WRA Library Washington

VOLUNTEERS TO ARMY INTELLIGENCE

	Dec. 16*	Dec. 31, 1942**
Central Utah, Dec. 8. "A Group of Volunteers ... (No figure given)		9
Colorado River - Nov. 17 & 18 (Making applications)	8	8
Gila River - Dec. 2	29	29
Granada - Dec. 2 (Army Board to Arrive)		12
Heart Mountain to Dec. 5. (No Mention of Army)		2
Jerome - Nov. 11	17	17
Manzanar - Nov. 16	3	21
Minidoka - Nov. 21	21	21
Rowher to Dec. 16 (No Mention of Army)		5
Tule Lake - Dec. 1	34	43
	112	167

* From weekly reports and newspapers - E.P. Moore

** From quarterly reports and figures of statistical unit. R.E. McKee

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM
WASHINGTON, D. C.

622.43;
624.1 to
624.5;
633.11

JANUARY 27, 1943.

LOCAL BOARD RELEASE NO. 179

EFFECTIVE: FEBRUARY 1, 1943

SUBJECT: INDUCTION OF VOLUNTEERS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY

1. Certain registrants of Japanese ancestry may volunteer.—The Army has announced the formation of a combat team which will be composed entirely of United States citizens of Japanese extraction or parentage, who have made application for voluntary induction through the Selective Service System, and who are found by the armed forces to be physically qualified for general military service. Such volunteers will be limited to persons who were born in the United States or its Territories, and who speak English. The Army will be ready to accept such volunteers on and after February 23, 1943. Even though some such registrants should be found acceptable, none should be inducted before that date.

2. Determination of acceptability necessary.—Registrants of Japanese ancestry who are citizens of the United States and wish to volunteer for this special combat team may do so at any local board. However, it is necessary to obtain a special determination of acceptability in each case. A special form, Statement of United States Citizen of Japanese Ancestry (Form 304A), will be used for this purpose. Except as herein directed, all persons of Japanese extraction or parentage shall remain classified IV-C as at present.

3. Preliminary procedure.—When a United States citizen of Japanese extraction or parentage between the ages of 18 and 38 wishes to volunteer for induction, the following procedure shall apply:

(a) If he is at his own local board, he shall be permitted to file Application for Voluntary Induction (Form 165), complete quadruplicate copies of Form 304A, and will be notified that preliminary physical examination has been waived and that if he is found acceptable by the armed forces he will be immediately classified and ordered to report for induction. The local board shall immediately forward all copies of Form 304A to the Director of Selective Service through the State Director.

(b) If he is at a local board other than his own, the procedure will be exactly the same as in paragraph (a), except the board will require completion of Request for Transfer of Delivery (Form 154), leaving blank the date of mailing Order to Report for Induction, and the time and place of reporting, and will

forward all copies of Forms 154, 165, and 304A to the registrant's own local board. Registrant's own local board will forward all copies of Form 304A to the Director of Selective Service through the State Director.

(c) If volunteers are in a War Relocation Authority Center, Forms 154, 165, and 304A will be completed by Army representatives. For those found acceptable the Army representatives will forward all such forms to local boards through the Director of Selective Service and State Directors.

4. Procedure after determination of acceptability.—Following the determination of acceptability, the procedure shall be as follows:

(a) When the local board receives Form 304A indicating that the registrant is "acceptable," registrant shall, if not deferred, be classified in Class I–A, ordered to report for induction, and delivered in the usual manner, or may be transferred for delivery to another local board. A copy of Form 304A will be forwarded to the induction station with each such registrant. Such registrants will be carried on the Delivery List (Form 151) and will be counted in filling the regular call.

(b) If Form 304A, received by the local board, indicates that the registrant is not acceptable, he shall remain in Class IV–C and will be so notified by the issuance of a new Notice of Classification (Form 57).

(c) If the registrant is delivered for induction and is rejected at the induction station as physically disqualified for all military service, he will be placed in Class IV–F.

(d) If the registrant is physically qualified but is returned to the local board because the special quota is filled, the local board shall leave the registrant in Class I–A, make a notation in column 27 of Classification Record (Form 100), and notify the State Director of this fact.

5. Prompt action requested.—Local boards are requested to take prompt action on each such case in all steps of procedure and classification in order that the induction of such registrants and the formation of the Army combat team may be accomplished as promptly as possible.

6. Supply of Forms 304A.—A sample copy of Form 304A is being sent with this release to each local board. An additional supply is being forwarded to State Directors. Local boards will requisition necessary additional Forms 304A from the State Director.

Lewis B. Hershey,

Director.

LBH/phw

DISTRIBUTION A, B, C, D, E, F

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1943

Mr. Emlree

Myer

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Washington

January 2, 1943

MEMORANDUM TO: All Project Directors

SUBJECT: Details of Selective Service Registration at Centers.

In reply to an inquiry from one of the Centers in regard to handling Selective Service registration at the Centers and status of evacuee registrants, I am taking this means of clarifying some questions which have arisen in this connection.

We have conferred with Selective Service concerning the responsibilities of evacuees with respect to registration.

Selective Service places responsibility for operations within each State upon the State Director, and similarly, holds the local Board responsible for registrants within its territory. Consequently each Project Director, if he has not already done so, should establish operating understandings with the Selective Service State Director. In some cases the arrangement might provide for the local Board's sending representatives to a Relocation Center; in others, it might provide for the Project Director's handling the registrations with supplies and instructions furnished by Selective Service, and with the Registrations being turned back to the Board having jurisdiction. Each case should be worked out by the Project Director with the State Director of Selective Service.

