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May/Dec., 1944

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington, D. C.

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Stafford
C. B. Parks
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TO: All Project Directors
Field Assistant Directors

FROM: Dillon S. Myer

For your information and guidance, there is enclosed a copy of my letter of May 16, 1944, to the Assistant Secretary of War, requesting that buildings in the Guard Company areas no longer needed by the Military on account of their reduced strength be turned over to WRA, and also a copy of a letter from the Army Service Forces dated May 26, 1944, in reply thereto.

If such available buildings are desired at the centers, Project Directors should make application by letter to their local Military Commanders, quoting the enclosed letter from the Army Service Forces as authority for the transfer. Either the local Guard Commander or his Security District Commander undoubtedly will have received instructions authorizing the release, without reimbursement, of these buildings to WRA.

The use and alterations of such buildings will conform to the provisions indicated in my letter of May 16 to the Assistant Secretary of War.

D. S. Myer

Director

OM-1128

Rec'd June 9-44

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington

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May 16, 1944

Hon. John J. McCloy
Assistant Secretary of War
War Department
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. McCloy:

The recent reduction of the Military Guards at all Relocation Centers has vacated space in the military areas for which there is immediate need by WRA.

It is requested, therefore, that instructions be issued to the Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Service Commands to make available to WRA such buildings in the military areas as are no longer needed for the reduced military personnel and as may be agreed upon by the Military Commanders and Director at each center, with the understanding that buildings of standard construction will be used in place, that only buildings of pre-fabricated construction will be permitted to be moved to more suitable sites, and that the buildings made available to WRA will be excluded from the military areas by moving the area boundary fence.

If WRA were allowed to make the necessary alterations in buildings of standard construction, which is requested - for example, to convert them in certain cases to bachelor quarters for administrative personnel - a saving could be effected both in cost and in strategic war material.

There are various uses to which WRA can place these buildings which will conform to the existing policies concerning fraternization and which would effect appreciable savings in administrative costs. Any expense incident to taking over these buildings will be borne by WRA.

Sincerely,

/s/ D. S. Myer

Director

OM-1128

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26 May 1944

Mr. D. S. Myer, Director,
War Relocation Authority,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Myer:

Your letter of May 16 relative to the use of excess buildings at War Relocation Centers by the War Relocation Authority has been forwarded to this office.

The Chief of Engineers has been directed to collaborate with the Commanding Generals of the Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Service Commands and make available for War Relocation Authority use such buildings as are no longer needed for Army use.

Sincerely yours,

Lee A. Denson

Colonel, General Staff Corps,
Director, Requirements Division.

/s/ Mason C. Prichard
Colonel, General Staff Corps,
Chief, Construction Planning Branch,
Requirements Division.

OM-1128

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington

August 10, 1944

Stinck

CONFIDENTIAL

To: All Project Directors

Subject: Washington review of leave clearance dockets

1. The reinstitution of Selective Service, as we all know, was accompanied by a flood of requests for expatriation or repatriation and changes in answer to the loyalty question. As has been previously pointed out, there is reason to believe that many of these actions were prompted by a desire to facilitate draft evasion. The recent decision of Judge Goodman dismissing the prosecutions against Tule Lake evacuees who refused to obey Selective Service calls will provide an additional incentive for evacuees at other centers to take action which they believe will result in denial of leave clearance and transfer to Tule Lake. For this reason and because of other proposed changes in leave clearance policies that are now under consideration, further Washington action will be deferred for the time being on all leave clearance dockets (other than those transmitted from Tule Lake) containing information upon the basis of which leave clearance would be denied under present criteria. Each Project Director will be notified of the cases so deferred. The persons involved shall remain on the project stop lists and shall be ineligible for leave in advance of leave clearance.

2. The Washington office will expedite action on all dockets which involve withdrawal of repatriation or expatriation requests, change to an affirmative answer to the loyalty question, or other factors which may indicate that leave clearance should not be denied to the particular individuals.

3. No further transfers to Tule Lake from relocation centers will be approved at this time except under exceptional circumstances upon recommendation of the Project Director, after denial of leave clearance. Project Directors should be particularly cautious in making such recommendations where a male citizen of draft age is involved.

4. This is a confidential communication, but you should advise the appropriate members of your staff of the contents of this memorandum.

D. S. Myer

Director

OM-1338

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

September 25, 1944

C O N F I D E N T I A L

MEMORANDUM FOR PROJECT DIRECTORS

Subject: Advance Planning and Preparation for Program to be Instituted on Revocation of Military Orders Excluding Japanese-Americans from Pacific Coast Areas.

In September 1943, in a special message to the Congress, the President stated: "We shall restore to the loyal evacuees the right to return to the evacuated areas as soon as the military situation shall make such restoration feasible." The power to determine when the military situation will permit the revocation of the exclusion orders does not rest with the War Relocation Authority; it has been granted by the President to the Secretary of War. With the constant improvement in the military situation both in Europe and in the Pacific, we in the War Relocation Authority must anticipate that sooner or later the responsible military authorities will determine that the military situation has improved to such an extent that the revocation of the exclusion orders has become feasible. We cannot guess on what date that decision will be made. We do, however, know that when the decision is made the War Relocation Authority will face the large task of supervising and directing the return to the Pacific Coast of those evacuees who wish to return to that area, the further relocation of those evacuees who wish to establish themselves outside the Pacific Coast, and the closing of the relocation centers.

If we are to do our job adequately we must prepare now for the administrative tasks we shall have to assume when the exclusion orders are lifted. The size of the task makes advance planning and preparation indispensable.

There is, however, danger that the work we shall be doing in connection with such advance planning may give rise to false rumors as to the imminence of lifting of the exclusion orders. Rumors and speculation concerning the date on which the excluded areas will be reopened can do a great deal of harm to our program. They can slow down relocation by the evacuees and they can create bad public relations within the excluded areas and elsewhere. We must, therefore, take every precaution, as we go about our business in preparing plans and procedures, to guard against the initiation of rumors and guesses that the reopening of the West Coast is just around the corner.

A committee of Washington staff members has met with me on a number of occasions during the last several weeks, and we have formulated a first draft of a comprehensive program for meeting the situation that will face us when the exclusion orders are revoked. This memorandum embodies that program. It is tentative, and needs further study. Until publicly announced, this memorandum is highly confidential, and should be shown only to authorized persons.

Revocation of Exclusion Orders

We believe that when the present exclusion orders are revoked they should be revoked completely as to all persons formerly affected by them, except as to persons who have been denied leave clearance by the War Relocation Authority. Revocation of the orders should be effective in

Alaska as well as in the states of Washington, Oregon, California, and Arizona. Return of Japanese-Americans to Alaska can, through military control over travel to the Territory, be limited to persons previously residing in Alaska without necessity for continuance of the general exclusion order. At the same time, arrangements should be made to facilitate return to Hawaii for persons evacuated from the Territory.

It is our judgment that revocation of the military orders should be made by the Commanding General of the Western Defense Command pursuant to the same delegation of authority (Executive Order No. 9066) under which the exclusion orders were issued. Announcement should be confined to a recital of the improved military circumstances which remove justification for exclusion. The order should be effective upon issuance. Immediately before its announcement, we propose that the Commanding General of the Western Defense Command notify, by long distance telephone followed by letter, the Governors of the four states affected by the change in policy. At the same time an appropriate announcement should be made to the press. We suggest that in Washington the Secretary of War should simultaneously announce revocation of the exclusion orders to a meeting of the Pacific Coast congressional delegations.

The public announcements of the Commanding General of the Western Defense Command and of the Secretary of War should be made in such a way as to establish clearly the fact that revocation of the exclusion orders is being undertaken as an independent military judgment, and that Army appraisal of the military situation, which in 1942 determined the necessity for evacuation, now determines the necessity for revocation of the exclusion orders.

Proposed Timing

We propose that the revocation order be effective on X-Day, and that public announcements by the War Department be made on that day. We would suggest that the announcements be made for immediate release. Immediately following the War Department announcements the Secretary of the Interior would issue a statement outlining in some detail the effect of the order on the program of the War Relocation Authority. The statement would be written with two audiences particularly in mind, the population of the evacuated area and the residents of the relocation centers. In general, the statement should include the following provisions:

1. The present power of the War Relocation Authority to detain individuals after they have been given leave clearance will be removed by revocation of the exclusion orders. Consequently, following announcement of the new policy, the War Relocation Authority will permit any evacuee who has leave clearance to leave the center upon request, to go to any destination he may choose. The Authority will attempt, however, by extending its present relocation program to the evacuated area, to administer travel allowances and relocation grants so as to insure an orderly movement of evacuees who wish to return to the coast.

2. The War Relocation Authority will manage its program in such a way as to bring about the closing of all relocation centers on a date ten months after X-Day; all other offices of the Authority, except the evacuee property warehouses in the evacuated area, by one year after X-Day; and all evacuee property warehouses, by 15 months after X-Day.

3. The War Relocation Authority will give especial emphasis to the work of the relocation offices now maintained throughout the United States

for the purpose of assisting evacuees to find employment opportunities and assisting communities to secure services of qualified evacuees, and will maintain, within the evacuated area, relocation offices such as are now operating in the territory where evacuees have been relocating during the past two years. This service will be continued for some months after X-Day.

4. To provide for those evacuees who are unable, because of age, illness, or family responsibilities, to earn a living and maintain themselves and their dependents, financial assistance will be provided by the Federal Security Agency in cooperation with appropriate state agencies in states where such evacuees relocate. No evacuee will be maintained in relocation centers after one year after X-Day. Within that time limit no one will be required to relocate until he has made adequate provisions have been made for his maintenance.

Announcement by the Attorney General

We propose that the Attorney General issue, two days after X-Day, an announcement stating briefly the legal effect of revocation of the orders, describing that portion of the Japanese-American population which would then be free to enter the coastal zone, and calling attention to those classes of persons of Japanese descent who will remain in custody either at Tule Lake or in internment camps. If the immediate reaction in the evacuated area to the change in policy appears to justify it, the Attorney General should include in his statement appropriate reference to the importance of protecting civil rights and a suggestion of the position the Federal government will take in protecting civil rights, if necessary.

It will be necessary for the Justice Department to develop plans

for prompt handling of sponsorship requests from parolees now resident in relocation centers.

In addition, the Justice Department should be prepared to exercise its controls over the movements of aliens in such a way as to permit those controls to facilitate the family and individual relocation plans approved by the Authority. Arrangements should be made for speedier issuance of travel permission, where such permission is needed. In some cases it may be necessary to ask the Justice Department to postpone approval for travel by certain aliens where the proposed travel would be in conflict with the relocation program.

Army Responsibility in Public Relations

We regard it as essential to the orderly conduct of the Relocation program following revocation of the exclusion orders that the Army take full public responsibility for announcing and explaining the change of policy. We feel that the Western Defense Command must be the spokesman in the evacuated area for the government's policy, particularly in the weeks immediately following revocation of the exclusion orders.

The Commanding General of the Western Defense Command should, as we have suggested earlier, notify the Governors of the four evacuated states immediately before the announcement of the revocation of the exclusion orders. In the week immediately following the announcement of the revocation order, the Army should, in our judgment, meet with key leaders of Pacific Coast opinion. This can probably best be done at a series of meetings held in several coastal cities. We suggest that the Commanding General himself appear at meetings held, if possible, in the week immediately following the announcement of the revocation order at Los Angeles,

San Francisco, Sacramento, and Seattle, and that he or his chief of staff appear as soon as possible at similar meetings in Fresno, Portland, and perhaps one or two other key places.

The Army should invite representatives of all branches of opinion to attend these meetings. Specifically, they should include publishers, business leaders, labor leaders, agricultural representatives, representatives of the American Legion, educators, religious leaders, etc. also law enforcement

It is our judgment that the War Relocation Authority should remain in the background in this opening series of meetings. We believe, however, that the series of key meetings should be followed by community meetings in all communities in the evacuated area to which any substantial number of evacuees is likely to return. In representing the Government's point of view at the local meetings, the War Relocation Authority will take a more active part, but even in conducting such meetings there should be assigned to work with the Authority a small staff of especially selected officers who can speak authoritatively for the Army.

