



JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

HONOLULU CHAPTER

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Working For A Greater America

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September 4, 2014

Re: Strong support for production of soon-to-be released full-length motion picture, "Under the Blood Red Sun"

The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) is the nation's oldest and largest Asian Pacific American civil rights organization with more than 20,000 members. Locally our organization has consistently supported efforts to provide equal rights to citizens of our state.

JACL Honolulu Chapter applauds the production of the full-length movie version of "Under the Blood Red Sun", based upon the coming of age novel by Graham Salisbury set at the outbreak of World War II in the Pacific.

The JACL has a proud legacy of successfully fighting for redress for Japanese Americans unjustly incarcerated during World War II. "Under the Blood Red Sun" brings to life the experience of Japanese American citizens in Hawaii being ripped from their families after the attack on Pearl Harbor and presents this story as seen through the eyes of a 14 year old boy. It is important that these events never be forgotten even as there are fewer and fewer survivors who experienced them first-hand. "Under the Blood Red Sun" is also very important to our understanding of how a community treats each other during war. As our own nation now is in the midst of a very different type of war, prejudices and suspicion still abound. It is lessons like the ones found in "Under the Blood Red Sun" that will inform our young people about nationalism, community and justice.

We are proud that this film will be viewed by thousands of middle and high school students around our country for years to come. We applaud the efforts of the filmmakers, the writer, Graham Salisbury, the director, Tim Savage, and visionary producer, Dana Hankins. They have assured that generations will be able to learn of this dark time in our history so that our community and our nation will never suffer the same injustices.

Respectfully submitted,

Liann Y. Ebesugawa
President