

10:26

Miscellaneous

83/115
C

EXERPTS ON GI-RI, from I. Nitobe, "Bushido", 1905,

p. 25: ...But before proceeding to speak of Valour, let me linger a little while on what I may term a derivation from Rectitude, which at first deviating slightly from its original, became more and more removed from it, until its meaning was perverted in the popular acceptance. I speak of Gi-ri, literally the Right Reason, but which came in time to mean a vague sense of duty which public opinion expects and incumbent to fulfil. In its original and unalloyed sense, it meant duty, pure and simple, -- hence, we speak of the Gi-ri we owe to parents, to superiors, to inferiors, to society at large, and so forth. In these instances Gi-ri is duty; for what else is duty then what Right Reason demands and commands us to do? Should not Right Reason be our categorical imperative?

Gi-ri primarily meant no more than duty, and I dare say its etymology was derived from the fact, that in our conduct, set to our parents, though love should be the only motive, lacking that, there must be some other authority to enforce filial piety; and they formulated this authority in Gi-ri. Very rightly did they formulate this authority -- Gi-ri -- since if love does not rush to deeds of virtue, recourse must be had to man's intellect and his reason must be quickened to convince him of the necessity of acting aright. The same is true of any other moral obligation. The instant Duty becomes onerous, Right Reason steps in to prevent our shirking it. Gi-ri thus understood is a severe taskmaster, with a birch-rod in his hand to make sluggards perform their part. It is a secondary power in ethics; as a motive it is infinitely inferior to the Christian doctrine of love, which should be the law. I deem it a product of the conditions of an artificial society -- of a society in which accident of birth and unmerited favour instituted class distinctions, in which the family was the social unit, in which seniority of age was of more account than superiority of talents, in which natural affections had often to succumb before arbitrary man-made customs. Because of this very artificiality, Gi-ri in time degenerated into a vague sense of propriety called up to explain this and sanction that, -- as, for example, why a mother must, if need be, sacrifice all her other children in order to save the first-born; or why a daughter must sell her chastity

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to get funds to pay for the father's dissipation, and the like. Starting at Right Reason, Giri has, in my opinion often stooped to easuistry. It has even degenerated into cowardly fear of censure. I might say of Giri when Scott wrote of patriotism, that "as it is the fairest, so it is often the most suspicious, mask of other feelings." Carried beyond or below Right Reason, Giri became a monstrous misnomer. It harboured under its wings every sort of sophistry and hypocrisy. It would have been easily turned into a nest of cowardice, if Bushido had not a keen and correct sense of courage, the spirit of daring and bearing.

REVISIONS IN
JAPANESE
AMERICAN
HISTORY: REVIEW
OF BOOKS PUB-
LISHED IN 1976

by
Raymond Okamura

112-115

not in library

Okamura, Raymond
"The Concentration
Camp Experience ~~and~~
from a Japanese
American Pers-
pective" in
Counterpoint:
Perspectives on
Asian America
L.A.: Univ. of Cal.
~~Press, 1976~~ Asian
American Studies
Center, 1976

Ichioke, Yuji,
Yasuo Sakata,
Nobuya Tsuchida
and Eri Yasuhara

A Buried Past:
An Annotated
Bibliography of
the Japanese
American Research
Project Collection
LA: Univ. of Cal.
Press, 1974

Weglyn, Michi
Years of Infamy
the Untold Story
of America's
Concentration
Camps

William Morrow
and Co., 1976

Nelson, Douglas
W.

Heart Mountain:
The History of
an American
Concentration
Camp

State Historical
Society of
Wisconsin,
1976

Prof. Suzuki does not quote my statement that I tried to save a Japanese school teacher from being interned and that I,

Prof. Suzuki does not quote my statement: "During the internments I did two very ~~unprofessional~~ unprofessional deeds." Oasccccccccc

X One of these was to approach the Department of Justice and try to keep ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ a Japanese school teacher from being interned. The other was to tell them that ~~Kiraxhad~~ "Kira" had been a high rank

resegregationist leader. ~~Nor does he mention in any of his many~~
Nor does he quote the WRA accusation that I was an "anarchist".
As for ~~quoting~~ "_____"

As for ~~XXXXXXXX~~ "communicating with the Department of Justice" --

~~and~~ during the tragic and agonizing period when many Nisei were ~~renouncing~~
renouncing their citizenship out of panic, I had frequent conversations

WRA
with Mr. Noyes, the Project Attorney, and with ~~John Burling of the Dept. of Justice.~~
John Burling of the Dept. of Justice. ~~XXXXX~~ Talking to
people was my job -- and, when I could, I tried to communicate to Noyes and Burling
how terrible the situation was.

~~about~~ But my field notes tell this story in great ~~xxx~~ detail -- and ~~they~~. I hope to have them typed and ready for study by the end of the year.

~~xRespirant hanc factum quod non habent in se xaxndia gnae fux swarey xidex~~
these accusations.

I myself have no interest in responding to ~~these accusations.~~ ~~the article~~ To find all ~~texts~~ ^{ed} the items ~~he~~ lists and to evaluate their ethical and political morality would take an enormous amount of time and work.

Right now I ~~prefer~~ prefer to put my energies into doing my job for
doing what I can to help
the Rockefeller Foundation and ~~helping~~/the Japanese Americans in their
attempt to get redress and reparations. Writers like Suzuki can have
the effect of totally misdirecting attention from real and significant
~~problem~~ problems. It is well to keep in mind that a handful of anthropologists
were not ~~responsible~~ responsible for the evacuation and the years of detention.

Examination of the following documents and the information contained therein has been completed by the Japanese American War Relocation Authority and the War Relocation Authority has determined that the following information is true and correct:



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April 17, 1989

Nicole Bouché

Nicole L. Bouché
Assistant Head
Manuscripts Division

Date: *April 22, 1989.*

Mrs. Rosalie H. Wax.

Mrs. Rosalie H. Wax
University City, MO