistance and Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance programs that provide laid-off workers with new job training and development, and support in finding new employment.**

**"These programs will help the laid-off Del Monte workers get a fresh start in the New Year," Senator Inouye said. "The programs offer hope to workers who discovered – about a week before Thanksgiving and about five weeks before Christmas – that their world had been shattered by Del Monte's sudden announcement that it was ceasing operations immediately rather than in 2008 as Del Monte had initially planned."**

**Senator Akaka added: "A significant number of the Del Monte workers are 50 or older, and they have skills that are not easily transferable. These two programs will be an immense help to them to get back to work and to continue to be valued members of our community."**

**The specific services offered by the two programs include: employment counseling, job training, job development, and job searches and referrals. Under certain circumstances, allowances are available to cover expenses related to job searches outside a certified worker's normal commuting area or if he or she must move to a new area of employment.**

**Also, income support allowances for certified workers are available under certain circumstances if the worker is participating in full-time training.**

**Wage subsidies are also available for eligible workers 50 or older who find new employment and who meet certain conditions. The wage subsidy would be 50 percent of the difference between the old and new salaries, and would be paid for no more than two years.**

**-30-**

January 16, 2007

**To: Senator**

**Fr: Mike**

**Re: requests for interviews from media  
and the United States Capitol Historical Society**

The following are media requests for interviews:

**1) Yaron Deckel, Washington Bureau Chief, Israeli TV**

He is seeking an interview with you for a feature-oriented piece about your life – World War II and Congress – that would also include questions about your view on the Mideast and the war in Iraq.

The press attache with the Israeli Embassy called me to say that Deckel is “a good guy.”

Deckel said he asked you about the possibility of an interview last year when you were in Connecticut campaigning for Lieberman, and that you agreed.

**2) Reed Penney, Dallas-based documentary filmmaker**

Penney is working on a documentary on the late House Speaker Sam Rayburn. Penney would like to interview you about your years in the House, the involvement of you and Speaker Rayburn in Hawaii becoming a state, and your thoughts on the expansion of the Rules Committee.

Penney is a graduate of the New York University film school, worked for the weekly public affairs show “NOW on PBS,” and produced a 30-minute documentary on LBJ’s biographer, Robert Caro.

“I have letters of support from two PBS stations in Texas (KERA: Dallas/Fort Worth and KLRN: San Antonio) to broadcast this [Rayburn] documentary once it is finished,” he said. “I have also had discussions with the PBS program, “The American Experience.”

**3) gayle yamada [she styles her name lower case], a documentary filmmaker based in Davis, California**

She is working on a documentary on redress called “Due Justice.”

She said she wants to talk to you at length about your recollections of what happened with redress – “an insider’s in-depth look at how it happened, why, and what political forces led to it.”

Request from the United States Capitol Historical Society (USCHS):

**4) Chris Leibundguth, manager, historical programs, USCHS**

The interview would be part of the Society's ongoing oral history project, "Yielding the Floor."

"This project was created to record current and former members of Congress reliving their memories of people, places, and events in the Capitol." Participants have included: Norman Mineta, former House Speaker Tom Foley, and former House Republican Leader Bob Michel.

All audio and videotaped interviews, as well as written transcripts, will be available on the Society's Web site. Copies of the recording will also be provided to the Library of Congress.

If you approve of any or all of these requests, I will work with Jessica on the scheduling.

# Dan Inouye

U.S. SENATOR FROM HAWAII



**INOUYE ANNOUNCES NOMINEES  
TO THE UNITED STATES SERVICE ACADEMIES**

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2007**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**WASHINGTON — U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye announced today his nominations to the United States service academies for the class entering in July, 2007. Nominees were selected on the basis of test scores, academic records, letters of recommendation, extracurricular activities, and personal interviews.**

**U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY PRINCIPAL NOMINEE:**

**Christopher Ansel of Kohala High School.**

**Competitive Alternates:**

**Lauren Hu of Punahou School.  
Catherine Kiyota of Leilehua High School.**

**U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY PRINCIPAL NOMINEES:**

**David Park of McKinley High School.  
Eldon Llarenas of Kaiser High School.**

**Competitive Alternates:**

**Peter Brainerd of Moanalua High School.  
Robert Dickie of Leilehua High School.  
Will Kuhr of Kaiser High School.**

**U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY PRINCIPAL NOMINEE:**

**Alexandra Zieser of St. Francis School.**

**Competitive Alternates:**

**Meilyn Quitiquit of Hawaii Preparatory Academy.  
Vincent Zieser of Damien Memorial School.**

**U.S. MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY PRINCIPAL NOMINEES:**

**Margaret Cannell of Iolani School.  
Catherine Kiyota of Leilehua High School.  
Michelle Kiyota of Leilehua High School.  
Eldon Llarenas of Kaiser High School.  
David Otte of Mililani High School.  
Meilyn Quitiquit of Hawaii Preparatory Academy.  
Alexandra Zieser of St. Francis School.  
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# Dan Inouye

