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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT  
TOPAZ, UTAH

TO: ALL GRADUATING SENIORS  
FROM: HISTORICAL SECTION, PROJECT REPORTS DIVISION  
SUBJECT: HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

You, who are graduating, must have formulated your plans upon graduation. By answering the following questions, you will not commit yourselves in any way whatsoever; rather you will be assisting us to write the "history of Topaz". As much as possible give clear-cut answers, and by all means complete every question. The information is to be of much value; marshal your facts carefully.

(no name)      Male ( )      Female (✓)      Age 18

1) Did you change your high school curricula since the start of the war or since the evacuation? If so, what were the changes, specifically in courses or subjects? no

2) In your opinion did the Topaz High School fulfill your present curricula adequately? If not, why?

3) What are your immediate plans? College? Army? Resettlement? Remain in center?

Remain in Center.

4) If you are planning to leave the center, answer a, c, or b, c.

a) What is to be your field of study in college? \_\_\_\_\_

b) What type of employment? \_\_\_\_\_



c) Preferably in which state? \_\_\_\_\_

- 5) Are you possibly making plans to go back to California after the war? If so, in what way? Example: Are you planning and studying according to the requirements of the University of California? Etc. .Specify if in the affirmative.

*Maybe.*

- 6) If you are unable to return to California after the war, into what state or area (intermountain, east, middle west) would you consider going?
- 7) If your parents were unable to relocate with you in the forthcoming process of relocation, would you consider individual resettlement? Would you remain in the center under such circumstances. Elaborate.
- 8) Do you believe that your opportunities in the post-war period will be greater or considerably less than in the pre-war period? (in America) Elaborate.
- 9) If there are any further comments on this subject, please write in the space provided below. You may have some "gripes" or some favorable statements to relate. Feel free to express yourself without restraint.



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SECOND QUARTERLY REPORT

CENTRAL UTAH

Populated mainly by evacuees who formerly lived in the San Francisco Bay Area, the Central Utah Relocation Center officially began operations when the first evacuees arrived on September 11. Nineteen days later, at the close of the quarterly period, the community had a population of 5,803 evacuees and was already beginning to take on some semblance of organization.

Seven members had been elected to the temporary community council. A canteen was doing an average business of more than \$600 a day. An emergency hospital, established in one of the barracks had handled a total of 19 patients. More than 2,300 residents had been assigned to jobs at the center. Only 11 evacuees had gone out of the community for sugar-beet work, but an additional 55 had signed up with the sugar companies and recruitment was still going forward.

As the period closed, the center was still a scene of construction, excavation, and dust. Evacuee barracks had been completed in all but a few blocks. But the erection of other buildings necessary for project operation and the installation of utilities throughout the center was only barely under way.

THIRD QUARTERLY REPORT  
Oct., 56 AP ; DEC. 31, 1942, 110 AP

7,899 residents; 3816 employed at center; 748 peak of seasonal emp.; 428 out on seasonal, Dec. 31, 1942

Dec. 31, 1942, Consumer Enterprises had 8 enterprises worth about \$13,000 in Sept. and \$45 000 in Dec.

By end of quarter, charter drawn up, submitted to referendum vote, and formally approved both by evacuee residents and WRA

9 residents recruited to become language school volunteers by Dec. 31, 1942



## CENTRAL UTAH

Third Quarterly Report, Oct. 1 to Dec. 31, 1942

The first half of Oct. brot from Santa Anita and Tanforan Assembly Centers the last of the large evacuee contingents. November represented the peak of outside employment with 748 engaged in seasonal work. At the end of Dec., when the harvest workers had returned to the center, the population totalled 7,909.

During the quarter, considerable progress was made in general construction and public works, and by the close of the year the scene had changed from one of dust and excavation and expectation of construction to one of settled community life. Barrack construction was complete with winterization of living quarters and dining halls; stoves had been installed in almost all buildings; the hospital had been dedicated; gravel and asphalt roads were laid; a new post office was finished; plumbing and carpentry crews were functioning efficiently, and a permanent telephone system was completed, connecting major points of administrative activity. Canals and diversion gates were made ready to function for cultivated land in spring, and irrigation plans were being developed for the care of the city's transplanted trees. In Dec. workers on the landscaping project brought in by truck from the surrounding area 4,800 willow saplings, 1,000 tamarisks, 20 Utah junipers, and 24 Siberian elms.

Late in Nov plowing began on a 600-acre truck crop section, 150 acres of barley and sweet clover were planted, and brush clearing and plowing were to continue as long as the weather allowed. Hog and beef-cattle projects were started, and equipment was prepared for the introduction of a poultry section.

The Topaz Consumer Cooperative Enterprises incorporated during the quarter with a membership of 5,170 and a total, paid-in share capital of \$5,170. As of Dec. 31, five main stores were operating with a total of 40 evacuee employees. The association was also sponsoring moving picture showings, radio repair, laundries, and barber shops. Additional services planned for 1943 included dry cleaning, watch repair, and beauty shops.

On Dec. 15, residents voted and ratified the constitution for community govt. by a large majority, and with the election of the Community Council on Dec. 29, all steps in establishing community govt. had been accomplished.

The quarter saw the school program change from a formative stage to a well established system serving more than 2,000 pupils of grade and h. s. age, about 2,000 enrolled in adult education courses, and 182 enrolled in the 3 pre-school centers.

Community activities were varied & enthusiastically supported. The Topaz library, which opened in early Dec. with more than 5,000 volumes, sponsored weekly recorded concerts which were well attended. There was a four-day harvest festival at Thanksgiving, and the Christmas holidays carried a program that included a dining hall decoration contest, a speedball exhibition, issei programs, special religious services, a pageant, dances, and distribution of gifts to children and the aged.

The center had weekly church services conducted by Buddhist, Catholic, Protestant, and Seventh Day Adventist clergymen with a total average weekly attendance of 2,450. The Topaz Times, published daily except Sunday, started issuing a mag. supplement each Sat., and on Christmas Day put out a 30-page holiday mag. As the quarter ended, the interest of the young was focused on plans for an ice skating rink.