The Leave Regulations

The leave regulations of the War Relocation Authority now provide for detaining all evacuees in relocation centers until the Authority has had an opportunity to examine their records. On completion of that examination, the Authority transfers to the Tule Lake Segregation Center those evacuees (and such of their immediate family members as choose to acompany them) who the Authority believes might be potentially dangerous to the internal security of the United States if they were released from relocation centers during the war. The remaining evacuees are considered to be eligible to leave the centers for permanent relocation.

The process of examining the records of the evacuees in order to divide them into the two groups of (1) segregants, and (2) those eligible for relocation, has been nearly but not wholly completed. That process can in fact never be wholly completed so long as the present leave regulations are in force, inasmuch as any evacuee can at any time create the necessity for a further review of his case by making an expression of loyalty to Japan, or by filing a formal request for repatriation or expatriation, or by other conduct that will create doubt as to his loyalty to the United States. Whenever a major new event occurs, such as the recent announcement of the reopening of Selective Service to persons of Japanese ancestry, some individuals react in ways that compel review of their eligibility for relocation. We must anticipate that the announcement of the reopening of excluded areas will itself cause some evacuees to file requests for repatriation or expatriation or to perform other similar acts in a deliberate effort to have themselves classified as disloyal to the United States, so that they may be transferred to the relative economic security of the Tule Lake Segregation Center, rather than be compelled to accept return to the West Coast or other relocation.

Changes to be made in the leave regulations in connection with the reopening of the excluded area must, therefore, take into account the fact that the leave clearance process is a continuing one and that on the date the reopening is announced, and for some time thereafter, there will be present in the relocation centers some evacuees whose status has not yet been finally determined and who may subsequently need to be transferred to the Tule Lake Center.

We propose therefore that the leave regulations be amended as follows:

1. The immediately following provisions of the present leave regulations should be retained:

   (a) Those providing for detaining evacuees until they have been classified either as segregants or as eligible for relocation;

   (b) those providing for the transfer to the Tule Lake Segregation Center and for detention in that center of those persons who have been denied leave clearance, and those of their immediate family members who choose to accompany them;

   (c) those providing for the right of appeal to the Board of Appeals for leave clearance by persons denied leave clearance and transferred to Tule Lake; and

   (d) those providing for renewed application for leave clearance by family members and others who are living in the Segregation Center but have not earlier been denied leave clearance.

2. The following provisions of the leave regulations should be repealed:

   (a) Those providing for detention of persons who have been granted leave clearance or who are eligible for leave in advance of leave clearance until they make separate application for indefinite leave, and satisfy the Authority that they have means of support, wish to relocate in a community that is willing to accept evacuees, and are willing to notify the Authority of all changes of address (except that all departing evacuees will be asked to notify W.R.A. of their first permanent address after leaving the center); and

(b) those reserving to the Director the right to revoke an indefinite leave earlier issued.

Leave Clearance Processing

We propose, also, that the leave clearance processes of the War Relocation Authority should be terminated as of the date of the announcement of the reopening of the evacuated area, except for completion of the dockets still in process on that date. The War Relocation Authority should announce that it has completed the task of sorting from the loyal evacuees those whose sympathies lie with Japan, and has already transferred all but a few to the Tule Lake Center, and that the few remaining will be transferred soon. With the completion of the segregation transfers, the Authority can go out of the leave clearance business. In the case of any evacuee who shall, subsequent to the announcement of the reopening of the evacuated area, file a request for repatriation or expatriation, or perform any other act that would have heretofore converted his case into a "doubtful" docket, the War Relocation Authority will merely supply the appropriate information to the Department of Justice for such action as it may deem proper. We propose to ask the Department of Justice to state what information it wants in these cases. For example, the Department may tell us that it does not regard requests for repatriation or expatriation made subsequent to announcement of the reopening of the evacuated area as warranting any further investigation on its part. In that case, the Authority would cease to accept requests from evacuees for expatriation or repatriation but would inform the evacuees that such requests should thereafter be filed with the Spanish Embassy.

The result of these changes in the leave regulations will be that thereafter all residents of relocation centers, other than two classes to be discussed, will be free to leave the relocation center at any time that they wish to do so. The two excepted classes are:

1. Those who have been denied leave clearance but have not yet been transferred to the Tule Lake Center; and
2. Those who are on the "stop list", that is, those in the "doubtful" group to whom issuance of leave has been prohibited until determination by the Washington office of their leave clearance status.

It should be noted that the evacuees eligible to leave the centers will include those who have been issued leave clearance and those whose records are so clear that the Project Directors have been authorized to issue leave to them in advance of leave clearance.

Types of Leave

Evacuees may today apply for any one of three types of leave--short-term leave, seasonal leave, and indefinite leave. The last includes indefinite leave (trial period). We believe certain changes will be necessary in the regulations now applicable to these types of leave.

1. Short-term Leave

The short-term leave program would be continued on its present basis until approximately ten months after X-Day. All persons taking short-term leave should be required to file the necessary application papers for indefinite leave, and each evacuee leaving on short-term leave should be advised that, if he does not report back to the center

by the expiration date of his short-term leave, that leave will be automatically converted to indefinite leave.

2. Seasonal Leave

The seasonal leave program would be terminated as soon as possible after X-Day. Any outstanding commitments should, of course, be complied with but in all other respects the program should be closed.

3. Indefinite Leave (trial period)

The privilege of going out on indefinite leave (trial period) should be continued only for the present areas, and only for a reasonable period after X-Day. This type of leave should not be granted for the Pacific Coast areas.

4. Indefinite Leave

This type of leave would continue to be available until all centers are closed, in accordance with the general program outlined in this memorandum.

Re-Induction into Relocation Centers

The policy on re-induction into relocation centers needs to be considered separately for two types of groups:

1. Persons who have been issued indefinite leave to go to the Pacific Coast areas should not be eligible for re-induction into relocation centers. We should announce the policy that evacuees unable to make a satisfactory adjustment on the West Coast will be given assistance by relocation officers in finding opportunities elsewhere in the United States, but they will not be permitted to return to centers except as paying guests.

2. Persons given indefinite leave to go to areas other than the West Coast should likewise not be eligible for re-induction into

relocation centers, except that if an evacuee can get a release from his job from the War Manpower Commission, and presents a plan to the relocation officer which requires him to return to a center to assist other family members to relocate, the policy should provide that he may be given a permit by the relocation officer to spend up to 30 days in a relocation center as a non-paying guest while the family completes its relocation plans.

Some hardship cases may develop, however, in which it will be good policy to permit an evacuee to return to a relocation center because he has been unable to make the necessary adjustment under the indefinite leave issued to him. It will probably be necessary to provide that the Project Director shall have authority in such cases to permit re-induction, subject to the caution that this discretionary authority is to be used extremely sparingly and only in cases that may otherwise develop serious difficulties for the relocation program.

Control of Movement in and out of Centers

We do not believe it will be necessary to continue to maintain the present details of military police at the relocation centers, although we shall continue to maintain a gate control. We shall, of course, need to continue the present procedures for maintaining full information concerning the population in the centers, and we shall need to continue to control entry and departure at the gates, particularly since for two months or more there will probably be people in the centers who are not eligible to leave. We propose to maintain these gate controls through our internal security forces at the centers. If it should prove necessary to increase the number of appointed personnel in the internal

security forces when the military police contingents are removed, we propose to make arrangements with the Army to delay removal of the military police contingent until the additional staff has been recruited.

We do not anticipate that these amendments in the leave regulations will create any sudden rush out of the centers. In the first place, we shall strongly urge the evacuees to remain in the centers until their turn comes to leave in accordance with a planned schedule. We anticipate that the evacuees will wish to take advantage of the assistance of the Authority in providing family interviews at which plans can be made for the relocation of the family. In addition, we shall make it clear that the relocation grants and free transportation the Authority will make available to relocating evacuees will not be given to those evacuees who leave the centers before their turn comes in the planned schedule. We feel confident that we do not need to attempt compulsory detention of the evacuees in the centers merely to prevent a premature or unregulated flow of the evacuees into the evacuated areas.

Aside from the fact that such continued detention is not necessary, we believe it would be highly undesirable. If we continue to detain within the centers evacuees who are eligible to relocate, until such time as we can develop community acceptance for them in the evacuated areas and in other areas, we shall be creating an opportunity for small die-hard groups to organize campaigns to close off particular cities or regions to relocation of evacuees as lacking in "community acceptance."

Similarly, it is undesirable to continue legally enforced detention pending a showing of means of support, since we are providing relocation grants and are making arrangements with the Federal Security Agency and

other Federal and state agencies to provide public assistance for needy cases. Finally, the continued requirement that the War Relocation Authority be notified of changes of address (other than the first permanent address after leaving the center) is undesirable because such a requirement will keep strings tied to the relocating evacuees. We feel it is very important to terminate the special status of the evacuees as soon as possible and to restore them to their former place as completely free agents.

Extension of the Relocation Program to the Evacuated Area

The Authority should announce immediately after the exclusion orders are lifted the fact that evacuees are free to leave the centers but will be given transportation and relocation financial assistance only if they leave the centers on the basis of a relocation plan approved by the Authority. We should be able, through the administration of relocation financial assistance, to insure the orderly movement of evacuees from the centers about as effectively as it can be done under the present power of the Authority to grant or withhold approval of indefinite leave. Some evacuees may be financially able to move at their own expense and may insist on leaving the centers immediately, but the great majority, we feel certain, will wait for W.R.A. approval and assistance.

Relocation Grant Policy

We expect to make no change in the present relocation grant policy except to extend its terms to the evacuated area and to make it applicable, under certain circumstances, to evacuees who have previously relocated outside the centers.

Provision of financial assistance to evacuees who propose to relocate in the evacuated area after revocation of the exclusion orders will be governed by the present policies on making grants to assist in relocation. We propose, however, to interpret strictly the requirement that each evacuee who receives assistance have a place to live and means of support. In other words, the Authority will not give financial assistance to the relocation of evacuees in the evacuated area unless they have prior assurance of means of support and a place to live.

Financial Assistance to Evacuees Who Have Already Relocated

Subject to the policy limitations set forth above, financial assistance will be made available by the Authority to evacuees who relocated from centers prior to the date of rescinding the exclusion orders or who relocated directly from the evacuated area without going to relocation centers, when all the following circumstances exist:

1. The evacuee proposes to return to his state of previous residence.
2. The evacuee demonstrates that he must return to the evacuated area to protect property or other interests which he cannot adequately protect without returning to the area, or he must have a release from his employer or must show that he is not proposing to leave a job without proper notice.
3. When the War Manpower regulations require, the evacuee must have a release from that agency.

Relocation Organization on the Coast

We propose to administer the relocation program of the Authority in the evacuated area under the direction of the Assistant Director of the

Authority in San Francisco. This officer is now responsible for direction of the evacuee property program, for conduct of public relations in the evacuated area, and for assisting the Director in supervision of the relocation centers in the States of California and Arizona. Following revocation of the exclusion orders, we expect to add to the San Francisco staff qualified relocation personnel trained and organized to utilize the experience the Authority has gained in relocation in other parts of the country.

Although our plans contemplate that we will eventually need relocation officers in most of the principal cities in which there was a large evacuee population prior to the war, we do not propose to establish such offices immediately. First, we propose to add a relocation staff to the Office of the Assistant Director in San Francisco and to establish three area relocation offices at Seattle, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. These staffs will be responsible at the outset primarily for working with local committees which we expect will be formed following the initial series of public meetings held by the Western Defense Command; for investigating any problem cases which may arise as evacuees begin to return to the area; and for dealing with Federal and State agencies concerned with aspects of the relocation problem.

Full understanding

We believe that placement of evacuees in industrial and other urban jobs should be handled by local U. S. Employment Service offices. Placement of agricultural labor should be handled by local representatives of the War Food Administration, financial assistance to businessmen by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and to farmers by the Farm Security Administration and the Farm Credit Administration. We do not expect,

during the first three months, to attempt to locate job opportunities for evacuees in this area nor housing facilities, believing it will be better to allow these problems to be dealt with by local committees and existing State agencies.

This procedure differs from the procedure we are generally following in other parts of the country, for the Authority has done considerable direct placement work either in cooperation with the U. S. Employment Service or with its approval. It has tried to find housing and has generally been the focus of evacuee adjustment in new communities.

In short, we propose that at the outset we should have as well qualified a staff as we can assemble in the San Francisco and area offices but should not establish local offices until the need has become so evident that it has been recognized by responsible local leaders and has been requested.

How can check placements?