Copies mailed 1/8/43

There have been questions from time to time as to the reason for classifying all registrants of Japanese ancestry in 4-C. The order placing registrants of Japanese ancestry in a deferred status followed a determination by the War Department not to accept persons of Japanese ancestry for service with the Armed Forces, except in specifically authorized cases.

Obviously there is no point in having the local Selective Service Boards send large numbers of boys of Japanese ancestry to induction centers only to have them turned down, hence it seemed desirable to place such persons in a deferred category. Only two of the available deferred classes seemed even approximately suitable, one, 4-C, originally established for aliens, and the other 4-F, for persons deemed morally, mentally, or physically unacceptable. After careful consideration it was concluded that the 4-C classification would be least objectionable, and an order was issued, directing the use of this classification for all registrants of Japanese ancestry.

The action of Selective Service followed directly from a decision of the War Department. Should the War Department see fit to accept boys of Japanese ancestry through Selective Service, I am confident the classification of this group would be changed at once.

Sincerely yours,

D. S. Myer

Director

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 1, 1943

My dear Mr. Secretary:

The proposal of the War Department to organize a combat team consisting of loyal American citizens of Japanese descent has my full approval. The new combat team will add to the nearly five thousand loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry who are already serving in the armed forces of our country.

This is a natural and logical step toward the reinstitution of the Selective Service procedures which were temporarily disrupted by the evacuation from the West Coast.

No loyal citizen of the United States should be denied the democratic right to exercise the responsibilities of his citizenship, regardless of his ancestry. The principle on which this country was founded and by which it has always been governed is that Americanism is a matter of the mind and heart; Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry. A good American is one who is loyal to this country and to our creed of liberty and democracy. Every loyal American citizen should be given the opportunity to serve this country wherever his skills will make the greatest contribution -- whether it be in the ranks of our armed forces, war production, agriculture, government service, or other work essential to the war effort.

I am glad to observe that the War Department, the Navy Department, the War Manpower Commission, the Department of Justice, and the War Relocation Authority are collaborating in a program which will assure the opportunity for all loyal Americans, including Americans of Japanese ancestry, to serve their country at a time when the fullest and wisest use of our manpower is all-important to the war effort.

Very sincerely yours,

Franklin D. Roosevelt

The Honorable,
The Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

622.43;
624.1 to
624.5;
633.11

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM
WASHINGTON, D. C.

EC files

JANUARY 14, 1944

LOCAL BOARD MEMORANDUM NO. 179

ISSUED: 1/27/43
AS AMENDED: 1/14/44

SUBJECT: INDUCTION OF UNITED STATES CITIZENS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY

1. Japanese-Americans liable for service in Army if found acceptable.—Registrants ages 18 through 37 who are natural-born United States citizens of Japanese extraction or parentage, herein termed Japanese-Americans, are now subject to induction for service in the United States Army but only after the War Department has determined in each case that the registrant is "acceptable."

2. War Department has made determination in certain cases.—Heretofore, either upon submission through the local board of a Statement of United States Citizen of Japanese Ancestry (Form 304A) or upon other information, the War Department has determined that many Japanese-Americans are "acceptable" or are "not acceptable" for service in the United States Army. In many cases, local boards have been advised of this determination either by the receipt of a DSS Form 304A on which the determination is stamped or by a form letter, a copy of which is attached.

3. Unless already accomplished, acceptability to be determined in each case.—Without reopening the registrant's classification, the local board will mail each registrant who is a Japanese-American ages 18 through 37 four copies of Statement of United States Citizen of Japanese Ancestry (Form 304A) unless (a) the local board has been notified by the War Department that such registrant is "acceptable" or "not acceptable" or (b) the local board has mailed a DSS Form 304A to such registrant. The local board by letter shall order the registrant to complete and return all four copies of DSS Form 304A within ten days after the date it mails such forms to the registrant or within such longer period of time as the local board shall permit. Upon return of the completed DSS Forms 304A to the local board, it shall forward all four copies of the forms to the Director of Selective Service

through the State Director. The War Department will advise the local board whether such registrant is "acceptable" or is "not acceptable" by stamping the determination on such DSS Forms 304A as are returned to the local board or by use of the form letter attached.

4. Action after notice that registrant is "acceptable."—Upon receipt of notice from the War Department that a Japanese-American is "acceptable," the local board shall reopen his classification and shall classify the registrant in the same manner as any other United States citizen.

5. Action after notice that registrant is "not acceptable."—Upon receipt of notice from the War Department that a Japanese-American is "not acceptable," the local board shall retain or place such registrant in Class IV-C under section 622.43, Selective Service Regulations.

6. Preinduction physical examination.—A Japanese-American classified in Class I-A, Class I-A-O, or Class IV-E shall be forwarded to the induction station for preinduction physical examination by the local board in whose area he is at the time located in accordance with the instructions set forth below:

(a) If the registrant is located in the area of his own local board, his own local board shall order him to report for preinduction physical examination in the usual manner.

