

# GERMANY HAS FACED ITS CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY. WHY NOT JAPAN?

*50 years after it ratified its post-war constitution, Japan is still blocking restitution for millions of civilian and POW victims in the Asia-Pacific War. With your help, that will change.*

Germany has long since repudiated militarist crimes and genocidal ideology. And German industry is even now being held to account by those it exploited as slaves during WWII.

By contrast, in the 57 years since the war, Japan's parliament, the Diet, has never once endorsed any apology to the people of Asia and the Pacific...

Japan's highest officials persist in paying their respects at a shrine to Japan's war dead that includes condemned war criminals...

Japan's schoolbooks downplay the brutal record of Japan's armies and even suggest the war was idealistic...

Official denial and distortion continue to provoke international outrage and protest in Asia and beyond.

On April 28, 2002, Japan marks the 50th anniversary of the ratification of its postwar democratic constitution. While 50 years have passed, Japan still shows contempt for US ex-POWs and its own Asian neighbors through complete denial of its criminal,



Photo provided by the Alliance for Preserving the Truth of Sino-Japanese War

**MOST CORROSIVE TO JAPAN'S OWN PEOPLE AND THE WORLD COMMUNITY: DENIAL OF THE SOLEMN CLAIMS OF HUMAN CONSCIENCE AND MEMORY.**

## Send a message to Japanese corporations in the U.S.

*Unless they use their influence with the Japanese government to resolve war crimes, they risk losing public goodwill and market share as consumers shun their products. Start by writing these firms, which abused U.S. prisoners of war as slave labor:*

**Kawasaki:** Hiroshi Noda, President, Kawasaki Heavy Industries USA, 599 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10022

**Mitsubishi:** Mikio Sasaki, President and CEO, Mitsubishi USA, 520 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10022

**Mitsui & Co:** Shinjiro Shimizu, President and CEO, Mitsui & Co.(USA), 200 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10166

**Nippon Steel:** Akira Chiyada, President, Nippon Steel USA, 10 East 50th Street, New York, NY 10022

militarist past – a denial at odds with its own constitution:

- Denial of claims stemming from such atrocities as the 1937 "Rape of Nanking," where the Japanese military slaughtered 300,000 unarmed Chinese civilians.
- Denial of Japan's official obligations to more than 200,000 Asian women enslaved in Japanese military brothels.
- Denial of compensation to millions of slave laborers, including U.S. prisoners of war, conscripted to work for Japanese corporations during the war.
- Denial of grisly human experiments and massive biochemical warfare against civilians.

## THE ONLY REAL APOLOGY IS ACTION.

To forget is impossible. Reconciliation depends on restitution. A worldwide alliance of NGOs is demanding:

- An unequivocal, official apology for Japan's atrocities in the Asia-Pacific War.

- Just compensation for wanton destruction, forced labor and massacre of civilians.

- Lifting of the statute of limitations for war crime litigation in Japan's courts.

- Initiatives to disclose the facts, preserve the record, and integrate into education the lessons of the war,

as called for in Japan's own constitution.

- Outlawing public denial of war crimes.

- Declaring a Japanese day of remembrance for victims of the Asia-Pacific War. (For a detailed outline of these demands, please visit [www.GAinfo.org](http://www.GAinfo.org).)

**JAPAN, LIKE GERMANY, CAUSED MANY TIMES THE DEATHS IT SUFFERED IN A WAR IT BEGAN. YET UNLIKE GERMANY, JAPAN HAS NEVER SOUGHT TO MAKE PEACE WITH SURVIVORS.**



Photo provided by the Alliance for Preserving the Truth of Sino-Japanese War

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Notify leading Japanese corporations in the U.S. who are influential in Japan (see box). They will be subject to continuing, concerted negative publicity and boycotts if Japan's government continues to placate the minority who deny the past, betray the Japanese majority hungry for closure, and stonewall the international campaign for redress.

We urge you to send the messages below to U.S. officials who have the influence and opportunity to see that justice is served.

Thank you.

### Secretary of State Colin Powell

U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20520

For half a century, the Japanese government has turned its face away from history. Denial of claims from the victims of crimes against humanity in the Asia-Pacific War and refusal to face the past squarely and without equivocation disqualify Japan from a permanent seat on the U.N. Security Council. Make redress a condition. Without justice, where is peace?

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

### U.S. Senator Joseph Biden

U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510

While Germany made a moral reckoning, Cold War calculation long allowed Japan to evade all responsibility and restitution for its crimes against humanity in the Asia-Pacific War. As chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, you must and should advocate immediate redress for Asian nationals, Asian Americans, and U.S. prisoners of war still suffering from Japan's war crimes.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

### Rape of Nanking Redress Coalition

Fred Korematsu & Richard Blum, Honorary Co-Chairs  
Ling-chi Wang & Clifford Uyeda, Co-Chairs  
268 12th Avenue, Suite 8, San Francisco, CA 94118

\_\_\_ Yes, I've sent the messages. The Japanese government's stubborn refusal to accept responsibility for war crimes committed during World War II casts a shadow of shame and dishonor over April 28, the 50th anniversary of Japan's post-war constitution.

\_\_\_ Here's my tax-deductible contribution in support of the Coalition's efforts to communicate the growing frustration and anger over Japan's denial of its shameful history:

\$500  \$250  \$100  \$75  \$50 or \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Please make your check payable to the Rape of Nanking Redress Coalition)

www.PublicMediaCenter.org

**Conference in San Francisco** "Can Japan Lead: Confronting Japan's War Memory Problem" on Monday, April 22, University of San Francisco's Lone Mountain Campus, 2800 Turk St., San Francisco. Special presentations and exhibits 1-5:30pm. RSVP please call (415) 422-6357 / [www.pacificrim.usfca.edu](http://www.pacificrim.usfca.edu)

This message sponsored by The Rape of Nanking Redress Coalition, Fred Korematsu and Richard Blum, Hon. Co-Chairs, Prof. Ling-Chi Wang and Clifford Uyeda, MD, Co-Chairs, and by the Center for Internee Rights (CFIR), American Ex-Prisoners of War (AXPOW), and American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor (ADBC), Western States Chapter. **RNRC:** 268 12th Avenue, Suite 8, San Francisco, CA 94118 USA | [info@rnrc.org](mailto:info@rnrc.org) | [www.mnrc.org](http://www.mnrc.org)