

G-A
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If The Evacuees Return To The
West Coast

Both Army and Navy spokesmen have stated that all danger of Japanese invasion has passed. Since that danger was the main factor in the "military necessity" on account of which the evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry was ordered by the Army, the exclusion may be ended whenever the War Department deems it wise. That it will be ended during the war is highly probable.

As President Sproul said at Los Angeles on June 29, 1944:

"When the Army decides that the time has come to take that step, and issues a proclamation as clear as the original orders for the evacuation, the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play (of which Dr. Sproul is Honorary Chairman) will once again cooperate to the limit with the military authorities and the War Department and it believes that every patriot who prizes his own civil liberties should do the same."

What will such cooperation demand of individual citizens? Chiefly such actions as these:

- 1) Making emphatic declarations of support of the War Department's proclamation by speaking to friends and neighbors, by writing letters to the local papers, and by distributing such printed matter as is listed at the bottom of this sheet.
- 2) Cooperating with local groups that are trying to ensure friendly treatment and jobs for such evacuees as may return.

When the Army lifts the bars probably only a limited number of evacuees will return. Many of them, especially the Nisei, are intending to remain East of the Sierras, where they have found congenial work and homes. Caucasian friends are encouraging them in this intention. Furthermore, for a while, only specified groups of evacuees, such as relatives of the 12,000 Nisei in the armed forces, including the Women's Army Corps, and the Nurses and Nurses Cadet Corps, may be allowed to return. Those who do return will probably be confronted with few, if any, legal barriers. The worst barriers will be attempted social and economic boycotts, in certain communities. Against such attempts, every right-minded patriot will fight in the spirit of Dr. Sproul's declaration:

"The right of loyal Japanese to come back if they so elect, cannot be denied without a denial of all that America has hitherto meant to racial and religious minorities, of all that it has symbolized for the hopes of humanity. The dream of America will be over when the color of men's skins or other physical characteristics determine the communities in which they may live!"

* * * *

- Some available pamphlets:
1. The Test of A Free Country (speech by Dr. Sproul)
 2. American Fighting Men Speak Out
 3. Ben Kuroki's Story
 4. Yori Wada's Beyond the Horizon
 5. A Balance Sheet on Japanese Evacuation

Prices for pamphlets 2, 3, 4 and 5.

single copy	\$.10
12 copies	1.00
25 copies	1.75
100 copies	6.00

Prices for pamphlet 1.

sample copy	free
10 copies	\$.50
25 copies	1.00
50 copies	1.75
100 copies	3.00

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play
2234 Telegraph Ave. 1732 Kelton Ave.
Berkeley 4, Calif. Los Angeles, Calif.

Sept. 1, 1944

August 18 1943

Dear Committee Member:

The six months which have elapsed since the organization of the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play have seen important changes in the outlook of persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States. Since February, 1943 when the War Department announced the formation of a Combat Unit made up solely of Japanese Americans, the federal government went on record as being determined to recognize the rights and obligations of its citizens, regardless of race or ancestry.

Since that time, the policy of the government, as developed by the War Relocation Authority, with the knowledge and approval of the War Department and the Department of Justice has been directed toward the return to normal communities of as many evacuees as possible. More emphasis is being made on the fact that the original evacuation order did not imply a general guilt, and that it was not intended that all evacuees should be held for the duration of the war.

With the development of the government policy has come wave after wave of hysterical and concentrated hate campaigning on the West Coast. There are still groups in California urging deportation of all Japanese aliens (law abiding as well as those guilty of subversive activities) others which go so far as to advocate the deportation of all persons of Japanese ancestry, including those who are citizens of the United States. The leaders of these groups cannot but be aware of the constitutional barriers to such moves, but all of the feeling whipped up in the campaigns can be channelled toward a milder form of discrimination (no more Constitutional) i.e. the permanent exclusion of persons of Japanese ancestry from the Coastal states.

The Committee on American Principles and Fair Play feels that the policy of resettlement, as directed by Dillon S. Myer, of the War Relocation Authority is based upon principles of fairness and far-sightedness. We have had several conferences with Mr. Myer during the past two weeks and are confident that the progress of the federal program will continue.