Modification of the Evacuee Property Program

Services now provided in handling of property fall in two categories, those concerned with real property owned or controlled by evacuees in the exclusion area, and personal property, chiefly household goods, which the War Relocation Authority, as a successor to commitments made by the Army during evacuation, has agreed to store in government warehouses or ship to evacuees at relocation centers or points of relocation outside of centers.

Assistance provided evacuees in the management of real property will be limited after revocation of the exclusion orders to the following categories:

1. Completion of cases in which the Authority had assumed responsibility prior to revocation of the orders.
2. Handling of new cases for segregants and for evacuees who, in the judgment of the Project Director or Relocation Supervisor, should not return to the evacuated area at the time necessary to handle the property cases in question.

All such property work will be managed so as to permit withdrawal of the War Relocation Authority from the property program at the end of 12 months after X-Day.

Immediately upon revocation of the exclusion orders, the War Relocation Authority will suspend the service of picking up evacuee-owned household goods and other personal property in the evacuated area for storage in government warehouses, except household goods owned by segregants. As soon as possible all evacuees whose household goods or other personal property is now in government storage will be notified that they must remove their property from government storage before a stated date, which will be 15 months after X-Day.

Following revocation of the exclusion orders, the War Relocation Authority will provide, under existing policies of the Authority as to weight and kind of property, the following services to evacuees in the transportation at government expense of household goods and other personal property:

1. Movement from a relocation center to a point of relocation in the evacuated area, or elsewhere.
2. Movement from a government warehouse to a point of relocation.
3. Movement from a point of relocation outside the evacuated area

to the evacuee's point of former residence, or to any other point within the evacuated area, provided the evacuee's relocation has been made in accordance with a plan approved by the War Relocation Authority.

4. Movement from a place of private storage within the evacuated area to any point of relocation, provided the evacuee's relocation is made in accordance with a plan approved by the War Relocation Authority.

All requests for the movement of property under the terms outlined above, except movements out of government warehouses, must be transmitted in writing to a designated WRA evacuee property representative before 12 months after X-Day. All requests for the movement of property from a government warehouse to a point of relocation must be transmitted in writing to a designated WRA evacuee property representative before 14 months after X-Day.

Relocation of Dependent Persons

Relocation of dependent persons presents a special problem, the solution of which is essential to the success of any plan for liquidating the WRA program. In general, the evacuee residents of relocation centers who can properly be classified as economically or socially dependent include the aged, women with dependent children, the blind, the ill, the mentally deficient, and families without a wage earner or without sufficient earning capacity to provide economic security outside the centers.

The Japanese-American population prior to evacuation was generally an economically independent group. Even in the midst of the economic depression almost all Japanese-Americans were able to care for themselves or

were cared for by the Japanese-American communities without recourse to public relief. Evacuation largely destroyed the economic structure upon which this record of independence was established. Economically independent members of the evacuee group will not be able immediately upon their return to normal life to assume responsibility for all dependent members without recourse to various forms of assistance.

In planning for relocation of these groups of dependent persons, the Federal Security Agency, cooperating with State and county public welfare agencies, should be requested to provide services and assistance.

The following is an outline of the specific steps that need to be taken by WRA, and those that need to be taken by welfare agencies, for each different type of dependent persons or family. In the left-hand column are listed WRA responsibilities. In the right-hand column are listed the corresponding responsibilities that should be assumed by welfare agencies. The welfare agencies covered are the Social Security Board, the United States Children's Bureau, the Vocational Rehabilitation Division and State Welfare Agencies.

WRA Responsibilities	Social Security Board Responsibilities
(1) Old Age Assistance. (Under Title I of Social Security Act)	
A. Prepare lists of potential old age applicants and recipients	A. Determine pre-evacuation status by clearance with index
1. Citizenship status	1. Assistance for those not eligible under State law
2. State of residence	2. Provide assistance as needed for those ineligible under State law
3. Singles or in family groups	3. Provide temporary care pending official disposition of case

WRA Responsibilities	Social Security Board Responsibilities
4. Number in need of boarding or nursing home care	4. Provide boarding or nursing home in supervised and licensed homes
5. Summary to include relocation plan and as much eligibility information as available	5. Keep WRA advised regarding number cases that can be processed within given period

Residence Problem - During evacuation, individuals and families united for purpose of entering centers together. Many may relocate with their families in States in which they have no legal residence. This will affect Aid to Blind and Aid to Dependent Children, discussed below.

(2) Aid to the Blind. (Under Title IX of Social Security Act)

A. Prepare lists of potential applicants and recipients	A. Determination of pre-evacuation status
1. Under 16 years of age	1. Admission to School for Blind
2. Over 16 years of age	2. Training school for Blind or assistance
3. Citizenship	3. Assistance for those not meeting citizenship requirements
4. Residence	4. Assistance for those not meeting residence requirements
5. Singles or in families	5. Provide care pending official disposition of case
6. In need of boarding care	(6. Place in licensed boarding or
7. In need of nursing home care	(7. nursing home
8. Summary to include relocation plan and available eligibility information	8. Keep WRA advised regarding number cases that can be processed within given period. Assist in finding housing for returned evacuees

WRA Responsibilities	Social Security Board Responsibilities
(3) Aid to Dependent Children.	(Under Title IV of Social Security Act)
A. Prepare list of families potentially eligible for A.D.C.	A. Determination of pre-evacuation status
1. Number families and number of children in each family falling within appropriate age groups	1. Provide assistance pending official disposition of case. Assist in securing housing where necessary
2. Residence	2. Assistance for non-residents pending establishment of legal residence
3. Number of families with employable members	3. Refer employable members to USES
4. Summary including relocation plan and available facts regarding eligibility	4. Assist family in final adjustment in community

	United States Children's Bureau
(4) Crippled Children.	(Under Title V of Social Security Act)
A. Lists of children receiving or in need of	A. Determine pre-evacuation status
1. Available information regarding eligibility for program	(1. Arrange for care and treatment
2. Care received in center	(2. for crippled children eligible
3. Summary including relocation plan	(3. for care under the Act

	United States Children's Bureau (cont'd)
(5) Child Welfare Services.	(Under Title V of Social Security Act)
A. Lists of children receiving or in need of	A. Pre-evacuation status
1. Foster home care	(1. Place children in licensed and
2. Boarding home	(2. supervised foster and boarding homes

WRA Responsibilities	United States Children's Bureau
3. Child guidance care	3. Arrange for clinical services
4. Cases in which adoption proceedings have been instituted	4. Complete adoption cases
5. Provide summary of available information regarding individual cases	5. Provide assistance for children placed outside of own homes
	Vocational Rehabilitation Division
(6) Physically Handicapped.	
A. Persons in need of and acceptable under program	A. Provide assistance for persons during their training period. Eventual placement in industry
	State Welfare Agencies
(7) Dependent families	
A. Illness	A. Hospital and medical care
1. Tuberculosis	1. Sanatorium care
2. Convalescent care	2. Payment of care in licensed nursing home
B. With employable members	B. Refer to USES for employment
	1. Provide total assistance to persons in need or provide supplementary assistance pending total self-support
	2. Assist in locating housing facilities
	3. Assist in adjustment into community
C. Aged or chronically ill persons in need of care not eligible for assistance under other programs	C. Provide assistance with relatives or placement in private licensed homes

WRA Responsibilities	State Welfare Agencies (cont'd)
(8) Institutions	
A. Adults	A. Determination of pre-evacuation status
1. Mentally ill	1. Admission to existing State institution in State of legal residence
2. Mentally deficient	2. Admission to existing institution in State of legal residence
B. Children	B. Pre-evacuation status
1. Mentally deficient	1. Admission to existing institution
2. Delinquent	2. Admission to State or county institution upon recommendation of proper authority
3. Dependent	3. Admission to child caring institutions

Payment for Care of Dependent Persons to be Made by Social Security Board

(1) From funds advanced to Social Security Board for care of persons affected by restrictive governmental action.

A. To persons pending approval of categorical aid.

B. To members of family not eligible for categorical aid.

C. To persons not eligible for county aid.

D. For boarding or nursing care for children and adults where other assistance not available.

(2) From Federal-State and county funds.

A. All persons eligible and approved under Federal aid programs.

(3) From State and county funds.

A. Residents of the State in need of medical or hospital care.

B. Residents in need of general assistance.

C. Residents in need of nursing or boarding home care.

Public Assistance to Relocated Evacuees

The relocation program up to the present time, generally speaking, has not taken dependent persons out of the centers. A small proportion of the relocated evacuees, however, have become dependent after relocation because of illness or for other reasons. To provide public assistance to such persons, who in most cases relocated to states in which they do not have legal residence, a special program has been administered by the Federal Security Agency. At the time of the Pacific Coast evacuation, the Federal Security Agency was given funds from the President's Emergency Fund to provide public assistance to enemy aliens and their dependents and to evacuees and other persons removed or restricted in their action by military order. These funds have been administered through appropriate state agencies in accordance with plans approved by the Social Security Board.

During the past few months, upon determination by the Bureau of the Budget that the President's Emergency Fund should no longer be used to finance this special program of assistance, plans have been developed for securing an appropriation for the Federal Security Agency, and authority for the agency to secure transfer of additional funds from the War Relocation Authority and the Department of Justice, to finance this special program. In an Act approved June 28, 1944, Congress appropriated $50,000 to the Federal Security Administrator for providing temporary aid, not to extend beyond the duration of the existing war and six months thereafter, to enemy aliens and other persons excluded from certain military areas (including persons excluded under Executive Order 9066). That Act also authorized transfer of an additional $50,000 from the WRA appropriation to the Federal

Security Administrator for the same purposes. This legislation provides a legal basis for transferring to the Federal Security Agency responsibility for dependent persons as they relocate from the centers. The funds thus made available to the Federal Security Agency, however, for these purposes are not sufficient. We propose to join with the Federal Security Agency in requesting additional appropriations to that Agency for these purposes, or a revision of the limit on the amount that WRA may transfer to FSA.

Proposed Procedure for Relocation of Dependent Persons

As a part of the general program for emptying the relocation centers, family interviews will be held with all evacuee families in the centers, and careful plans for relocation will be worked out. For families in which there is no problem of dependency, preparation of a family relocation plan will be relatively simple. In families in which there is dependency, before assistance will be given the family to relocate, steps will be taken to make certain that the appropriate welfare agency in the community to which the family proposes to go is prepared to assume responsibility for the dependency problem.

In some cases this will mean little more than notifying the appropriate welfare agency that the family group includes a person eligible for assistance under one of the established public assistance categories, such as the blind, the aged, or dependent mothers. In other cases it may involve reestablishment of an institution, such as an orphanage or an aged persons home, which was removed from the coastal area during evacuation. In most cases it will mean that wholly dependent persons will of necessity be relocated in the states in which they have legal residence, that is, in the

evacuated area. While the special authority possessed by the Federal Security Agency to give assistance to enemy aliens and persons displaced by military action will provide assistance for evacuees after relocation, and may make possible relocation of occasional dependent cases in states other than those in which the individuals have legal residence, it is likely that most dependency cases will have to be returned to the communities in which they lived before evacuation.

Transfer of Institutionalized Cases

At the time of evacuation the Army, through the United States Public Health Service, placed a number of evacuees, who, because of tuberculosis, mental illness, or other illnesses, were not able to be moved, in hospitals and institutions in the evacuated area. Some have been removed as improvement of their health permitted their movement to relocation centers or to outside points of relocation. Many remain in Pacific Coast institutions. There they are maintained now at the expense of the War Relocation Authority.

In addition, other evacuees from relocation centers have been transferred to mental institutions and hospitals because facilities at the centers were not adequate to provide for such persons. Their maintenance also is paid for from funds of the War Relocation Authority. We propose to transfer responsibility for these institutionalized persons to the Federal Security Agency and to transfer from the appropriation of the Authority to the Federal Security Agency funds earmarked in our appropriation for the care of such persons.

Assignment of Responsibility for Handling the Flow of Relocation Dockets Within the Centers

Final responsibility for directing all the relocation work at the

project, in accordance with the program established by the Director, will rest with the Project Director. Under the general supervision of the Project Director, the Relocation Division at the project will be responsible for following through on all cases and for preparing the necessary correspondence to accomplish relocation. This procedure is to apply, also, to relocation dockets for dependent persons, except that in the case of such dockets the welfare interviews and relocation plans are to be formulated, in conference with the evacuees, by the Welfare Section of the Community Management Division. The Welfare Section is then to attach to the docket a memorandum summarizing the recommended relocation plan. The docket is then to go to the Relocation Division for further handling. If the Relocation Division should wish to depart from the relocation plan recommended in such a case by the Welfare Section, and should be unable to come to an agreement with the Welfare Section, the difference of opinion shall be submitted to the Project Director for decision.