U.S. SENATOR FROM HAWAII



Contact: Alexis Lum, (808) 541-2542

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Alexandra Zieser of St. Francis School.  
Vincent Zieser of Damien Memorial School.**

**January 23, 2007**

**To: Senator**

**Fr: Mike**

**Re: 3:30 p.m. meeting today with student Trey Shervin for an interview**

**You will be interviewed by Berkeley "Trey" Shervin, a junior at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Potomac, Maryland. His father, Berk Shervin, was a volunteer in your Washington office for about a month about 20 years ago.**

**Young Shervin's questions will focus on your World War II experience, from December 7, 1941 to the end of the conflict.**

**The 30-minute interview is for young Shervin's oral history project in which he must interview "a significant figure in history." The interview, coupled with independent research, will result in Shervin making a presentation about you to his school's student body in mid-February 2007.**

# Dan Inouye

U.S. SENATOR FROM HAWAII



**INOUYE, AKAKA, LEAHY, LEVIN, BENNETT, MURKOWSKI, STEVENS  
ADVOCATE CREATION OF A PANEL TO STUDY INTERNMENT  
OF LATIN AMERICANS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY**

**Wednesday, January 24, 2007**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**WASHINGTON — U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii) today introduced a bill to establish a commission that would determine the facts and circumstances involving the relocation, internment, and deportation of Latin Americans of Japanese descent during World War II and the late 1940s.**

**Joining Senator Inouye in introducing the legislation were six original co-sponsors of the legislation – Democratic Senators Daniel K. Akaka of Hawaii, Patrick J. Leahy of Vermont, and Carl Levin of Michigan, and Republican Senators Robert F. Bennett of Utah, and Lisa Murkowski and Ted Stevens, both of Alaska.**

**“The story of U.S. citizens of Japanese ancestry who were forced from their homes on the West Coast, and confined in camps is a story that was made widely known after a fact-finding study by the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, which was established by the Congress in 1980,” Senator Inouye said. “The study uncovered critical facts that enabled the Congress to support, and President Reagan to sign, the historic Civil Liberties Act of 1988 that provided redress for Japanese-Americans.**

**“Far less known – and I myself did not initially know – is the story of Latin Americans of Japanese descent. They were taken from their homes in countries such as Brazil, Panama, and Peru, stripped of their passports, involuntarily brought to the United States, and interned in American camps. They apparently had only one purpose on U.S. soil: to be used for prisoner exchanges with Japan.”**

**Senator Akaka added: "The Commission learned late in its study of the internment of some 2,300 Latin Americans of Japanese ancestry. A new panel will provide a thorough and complete examination of this largely unknown aspect of the internment experience. We are a great nation, and we should not be afraid of the lessons we can learn from the dark chapters of our history."**

**"The lessons of history," Senator Inouye said, "can be painful. But that pain can also strengthen our nation, and our commitment to its democratic ideals, which include equal justice for all."**

**The legislation would establish a nine-member Commission. The President, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President pro tempore of the Senate would each appoint three members.**

**The panel would have the power to hold public hearings, receive evidence, and give testimony. It will be able to recommend remedies, if any, based on what it uncovers.**

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**ON THE CONTINUING RESOLUTION**  
**Tuesday, January 30, 2007**  
**FOR THE HONOLULU ADVERTISER**

INOUYE:

"In general, a difficult and controversial decision was made to eliminate earmarks from the resolution so that the new majority might quickly complete the funding measures that the old majority failed to move.

"But what is an earmark? Some consider the East-West Center to be an earmark. So, too, Native Hawaiian education and health initiatives.

"Given the unfinished work of the 109th Congress, the budget is in terrible shape. It requires us to be realistic.

"Soon after the continuing resolution is considered and passed, the appropriations legislation for the next fiscal year will come up. At that time we will have the opportunity to rectify the shortcomings of the current budget."