



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION
MAGALLANES DRIVE, INTRAMUROS
1002 MANILA

July 28, 2004

Mr. RYUKICHI KAWAGUCHI
President
The Japanese Chamber of Commerce
And Industry of the Philippines, Inc.

Dear Mr. Kawaguchi,

We acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 23 July 2004, a copy of which is attached as Annex "A". In sum, you seek to clarify procedures affecting special return certificates (SRCs) and Re-entry Permits (RPs).

We are unaware of any alleged *new unpublished requirement or regulation* governing SRCs/RPs. Existing law requires all immigration procedures and regulations to be published prior to implementation: otherwise, such procedures and regulations are invalid and ineffective.

Further, we have not discontinued the expediency of allowing immigration officers make attachments to valid SRCs/RPs where endorsements for arrival and departure entries on such SRCs/RPs have been filled-up.

In addition, we have not issued new instructions authorizing immigration officers to require Japanese businessmen to apply for *new* SRCs/RPs if the endorsements for arrival and departure entries on a valid and subsisting SRC have been filled-up.

Finally, immigration officers are *not* authorized to cancel SRCs/RPs. In fact, all SRCs and RPs can only be cancelled by the Board of Commissioners of this Bureau or by the issuing officer, e.g., Chief of the Alien Registration Division (ARD) of this Bureau, under conditions expressly provided under Commonwealth Act No. 613, Section 23, as amended.

We assure you that this Bureau has taken measures to effectively address this concern.

Thank you for bringing this matter to our attention.

Very truly yours,


ALIPIO F. FERNANDEZ JR.
Commissioner 

Cc: Immigration Regulation Division, This Bureau
NAIA

2004