Relocation Plans for Homogeneous Groups

A number of homogeneous groups have developed among the evacuees. In some cases entire neighborhoods have been transplanted to particular relocation centers, and these neighborhoods form loose social groups in the centers, and the members of the neighborhoods discuss their common problems with each other. There is a natural tendency for groups of this type to make relocation plans for the group as a whole. Project Directors should explore the possibilities presented by the existence of such groups. With proper direction, the activities of such groups may stimulate relocation more or less on a mass basis, particularly where the group is not too large. On the other hand, it is possible that this pattern may hold back some individuals and families who may want to postpone decision on their own

relocation plans until the entire group has decided what it wants to do. This kind of group planning also presents the danger that it may lead to the reestablishment of "Little Tokyos" in new areas.

In sum, the preparation of relocation plans for homogeneous groups may in some cases be a spur to relocation and in other cases may retard it. Project Directors and their staff members will need to watch the situation in their centers and determine what is best to be done under all the circumstances.

Evacuee Participation in Relocation Planning

The community Council and the Relocation Planning Commission in each center should be brought actively into the process of relocation planning. The Project Director and his key staff members should consult with them frequently, should assign them specific tasks, and stimulate them to responsible leadership. The executive officer of the Relocation Planning Commission may need some special assistants in the distribution of information to evacuees, working with evacuee groups, and consulting on special dependency problems.

Shortly after announcement of the revocation of the exclusion orders, the Project Director and his principal staff members should meet with the Community Council and the Relocation Planning Commission and discuss with them the problem of adequate communication of information to all the evacuees in the center and the stimulation of relocation planning.

Modifications of Relocation Center Programs

Immediately upon revocation of the exclusion orders, the program of center operations will be revised for the purpose of eliminating as rapidly as possible all functions other than essential maintenance operations, and of bringing center activities to a close 12 months after X-Day. General

project management activities, including work of the project attorney and the project reports officer, will continue substantially unaltered until each center is closed.

Center accounting systems will be revised immediately to eliminate all cost accounting and the accounting aspects of property control. Fiscal accounts will be limited to simple budgetary accounting. Property control will be limited to accountability for non-expendable property without monetary evaluation in the property control records. Evacuee employment will be simplified as much as possible. The supply program of centers will be revised to eliminate purchases of equipment, except with the express prior approval of the Director, and to insure use of project inventories of supplies so that at the closing of each center warehouse stocks will have been consumed. Throughout the period of liquidation, frequent surveys of equipment will be made so as to bring about the transfer of surplus equipment at regular intervals throughout the year, for the purpose of avoiding a serious problem of property disposition at the conclusion of the program. Only equipment actually in regular use should be on hand for disposition during the twelfth month after X-Day. Statistical records and controls over population will be maintained until all centers are closed. All other administrative reports and records will be simplified wherever possible.

A program for liquidation of consumer enterprises on a basis which will provide adequate goods and services for as long as possible during the liquidation period will be developed immediately, but it is to be expected that during the concluding weeks of center operation, service facilities provided through the mechanism of the consumer enterprises will be extremely limited.

The school program will be adjusted to meet the needs of the situation. No improvements will be made after announcement of the revocation order in existing school plant and equipment. A plan will be developed with the appropriate Federal agency to maintain basic school records for future reference. The internal security staff will be strengthened, in order to take over the exterior guard and permit the removal of military police from all centers by the end of four months after X-Day.

No new construction will be undertaken unless it is essential to the operation of a center for its final year. All authorized construction will be carefully reviewed and everything eliminated except minor essential construction. Construction materials now on hand will be used for necessary maintenance or shipped to other centers, such as Tule Lake, to complete essential minor construction.

No additional development work will be undertaken not essential to the operation of the center for the final year, unless such development work can be done with available equipment and evacuee labor not needed for other center operations. An effort will be made to put all lands and facilities in satisfactory standby condition in case no other agency is in position to utilize the lands and facilities immediately.

Equipment for center agricultural production, construction, or developmental work will not be purchased except for replacement purposes on essential operating activities. Present equipment will be inventoried periodically throughout the year and as such equipment becomes surplus to the needs of the centers it will be declared surplus. Whenever replacements are required on any center, transfers will be effected whenever practicable.

Maintenance will be restricted to essential work required to keep the center in reasonable operating condition until the closing date. Replacements will not be made where it is feasible to repair even though the repair is somewhat more expensive than would ordinarily be justified.

Information Program in Evacuated Area

Immediately after revocation of the exclusion orders, the War Relocation Authority will establish, as part of its organization to carry on relocation in the coastal area, a staff of information persons experienced in the WRA program. There would be a small staff of information specialists in San Francisco. At each one of the three area offices, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seattle, reporting to the Relocation Supervisor at that point, there will be an Information Specialist.

In collaboration with the San Francisco office and with Relocation Officers at district offices throughout the areas, these men will be responsible for relations with the press, radio, and other media, and for getting information back to the relocation centers on the progress of relocation.

Cooperation with Local Groups

One of the primary tasks will be the mobilization of organizations of good will on the coast, such as church groups and the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play. It is recommended that representatives of all friendly groups be invited by the Director of the War Relocation Authority to attend a meeting to be held in San Francisco, and perhaps at other points on the coast, as soon as possible after removal of exclusion. These meetings would focus attention on the fact that many West Coast residents are friendly to the return of evacuees and are willing to assist in their re-

location; further, they would provide the first steps in establishing nuclei of good will groups in communities throughout the West Coast states.

One suggestion which should be made at such meetings and in any organization efforts is that a person with professional experience in public relations be designated to handle press and radio contacts in each group.

Suggested Information Methods

The War Relocation Authority and local representatives should enlist the understanding and support of local newspapers and radio stations. This would pave the way for progress reports on relocation, announcements of policies governing relocation, news and feature stories on individuals and groups who relocate successfully.

Local officials, mayors, chiefs of police, district attorneys, sheriffs, and others should be approached and given full information concerning the WRA relocation policies. This approach should be made by local people wherever possible, or by WRA representatives accompanied by local people.

Local groups should be encouraged to hold local meetings, presenting well informed speakers; two movies issued by the War Relocation Authority, one of the Japanese-American Combat Team, the other depicting life in relocation centers and the WRA relocation program, would be suitable for use at these meetings.

Newspaper and newsreel coverage should be arranged for the first evacuees returning to their homes. Arrangements should be made for nisei and issei representatives to call on governors and mayors when they return to the states or to cities and towns where they formerly lived. These courtesy calls should be given adequate coverage by press, radio, and newsreels. Every family with a member in the armed forces should have and display a service flag. Individuals also should display service emblems.

Representatives of the various information media should be invited to visit relocation centers within ready traveling distance of West Coast cities; the visits should be organized by representatives on the coast, and free access should be granted to all center activities. If possible, Seattle men should visit centers where former Seattle people lived, etc.

State and local school systems should be encouraged to use the problem of the Japanese-Americans to develop discussions of democracy and democratic principles as part of curricula.

Relocation centers should provide news stories to home town papers concerning evacuees inducted into the Army and their military careers. Nisei soldiers, especially veterans of overseas service, should be obtained for appearances in West Coast towns, under sponsorship of local groups.

Army Cooperation Required

Army cooperation would be needed to obtain and release information concerning nisei soldiers; to arrange for their appearances before West Coast groups; and of utmost importance, in maintaining a uniform attitude on the part of all officers within the Western Defense Command in support of the decision to remove exclusion. The Commanding General should make a newsreel announcement of the removal of exclusion and the military situation which justifies such removal.

Information to Relocation Centers

The information effort must be directed toward the centers as well as toward the outside public. New developments in policies, assistance from the War Relocation Authority, agreements with other Federal and with state and local agencies to provide assistance of various types to evacuees after their relocation, progress of relocation, information on successful readjustment, community acceptance, are among the topics which must be

covered in an information program to the centers, and the facilities already established in the centers will need to be utilized to see that the evacuees remaining in the centers are informed.

Certain points must be repeatedly stressed to the evacuees, such as the necessity for clearing with the War Manpower Commission before changing jobs, keeping the local Selective Service boards notified of changes of address, that aliens must secure permission of the United States Attorneys before moving from city to city, and the like.

Maintenance of WRA Staff During Liquidation

Orderly and successful conduct of the program outlined in this memorandum depends to a very large degree upon the ability of the War Relocation Authority to retain adequate staff and to maintain staff morale during the period of liquidation. On the one hand, staff members must be persuaded or required to remain with the Authority so long as their services are essential. On the other hand, preservation of morale, and fairness to the employees, requires that the Authority be willing to release employees when they have received job offers which they cannot reasonably be asked to forego and when they can be spared without too great inconvenience to the Authority.

Proposed Personnel Management Program

To meet this general situation, the Authority proposes to announce immediately a program of personnel management for the liquidation period. This program will include the following elements:

1. There will be no general freeze of personnel; that is, individual employees, under appropriate circumstances, will be released at any time throughout the liquidation period.

2. Every satisfactory employee will be assured of a position throughout the entire period of liquidation or for such shorter period as may be agreed to by the employee and an authorized personnel representative of the Authority.

3. As soon as possible after announcement of the liquidation program, each employee of the Authority will be interviewed by an authorized personnel representative for the purpose of working out an individual plan which will include changes of assignment, if any, and agreement as to minimum and maximum periods of time the employee will remain with the organization. Commitments made during these interviews will be in writing. They will take into account, so far as possible, the legitimate desires of the employee, but will utilize when necessary the power of the Authority under regulations of the Civil Service Commission to withhold release.

4. As is outlined earlier in this memorandum, we propose to simplify in every possible way the program of relocation centers. This will have the effect of reducing the need for appointed staff in certain categories. Personnel, as released, will be used in other lines of work and in other offices of the Authority wherever possible.

Personnel Assistance Needed from Other Agencies

In meeting the personnel problems of the liquidation period, the War Relocation Authority will require material assistance from other governmental agencies, particularly those of the Department of the Interior. In the first place, the problem of gradually reducing the staff in the Authority will be greatly simplified if most employees can be transferred to other

governmental agencies and if cooperation of such agencies can be enlisted in timing transfers. In general, if other agencies can be prevailed upon to recruit WRA personnel as they become available, to make appointments well in advance of the effective date of transfer, so that in many cases employees will work the last several months with the War Relocation Authority with a definite understanding as to the positions to which they will move, morale in the Authority will be very much benefited and an orderly reduction of force will be facilitated.

In the second place, during the liquidation period, the War Relocation Authority will need to secure the loan of qualified personnel from other agencies. It will be particularly difficult during the last few months of WRA operation to recruit new personnel except by loan from permanent agencies. These loans can be accomplished either by detail of other governmental personnel or by temporary appointment of persons given formal leave of absence from private or public agencies.

Many WRA employees have reappointment rights under Civil Service regulations in established government agencies. The War Relocation Authority proposes in the process of liquidation to negotiate with such agencies for the return of individuals who wish to exercise their reemployment rights. In addition, we have received indications that persons who have been trained in the WRA program of camp administration will be particularly useful to agencies like the United Nations' Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. We will try, in return for releasing personnel upon request to such agencies, to secure the cooperation of the agencies in timing the requests so as to fit reasonably into the liquidation program.

Duration of the Liquidation Program

The general plan of liquidation outlined in this statement contemplates

that all operations of the Authority as an administrative entity, except clean-up and custodial work on the relocation centers, operation of some or all of the evacuee property warehouses, and a few activities incident to the disposition of government property and the writing of final reports, will be completed by twelve months after X-Day. It will still be necessary, for a short time thereafter, to provide funds for personal services of the categories mentioned and also to pay for terminal annual leave.

Restatement of Assistance Required of Other Agencies

Successful completion of the WRA task depends so materially on the assistance of other agencies that it is worthwhile at this point to state briefly the assistance the Authority will need from other Federal agencies outside the Department of the Interior. In most cases the specific services listed below are discussed in more detail earlier in the memorandum. In a few instances, which are appropriately designated, the listing below is the only reference in this memorandum to the needed service.