We are, however, greatly concerned about tendencies here in California which might eventuate in ill considered and pre judicial legislative action. Such action might not only work great injustices, but would place California in the unenviable position of going on record as supporting measures clearly in opposition to our war aims as expressed in the "Four Freedoms". We are confident that clear thinking can avoid such ill considered action.

During the latest State Legislative session, there were many pieces of legislation brought before the Senate and the Assembly which were discriminatory against persons of Japanese ancestry. Most of them did not get out of Committee. Of those that did, all of the four passed with but one or two dissenting votes. We have compiled the results feeling that our members should know how their representatives voted.

Your representatives voted as follows: (see key to Bill No.):

Favoring Bills Opposing Bills Absent

Senator _____

Assemblyman _____

We feel that personal calls, or at least personal letters, should be addressed to each legislator, expressing approval or disapproval of the vote as tabulated.

It is difficult to report accurately on our program as it was developed. Report of facts and figures cannot paint the entire picture, but to ignore them would remove evidence of much worthwhile activity. We have sent out between 25,000 and 30,000 copies of the small pamphlet endorsing the present policies of the government relating to the resettlement program. The Pasadena Branch has sent out 10,000 reprints of the Harper's article of June 1943. We are using 2,000 copies of the Rowell editorial of June 14th (enclosed) and will soon send to each member a set of valuable statements just released by the War Relocation Authority.

Regional offices are in the process of being opened in Los Angeles and in the Northwest. Student groups are being reached and are becoming vocal. We have sent excellent editorials from the Daily Californian (University of California) to the editors of all College and University papers in the Middle West and East where Japanese Americans have been accepted as students. As I said before, this cannot be a full report, as much of the value of our work lies in the realm of intangibility. We hope that it will be turned into results far more tangible.

We are enclosing several items of interest:

- 1.) A digest of the Bills and Resolutions passed by the California State Legislature.
- 2.) Reprint of the Chester Rowell editorial.
- 3.) Pamphlet "A Voice that Must Be Heard".
- 4.) List of our Advisory Board and Executive Committee members.

In addition to this may we suggest that during the present Congressional recess all of our members and friends make personal calls when possible, and write regularly to their Congressional representatives. We should urge that in future deliberations and actions, representatives of the West Coast consider the solution of problems concerning persons of Japanese ancestry in relation to the basic principles upon which the United States, as a liberty loving nation, stands firm.

We urge that they recognize the present situation as being temporary, and that the final solution must be in accord with our traditional Constitutional guarantees, guarantees which hold for all law-abiding persons regardless of race, creed or color.

We appreciate your interest and cooperation. Much more will be needed before men of good will shall have brought about a truer appreciation of the values which must be maintained if we are to remain a unified nation.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman
(Executive Secretary)

Chester Rowell

Much Hysteria About Japanese-Americans

FAIR
PLAY

There are certain in part personal reasons why I find myself in accord with the tactful and at the same time firm letter of Assistant Secretary of War John J. McCloy to the Downtown Association of San Francisco, officially confirming the policy of the War Department toward the question of the limited temporary leave of certain American soldiers of Japanese descent to attend to their affairs in California, and also of certain distress cases of mixed marriages in which one spouse is compelled to leave for other parts of the country while the other, for family reasons, must remain here.

For the same reasons, I find myself in personal disagreement with the attitude of certain California Congressmen and civic bodies in this question, to the extent that they vary from the War Department policy, as stated by Mr. McCloy, and even to the same extent with the milder and naturally much more intelligent statement of Governor Warren, accepting some of the conclusions of these objectors.

The personal part of the reason is that, some months ago, at his request, I gave my views to Assistant Secretary McCloy, in two long conversations in his office in Washington, and the policies I then earnestly urged were precisely those now officially announced by him as the position of the War Department. Naturally, Mr. McCloy then avoided an express official commitment, but I am frankly not surprised to find it confirmed now as the formal policy of the department.

Mr. McCloy is exceedingly considerate and tactful on all the personal aspects of the situation. The War Department had accepted the position of the military officers in charge that all persons of Japanese race should be physically evacuated from this military

district, regardless of citizenship or loyalty, and the Assistant Secretary renders high tribute, in which we all join, for the efficiency and consideration with which General DeWitt administered the evacuation. The administration of the camps is now in civilian hands, and the War Department gives no indication of yielding to the agitation to take over this responsibility or of altering the policy of carefully safeguarded releases of as many of these evacuees as is safely possible for private employment outside this military district wherever such Japanese are locally desired.

