

*University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu DSpace Submission*

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<i>ADDITIONAL NOTES</i>	

**I AM SANSEI\****I am Sansei.*

*I am the fruit of my parent's suffering.  
I reflect the strength by which they endured.  
They were humiliated and relocated.  
Torn between two cultures, they reassured  
Themselves, silently, of their identity.*

—Susan Matoba Adler

\***Sansei** (*san-say*): Japanese for "third generation"; a U.S.-born American citizen whose grandparents were Japanese immigrants to the United States. Sansei are the children of Nisei (*nee-say*, "second generation") parents.

**AS A MATTER OF FACT** Shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor by the Japanese air force in 1941, the United States government relocated most Japanese Americans to internment camps in Arkansas, California, Colorado, Utah, and other states. The entire Japanese population of the Pacific Coast states of California, Oregon, and Washington—more than 110,000 in all—was moved into these prison-like camps and forced to give up their homes, jobs, businesses, belongings, and friends. The government ignored the fact that these were loyal United States citizens, many of whom had served (or would soon serve) with distinction in the war; the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, made up almost entirely of Japanese American soldiers, won more awards in the war than any other unit its size.

In 1988, recognizing the "grave injustice" motivated by "racial prejudice and war hysteria," Congress passed a law granting \$20,000 to each of 75,000 internment-camp survivors. A presidential letter handed to each survivor acknowledged that "words alone cannot restore lost years or erase painful memories."