War Department

1. Revocation of the exclusion orders.
2. Assumption of public responsibility on the coast for the modification of governmental policy.
3. Notification of Governors of the four states affected.
4. Conduct by the Western Defense Command of preliminary series of announcement meetings.
5. Assignment of selected, qualified officers to WRA to assist in holding local meetings supplementing the opening series. (Assignment of such officers might be dispensed with if Army should conduct entire series of meetings.)

6. Replacement of public notices announcing the evacuation which were posted on billboards, buildings, etc., throughout the evacuated area with new Army posters announcing revocation of exclusion. New posters should be put up by details of military police as were the original evacuation notices. (This suggestion is not discussed in the earlier part of the memorandum but it is an urgent suggestion of a well-informed Pacific Coast supporter of the WRA program.)

Federal Security Agency

A. Social Security Board

1. Cooperation with the War Relocation Authority in the relocation of dependent persons.

2. Acceptance of responsibility for institutionalized evacuees now maintained at WRA expense.

3. Loan of personnel, particularly in the field of welfare and community adjustment.

B. United States Employment Service

1. Placement of evacuees in non-agricultural jobs. (If, during the trial period, evacuees do not find jobs in the evacuated area with sufficient rapidity, WRA local representatives, in cooperation with the Employment Service, will have to go into job placement work in the coastal area much as they have in other areas of the country.)

2. Loan of personnel, particularly for relocation officer positions throughout the country.

Stafford Barrett

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington

November 6, 1944

Escheat

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL PROJECT DIRECTORS

You will be interested in the attached correspondence we have had with the Attorney General of California concerning the possibility of temporary deferral of escheat proceedings against evacuees.

D. S. Myer

Director

Attachments-3

65014

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington

November 3, 1944

Mr. Robert W. Kenny
Attorney General
State of California
Department of Justice
Los Angeles 12, California

Dear Mr. Kenny:

Thank you for your letter of October 26, giving me your views with respect to the desirability of deferring further action on escheat proceedings until the exclusion orders are lifted and the evacuees involved are free to return to the evacuated areas. As I stated in my letter of October 19, such a temporary deferral might well prevent injustices to evacuees who may have a valid defense but feel that they cannot under present circumstances afford to defend, without affecting the interests of the State adversely. However, I appreciate your frank expression of your views, and note your assurances that it is the desire of law-enforcing officers to respect fully the requirements of justice and fair play, and that full and careful consideration will be given to the granting of continuances in particular cases.

I recognize the difficulties of proof which face the law officers of the State in connection with escheat proceedings. As in the past, the War Relocation Authority stands ready to cooperate in arranging for the taking of depositions, the granting of leave to witnesses, and other matters within the scope of our authority. It must be recognized, however, that this agency has no power to compel evacuees to testify, to comply with process, or to take any other action in connection with escheat proceedings. Nor can the Authority legally detain in a relocation center a person who is otherwise eligible to leave, merely because he is a party or material witness in pending proceedings. In the case to which you refer, Mr. Suyenaga was eligible for seasonal leave, and our staff at the center had no authority to refuse to grant him leave on his request. I understand that the center personnel, who informed the inquiring law officer that leave would be granted for deposition taking purposes, were not requested to discuss the matter with Mr. Suyenaga, and it was naturally assumed that necessary arrangements had been made directly with him.

Had we been requested to approach Mr. Suyenaga, it is possible that the difficulty would not have arisen -- even though, of course, we could not have refused him the right to leave the center or otherwise to ignore the law officer's request if he chose to do so. Our investigation has revealed no foundation for any charge that any employee of this agency counselled or knowingly assisted Mr. Suyenaga to obtain leave for the purpose of evading questioning, or that we failed or refused to extend the cooperation that was requested of us.

I should appreciate your informing the appropriate law enforcement officers of the limitations which govern the extent of our cooperation. In the future, if any case of alleged failure on the part of representatives of this agency to cooperate within those limits should come to your attention, I should also appreciate your notifying me and giving me an opportunity to investigate the charges and take appropriate action to rectify the situation or correct misunderstandings.

Sincerely,

/s/ D. S. Myer

Director

cc: R. B. Cozzens

Robert W. Kenny
Attorney General

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State of California

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Los Angeles 12, October 26, 1944

Honorable D. S. Myer
Director, War Relocation Authority,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Myer:

In your letter of October 19, 1944, you refer to the escheat proceedings which have been instituted in the State of California, through the offices of the Attorney General and the District Attorneys, and which are based upon violations of the California Alien Land Law. You request that we consider the desirability of deferring - and recommending to district attorneys that they defer - further action on escheat proceedings already instituted, and further action on the institution of additional proceedings, until the military exclusion orders are lifted and the evacuees who wish to return to California can elect to do so. You state that such a temporary postponement might well prevent injustices being done to evacuees who may have a valid defense but feel that they cannot under present circumstances afford to defend, and, further, that you do not see how deferral of escheat proceedings for the time being would affect the interests of the State adversely. You emphasize that the War Relocation Authority has no desire to interfere with enforcement of the California Alien Land Law and realize that it is incumbent upon us to enforce them.

The duty which the law imposes upon the office of the Attorney General and those of the District Attorneys of this State cannot be lightly regarded. The frauds which have been perpetrated by aliens ineligible to citizenship in unlawfully acquiring lands in California have been both shocking and cleverly concealed. The difficulties of uncovering the true facts underlying these transactions have been great, and require the most careful and extended investigation. There are many citizens who do not understand why more proceedings have not been filed, and why they have not been pressed with greater vigor. The efforts of the law officers of California have met with many obstacles, and the absence of the Japanese from California has hindered rather than helped our efforts to perform our duties. In most instances the Japanese who have been contacted in the effort to ascertain the facts have been evasive and uncooperative.

In instances where sufficient evidence has been uncovered to prove violations of the law proceedings have been filed in regular course and the requirements of law as to jurisdiction and procedure have been carefully complied with. Continuances have already been granted in numerous instances, where the circumstances warranted such action, and unfair advantage has been taken of no one. In some cases, the absence of necessary parties in the armed forces will require an indefinite postponement of the hearing of the case on its merits. Recourse to technicalities and to various tactics confusing to the issues has been resorted to by the Japanese defendants, rather than by the officers of the State. Our sole purpose is to measure up to proper performance of duty and to correct the subterfuges and abuses which have taken place.

It should be understood that this office does not have full control of these cases. They are participated in by the District Attorneys as well. I am satisfied, however, that it is the desire of all that the requirements of justice and fair play be fully respected, and I know of no instances where it has been suggested that this has not been true.

In view of the foregoing reasons I believe that there need be no apprehension concerning a proper respect for the rights of the Japanese defendants. To adopt a blanket policy of deferring both action on pending proceedings and the filing of new ones does not appear justified under the circumstances. Where persuasive reasons exist for proper continuances, full and careful consideration will be accorded in each case. As in the past, sympathetic cooperation and treatment may be expected.

We are glad to respond to your letter upon this subject for the reason that the request made furnishes an opportunity for mentioning the feeling which exists on the part of some public officers of California, that the desired cooperation on the part of officials of the War Relocation Authority has not been forthcoming. This has been particularly characteristic of the case of People vs. Yamaguchi, et al., an escheat proceeding pending in the Superior Court of Los Angeles County. In this proceeding the deposition of Hideo Suyenaga, an essential witness and one of the parties named, was sought, and when the effort was made to perfect the necessary arrangements it was found that he had been released from the Colorado River Relocation Center on leave. The officials of the State were told that it would be impossible

to contact him for a period of sixty days from August 9, 1944. A letter has just been received today advising that Mr. Suyenaga is now back at Poston and that arrangements may now be worked out for taking the deposition, under certain conditions. This case is illustrative of the obstacles encountered by the law officers of California in the performance of their duty.

We believe you will appreciate our position in these matters and trust that you may understand our reasons for not being able to accede to your suggestion as to a blanket deferment of action in pending proceedings or the cessation at this time of our duties in respect of new proceedings.

Sincerely yours,

/sgd/ Robert W. Kenny

ROBERT W. KENNY
Attorney General of
the State of California

RWK:RG

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Sincerely yours,

/sgd/ Robert W. Kenny

ROBERT W. KENNY
Attorney General of
the State of California

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Stafford
Nichols

Mr. H. L. Stafford
Minidoka Ctr
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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington

November 13, 1944

TO: All Project Directors, Assistant Project Directors in charge of Administrative Management, Relocation Supervisors, and the Assistant Director in San Francisco.

SUBJECT: WRA Records - National Archives

The Records Management Section is now working very closely with the National Archives on the maintenance and preservation of WRA records and documents having permanent value.

In order that you may be familiar with the functions and the services performed by the National Archives, we are attaching for your information a copy of a publication entitled "National Archives - What It Is and What It Does." Since the number of copies is limited, it will be appreciated if you will pass this along to interested employees.

Any questions or comments on WRA records or requests for additional information concerning the National Archives should be directed to the Records Management Section in Washington.

Malcolm E. Pitts
Malcolm E. Pitts
Assistant Director

Attachment.

66510

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES--WHAT IT IS AND WHAT IT DOES

The primary purpose of the National Archives is to make the experience of the Government and the people of the United States, as that experience is embodied in noncurrent records of the Federal Government and related materials, available now and hereafter to guide and assist the Government and the people in planning and conducting their activities.

The National Archives is not, as many people seem to think, merely a museum for the safe-keeping of a limited quantity of ancient and sentimentally valuable documents. It is, in effect, the public records office of the United States Government and as such it is vitally concerned with every phase of the numerous and complex records problems with which the Federal Government is faced today.

Its problem, very broadly expressed, is to bring about the efficient and economical management and disposition of present and future accumulations of records of the Government, to select such noncurrent records as have enduring value and to so administer them as to insure their preservation and to make the information in them readily available to the Government and the people.

It is difficult to indicate the immensity and complexity of this problem. The volume of Federal records now in existence is estimated at 16,000,000 cubic feet--divided about equally between Washington and the field--and they are being created at the rate of about 1,000,000 cubic feet annually. The annual rental value of space occupied by Federal records, together with the cost of filing equipment for new records, probably exceeds 15 million dollars and the total salaries of Government employees engaged in filing, maintaining, and servicing records may be in excess of 150 million dollars.

There are now approximately 600,000 cubic feet of records in the custody of the Archivist and it is estimated that by June 30, 1945, this volume will have increased to about 900,000 cubic feet, which is close to the capacity of the National Archives Building. This estimate does not take into consideration the possibility that vast quantities of valuable records of emergency agencies and activities may become administratively noncurrent before July 1, 1945.

Of the records in the custody of other Government agencies (probably more than 15,000,000 cubic feet), perhaps 85 to 90 percent do not have sufficient enduring value to warrant their permanent preservation by the Government. The retention of these records, as well as similar records that are now being and hereafter will be created, beyond the period of their temporary usefulness is costly indeed. In the absence of action that will effect their orderly segregation, appraisal, and disposal this terrific and needless expense cannot be eliminated.

Records of enduring value that are or soon will be noncurrent (now estimated to be more than 2,000,000 cubic feet), as well as such records that are now being and hereafter will be created (perhaps at the rate of 100,000 cubic

feet per year), should receive protection adequate to insure their permanent preservation. Moreover, the maximum use of such records cannot be made unless they are concentrated under one jurisdiction, unless they are properly arranged, unless they are adequately described, and unless they can be produced promptly when required.

The solution of this complex problem would effect annual savings of millions of dollars to the Government and the people of the United States. These savings cannot all be calculated, but they would be effected by: (1) the reduction in the cost of storage space; (2) the release of valuable office space, equipment, and personnel for other purposes; and (3) the use made of information derived from records in the custody of the Archivist in the planning of the activities or in the protection of the legal rights of the Government and the people.

The Archivist of the United States, whose appointment is made by the President and confirmed by the Senate, is the head of the National Archives. The core of the agency consists of 15 records divisions, among which is apportioned the responsibility for dealing with the records and the records problems of all agencies of the Federal Government. The work of these divisions is supervised by a Director of Operations with the assistance of staff officials concerned with specific functions. By means of this organization the National Archives endeavors to attain its goal by performing, as effectively as available resources and personnel will permit, the following three major functions:

SELECTION AND SEGREGATION OF RECORDS

Objective.--To obtain information concerning present and prospective accumulations of records, to assist in developing throughout the Government sound principles and practices in records administration, to effect the transfer of records of enduring value to the jurisdiction of the Archivist when they become noncurrent, and to facilitate the disposal of records of temporary value as soon as that value is exhausted.