However, the department does insist that loyal American citizens of Japanese descent who have enlisted in the Army of the United States and are wearing its uniform shall be treated in the same way as American soldiers of German, Italian or Allied or Chinese descent. If there are civilians who raise the question of possible mob violence against such soldiers, the expectation is evidently that local and State authorities shall enforce order on their own citizens. But there is the clear implication that if it should be anywhere necessary for other American soldiers to protect these American soldiers, they will do so. There will, naturally, be no needless provocation to this situation by wholesale stationing or furloughing of these soldiers in excited localities.

So far as we have heard, there has been little or no indication of any such local excitement, in localities confronted with the actual situation. There were Japanese soldiers in uniform reported in Salinas, for instance, doubtless on what the Army authorities regarded as legitimate business. If there was any hostile reaction, there has been no word of it. Yet Salinas was once the seat of excitement, going to the length of

armed violence, on matters of labor, race and alleged Communist activities. But the point is that Salinas has learned by experience. It tried one sort of lawlessness against another form of lawlessness, and found them both evil. Now there is no more intelligent understanding anywhere of the just rights of all sides and of their common interest in the peace and prosperity of the community. The result, there and doubtless in most other enlightened American communities, is the use of common sense on problems admittedly as easily confused as this.

The agitation comes from the top. There is, for instance, a branch of the Dies committee in California ostensibly "investigating" possible Japanese sabotage, on "testimony" of which, so far, not one word would even be admitted or heard by any judicial or quasi-judicial body in existence. If there are any real situations calling for investigation, it should be conducted by persons of more rational mental processes.

Likewise there are agitations that are pure hysteria, ignoring the facts, the law and the constitution of the United States. There is the contention, already turned down unanimously by every Judge and court to which it was presented, that native-born citizens of Japanese ancestry are not citizens. There is the movement to deny them, after the war, the right constitutionally guaranteed to all other citizens, to live where they please. There is even the proposal to amend the constitution to nullify the citizenship of all persons of Japanese race, while retaining it for all others. And there is the assumption that, while Americans of German descent are in no wise responsible for the monstrosities of Hitler, those of Japanese race are responsible for the outrages of Tojo.

Hysterical nonsense, all!

Key to Legislation of the State of California
Concerning the American-Japanese
(fifty-fifth session)

1. SENATE BILL NO. 94:
limits the issuing of fishing licenses to those persons who are, or who are eligible to become citizens of the United States.
(This would affect persons of Hindu, Japanese and Chinese ancestry.)
2. ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 1881:
authorizes disciplinary proceedings against employees (on forced leaves of absence) who claim citizenship in a foreign country; hold dual citizenship; pledge allegiance to an enemy country; act disloyally and disrespectfully to the United States or its flag; or do anything to impede the war effort.
(An obstacle is thus placed on the recovery of salaries by persons employed by the state who were evacuated.)
3. SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 3:
memorializes Congress, asking that they initiate the proper action and legislation to remove United States citizenship from all those persons holding a dual citizenship in any other country. The resolution also asks that United States citizenship not be allowed to anyone holding such a dual citizenship.
(This resolution would include many countries in addition to Japan, such as Switzerland, Italy, Russia, and others.)
4. SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 122:
authorizes the appointment of a Senate Fact-Finding Committee on Japanese Resettlement which shall investigate, ascertain, and appraise all facts concerning the return of Japanese people to the state after the termination of the war. The formation of this committee was felt to be necessary because:
"Japanese people resident in the State of California have proved to be a serious menace to the peace and safety of the people of the state and of the United States as a whole....."
"the return of the Japanese people to the State after termination of the war may conceivably constitute a serious menace to the peace and safety of the people of the state in subsequent years."

