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ASW 543.13 J.A. General
Classified No. ASW 543
014.311 W.D.C. Permits to Enter and Live
Okumura, Kawaschi

March 2, 1943

Dear Mr. Okumura:

Your letter of December 30, 1942, in which you request permission to return to California to live has been referred to this office for reply.

For the present time, persons of Japanese ancestry are not permitted to reside within certain military areas on the West Coast which include the State of California. Consequently, although the War Department is sympathetic to the conditions which you set forth in your letter, it will not be possible to accede to your request.

You may be interested to know that a program recently inaugurated by the War Department permits American citizens of Japanese ancestry within the ages of 18 to 37 inclusive to volunteer for military service and a special combat team to be composed entirely of such citizens is now being formed. In addition, steps are being taken to release loyal individuals from the war relocation centers so that they may be employed in gainful occupations, which constitutes the first step in the rehabilitation of American citizens of Japanese ancestry.

Sincerely yours,

(Signature)

JOSEPH D. HUGHES
First Lieutenant, USMC

Mr. Kawaschi Okumura
2015 Larimer Street
Denver, Colorado

OASW:JDM:MGB