Dear Craig,

If Heidi and you are back from Germany, welcome home. When you have time, could you forward the link below to James Dao at NYTimes op-ed and ask him to send it on to Tom Brokaw? Like many others, he was taken in by a story too good to be true.

http://grantujifusa.com/pdfs/Brokaw%20I.pdf

Grant

Dear Fred,

Thanks for forwarding. The piece in the *Washington Post* is better than what we read not long ago in the *NYTimes*. No Cub Scout-Boy Scout teaming up 40 years later to make Senate passage possible, and there's mention of Sparky and Dan. Also, Simpson admits he voted for Jesse Helms's amendment to strip the money out of the bill, gutting it. So we have Simpson, perhaps the Senate's most ardent deficit hawk, voting his convictions about Washington always spending too much.

And so the one-time Boy Scout is forced to argue a head-scratcher: that any money in the bill made the apology "insincere."   But for nearly all JAs: No Money, No Redress. And everybody in Washington knew that an apology was easy, the money was hard. Sparky's bill added $1.6 billion to our country's debt.

So what kind of Republican no-money help did JAs get from the Wyoming senator?   None, actually. And that kind of help makes Alan Simpson a Boy Scout hero of Japanese American redress? I don't think so.

My complaints, though, may have reached the Scouting friends. See my link above and on my website. And make sure to click on all the links at the end of the post.

Cutting Sparky out of the Senate bill and sticking Simpson in means a complete rewrite of redress history. That is wrong. As Dan Inouye said, Sparky Matsunaga did nearly all the work, three intense years of lobbying his colleagues, an effort that produced a 69-vote, bi-partisan filibuster-proof Senate majority.

No one – no one – did more to make Japanese American redress the astonishing success that it was, while Simpson cannot name a single senator he persuaded to vote for S.1009.

Return Sparky's legacy to Sparky and his family.

Grant

Brokaw, Simpson, Mineta