(b) If the registrant is not located in the area of his own local board, his own local board shall transfer him for preinduction physical examination to the local board in whose area the registrant is located. To accomplish such transfer, the registrant's own local board shall complete the Transfer—Preinduction Physical Examination (Form 216), in duplicate, by inserting the date, name, and present address of the registrant, and the words "By direction of the Director of Selective Service" on the front of such forms and by completing the second endorsement on the back of such forms. The copy of DSS Form 216 shall be filed in the registrant's Cover Sheet (Form 53). The local board shall then forward the original DSS Form 216, the DSS Form 304A or the form letter from the War Department showing that the registrant is "acceptable" for service, together with the other documents referred to in paragraph (e) of section 629.11, Selective Service Regulations, to its own State Director for transmission to the local board in whose area the registrant is located, if in his State, or for transmission to the State Director of the State in which the registrant is located, if outside his State. The State Director of the State in which the registrant is located shall check such documents and insert thereon the name and address of the local board in his State in whose area the registrant is located and forward the documents to such local board. The local board to which the registrant is transferred for preinduction physical examination shall cause the registrant to be given such examination and shall take the other actions as provided in paragraphs (f) and (g) of section 629.11, Selective Service Regulations.

7. Induction.—A Japanese-American selected by his own local board to fill a call of the Army under part 632, Selective Service Regulations, shall be forwarded to the Army Reception Center or the induction station, as the case may be, by the local board in whose area he is at the time located in accordance with the instructions set forth below:

(a) If the registrant is located in the area of his own local board, his own local board shall order him to report for induction in the usual manner.

(b) If the registrant is not located in the area of his own local board, his own local board shall transfer him for induction to the local board in whose area the registrant is located. To accomplish such transfer, the registrant's own local board shall complete the Request for Transfer for Delivery (Form 154), in duplicate, by inserting the name and present address of the registrant and the words "By direction of the Director of Selective Service" and completing the second endorsement on such forms. A copy of the DSS Form 154 shall be filed in the registrant's Cover Sheet (Form 53). The local board shall then forward the original DSS Form 154, DSS Form 304A or form letter from the War Department showing that the registrant is "acceptable" for service, together with the other documents referred to in paragraph (f) of section 633.11, Selective Service Regulations, to its own State Director for transmission to the local board in whose area the registrant is located, if in his State, or for transmission to the State Director of the State in which the registrant is located, if outside his State. The State Director of the State in which the registrant is located shall check such documents and, if not already accomplished, insert thereon the name and address of the local board in his State in whose area the registrant is located, and forward the documents to such local board. The local board to which the registrant is transferred for induction shall cause the registrant to be delivered to the Army Reception Center or to the induction station, as the case may be, and shall take the other actions as provided in paragraphs (g), (h), and (i) of section 633.11, Selective Service Regulations.

8. Assignment to work of national importance.—A Japanese-American finally classified in Class IV-E shall be assigned to work of national importance in the usual manner as provided by part 652, Selective Service Regulations.

9. Prompt action necessary.—The War Department desires that the program outlined in this Local Board Memorandum become effective immediately. Every effort should be taken to avoid delay, and air mail should be used when that action will expedite the procedure.

Lewis B. Hershey,

Director.

DISTRIBUTION A, B, C, D, E, F.

WAR DEPARTMENT
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

National Headquarters,
Selective Service System,
21st and C Streets, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

The person described below, if otherwise qualified, (is) (is not) acceptable for training and service in the Army of the United States.

1. NAME: _____
(First) (Middle) (Last)

2. BIRTH: _____
(Day) (Month) (Year)

3. RELOCATION CENTER ADDRESS: _____
(Block Number)

_____
(Camp) (State)

4. LOCAL BOARD: _____
(Number) (City)

_____
(County) (State)

Remarks:

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

John Lansdale Jr.
JOHN LANSDALE, JR.,
Lieut. Colonel, Field Artillery,
Chief, Review Branch, Counterintelligence Group.

24-59987ABCD

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM
WASHINGTON, D. C.

JANUARY 14, 1944.

TRANSMITTAL MEMO NO. 100

SUBJECT: LOCAL BOARD MEMORANDUM NO. 179, AS AMENDED 1/14/44

1. We herewith transmit Local Board Memorandum No. 179, as amended 1/14/44, Subject: Induction of United States Citizens of Japanese Ancestry, which should be inserted in your book of Local Board Memoranda.

2. This Local Board Memorandum informs local boards that natural-born United States citizens of Japanese extraction or parentage are now subject to induction for service in the United States Army but only after the War Department has determined in each individual case that the registrant is "acceptable." This Local Board Memorandum advises local boards of the procedure to be followed in procuring this determination from the War Department and in making delivery of such registrants to the Army Reception Center or the induction station.

3. This Local Board Memorandum supersedes Local Board Release No. 179, effective 2/1/43, Subject: Induction of Volunteers of Japanese Ancestry, which should be removed from your book of Local Board Memoranda.

4. Transmittal Memos Nos. 97, 98, and 99, concerning DSS Forms, were distributed only to agencies of the Selective Service System.

Lewis B. Hershey,
Director.

DISTRIBUTION A, B, C, D, E, F

To insure proper coordination of press announcements with the arrival of material at the local boards, no release of the enclosed material to the press should be made until 48 hours after receipt of this publication.

568967°—44

WAR DEPARTMENT
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

National Headquarters,
Selective Service System,
21st and C Streets, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

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(Block Number)

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4. LOCAL BOARD: _____
(Number) (City)

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Remarks:

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

John Lansdale Jr.
JOHN LANSDALE, JR.,
Lieut. Colonel, Field Artillery,
Chief, Review Branch, Counterintelligence Group.

24-39987ABCD

COPY

National Headquarters
SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM
21st Street and C Street, N. W.
Washington 25, D. C.