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PACIFIC COAST COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN PRINCIPLES AND FAIR PLAY

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President, Pacific School of Religion
Vice-Chairman: Dr. Irving F. Reichert
Jewish Rabbi
Vice-Chairman: Dr. Paul S. Taylor
University of California

Treasurer: Mr. Harry S. Scott
Businessman
Ass't. Treas.: Mr. Galen Fisher
Inst. of Pacific Relations
Executive Secretary:
Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman

Mrs. Wallace Alexander
Bd. of Directors, Oakland Red Cross
Miss Leila Anderson
General Secretary: University YWCA
Dr. Monroe E. Deutsch
Vice-President and Provost
of the University of
California

Mrs. Ruth M. Fisher
Vice-President of the
Student Body of the Univer-
sity of California (1942-3)
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past President, State C. of C.
Mr. John T. Wagner
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President, S.F. C.I.O. Council

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noted Criminologist
Father Edward J. Whelan
Catholic Church
Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur
Chancellor, Stanford Univ.
Mr. C.C. Young
former Governor, California

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Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman
(Executive Secretary)

Memorandum to Colonel W. L. Magill, Jr.

Provost Marshal and Director of Evacuation

Committee: Galen M. Fisher, Member of the National Council of the Y. M. C. A. and President of the Board of Trustees of the Pacific School of Religion; Gordon Chapman, Superintendent of Presbyterian Japanese Missions; C. A. Richardson, Board of Missions of the Methodist Church, New York; G. Doubleday, American Friends' Service Committee; F. H. Smith, Superintendent of the Pacific Japanese Conference of the Methodist Church and Pacific Coast representative of the Home Missions Council of North America.

Berkeley, Cal, Mar. 1, 1942

General Purpose.

Our general purpose is to be of any assistance possible to the Western Defence Command in the execution of whatever measures of evacuation may ultimately be deemed necessary after full consideration of all the factors involved. Our primary competence is in connection only with the Japanese residents on the Pacific Coast.

- I. We offer the facilities and staffs of our Protestant Churches to aid in sifting the loyal from the disloyal among the Japanese by means of Hearing Boards set up by the Army. Specifically we offer 80 church buildings and capable interpreters. We can furnish 20 white men, 10 white women and 300 or more citizens of Japanese parentage. These persons can assist the evacuees during the period of preparation for removal, and in the various localities to which the evacuees may go, and on the journey thither. Many of the alien Japanese do not readily understand English, so that the aid of Americans who speak their language, and who understand the instructions laid down by the Army, should greatly help to prevent friction and mistakes. We believe these Hearing Boards might well consist of one Army officer and two reputable civilians. In examining the aliens one of the civilians might be a person well acquainted with the Japanese language and character. In the case of the American-born one of the Board might be a local school teacher as they know these Japanese-Americans better than any other white American. We believe that 80 or 100 such Boards should handle the whole of the Japanese population on the Coast in a few weeks.

In this connection it may be pertinent to observe that many of the alien Japanese would have long before this have become citizens had we allowed them the privilege of naturalization. We believe they are not likely to resent evacuation, provided it is well planned and considerately executed. But the citizens of Japanese ancestry are likely to feel deeply resentful if they, as full-fledged American citizens are evacuated as a whole, because of their racial connection. On the other hand, they will as a rule, cheerfully abide by the findings of the authorities if evacuation or internment is based on impartial investigation such as the F. B. I., supplemented by Hearing Boards would carry out. The indiscriminate evacuation of "Nisei" is almost certain to drive some of them into disloyalty during the war, and into trouble-making after the war. It would also go far to justify the claim of the Japanese Government propaganda that Japan is the protector of the colored races against the intolerance and discrimination of America and England.

II. We offer our assistance in the care of those who must be moved from danger zones, Our churches and pastors have played a large part in caring for the Japanese already evacuated from Alameda, Watsonville, Monterey and Terminal Island. We suggest the following definite places:

Mr. Doubleday, A. F. S. C. Owens Valley.

(As a committee we know nothing of the merits of this place.)

Mr. Fisher, the so-called Korematsu plan.

This embraces 60,000 acres of Sante Fe land near Albuquerque, N. M.

Mr. Chapman, Presbyterian churches.

Gilroy Hot Springs, 50 aged or invalid persons

Hanford, 10 families and 50 workers (agricultural)

Cortez, " " " "

Dr. Smith, Methodist churches.

