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March 6, 1943

Dear Mr. Allen:

Your letter and petition of February 8th to the Secretary of War has been referred to me for reply. I regret the delay in answering you, but I am sure you can appreciate that we are doing our utmost to give careful consideration to all suggestions both pre and post the recent formation of a separate unit of loyal Japanese-American citizens in the Army.

I assure you that the decision by the War Department to accept loyal Japanese-American citizens in the Army, and the more recent policy of forming a separate unit of them, was reached only after very careful thought. No loyal Japanese-American citizen will be accepted into the armed forces until his loyalty has been thoroughly investigated.

It is always to be remembered that our country is composed of peoples of many different backgrounds, and it is unjust to say that all American citizens of Japanese ancestry are less loyal than other American citizens. We recognize that the attack on Pearl Harbor created in the minds of many people a fear of Japanese treachery, but this should not be held against our loyal Japanese-American citizens who are anxious to do their part in fighting this war.

Sincerely,

(SIGNED)

GORDON GRAED, JR.  
First Lieutenant, GAC  
Assistant Executive

Mr. Willard F. Allen, Secretary  
Los Angeles Parlor No. 45  
Native Sons of the Golden West  
1832 South Hope Street  
Los Angeles, California

QASW:GG:EB

*Allen, Willard F.*  
*Sep. Am. Comments*

*X- Native Sons -  
Helen West*

*3-6-43*

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NATIVE SONS OF  
1832 SOUTH HOPE STREET

PARLOR  
No. 45

RECEIVED  
WAR DEPARTMENT  
SECRETARY'S OFFICE  
LOS ANGELES, CALIF. TELEPHONE PROSPECT-1163

FEB 13 AM 8:40



WILLARD F. ALLEN,  
Secretary,  
1716 N. EDGEMONT  
LOS ANGELES

February 8, 1943



Hon. Henry L. Stimson  
Secretary of War  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Los Angeles Parlor No. 45 of The Native Sons of the Golden West, at its meeting February 4th unanimously adopted the accompanying petition.

Our members are convinced that all Japanese in this country and its possessions should be confined in concentration camps, and the camps placed under strict military control. To do otherwise, is to invite disaster.

Sincerely,

*W. M. Chail*

President.

*W. F. Allen*

Secretary.

Los Angeles Parlor No. 45 of The Native Sons of the Golden West is grieved and shocked to learn of the proposal to enroll in the United States Army a unit composed of so-called "citizens of the United States of America of Japanese ancestry."

The members of Los Angeles Parlor are firmly of the opinion that the Constitution of the United States of America does not confer citizenship on any person of Japanese descent born in this country, therefore there are no "citizens of the United States of Japanese ancestry"; they also are of the belief that all Japanese, regardless of protestations otherwise, inherently are loyal only to Japan, and they are thoroughly convinced that the enrollment of a United States Army unit composed of Japanese will be inimicable to the welfare of the State of California and the Nation, and will undoubtedly create a dangerous threat to a proper and adequate defense of this country. - Therefore,

Resolved, That Los Angeles Parlor is strenuously opposed to the formation of a Japanese unit of the United States Army, and hereby respectfully petitions the Congress of the United States of America to exercise its prerogative and nullify the declared intention of the War Department to organize and enroll such a unit. And be it further

Resolved, That copies of this petition be sent the Secretary of War, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee, the Chairman of the House of Representatives Military Affairs Committee and others.