The Problem and Its Significance.--The Federal Government is paying a heavy price indeed for the sins of omission and commission of past generations of those responsible for its records. Their actions may be likened to those of a crew of reapers who, in harvesting a large crop of wheat, cut the weeds with the grain and, without eliminating the weeds or culling the wheat from the chaff, stored their reapings in barns, leaving the wheat unsalvaged. Succeeding crews, instead of salvaging the wheat, repeated the operation with the result that all the barns in the entire countryside were filled to overflowing. The overflow was stored in sheds and other available places no matter how unsuitable they were for the purpose. When all available places were filled, more barns had to be built. Now, it is obvious that the longer the salvaging of this wheat is delayed, the more difficult the task becomes. If it is to be salvaged, the sooner it is done, the better; and to prevent a recurrence of such a foolish and costly practice the next crew of reapers and their successors must be induced to refrain from harvesting the weeds, to cull the wheat from the chaff at the time of harvesting, and to store the wheat separately so as to facilitate its use.

The relatively small quantity of records of enduring value among the huge mass of documentary material with which Government buildings and rented spaces throughout the country are bulging must be segregated if they are to be salvaged and afforded the security necessary to their permanent preservation. Of the remaining material, that which is no longer useful should be disposed of promptly and the balance should be scheduled for disposal as soon as it ceases to be useful.

This task is not as simple as it may sound; on the contrary it will require consummate skill and infinite patience and thousands of man-years of work. It will also cost a great deal of money, but to leave it undone would cost infinitely more. And to fail now to act to prevent the accumulation in the future of such a conglomerate mass of unmanageable records would eventually cost the Government astronomical sums.

The problem will be further complicated by the liquidation of emergency agencies at the close of the war when the National Archives inevitably will be faced with the herculean task of dealing in the shortest possible time with the millions of cubic feet of records created by those agencies. As a matter of fact, the National Archives has already been faced with this situation in miniature in the case of both the National Resources Planning Board and the National Youth Administration. On the other hand, the recent enactment of new disposal legislation that permits the continuing disposal of records of temporary value as they become noncurrent in accordance with schedules approved by Congress will simplify the problem immensely.

Plan of Work.--All major agencies of the Government are allocated to the records divisions in the National Archives for liaison purposes. Staff members of these records divisions keep in close touch with the agencies and assist and cooperate with them in improving their records administration. They advise agencies in the preparation of disposal lists and schedules, they appraise records reported to the Archivist for disposal, and they reappraise records in the custody of the Archivist to discover any lacking sufficient value to warrant continued preservation. They also appraise records proposed for transfer to the custody of the Archivist to determine whether they are noncurrent and have enduring value, and they supervise the transfer of those selected for permanent preservation.

PROCESSING OF RECORDS

Objective.--To insure the preservation of records in the custody of the Archivist and to achieve and maintain control over them by providing necessary rehabilitation and adequate security, by arranging them properly, and by describing them in checklists, inventories, guides, and other finding aids necessary to their understanding and use.

The Problem and Its Significance.--Unless the permanently valuable records in the custody of the Archivist are so treated that their permanent preservation is insured, future generations will be deprived of any benefits from them. And even though they are perfectly preserved, if they are not put in shape for ready

use, their value will be so limited as to place in question the expense entailed by their preservation. In order that the maximum benefits from the records of enduring value in the custody of the Archivist may accrue to the Government and the people now and in the future, it is incumbent upon the National Archives to take every possible precaution for their security and, within the limits of available resources, so to arrange and describe them that any desired information in them can be readily found.

The work of cleaning and fumigating records has been kept current, but large backlogs exist in the work of packing and shelving, repairing, arranging, and describing records. Since the beginning of the war bodies of records to be arranged and described have been selected almost exclusively on the basis of specific requests and the anticipated needs of Government agencies concerned with the prosecution of the war and with the solution of post-war problems. Even so, the arrangement and description of many bodies of records that fall within this category cannot be accomplished because of lack of funds. Such of this work as can be done in the immediate future will be on record groups that relate to the liquidation of the war program, the disposal of surplus property, the adjustment of war contracts, and other problems involved in the transition from a war to a peacetime economy, and to post-war international adjustments. The more arrangement and description work that can be done on such bodies of records, the greater will be the contribution that the National Archives can make during the post-war period.

Plan of Work.--All records transferred to the National Archives are cleaned and fumigated as they are received. They are then allocated to the records divisions, which are responsible for the work of arranging, packing and shelving, and describing them. Only such records needing repair as are likely to be consulted soon and cannot be used without further damage to them are repaired.

All records received are either assigned to registered record groups or are designated as new groups and registered accordingly. Each accession is listed, as is required by law, in the Annual Report of the Archivist. If an early demand for the records is expected, preliminary checklists are prepared. More detailed work of arrangement and description is done only on records of value in connection with the war or likely to be of special value in the immediate post-war period.

SERVICING OF RECORDS

Objective.--To make available to the Government and the people records or information derived from records in the custody of the Archivist.

The Problem and Its Significance.--The performance of this function is the final realization of the purposes for which the National Archives was created. It is especially important in periods of crisis when the Government and the people must have quick recourse to their past experience for guidance and assistance. The increase in the number of reference services performed from less than 90,000 in the fiscal year 1940 to more than 220,000 in the fiscal year 1943 is some measure of the extent to which the National Archives has been

called on for assistance in the prewar defense program and in the prosecution of the war. Of these services, more than 80 percent were rendered to agencies of the Government. Nonwar related services have been rigidly restricted.

Many of these services are in response to requests for information needed in making administrative and military decisions, and their performance requires a high order of intelligence, skill, and knowledge of the records. Information has been provided on such topics as the role of military and naval forces in the administration of occupied territory, incentives used to increase civilian production, labor migration, transportation problems, food production and distribution, women in industry, fuel conservation, and the problems of small business. From among many special services of unusual interest there may be mentioned the provision of several hundred maps of enemy countries and of photographs, surveys, and charts of factories, power plants, pipe lines, and other strategic installations of the enemy for the use of the armed services and other war agencies. The National Archives through such reference services has been able to make a distinct contribution to the prosecution of the war.

Plan of Work.--Service on records is in four forms: (1) lending records to Government officials for use in their own offices, (2) making records available for examination in search rooms in the National Archives Building, (3) making reproductions of records for officials and others, and (4) furnishing information based on records by letter, by phone, or in personal conference. The knowledge of the records acquired by staff members in the work of appraisal, transfer, arrangement, and description helps them to find the documents or the information in them that may be in demand.

OTHER FUNCTIONS

The Division of the Federal Register, set up as a part of the National Archives Establishment by the Congress in 1935, receives, files, and publishes currently Federal proclamations, orders, regulations, notices, and similar documents and also compiles from time to time codifications of any such documents as continue in force and effect. The Franklin D. Roosevelt Library at Hyde Park, N. Y., created by the Congress in 1939, is administratively a part of the National Archives Establishment. It preserves and administers the papers of the President and other historical material received from him and related material acquired from other sources.

CONCLUSION

Records are basic tools for the orderly planning and management of the activities of the Government and the people. Thus any direct activities of the National Archives and any assistance rendered by it to other Government agencies that will result in discarding tools of temporary usefulness as they become useless and in keeping tools of permanent usefulness in good condition and orderly arranged so that they will be readily available when needed are not only justified but are duties that are incumbent upon the agency to perform. Any progress that it has made or will hereafter make in achieving its primary objective will facilitate the administration of Government, aid in establishing the rights of the Government and of the people, and contribute to the increase of knowledge and the satisfaction of needs for information.

National Archives Publication No. 44-8
Revised July 1944

J. G. Lindley Dir.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington

NOV 14 1944

Memorandum to: Project Directors

Recruitment for Army Ordnance Depots at Tooele, Utah and Sioux, Nebraska, has been under way for a matter of two months. The initial groups of families are now at both the Tooele and Sioux Depots.

Since completing the preliminary groundwork and initiating the recruitment, we have been content to let this relocation program coast along until it was determined as to whether it was workable. We have since found that it is working out in an extraordinarily satisfactory manner.

At the Tooele Depot, where families have been relocated for a matter of some weeks now, they are finding things entirely satisfactory. They are running into little or no discrimination and are doing an excellent job, so much so that a number of them are finding work other than as ammunition handlers, the position for which they were originally hired. We hope to have a bulletin on these other types of work within a short time, although the emphasis will continue to be on the handling of ammunition.

In view of this success, I believe it would be well to step up efforts in this recruitment and at the same time to reiterate the policy concerning relocation of family men; that is, family heads or others with family ties within the center. I cannot stress too strongly the necessity for holding the line in the matter of relocating entire families. The Army Service Forces have indicated willingness to cooperate in refusing to take anyone not bringing his entire family.

All of the projects as well as the field have had numerous requests to allow single members of the family to move to a depot with the understanding that the family will follow "when conditions are right." I think we have all had enough experience with this in the past to agree that such cases should not receive approval unless they relocate the entire family.

The only possible case that I can think of where a single individual should be approved for relocation to an ordnance depot is where that individual is entirely alone at a center without a family or other family ties. In this case a family would, of course, mean the parents or brothers or sisters of single men. I am relying upon your complete cooperation in preventing any breakdown in this policy with regard to ordnance depots.

In asking that centers stimulate this recruitment, I have in mind the need to speed up movement to the depots in order to protect this opportunity and to insure continued Army cooperation. The ordnance depots have a pressing need for workers and may abandon this program and look elsewhere if it is not expedited.

We have completed arrangements to assign two field Relocation Officers exclusively to the ordnance depot recruitment. Theodore R. E. Lewis, Relocation Officer in the Salt Lake Area, will work with the Tooele Depot and with Major Davies. Cecil Morgan, Relocation Officer in the Western Plains Area, will work with the Sioux Depot and Major Brown. They will be at your project from time to time, to work with your Relocation Program Officer on ordnance recruitment. I will appreciate your staff giving them every assistance possible on this work.

I am enclosing a suggested memorandum to the Relocation Planning Commission at the center, which outlines some new information and may bring further cooperation from the evacuees in recruitment for the depots. Also please follow through with the Relocation Division and elsewhere to see that no opportunity is overlooked in this relocation effort. Of course, it is understood that this will not be at the expense of, but in addition to, the continuing established relocation effort.

D. S. Myer
Director

Enclosure

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

Memorandum to: Community Council
Granada Relocation Center
Attention: Relocation Planning Commission

As you all know, the Army Ordnance Depot recruitment program has been under way for a matter of more than two months. All of the preliminary groundwork for evacuees wishing to work at the Tooele, Utah, Depot and the Sioux, Nebraska, Depot has been laid and the families which pioneered in this relocation are now at work.

In view of these circumstances I believe it would be well to survey this program and see if some way can be worked out to further stimulate this relocation opportunity. All of the centers have sent survey committees to the depots and these committees have, without exception, reported that the opportunity is outstanding. These reports have been substantiated by the first evacuees to actually relocate at the depots. Some of you may have heard personally from them.

It is to my mind an important development in that it solves a number of the problems which have stood in the way of relocation for some center residents. In the first place, it offers guaranteed war-time employment and housing with a good family living. Some evacuees have questioned the possibility of taking large families to the depot and living on what one or two people are able to earn. Let me assure you that there are a number of large families at the depots who are getting by very satisfactorily and are saving considerable money because of the low living costs there.

The ordnance depots provide a solution to those evacuees who have been interested in group relocation. Both the Sioux and the Tooele Depots will employ several hundred workers which will mean that a number of families can relocate together if they wish, or meet at one of the depots. It is even possible to provide a special car for travel from the center to the depot, should a sufficient number desire to go together.

The ordnance depots also provide an opportunity for those families who have been reluctant to leave the centers because they are not interested in permanent relocation in the east or midwest to return to individual family living with excellent schooling and economic security guaranteed for the duration. These are primarily families who have property or other interests on the Pacific Coast and who anticipate returning there when the Exclusion Order is lifted. In the interests of this group especially, it should be

pointed out that this work can surely be considered another safeguard for post-war acceptance in this country. Just as the Japanese American boys in uniform are paving the way for post-war acceptance with their outstanding record overseas, so will those people who enter this important work be able to stake a real claim in post-war America.