Jan 11 1944

In replying address
The Director of Selective Service
and refer to no.
11-1.8-106

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

Subject: Jurisdiction of Evacuees in War Relocation Authority Centers

Dear Mr. Myer:

We refer to your inquiry of January 5, 1944, requesting our advice regarding the jurisdiction of evacuees now residing in War Relocation Authority Centers. Section 611.1 of Selective Service Regulations provides that every man required to register during the designated times shall present himself for and submit to registration before a duly designated registering official or "the local board having jurisdiction in the area in which he has his permanent home or in which he may happen to be on that day."

It is clear that any person obligated to register may exercise his choice of registering in the board having jurisdiction of his home or of the place where he then is. Selective Service does not in any case attempt to control the decision of the prospective registrant. However, it may be pointed out that it is most desirable that any prospective registrant register in the area in which he will likely be during the period in which his case will be considered by the local board. Such action avoids unnecessary difficulties in the transmitting of forms, files, and essential information. Likewise, it permits the registrant to have his case considered by a board which is familiar with the current situation regarding his case.

It is advisable that all evacuees who are hereafter obliged to register, in compliance with the Selective Service Law, give the address of the Center on line two of the Registration Card as the "place of residence." This will automatically give the local board nearest the Center jurisdiction of the case. Your cooperation in emphasizing this advice to prospective registrants will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Lewis B. Hershey

DIRECTOR

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM
Washington, D.C.

568967° -- 44 January 14, 1944

TRANSMITTAL MEMO NO. 100
SUBJECT: LOCAL BOARD MEMORANDUM NO. 179,
AS AMENDED 1/14/44

1. We herewith transmit Local Board Memorandum No. 179, as amended 1/14/44, Subject: Induction of United States Citizens of Japanese Ancestry, which should be inserted in your book of Local Board Memoranda.

2. This Local Board Memorandum informs local boards that natural-born United States citizens of Japanese extraction or parentage are now subject to induction for service in the United States Army but only after the War Department has determined in each individual case that the registrant is "acceptable." This Local Board Memorandum advises local boards of the procedure to be followed in procuring this determination from the War Department and in making delivery of such registrants to the Army Reception Center or the induction station.

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4. Transmittal Memos Nos. 97, 98, and 99, concerning DSS Forms Forms, were distributed only to agencies of the Selective Service System.

Lewis B. Hershey
Director

622.43;
624.1 to
624.5;
633.11

LOCAL BOARD MEMORANDUM NO. 179

ISSUED: 1/27/43
AS AMENDED: 1/14/44

SUBJECT: INDUCTION OF UNITED STATES CITIZENS
OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY

1. Japanese-Americans liable for service in Army if found acceptable.--Registrants ages 18 through 37 who are natural-born United States citizens of Japanese extraction or parentage, herein termed Japanese-Americans, are now subject to induction for service in the United States Army but only after the War Department has determined in each case that the registrant is "acceptable."

2. War Department has made determination in certain cases.--Heretofore, either upon submission through the local board of a Statement of United States Citizen of Japanese Ancestry (Form 304A) or upon other information, the War Department has determined that many Japanese-Americans are "acceptable" or are "not acceptable" for service in the United States Army. In many cases, local boards have been advised of this determination either by the receipt of a

DSS Form 304A on which the determination is stamped or by a form letter, a copy of which is attached.

3. Unless already accomplished, acceptability to be determined in each case.--Without reopening the registrant's classification, the local board will mail each registrant who is a Japanese-American ages 18 through 37 four copies of Statement of United States Citizen of Japanese Ancestry (Form 304A) unless (a) the local board has been notified by the War Department that such registrant is "acceptable" or "not acceptable" or (b) the local board has mailed a DSS Form 304A to such registrant. The local board by letter shall order the registrant to complete and return all four copies of DSS Form 304A within ten days after the date it mails such forms to the registrant or within such longer period of time as the local board shall permit. Upon return of the completed DSS Forms 304A to the local board, it shall forward all four copies of the forms to the Director of Selective Service through the State Director. The War Department will advise the local board whether such registrant is "acceptable" or is "not acceptable" by stamping the determination on such DSS Forms 304A as are returned to the local board or by use of the form letter attached.

4. Action after notice that registrant is "acceptable".--Upon receipt of notice from the War Department that a Japanese-American is "acceptable", the local board shall reopen his classification and shall classify the registrant in the same manner as any other United States citizen.

5. Action after notice that registrant is "not acceptable".--Upon receipt of notice from the War Department that a Japanese-American is "not acceptable", the local board shall retain or place such registrant in Class IV-C under section 622.43, Selective Service Regulations.

6. Preinduction physical examination.--A Japanese-American classified in Class I-A, Class I-A-O, or Class IV-E shall be forwarded to the induction station for preinduction physical examination by the local board in whose area he is at the time located in accordance with the instructions set forth below:

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(b) If the registrant is not located in the area of his own local board, his own local board shall transfer him for preinduction physical examination to the local board in whose area the registrant is located. To accomplish such transfer, the registrant's own local board shall complete the Transfer--Preinduction Physical Examination (Form 216), in duplicate, by inserting the date, name, and present address of the registrant, and the words "By direction of the Director of Selective Service" on the front of such forms and by completing the second endorsement on the back of such forms. The copy of DSS Form 216 shall be filed in the registrant's Cover Sheet (Form 53). The local board shall then forward the original DSS Form 216, the DSS Form 304A or the form letter from the War Department showing that the registrant is "acceptable" for service, together with the other documents referred to in paragraph (c) of section 629.11, Selective Service Regulations, to its own State Director for transmission to the local board in whose area the registrant is located, if in his State, or for transmission to the State Director of the State in which the registrant is located, if outside his State. The State Director of the State in which the registrant is located shall check such documents and insert thereon the name and address of the local board in his State in whose area the registrant is located and forward the documents to such local board. The local board to which the registrant is transferred for preinduction physical examination shall cause the registrant to be given such examination and shall take the other actions as provided in paragraphs (f) and (g) of section 629.11, Selective Service Regulations.

