



JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE / JACL

Headquarters: 1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115
DC Office: 1828 L Street NW, Suite 802 • Washington, DC • 20036
Ph: (202) 223-1240 • E-mail: natdir@jacl.org

PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Floyd Mori, Email: natdir@jacl.org

For Immediate Release

August 1, 2008

AJC to be Honored at National JACL Gala Dinner

Washington, D.C. – The American Jewish Committee (AJC) will be given an award as a “Champion of Redress” at the second annual National Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) Gala Dinner. The event will be held at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Washington, D.C. on September 25, 2008.

The JACL is highlighting the Redress movement throughout this year on the 20th anniversary of the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. The Act paved the way for an apology and reparations to Japanese Americans who were interned in concentration camps in remote areas of the United States during World War II.

When the JACL began the Redress campaign in earnest after the 1978 National JACL Convention, John Tateishi, who was the Chairman of the National Committee for Redress for the JACL, received a call from Ernie Weiner, director of the Bay Area Chapter of the AJC. Mr. Weiner had been directed by the national office of the AJC in New York City to monitor the JACL’s Redress campaign. He pledged the support of the AJC for the Redress movement, and the AJC became the first organization to endorse the JACL’s Redress campaign. Mr. Weiner received the Edison Uno Civil Rights Award from the JACL at the 2008 National JACL Convention in Salt Lake City in July of 2008.

Richard Foltin, Legislative Director and Counsel in the AJC Office of Government and International Affairs in Washington, D.C., attended the 2008 National JACL Convention and was on a panel about Redress. He explained the AJC’s position during the time of the Redress movement. While in Salt Lake City, Mr. Foltin along with Floyd Mori, National JACL Executive Director, and Tim Koide, JACL Membership Coordinator, met with Elder Jeffrey R. Holland of the Quorum of Twelve Apostles of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, which is headquartered in Salt Lake City. Elder Holland has been closely associated with Israel and with the BYU Jerusalem Center, which was built while he was president of Brigham Young University.

Previously announced were other “Champions of Redress” who will be honored at the Gala. The Honorable Norman Y. Mineta, Grayce Uyehara, and John Tateishi will receive awards for their roles in the Redress Campaign. The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye, United States Senator from Hawaii, is serving as the honorary chairman for the Gala with an impressive list of dignitaries on the honorary committee. Congressman Mike Honda of San Jose, California, will be the master of ceremonies.

The JACL welcomes ALL to attend the National JACL Gala. For more information or to make reservations, please call the Washington, D.C. office of the JACL at 202-223-1240 or email to gala@jacl.org. For more information on the JACL or to join, visit www.jacl.org.

#####