

## World War II Camp Memorial in Torrance



Kanji Sahara

Kanji Sahara spoke at the Nov. 10 meeting of the GLA Chapter at the Merit Park. Kanji talked about the WWII Camp Memorial proposed for the City of Torrance. The Memorial would have an Honor Roll Wall with the names of all those incarcerated in the 10 War Relocation Authority (WRA) Camps plus those interned in the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and Army Camps. The names would be by camp. So there will be an Honor Roll Wall for each of the 10 WRA Camps and the 11<sup>th</sup> Wall for the INS and Army Camps. The walls will be made of black granite to resemble the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington

There were at least 68 Camps that we know of. They are listed below:

### Sites of Shame

| <b>18 Temporary Detention Centers</b> | <b>WRA Camps</b> | <b>7 Temporary INS Stations</b> | <b>9 Permanent INS Camps</b> | <b>18 Army facilities</b> | <b>3 Citizen Isolation Centers</b> |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Fresno Fairground                     | Amachi           | Boston                          | Crystal City                 | Angel Island              | Fort Stanton                       |
| Marysville                            | Gila             | Cincinnati                      | Forest Park                  | Camp Blanding             | 7.3 Leupp                          |
| Mayer                                 | Heart Mountain   | Ellis Island                    | Fort Lincoln                 | Camp Forrest              | 7.4 Moab                           |
| Merced                                | Jerome           | San Pedro                       | Fort Missoula                | Camp Livingston           | <b>3 Federal Bureau of Prisons</b> |
| Owens Valley                          | Manzanar         | Seattle                         | Fort Stanton                 | Camp Lordsburg            |                                    |
| Parker Dam                            | Minidoka         | Sharp Park                      | Kenedy                       | Camp McCoy                |                                    |
| Pinedale                              | Poston           | Tuna Canyon                     | Kooskia                      | Florence                  | Catalina                           |
| Pomona                                | Rohwer           |                                 | Santa Fe                     | Fort Bliss                | Fort Leavenworth                   |
| Portland                              | Topaz            |                                 | Seagoville                   | Fort Howard               | McNeil Island                      |
| Puyallup                              | Tule Lake        |                                 |                              | Fort Lewis                |                                    |
| Sacramento                            |                  |                                 |                              | Fort Mead                 |                                    |
| Salinas                               |                  |                                 |                              | Fort Richardson           |                                    |
| San Bruno                             |                  |                                 |                              | Fort Sam Huston           |                                    |
| Santa Anita                           |                  |                                 |                              | Fort Sill                 |                                    |
| Stockton                              |                  |                                 |                              | Griffith Park             |                                    |
| Tulare                                |                  |                                 |                              | Honouliuli                |                                    |
| Turlock                               |                  |                                 |                              | Sand Island               |                                    |
|                                       |                  |                                 |                              | Stringtown                |                                    |
|                                       |                  |                                 |                              | Other Hawaii              |                                    |

There will also be 8 Display Panels. The material on the panels will describe each of the Camps.

On Dec 10, State Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi, Kanji plus members of the Camp Memorial Committee met with Torrance Mayor Pat Furey to encourage the City of Torrance to become the Program Manager of building the physical wall. The Camp Memorial Committee would get the names of those incarcerated, make the Display Panels and do other tasks on this project.

A person's names will be on the wall of each camp in which he was incarcerated. So if a person went from Manzanar to Tule Lake, he will be on both the Manzanar and Tule Lake walls. So the incarceration of 110,000 people will result in 160,000 names on the walls. The cost engraving 160,000 names on the black granite panels will cost \$1,200,000.

The Torrance City Council will vote on becoming the Program Manager in a Feb, 2020 city Council Meeting. Kanji plans to visit the Councilmen before the vote. If you are a Torrance resident and want to go visit your Councilman with Kanji, please contact Kanji. E-mail saharakanji@gmail.com. Kanji needs your support.

*report by Kanji*