7. Induction.--A Japanese-American selected by his own local board to fill a call of the Army under part 632, Selective Service Regulations, shall be forwarded to the Army Reception Center or the induction station, as the case may be, by the local board in whose area he is at the time located in accordance with the instructions set forth below:

(a) If the registrant is located in the area of his own local board, his own local board shall order him to report for induction in the usual manner.
(b) If the registrant is not located in the area of his own local board, his own local board shall transfer him for induction to the local board in whose area the registrant is located. To accomplish such transfer, the registrant's own local board shall complete the Request for Transfer for Delivery (Form 154), in duplicate, by inserting the name and present address of the registrant and the words "By direction of the Director of Selective Service" and completing the second endorsement on such forms. A copy of the DSS Form 154 shall be filed in the registrant's Cover Sheet (Form 53). The local board shall then forward the original DSS Form 154, DSS Form 304A or form letter from the War Department showing that the registrant is "acceptable" for service, together with the other documents referred to in paragraph (f) of section 633.11, Selective Service Regulations, to its own State Director for transmission to the local board in whose area the registrant is located, if in his State, or for transmission to the State Director of the State in which the registrant is located, if outside his State. The State Director of the State in which the registrant is located shall check such documents and, if not already accomplished, insert thereon the name and address of the local board in his State in whose area the registrant is located, and forward the documents to such local board. The local board to which the registrant is transferred for induction shall cause the registrant to be delivered to the Army Reception Center or to the induction station, as the case may be, and shall take the other actions as provided in paragraphs (g), (h), and (i) of section 633.11, Selective Service Regulations.

8. Assignment to work of national importance.--A Japanese-American finally classified in Class IV-E shall be assigned to work of national importance in the usual manner as provided by part 652, Selective Service Regulations.

9. Prompt action necessary.--The War Department desires that the program outlined in this Local Board Memorandum become effective immediately. Every effort should be taken to avoid delay, and air mail should be used when that action will expedite the procedure.

Lewis B. Hershey
Director

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Davidson
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deYoung

Dwd 374

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

~~Washington~~

January 21, 1944

To: All Project Directors, Relocation Supervisors and Relocation Officers

Subject: Questions and Answers on new Selective Service Procedures for Japanese-Americans

Distribution E (Plus RS and RO)

On January 20, 1944 the Director sent a telegram to all field offices announcing the reinstatement of Selective Service procedures for Japanese-American citizens.

Knowing that Japanese-Americans will ask you many questions and will have problems to which they will want answers, we have asked the War Department for statements covering the new procedures. We are sending you herewith several copies of a list of questions and answers which we hope will aid you in talking with evacuees.

We shall be glad to have you send us questions you are unable to answer, and we shall endeavor to secure the answers for you.

John H. Provinse
Acting Director

Attachments

OM-793

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Washington

January 21, 1944

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
On
Induction of American Citizens of Japanese
Descent for Military Service.

1. Q. To what age group will induction for military service apply?

   A. To males 18 to 37 years of age inclusive.

2. Q. Will kibei be inducted?

   A. Yes, if otherwise qualified.

3. Q. Will issei be inducted?

   A. No.

4. Q. Will a man who has left the relocation center be inducted?

   A. Yes, if qualified. Induction does not depend on residence in a center.

5. Q. Will an individual of Japanese ancestry who has applied for expatriation be inducted?

   A. Generally speaking, no.

6. Q. Can a man avoid induction by changing his answer on the loyalty question or by asking for expatriation at this time?

   A. No. A change in his answer or a request for expatriation will not affect his liability for training and service. The Selective Service Law carries penalties for false statements made for the purpose of avoiding induction.

7. Q. At what rate will men be called for induction?

   A. The rate of call will depend on the local Selective Service Board quota.

8. Q. On what basis does the Army determine "acceptability for service"?

   A. "Acceptability for service" is determined by checking individual records.

9. Q. Is there any way for a man not considered "acceptable for service" to change his status?

   A. Not at present.

10. Q. How soon will inductees be called?

A. It is impossible to indicate the exact time when a registrant will be called. An individual considered "acceptable for service" will be reclassified by the local Selective Service Board. He will undergo a pre-induction physical examination when his order number is reached, or sooner if he waives this requirement and volunteers. If he is physically qualified, he will be called not less than 10 or more than 90 days thereafter. generally

11. Q. Where will physical examinations be given?

A. At the Armed Forces Induction Station designated by Selective Service, usually the nearest station.

12. Q. If a man originally registered with a Selective Service Board on the Pacific Coast will he go back to that point to be inducted?

A. No. He will be inducted at the nearest Armed Forces Induction Station or Reception Center.

13. Q. How will an "acceptable" nisei be notified to report for induction?

A. He will receive an order to report for induction from the appropriate local Board. The order will be on DSS Form 150.

14. Q. Where in the Army will the Japanese Americans serve?

A. They will serve wherever the United States sends them; however it is anticipated that after basic training the majority of inductees will be assigned for service with the 100th Battalion or the 442nd Combat Team.

