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S.D. Comments

Hendon, James M.

March 6, 1943

Dear Mr. Hendon:

Your letter and petition of February 13 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 on 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. 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,

1512554

GORDON GRAB, JR.  
First Lieutenant, 940  
Assistant Executive

Mr. James M. Hendon, President  
Sacramento Parlor No. 3  
Native Sons of the Golden West  
Eleventh and J. Streets  
Sacramento, California

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& Golden West

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# SACRAMENTO PARLOR NO. 3, N. S. O. W.

MEETS EVERY THURSDAY EVENING AT NATIVE SONS' HALL ELEVENTH AND J STREETS  
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

1943 FEB 15 PM 1:37 Sacramento, California, February 13, 1943,

*AM*



Honorable Henry M. Stimson, Secretary of War,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir,-

Sacramento Parlor, No. 3, of the Native Sons of the Golden West, at its meeting February 12, '43, unanimously adopted the accompanying petition.

We sincerely hope it will have your careful attention, and that you will endeavor to have enacted legislation that will end for all time the "peaceful invasion" of our country by the Japanese.

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,

*James M. Stinson*  
President  
*J. H. Bidion*  
Secretary

Sacramento Parlor, No. 3, 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".

Members of Sacramento 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 Sacramento 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.