A number of Issei have evidenced an interest in working at the depots but have an understandable fear that such work may react against them should they conceivably return to Japan following the war.

The Geneva rules of war and international agreements have been carefully checked and we have assurance from the War Department that there is no prohibition against aliens of an enemy country participating in essential war activity, nor may they be expatriated or otherwise penalized by their mother country for such participation.

It is also worthy of note in this connection that the United States has agreed to eliminate the clause requiring the applicant to swear allegiance to the United States and foreswear any obligation to any foreign country in order to participate in this important work. These points may be of value for Issei to consider in reaching a decision as to whether they will use this very splendid opportunity to leave the center, get back on their own feet and resume normal family life.

Your Commission has made a valuable contribution to relocation in the past and I want you to know we appreciate it. I am sure we can rely upon your continued leadership in this and other future relocation activities.

Project Director

Memorandum to: Community Council
Granada Relocation Center

Attention: Relocation Planning Commission

As you all know, the Army Ordnance Depot recruitment program has been under way for a matter of more than two months. All of the preliminary groundwork for evacuees wishing to work at the Tooele, Utah, Depot and the Sioux, Nebraska, Depot has been laid and the families which pioneered in this relocation are now at work.

In view of these circumstances I believe it would be well to survey this program and see if some way can be worked out to further stimulate this relocation opportunity. All of the centers have sent survey committees to the depots and these committees have, without exception, reported that the opportunity is outstanding. These reports have been substantiated by the first evacuees to actually relocate at the depots. Some of you may have heard personally from them.

It is to my mind an important development in that it solves a number of the problems which have stood in the way of relocation for some center residents. In the first place, it offers guaranteed war-time employment and housing with a good family living. Some evacuees have questioned the possibility of taking large families to the depot and living on what one or two people are able to earn. Let me assure you that there are a number of large families at the depots who are getting by very satisfactorily and are saving considerable money because of the low living costs there.

The ordnance depots provide a solution to those evacuees who have been interested in group relocation. Both the Sioux and the Tooele Depots will employ several hundred workers which will mean that a number of families can relocate together if they wish, or meet at one of the depots. It is even possible to provide a special car for travel from the center to the depot, should a sufficient number desire to go together.

The ordnance depots also provide an opportunity for those families who have been reluctant to leave the centers because they are not interested in permanent relocation in the east or midwest to return to individual family living with excellent schooling and economic security guaranteed for the duration. These are primarily families who have property or other interests on the Pacific Coast and who anticipate returning there when the Exclusion Order is lifted. In the interests of this group especially, it should be

Independence Community Council
Tuscaloosa Relocation Center

Attention: Relocation Planning Commission

As you all know, the Army Ordnance Depot rearrangement program has been under way for a period of some four months. All of the preliminary groundwork for evacuees wishing to work on the Tooele, Utah, Depot has been, however, deeply and been laid and the Tuscaloosa Relocation Planning Commission has done its work.

In view of these circumstances I believe it would be well to survey this program and see if some way can be worked out to further eligible Nisei relocation opportunity. (2) of the centers have sent survey questionnaires to the Depot and some committees have, without exception, expressed that the opportunity is outstanding. These results have been substantiated by the Depot officials to actually relocate if the demand, some of you may have heard personally from them.

It is to my mind an important development in that it solves a number of the problems which have been used in the way of relocation for some months previously. In the first place, it offers immediate employment at the Depot with a good small living. Some evacuees have questioned the possibility of taking large families to the Depot and living on that one or two people who are able to work. Let me assure you that there are a number of large families in the Depot who are getting by very satisfactorily and see nothing substantially wrong because of the relocation data there.

The community people provide a solution to their evacuees who have been interested in group relocation. Most the Nisei and the Tooele Depot officials seem to prefer a number of Nisei families rather than a number of families who relocate together. It will mean that a number of families who relocate together if they wish, could be one of the groups. It is even possible to provide a special one for family groups who center in the depot. Nisei families would similarly prefer to be together.

pointed out that this work can surely be considered another safeguard for post-war acceptance in this country. Just as the Japanese American boys in uniform are paving the way for post-war acceptance with their outstanding record overseas, so will those people who enter this important work be able to stake a real claim in post-war America.

A number of Issei have evidenced an interest in working at the depots but have an understandable fear that such work may react against them should they conceivably return to Japan following the war.

The Geneva rules of war and international agreements have been carefully checked and we have assurance from the War Department that there is no prohibition against aliens of an enemy country participating in essential war activity, nor may they be expatriated or otherwise penalized by their mother country for such participation.

It is also worthy of note in this connection that the United States has agreed to eliminate the clause requiring the applicant to swear allegiance to the United States and foreswear any obligation to any foreign country in order to participate in this important work. These points may be of value for Issei to consider in reaching a decision as to whether they will use this very splendid opportunity to leave the center, get back on their own feet and resume normal family life.

Your Commission has made a valuable contribution to relocation in the past and I want you to know we appreciate it. I am sure we can rely upon your continued leadership in this and other future relocation activities.

Project Director

COPY

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington

November 21, 1944

Memorandum to Project Directors

The relocation of the evacuees still remaining at the center is now our major responsibility. Enclosed is a copy of a letter which I have sent to all Relocation Supervisors in which I have asked them to devote the time of their Relocation Officers to developing new relocation opportunities and a greater use of the resources of other governmental and private agencies and local committees.

With this change in emphasis in the field, it will be increasingly importnat for the Relocation Division at the Centers to prepare the evacuee for the services he will receive in the outside communities from these agencies and committees. Careful interpretation of the community resources should be given him, and the Relocation Adviser should accent the fact that not less but greater and more expert services will be provided in the various phases of his adjustment in the community, whether employment, housing, medical care, financial assistance, or other needs.

If we are to make this shift in emphasis successful, the following steps need to be taken:

In interviews with the evacuee who is about to relocate, Relocation Advisers should stress the importance to the evacuee of his utilizing the facilities of other public and private agencies in obtaining help in matters of housing, employment, medical attention and other personal problems. In additions, the evacuee's participation in the selection of his community of relocation should be extended to accepting a greater personal responsibility for solving his adjustment in the new community, rather than depending on the WRA to do it for him. He should expect personally to follow out the initial leads given him for employment or housing and to rely on local agencies for further help. All of this should be part of the center Relocation Division's preparation of the evacuee for understanding the services which will be available to him, and his responsibility, in the final analysis, for making his own decisions about how he wants to live. The center can make the evacuee's later adjustment easier by preparing him properly for what lies ahead of him.

This effort to make the evacuees more self-reliant, however, must be based upon a very thorough explanation of the nature of the services rendered by local agencies and committees, their permanence

and vital role in the community, the assurance they furnish of the community's interest in the welfare of the evacuee, and the steps to be taken to obtain their assistance.

/s/ D. S. Myer

Director

cc Community Council
Relocation Supervisors

C O P Y

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington

November 21, 1944

Memorandums to: Relocation Supervisors

The relocation of the evacuees remaining in centers must be given top priority and the time of each Relocation Officer must be fully utilized to attain that objective.

Relocation Officers now devote a great portion of their time to working with evacuees on repeat interviews concerning employment or housing. This time could more advantageously used by finding new relocation opportunities for evacuees still in the centers and on ways and means of stimulating their interest in relocation. These "repeat visits" can be eliminated with proper use of other governmental and private agencies and local committees in the field.

Wherever possible each evacuee should be interviewed upon arrival by a Relocation Officer who should explain in detail all local community resources which have been marshaled to assist evacuee newcomers. During the initial interview the emphasis must be on the interpretation of these resources to the evacuee. The evacuee must be given the understanding that job and housing opportunities are as much available to him as to other members of the community and must be encouraged to use his own initiative rather than to depend entirely on WRA.

If the evacuee is on a community invitation plan he should immediately be given job and housing referrals, the former usually to the U.S.E.S. and the latter to such housing registries as exist, and to members of local committees who are cooperating in housing problems. Only in case these referrals do not produce results should the Relocation Officer give personal assistance to the evacuee. If the evacuee is on an advance approval plan, the interview with the Relocation Officer will confirm the plans already worked out and provide an opportunity to discuss community resources available to meet any future needs or emergencies.

To eliminate repeat visits for employment or housing assistance and to utilize to the fullest possible extent the employment and other services of local welfare and other cooperative agencies, Relocation Officers must take the following action:

1. Develop a close working relationship between WRA and the U.S.E.S., and make sure that the staff or U. S. E. S. is well informed about the relocation program.

2. Secure the full cooperation of housing registries and war housing centers where these exist and urge the local relocation committee to organize a house sub-committee that will actively develop housing opportunities.

3. Wherever necessary, relocation committees must be strengthened or reorganized to assume greater responsiblity and become more effective. Better community sentiment, which will be productive in facilitating many aspects of the program, will result through devoting more time to strengthening committees by adding outstanding leaders and stimulating their activities. Influential citizens on the committee will have entree to organizations and agencies and will have influence in the determination of the policies and practices which will be favorable to the relocation program. For example, policies on membership in unions can be liberalized; assurances of assistance needed by relocating families requiring longtime care can be secured from representative welfare agencies of the Social Security Board; tuition required by a public school because the youngster is in the community without his parents or a legal guardian may be waived; finance agencies, such as the Reconstruction Finance Corporation or local banks, may be more willing to extend loans to evacuees.

To sum up: If the program is not to beg down under an increasing load of personal services in the field offices, every effort must be made in the field to shift the burden to other agencies and committees and to the evacuee himself. That is where it must eventually rest and it is essential that the transfer be made as soon as possible.

I would like to have you thoroughly discuss the subject matter of this letter with your Area staff to find the most effective method of putting this policy into effect in each district under your supervision. I am sure I can count upon you and your staff to do a good job in carrying out the policies in this letter.

/s/ D. S. Myer
Director

cc Project Directors
Community Councils

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington, D. C.

8

December 7, 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

TO: All Project Director

The announcement of the lifting of the exclusion order and its consequences will require some careful and sensitive handling. In each center conditions will be different. Nevertheless the reactions of evacuees will be sufficiently similar to require similar actions in every center. A number of steps to be taken in the period immediately following the announcement should be the same in outline for all centers.

Recognition on your part of just what the opening of the Coast means to evacuees is essential. It must constantly be borne in mind that this final movement out of the centers will be very different from either the evacuation or segregation movements. This time the evacuees will be required to move into situations in which they are much less certain of what awaits them. Each family or individual will be relatively on their own without the comforts of large numbers of other Japanese Americans making identical moves beside them.

We cannot expect therefore that the opening of the Coast will be greeted with joy and determination by more than a small minority. For the great majority it will mean an upset of the relative security they have adjusted themselves to during the past two and a half years. The definite knowledge that the centers will be closed in the near future will mean the necessity for concrete planning, for decision - but still in a context of some uncertainty. Many will be shocked because they have been hoping to stay in the centers until the war ends. As the shock hits each individual and the process of planning and decision takes place family by family throughout your project, you may have a disturbed and upset community. There will likely be a state of emotional tension

more pronounced than that of the days immediately following arrival at the relocation center.

This situation places a real burden on you as project director. You will have a task of vigilent leadership until the center is finally closed. The essential features of the job of yourself and your staff in the newly disturbed community will be (1) to establish confidence in WRA's determination and ability to follow through on each of its responsibilities to the evacuees, (2) to keep constantly before them the limits of these responsibilities, (3) to keep negative attitudes and tendencies to panic from spreading, and finally (4) to provide each family with the information and help it needs in making its decision at the time when it needs it.

To do this job it will be necessary first to make the right kind of start, and second to follow through with persistent leadership. Your initial steps should consist of presenting all available information regarding the liquidation program to the community, and establishing channels of communication so that the flow of information to the community is prompt and continuous. As a result of your talks to the council and staff following the Denver conference, some of the ground work has already been laid. It will be necessary, however, to follow up with more detailed information. This should be done with a clear-cut plan in mind for reaching the whole community.

Special conditions in your center will have something to do with determining how you will proceed. But very shortly I will forward to you a complete suggested plan for setting up your information organization, together with an organizational chart, which I believe will be most helpful to you. I hope that you will make the greatest possible use of it.

In your first meeting with the Community Council and the Block Managers after announcement of the lifting of the exclusion order, you should keep in mind the major anxieties of the evacuees. Of course, their questions will

ultimately indicate what these are, but by anticipating them you can make more effective presentation at the start.