Livingston, 10 families and 50 workers " "

Fresno, " " " 250 " " "

Dinuba, Orosi, 50 " " " 200 " " (Gov. Help)

Delano, 20 " " " 250 " " "

Bakersfield 10 " " " 20 " " "

Niland 50 " " " 200 " " (Gov. Help)

Mesa, Ariz. 10 " " " 50 " " "

Loomis, Cal. 10 " " " 50 " " "

Newcastle 10 " " " 50 " " "

Marysville	10	families	and	50	workers	(agricultural)
Sonoma Co.	20	" "	"	50	"	" "
Hood R., Ore.	20	" "	"	50	"	" "
Salem, Ore.	10	" "	"	20	"	" "
Caldwell, Ida	50	" "	"	100	"	" "
Wapato, Wash.	25	" "	"	50	"	" "
Spokane,	20	" "	"	10	"	(railway)

III. If mass evacuation is deemed necessary we offer our personal assistance to keep up morale, to provide religious and moral guidance, and to help in education till the public school system can function. For this service we offer 40 white missionaries, men and women, and 80 Japanese Christian pastors. We are authorized to offer the aid of our inter-denominational Home Missions Council. The National Boards of our various churches can supply several experts in agriculture, education, and community planning who will cooperate with the Federal and State authorities in making adequate plans for settlement. One aspect of their service would be to secure the friendly cooperation of the existing and social agencies in the neighborhood of the new settlements.

IV. General Considerations.

- A. As Christian workers with many years of experience among Japanese both here and abroad we believe that thousands of loyal Japanese can be selected from those resident in the United States. The doubtful and suspicious should be classed with the disloyal.
- B. We believe that a mass evacuation of women, children and the aged is not necessary except from the Class A military zones. It is of course possible for the Army to place the 115,000 Italian, 72,000 German and 33,000 Japanese aliens in California on trains and transport them to a distant place, but the care of the many elderly people would be very difficult, if they are uprooted. Even the small number evacuated from Terminal Island created a great problem in Los Angeles.
- C. Mass evacuation would result in tremendous loss in the quantity of foodstuffs produced in California when we need food as never before. Crops already planted could not be tended. Harold J. Ryan, Los Angeles County agricultural commissioner reports that of the county's 40,000 acres of produce farmlands, the Japanese operate 25,600 acres. Of the 1172 Japanese farmers, 533 are aliens and 619 are citizen Japanese.
- D. Wholesale evacuation would result in great losses to property. Orchards and vineyards which have required years to develop would be greatly damaged in one critical month without care. Chickens and animals would starve. Stocks of perishable goods would rot. Houses by the thousand would stand vacant.

- E. To evacuate Japanese alone would create exceedingly difficult international problems in both Asia and Europe. Discrimination is dynamite. Many white Americans believe that Nazi and Fascist aliens are a greater menace than Japanese.
- F. England has found the licensing or identification card system satisfactory in controlling her aliens. Even Hawaii does not consider mass evacuation.
- G. The morale of our 80,000 Japanese-American citizens would be greatly injured if not completely destroyed. Several thousand have responded gladly to the draft. Parents are proud to have their sons in our Army. It is well to remember too that the hearts of the fathers are with their sons and not with their nephews in the Japanese Army.
- H. We believe that the hysteria for mass evacuation is largely engendered by politicians, by scheming carpet-baggers who hope to profit by forced sales and by thoughtless and irresponsible people of whom California has its full share.
- I. The F. B. I. has already apprehended several thousand alien Japanese and without doubt already has the most dangerous element in detention.
- J. There has been information supplied to American Intelligence Services by the 2nd generation young people to an extent not known to the general public. This can be proved by checking with the proper officials.
- K. "Nisei" in Colleges and Essential Posts.
A considerable number of "Nisei" are studying in the colleges and universities of the Coast. A few others are rendering technical service in the teaching of Japanese to groups of Army and Navy officers, and translating for the office of Coordinator of Information. In the case of the students, it might be possible to arrange with the academic authorities, and with the International House at Berkeley, to exercise such close supervision as would practically eliminate whatever risk of espionage or sabotage might be feared from leaving such groups near the coastal areas. At each college the "Nisei" could be concentrated in one or a few houses, and placed under close restraint.
- L. Preparatory Planning.
The best way to calm the fears of the evacuees and to make them willing cooperators in their evacuation will be for the Army to formulate, and then to announce comprehensive plans for all the major problems involved, such as transportation, custody of property, medical care enroute and afterward, specific areas available for settlement, agricultural and other advisors available, Government loans for development and equipment, housing, allowances for temporary maintenance. We understand that such complex and extensive undertakings will require time to plan, but there is no doubt that if the evacuees were given at the outset assurances that thorough plans are to be made, their anxieties would be allayed, and possible passive resistance would be replaced by cheerful cooperation. Such planning would also go far to put a stop to the extreme demands being made by certain politicians and pressure groups, which threaten to issue in vigilante action unless checked.