15. Q. Is there an opportunity to get into the Navy? The Marines? The Army Air Forces? The Armored Force?

A. Inductions are authorized only for the Army. Inductees will not be assigned to duty with the Air Forces or the Armored Force.

16. Q. Are there penalties for failure to notify a local Board of a change of address?

A. Yes. An eligible male who fails to keep his local Board notified of his address will be reported as a delinquent to a U. S. District Attorney, and will be subject to penalties provided in the Selective Service and Training Act.

17. Q. Are nisei soldiers in uniform permitted to go into the evacuated zone?

A. Yes, when on active duty and on leave, or furlough.

18. Q. What assistance from the Government does the family of a soldier receive?

A. The system of benefits and allotments available from the Government to families of soldiers is too complicated to explain briefly. In a relocation center the Welfare Section has full information; outside a relocation center the local headquarters of the American Red Cross has such information; soldiers may receive complete information at Army Posts.

19. Q. What arrangements will WRA make for dependents of a nisei in a relocation center who is inducted into the Army?

A. Policies of WRA which apply to any persons in relocation centers also apply to dependents of soldiers.

20. Q. Will dependents of a nisei who is inducted after leaving a relocation center be eligible to return to a center?

A. Policies of WRA governing the return of any relocated person or family will apply to the family of a soldier. Briefly, the relocation supervisor in the area must give his approval before the project director is authorized to grant readmittance to a person who has been relocated.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington

May 1, 1944

TO ALL PROJECT DIRECTORS

While each relocation center staff has made a conscientious effort to see that nisei of military age have a full understanding of the operation of the Selective Service System, we need to be certain that we have left nothing undone. If you have not already done so, I strongly suggest that a Selective Service Information Office be established, to which prospective inductees and their families may come for information.

Some of the older evacuees who have the confidence of the community should be asked to serve on the staff of the office; an evacuee lawyer probably should be included, and, if possible, arrangements should be made for representation of the local Selective Service Board having jurisdiction over center residents.

A wide variety of questions has been raised by the various centers, and we are sending a compilation of the answers to all centers. Copies of the Selective Service memorandum concerning induction of Japanese Americans already are on hand at all centers.

Beyond providing answers to questions raised by the center residents, the Selective Service Information Office should probably initiate information to center residents, through the project paper, through meetings, and other media.

C. S. Myer

Director

Enclosure

Army

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington

May 1, 1944

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
On
Induction of American Citizens of Japanese
Descent for Military Service.

The following questions have been sent from relocation centers to the Washington office of W.R.A., and the answers have been provided by the national office of Selective Service, the War Department, or by W.R.A., depending upon the branch of government having jurisdiction.

1. Q. Must a nisei man, who previously registered with a West Coast Selective Service Board, register again if he relocates outside a center?

   A. No. Only one registration is necessary. All nisei men, however, must keep their draft boards informed of each change of address.

2. Q. Will a nisei who applies for expatriation be exempted from military service?

   A. An application for expatriation does not cancel the rights or <u>responsibilities</u> of an American citizen. The Army makes the determination regarding persons acceptable for military service.

3. Q. Are nisei, honorably discharged from the Army, eligible for mustering-out pay?

   A. All nisei, including those discharged after Pearl Harbor and classified IV-C, are eligible for mustering-out pay, provided they received honorable discharges. Application forms for such pay may be secured from any local Selective Service Board.

4. Q. Are nisei who were discharged from the Army at the convenience of the Government subject to re-induction?

   A. Yes, if otherwise qualified for service.

5. Q. Will the fact that nisei are in relocation centers have any effect on their eligibility for classification of 3-D, or will they be considered on the same basis as those outside?

   A. No registrant is classified in Class 3-D unless there is ample proof that his induction would result in extreme hardship and privation for his dependents. While no all-inclusive rule can be established with relation to persons in relocation centers, Selective Service officials have declared that the subsistence provided for all families in relocation centers would minimize, if not entirely obviate, any real hardship on the part of any dependent of a registrant.

6. Q. Are wives, children, and other dependents of nisei servicemen eligible for allotments under the Servicemen's Dependents Allowance Act of 1942?

A. Yes. Families of nisei servicemen are eligible for the same benefits given to families of other members of the armed forces. Since each case will be handled on an individual basis, it is suggested that full information be obtained at the project Welfare Section.

7. Q. Will Japanese aliens be inducted into the Army?

A. Under present regulations no Japanese nationals may volunteer or be drafted into the armed forces.

8. Q. Why are nisei men, recently inducted, being placed in the Enlisted Reserve Corps?

A. According to the War Department, nisei are "placed in the Enlisted Reserve Corps upon induction for administrative reasons to channel shipments and schedule training. It is not contemplated that they will remain in the Enlisted Reserve Corps for any extended period of time."

9. Q. Must nisei who are registered with local boards on the West Coast prepare certain forms requesting their transfer to other boards in the locality in which they now live?

A. Registrants are not required to fill out such forms of transfer. Selective Service Memorandum No. 179 provides that West Coast boards make the transfer of jurisdiction by filling out Form 216 and transmitting that form and other documents to the board having jurisdiction where the person now lives. Therefore, nisei registrants should not be required to fill out any of these forms.

10. Q. How can a nisei, whose birth was not recorded with any Bureau of Vital Statistics, prove his American citizenship?

A. Selective Service officials point out that there are many persons in the United States whose births were not recorded. Therefore, any evidence of place of birth, such as a statement from parents, family records, or other documents would be acceptable.