An information bulletin in both English and Japanese is being prepared in the Washington office and copies will be forwarded to you in ample time so that you may become thoroughly familiar with the procedures that have already been determined. In this way you will be prepared ahead of time to meet the first reactions from the evacuees.

The spirit in which you present and discuss the points which are raised by the evacuees will be of great importance. The approach should be one of recognizing the seriousness of the problems which liquidation poses for most evacuees and sitting down to work over these problems with the seriousness that they deserve. As usual, resentments will focus on you and your staff unless your approach shows friendliness, consideration, patience and a sincere desire to help.

It seems to me that a number of personal appearances in the center on your part during the next few weeks after the announcement would be helpful. However, you cannot carry the whole burden of dispensing information and confidence. Your staff, including all teachers, must be fully informed from the beginning and fully aware of each new development.

Here again I want to refer you to the information organization plan, and particularly the suggestions pertaining to dissemination of information to the staff, contained in my letter which will shortly follow this.

Some serious problems in the adjustment of evacuee attitudes to the new situation will probably develop only some time after the announcement. These will involve the negative attitudes of various groups and opposition to the program. There will likely be petions for granting citizenship to parents of Nisei soldiers; demands for increased relocation grants and rehabilitation funds; requests for impossible guarantees of security to those

going to the West Coast; accusations of broken promises by WRA, and demands for the retention of centers for the duration of the war. The extent to which these attitudes take hold of the people will depend on the one hand on the evacuee leadership and on the other on your own leadship in pointing the way to real security.

You can provide the latter by frankly discussing the nature of the services which WRA will continue to render the evacuees in reestablishing themselves not only in the evacuated area, but throughout the country.

Director

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Washington

13

DEC 8 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

TO: All Project Directors

Attached is a copy of a general statement covering certain policy decisions that have now been made in connection with the lifting of the West Coast exclusion orders. A supply of additional copies is being forwarded to you for general distribution both to the staff and to the evacuees. This material, however, should be held in strict confidence until you get word from this office.

You will note that we have scheduled the closing of all relocation centers within one year. Our job now is to see that this is done and that all of the eligible people now residing in the centers are relocated either in the former evacuated zone or elsewhere in the United States. I cannot impress too strongly on you that this is our job and that we must accomplish it.

It is tremendously important to everyone concerned that the final program of liquidating the relocation centers be completed while there is a good demand for workers throughout the country in war plants, in civilian goods production, service occupations and in food production. As we approach the end of the war, these opportunities will not be so plentiful and if liquidation of the program should be postponed until that time, our task would be immeasurably harder. It will be almost impossible if evacuees have to compete with returning soldiers and with other people who may be seeking adjustment during the reconversion period.

The announcement of the reopening of the Coast area will be received by many of the evacuees as welcome news. The closing of the relocation

centers, however, will be interpreted by some as the loss of sanctuary and security. You should see that all of the evacuees understand the basic policies of the War Relocation Authority with regard to the closing of the centers. All questions should be answered firmly and positively but in a courteous manner and without the use of threats of any kind. Much will depend on the diplomacy and sound judgment which you and members of your staff show in this regard.

In discussing relocation to the West Coast with evacuees, Project Directors and their staffs should proceed at all times on the basic assumption that the movement will be an orderly one and that returning evacuees will be readily accepted by their friends and neighbors. Any tendency to discuss possible dangers or potentialities of violence should be discouraged.

There will be questions as to why the centers are to be closed before the end of the war. The answer is obvious, that with the lifting of the restrictions on the Coast, the great majority of the people of Japanese ancestry are now free to go anywhere and the reason for which the relocation centers were established no longer exists. They are being kept in operation during the final period of the program so that center residents will have ample time and opportunity for the development of sound relocation plans. The opportunity for resettlement now is far better than it would be at the end of the war. Resettlement now is for the benefit of the evacuees.

Some will ask what the War Relocation Authority will do if certain individuals or groups do not relocate.

The answer should be simply that we don't think anyone will actually refuse. Ample provision is being made so that each individual may make a satisfactory transition back to private life.

There will be some who will want to know whether the War Relocation Authority will make loans for farm or business financing. The answer should be that the War Relocation Authority is not a lending agency and has no intention of becoming one. There are other Federal agencies equipped with authority and funds to take care of such needs.

There will be evacuees who will want to regain possession of their land or other property in the Coast area immediately. Some may wish to break leases or institute legal procedings for the ejection of tenants. Such action should be discouraged wherever possible, because it will certainly result in adverse publicity and make the job of orderly resettlement more difficult, not only for the individual concerned but for other evacuees.

You will, of course, realize that there are some detailed points of policy which have been determined but which have not been covered in the general statement for distribution to the evacuees. We are supplying some of this information to you below, and will furnish more as additional policy decisions are made, so that you can make it available to key members of your staff.

There may be citizen evacuees who will want to know whether renunciation of citizenship under the recent law passed by Congress will mean that they would remain in or be sent to Tule Lake until the end of hostilities with Japan. The War Relocation Authority will not make any further determinations under leave clearance procedures. The Army authorities now designate those

[whose movements will be restrained or] who will not be eligible to return to the West Coast area. Doubtless a renunciation of citizenship, if accepted by the Attorney General of United States, would result in some action by the military — possibly a recommendation for internment, but it is not the responsibility of the War Relocation Authority.

The lifting of the West Coast ban means that any individual (except those who may be designated by the War Department for further investigation) may leave the relocation center at any time. Assistance, however, will be given only to those who have an approved plan of relocation. We believe it is desirable to give this assistance and to supervise the movement of the people for their own interest but there is no reason why an eligible individual or family may not leave of his own choice without regard to any plan or assistance which the War Relocation Authority may offer. Likewise, they are free to remain residents of the relocation centers while the centers are operated, provided they conduct themselves in such a manner as not to disrupt the center operations or interfere with the relocation program. We have no obligation to provide center residence for those who are now free to return to their former homes unless they are willing to abide by project regulations and help in maintaining a peaceful community.

There may be questions about purchase of Government property now in use at the projects. This will all be sold through regular surplus property procedure as indicated in our policy statement.

You may have individuals who will want to make brief trips to the evacuated area for the purpose of scouting or for the disposal of property.

It must be distinctly understood that any such travel will be at the evacuee's own expense and that he must secure short term leave for this purpose. Otherwise he will not be readmitted to the center. Reinductions to the center should be kept to a minimum, involving students at the end of the school year or others who are entitled to such readmission. Likewise, visits to centers should be permitted only where the visiting evacuee has secured the approval of the appropriate relocation office or (in the case of visiting between centers) of the Project Director at the center where the visiting evacuee resides.

Unless this policy is rigidly enforced and strongly impressed on the minds of the evacuees, there may be a widespread tendency for relocated evacuees to leave their jobs without proper War Manpower Commission clearance, and there may also be serious transportation congestion in the vicinity of the centers. Consequently we are authorizing you as Project Director to deny admission to all evacuees who attempt to visit your center without securing proper clearance in advance.

Applications for repatriation or expatriation are no longer factors to be considered in relocation planning. Also the WRA "stop list" will no longer be taken into consideration in connection with departures from the relocation centers. The Army now has full responsibility for designating these persons whose freedom of movement is to be restrained. A new stop list will be provided by the War Department. There will be family members in the centers where the breadwinner is in internment and this will be given as a reason why the family cannot successfully relocate. These people should be encouraged to make application to live in a family internment camp,

or to relocate despite the absence of the breadwinner. We should at all times recognize, as we have in the past, the right of the older and more mature children to make their own decisions, in situations involving family residence in an internment camp or the right to resume normal lives in American communities.

D. S. Myer
Director

DEC 13 1944

MEMORANDUM TO ALL PROJECT DIRECTORS

There is attached a copy of a letter, dated December 6, 1944, from the General Counsel of Office of the Alien Property Custodian, stating that the liquidator of the Sumitomo Bank of Seattle, Washington, will accept affidavits along the lines of the form attached to his letter in lieu of lost passbooks and lost certificates of deposit. The liquidator has heretofore required that the passbooks or the certificates of deposit be produced by persons claiming to have deposits, or that indemnity bonds or certifications by a national bank or a Washington county clerk of their assets be supplied in lieu of such passbooks or certificates of deposit. This decision of the Alien Property Custodian should be helpful to the evacuee depositors in proving their claims.

As suggested in the letter from the General Counsel of Office of the Alien Property Custodian, this announcement should be given wide publicity so that the evacuees may complete their claims against the Bank as soon as possible. The announcement should point out that the ruling applies only to the Sumitomo Bank of Seattle and that depositors who have lost their passbooks or their certificates of deposit should consult the Project Attorney for assistance in preparing appropriate affidavits. I am informed that most of the depositors are residents or former residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center but there may also be depositors living at other centers.

D. S. Myer

Director

Enclosure

Office of
ALIEN PROPERTY CUSTODIAN
Washing 25

COPY

In replying, please
refer to: AML:bc

December 6, 1944

Mr. D. S. Myer, Director
War Relocation Authority
Department of Interior
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Myer:

Reference is made to our previous correspondence and the several telephone conversations between Mr. Featherston of your office and Mr. Lowenthal of my staff relating to the problem which has arisen in connection with the efforts by evacuees at the relocation centers administered by the War Relocation Authority to file claims for their deposits in the Sumitomo Bank of Seattle, now in liquidation under the supervision of the Alien Property Custodian.

As you are aware, the liquidators appointed by the stockholders of the bank have required that persons claiming savings deposits or time deposits file with their proofs of claim the savings account passbooks or the Certificates of Deposit issued by the bank. The liquidators have also required that, in those cases where the claimants are unable to produce the passbooks or Certificates, such claimants file indemnity bonds or certifications by a clerk of a Washington court as to their assets. You have pointed out that in the course of the evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry, many of them mislaid or lost their passbooks or Certificates of Deposit and are unable to comply with the requirements of the liquidators; and that the evacuees are unable reasonably to obtain indemnity bonds or court certifications.

After consideration, I have recommended to the stockholders of the bank that they authorize and direct a revision of the requirements heretofore insisted upon by the liquidators, and that the liquidators be directed to accept from savings-account depositors an affidavit in substantially the form as annexed hereto in lieu of other indemnity. I have recommended also that with respect to time deposits the liquidators be authorized to accept a similar affidavit or the endorsement of two or more persons recognized by the bank or both. It would appear that the evacuees should be able reasonably to comply with such modified requirements.

I am advised that a meeting of stockholders of the bank is being called for December 19, 1944 and that the recommendations will be presented to the meeting for action. The Alien Property Custodian is the holder of 97.75% of the stock and he has advised me that he has directed his proxy

to vote his stock in favor of the recommended requirements. There would seem to be no doubt, therefore, that proofs of claim otherwise satisfactory to the liquidators and the bank will not be rejected after the date of the stockholders' meeting for failure of presentation of passbooks or Certificates of Deposit if an appropriate affidavit is furnished. It will be of considerable assistance to the liquidation of the bank and the depositors thereof if arrangements can be made by the Authority for the fullest possible publicity to this change.

Sincerely yours,

/sgd/ John Ernest Roe

John Ernest Roe
General Counsel

AFFIDAVIT FOR LOST PASSBOOK

State of)
)
County of)

_____, being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that ____ resides at _____; that _____ was a depositor in Sumitomo Bank of Seattle, Seattle, Washington; that _____ has not located the passbook issued by said bank representing deposits made by deponent in the savings department of said bank; that deponent has made diligent search for said passbook but has been unable to find the same or discover its whereabouts and believes that said passbook has been lost or destroyed. Deponent represents and certifies that the savings account of deponent, designated as Account No._____, represented by said passbook, has not been pledged, assigned, transferred or otherwise disposed of, in whole or in part.

This affidavit is made for the purpose of inducing Sumitomo Bank of Seattle, its officers, directors, stockholders, and liquidators to accept a proof of claim relating to said deposit and to pay the amount of said deposit to deponent without the surrender of the said passbook. Deponent hereby agrees, for himself, his heirs and personal representatives to hold harmless and indemnify Sumitomo Bank of Seattle, its officers, directors, stockholders and liquidators from any claim asserted against them or any of them arising out of the acceptance of such proof of claim and payment thereof and against any loss incurred by or accruing against them or any of them by reason thereof.

_____

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this ___ day of _____, 1944.

_____
Notary Public