SELECTIVE EVAUICATION OF JAPANESE-AMERICAN CITIZENS

Proposals presented to
Lt. Gen. John L. DeWitt and Col. W. L. Magill, Jr., Director of Evacuation

by the
Committee on National Security and Fair Play

260 California Street, Room 311,
San Francisco, California.
March 9, 1942

1. Controlling Principles.

We assume that you are guided by the following principles: The maintenance of national security is the controlling factor in determining execution of the mandate given you by the Secretary of War. If, therefore, either aliens or citizens living in the most vital military areas constitute a military hazard, they should be removed. A secondary, but very important factor is to keep the infringement of the civil rights of citizens to the lowest possible minimum, and to base it on military necessity, not on race or any other consideration.

2. Objective of our Proposals.

We desire to aid you in applying the foregoing principles by suggesting methods of discriminating between those citizens of Japanese parentage (Nisei) who do and do not constitute a military hazard.

3. Alternative Methods.

Method A. Let all Nisei be given the opportunity of being examined as to their loyalty or disloyalty by Hearing Boards in the communities where they now reside. The Appeal Boards of the Selective Service appear to be made to order for this purpose. If the number of Appeal Boards were insufficient, additional similar Boards could be set up through local Councils of Civilian Defense or Boards of Education. The judgment of the Hearing Boards could be made subject to review of whatever authority you might designate. Examinees would appear voluntarily and have the privilege of bringing witnesses.

We urge that the evacuation of Nisei from other than the most vital areas be deferred until after they have been examined. The process could be completed in six weeks at the outside, as shown by this calculation: Assuming that half of the Nisei are minors who would elect to accompany their alien parents, and that 5 or 10 thousand adult Nisei would prefer to be evacuated without examination, the remaining 20 or 25 thousand could be examined within five or six weeks, if each of 100 Boards passed on an average of ten or twelve cases a day.

Method B. If, however, you deem it quite unwise to defer the evacuation of Nisei from all of Military Area No. 1, then let them all be examined at the Reception Camps as soon as possible, and let those who are found to be above suspicion be released. This method seems to us to have two serious drawbacks: (1) the great expense and difficulty involved in setting up competent Boards at distant Camps and in summoning witnesses; and (2) the breaking up of the living arrangements and occupational connections of examinees.

4. Some General Considerations.

The proposed evacuation of the entire group of Nisei, but of no other group of citizens, apparently on the basis of race, is already embittering some of them and making them turn a ready ear to Communist and other subversive ideas. It is also causing acute distress to many white citizens like ourselves who are concerned over every violation of the democratic principles for which we are fighting.

Since the Nisei are full-fledged American citizens by virtue of birth and upbringing in this country, certainly they should be given not less consideration than German and Italian aliens, sympathetic as we are with those among them who are thoroughly loyal to democratic ideals.

Furthermore, the indiscriminate evacuation of Nisei citizens will, in our judgment, weaken rather than strengthen the civic morale, which is an essential element in national security during the war and of national unity after the war.

We are deeply sensible of the weight of responsibility resting upon you, and desire to do all in our power to help you discharge it. Only in that spirit do we venture to lay these proposals before you.

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C. C. Young, Former Governor, State of California
Galen M. Fisher, Secretary, Committee on National Security and Fair Play

EVACUATION PROBLEMS

Resume of Conference with Col. W. L. Magill, Jr., Director of Evacuation, at Presidio, San Francisco, on March 10, 1942, by representatives of Committee on National Security and Fair Play, following up an earlier conference between him and other Government officials and Chairman Henry F. Grady.

Participating were: Monroe E. Deutsch, Alfred J. Lundberg, Chester H. Rowell, Maurice E. Harrison, Jesse H. Steinhart, Galen M. Fisher. Pres. Sproul was detained at the last moment.