11. Q. Since the statement on the notice of classification from the Selective Service (Form 57) provides for a personal appearance in making an appeal, can the Selective Service System make arrangements with the Western Defense Command to provide that nisei may take advantage of this right? If not, would it be possible to transfer the right of personal appearance for an appeal to the local board near the relocation center which handles such inductions?

11. A. Selective Service officials have advised WRA that "although it is possible for any registrant to appear before a board to which he has been transferred for delivery, such board has no jurisdiction regarding his classification. Any personal appearance of a registrant, to be practically effective, must be before the board of jurisdiction (In the case of nisei registrants, such board would probably be on the West Coast). In that connection, it may be stated that many citizens, due to distance, illness and numerous other reasons, are unable to avail themselves of the right of personal appearance before their respective local boards."

12. Q. Will nisei boys, now relocated, be considered for enrollment in the Army Specialized Training Program (ASTP)?

A. The War Department states that the ASTP program, which was greatly curtailed recently, is open only to high school graduates about to enter college and who applied before March 1, 1944.

13. Q. What is the general policy of Selective Service regarding deferments?

A. Selective Service officials have pointed out that each case must be decided on an individual basis. The present policy is one of granting practically no occupational deferments to men under 26; in case of men over 26, more consideration will be given to occupation, but still only a small percentage of such men will be granted deferments. It must be remembered that all deferment policies are subject to change as military and other factors are altered.

14. Q. Why are nisei inductees being used in special units such as the 442nd Combat Team and the language school at Camp Savage?

A. In a recent letter, Lt. Col. Harrison A. Gerhardt, General Staff Corps, Executive to the Assistant Secretary of War, declared: 1) the assignment of personnel in the armed forces is based upon military considerations and not upon racial derivations; 2) the War Department does not consider it advisable to use Japanese Americans in the Pacific theater of operations at this time. If nisei soldiers were generally assigned to all units, it would be necessary to screen units which are to be sent to the Pacific before such units could be shipped. This would delay getting troops ready for combat and would disrupt efficient operation of a combat unit.

15. Q. Will WRA be responsible for the care of personal property of bachelor nisei who are inducted into the Army?

A. The WRA can assume no responsibility for the care of personal property but can provide storage space if another evacuee is designated as the responsible person.

16. Q. What is the status of men inducted and placed in the Enlisted Reserve Corps? Do they have any further responsibilities to Selective Service? May they travel to other parts of the United States?

A. Men placed in the Enlisted Reserve Corps are under Army jurisdiction and have no further responsibility to Selective Service. They may travel but must notify the Commanding General of the appropriate Service Command of each change of address. When called to active duty, each man will have his transportation paid from the point where orders are sent to his post of duty.

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STATE HEADQUARTERS
SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM
1006 Professional Bldg.
Phoenix, Arizona

April 23, 1945

Mr. Martin Morocco
Room 12 Administrative Bldg.
Poston, Arizona

Subject: Class IV-C Japanese

Dear Mr. Morocco:

Japanese-American registrants classified IV-C are men who have been determined to be not acceptable for military service.

Relocation would not change their classification.

If any person so classified wanted it changed it would be necessary for him to file DSS Form 304A with a letter stating the reason why he is filing this form. He would file it with the State Director of the State in which he is registered for Selective Service, and he should be sure to state specifically the local board in which he is registered and the reason for filing thenew Form 304A.

Very truly yours,

/s/ R. L. Porter

R. L. PORTER
CWO. USA

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ARIZONA STATE HEADQUARTERS
SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM
1006 PROFESSIONAL BLDG.
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

SUBJECT: List of Selective Service Classifications

I-A	Available for military service.
I-A-O	Available for noncombatant military service; conscienticus objector
I-C	Member of land or naval forces of U. S., or man who has been medically discharged since September 16, 1940.
II-A	Man necessary in his civilian activity.
II-B	Man necessary to the war production program.
II-C-K	Man deferred by reason of his agricultural occupation or endeavor.
III-D	Man deferred by reason of extreme hardship and privation to wife child or parent.
IV-A	Man deferred by reason of age. Over 38 years of age.
IV-B	Official deferred by law. Congressmen, Governors, Judges, etc.
IV-C	Neutral Alien requesting relief from training a nd service, and aliens not acceptable to the armed forces, or any group of persons not acceptable.
IV-D	Minister of religion or divinity student.
IV-E	Available for work of national importance; conscientious objector.
IV-F	Physically, morally, or mentally unfit for military service.

Note: Class IV-E is not a deferment. Registrants so classified are inducted for work of national importance and delivered to Civilian Work Camps within 30 days after classification.

Registrants with wives only (no children) may be deferred only by reason of occupation, or if the local board is convinced that the induction of such a registrant would result in extreme privation and hardship to the wife beyond the reasonable sacrifice expected of people living in the United States in time of war.

/s/ A. M. Tuthill
State Director of
Selective Service

Simultaneous check
with Craps Board

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DIRECTOR OF SELECTIVE SERVICE
Plaza Building, Sacramento

April 24, 1945

Mr. R. B. Cozzens, Assistant Director
U. S. Department of the Interior
War Relocation Authority
461 Market Street
San Francisco 5, California

Subject: Issuance of Notices of Classification
Your April 4, 1945, Letter (9a-59)

Dear Sir:

It is not true that every registrant must have in his possession a Notice of Classification (DSS Form 57) which is less than six months old. It is true that certain classifications (II-A, II-B, II-C) can not be granted for more than six months at a time. If a registrant is carrying a Notice of Classification in Class II-A, II-B or II-C which is more than six months old there would be some question as to whether he had kept in touch with his local board. Likewise some question would ordinarily arise where he had a I-A classification card which was more than six months old, since registrants ordinarily do not remain in Class I-A for as long as six months before being either inducted or rejected.

However, where a registrant is classified in Class IV-D, IV-C, IV-B, IV-A, III-D, I-C, or IV-F, his local board would ordinarily have no occasion to reclassify him or issue him a new Notice of Classification unless there was a change in Regulations or a change in the circumstances of his case which would require such action. There are many thousands of registrants in the State of California who are in perfectly good standing with their local boards and who are carrying Notices of Classification which are much more than six months old. Some of these notices are several years old and it is entirely possible that a man might have a classification card issued as early as November, 1940, which would still be perfectly valid.

It would seem that such difficulty as has arisen in the case discussed in your letter of April 4 and the attachment thereto have been due to the fact that some police officers may not have fully understood Selective Service procedures relative to the issuance of Notices of Classification. Prior to receipt of your letter this office had received a few complaints of similar difficulties, but the very small number of such complaints indicates that cases such as mentioned in your letter have been of infrequent occurrence and that generally speaking police officers and others assisting in the

apprehension of Selective Service delinquents are quite well informed on the subject. While it would probably be impossible to take any measures which would wholly eliminate the possibility of such difficulties, it would be our suggestion that if any additional cases of this nature come to your attention you might take the matter up with the authorities concerned.

We might add that it is true that all Selective Service registrants are obliged to keep their local boards advised of all changes of address and all changes in status, such as changes in employment, changes in dependency situations, changes in citizenship, etc. We believe that it would be helpful to the administration of Selective Service and of assistance to the individual registrants involved if the War Relocation Authorities could undertake to advise Selective Service registrants who are leaving relocation centers of their obligations in this regard.

Very truly yours,

/s/ K. H. Leitch

K. H. LEITCH
Colonel, FD
State Director

Memo 190-46

MEMORANDUM)
No. 190-46)

WAR DEPARTMENT
Washington 25, D. C., 4 February 1946

JAPANESE-AMERICAN BRANCH, OFFICE OF
PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL

1. The Japanese-American Branch, Office of the Provost Marshal General, Presidio of San Francisco, California, a class IV installation under the jurisdiction of the Provost Marshal General is discontinued as of 18 January 1946 and the functions concurrently transferred to the Provost Marshal General's Office, Washington, D. C.

2. Effective immediately all correspondence, questionnaires, and reports of investigations concerning persons of Japanese ancestry formerly forwarded to the Japanese-American Branch, OPMG, Presidio of San Francisco, California, will hereafter be directed to the Office of Provost Marshal General, Washington 25, D. C. (Attention: Provost Division.)

3. WD Memorandum 190-44, 14 December 1944, subject as above, is rescinded.

(AG 020 (22 Jan 46))

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:
EDWARD F. WITSELL
Major General
The Adjutant General

DISTRIBUTION:
Commanding Generals:
Army Ground Forces
Army Air Forces
Army Service Forces
All defense commands
All service commands
Departments
Military District of Washington
Commandant, Command and General Staff School
Superintendent, U. S. Military Academy
Office of the Secretary of War
Office of the Assistant Secretary of War
Divisions of the War Department General Staff
Chief of Staff, ASF
Deputy Chief of Staff for Service Commands
Chiefs of technical services
Provost Marshal General
Office of Naval Intelligence, Navy Department
Chief of Naval Operations
Civil Aeronautics Administration
Federal Bureau of Investigation
War Relocation Authority

Copies of this memorandum are furnished only to agencies listed above. See section XI, WD Circular 307, 1944.

25-75306-1875

6 WRA SF PBA 11-30-44 1250P

370 SF SU 11-30-44 122P

16 SU HT MT 11-30-44

R B COZZENS AREA SUPVR WRA SF

Service Survey

Pat: 273/261

FOLLOWING TABULATION ON NISEI IN ARMED SERVICE FOLLOWS----

INDUCTED FROM CENTER NUMBER OF FAMILIES 286, NUMBER OF PERSMNS IN FAMILIES 858, NUMBER OF SERVICEMEN 313. INDUCTED PRIOR TO EVACUATION NUMBER OF FAMILIES 253, NUMBER OF PERSONS IN FAMILIES 759, NUMBER OF SERVICEMEN 258. NO FIGURES AVAILABLE FOR THOSE INDUCTED SUBSEQUENT TO RELOCATION.

GUY ROBERTSON PROJ DIR

286 858 313 253 258 759

AVM 124P

TG 101P

COPY

Hunter

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Washington

May 17, 1943

MEMORANDUM

TO: Relocation Supervisors

Subject: Special Relocation Efforts for Volunteers for Japanese-American Combat Unit not Accepted because of Age, Lack of United States Citizenship, or Physical Reasons.

Reference is made to the Director's memorandum of April 28 on Army volunteers, the Director's memorandum of May 8, 1943 to Project Directors on the subject of "Issuance of indefinite leave to evacuees to go to specified localities on request of relocation officers prior to definite job offers" and Mr. Holland's memorandum to Relocation Supervisors of May 6, 1943 on the same subject.

It is suggested that whenever possible you request these Army volunteers not accepted for military service to come to a designated relocation office to secure employment with your assistance.

(signed) Donald R. Sabin
Donald R. Sabin
Acting Chief
Employment Division

cc Project Directors