A memorandum on "Selective Evacuation of Japanese-American Citizens" had been given in advance to Colonel Magill. He made a careful statement of the Army's policy, and answered questions with courtesy and frankness for an hour. The main conclusions emerging were approximately as follows:

1. No Hearing Boards in advance of evacuation acceptable to Army, for either citizens or alien Japanese. Although no assurances were given that Hearings would be allowed for citizen Japanese at the Reception Centers, we felt that there was a slight chance that they would be, provided we could propose a water-proof plan for impartial and competent Hearing Boards. Dr. Grady has therefore approved making the attempt to do so.
2. Japanese whether citizens or aliens now serving in essential posts, such as in Federal bureaus connected with defense, will be exempt from evacuation if their record is clear. Half Japanese (Eurasians) vouched for by reputable citizens and innocent of suspicious conduct likely to be exempt.
3. Personal property to be protected by the Federal Reserve Bank, as specified in the announcements issued March 11th. Enemy aliens should refrain from sacrificing properties and depend on Federal authorities to advise them.
4. Completion of naturalization of aliens who have taken out second papers has been held up in thousands of cases by congestion of Government bureaus. Army is urging this be corrected at once by engaging more clerks and by prompt Court action. Meanwhile, the Army proposes to allow some leeway of time so that evacuation of such persons may be avoided. Aliens who have taken out only first papers stand no show of being left alone. Refugee Germans and Italians, however distinguished and anti-Nazi, likewise subject to evacuation. (Some members of the Committee felt strenuous efforts should continue to be made to secure exemption for obviously anti-Nazi, anti-Fascist aliens, especially those now serving in colleges.
5. Plans for resettlement being pressed by the Federal agencies and soon should be ready for announcement. Groups of Japanese ready to resettle on their own should go ahead after clearing with the Federal authorities as to site, finances, personnel, etc. Army opposes precipitate action. Many colonies will constitute self-contained communities, utilizing professional as well as agricultural workers.
6. Magill and his associates have spent hours conferring with Japanese-American Citizens League as to taking lead in organizing both first and second generation for resettlement, beginning with an occupational census of colonists.
7. The authorities will welcome aid from the churches and Friends Service Committee. He thanked the Church representatives for offers of help contained in Memo given Magill on March 2nd by Herron Smith, Chapman, Doubleday, Richardson and Fisher, and said he would acknowledge the March 9 letter from Northern California friends.
8. Japanese college students may possibly be allowed to complete present semester but must then be evacuated.

Dr. Robert A. Millikan has accepted appointment as a vice chairman. Galen M. Fisher, Secy.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Consultation on Japanese Resettlement during Eastern Trip in June

by Galen M. Fisher. 7/13/1942

1. War Relocation Authority Division Chiefs in Washington.

Talked at length with Thomas W. Holland, Division of Resettlement Planning, R. I. Kimmel, Division of Industry, John H. Provins, Community Planning, and M. M. Tozier, Asst. to Director of Information.

WRA looks to religious leaders of the country to take the main burden of creating a public opinion that will make it safe to release evacuees for free settlement. Evacuees, other than students, will be released in small numbers as soon as opinion in a state gives the Governor confidence that there is no danger of vigilante violence. WRA will probably allow them to go first only to states east of the Western Defense Command area. It will give precedence to nisei, other than kibei, who have had good records in the Centers and are cleared by Project Directors and the FBI, and who have jobs assured.

Regional headquarters of WRA are being set up at Denver, Colorado, and Little Rock, Arkansas. Regional Directors will investigate prospective employers and adequacy of local sponsors. Local sponsors should clear in advance with public officials and representative agencies, civic, farm, labor, patriotic and social welfare, and also check character of jobs offered and living conditions and be prepared to find new jobs if first jobs peter out.

Mr. Holland did not state through what WRA officer applications or offers of employment should be cleared, but presumably it would be through Mr. Holland's representative in the division of resettlement in each regional headquarters, or through the regional general Director who would refer it to the proper person.

There will be no money available for travel and outfitting of releasees. Either the releasee or his employer or friends must provide the funds.

Holland said 1,400 laborers had gone out in the labor corps, chiefly to sugar beet plantations, and there had been no serious incidents.

Mr. Kimmel expressed eagerness to develop small scale industries, some of them year-round employing persons who cannot do agricultural work, some of them for winter only when farming is slack. Industries would be of three types: to supply war needs directly, war-needs indirectly, and domestic goods. WRA will probably lend capital for equipment in the case of independent colonies that can run industries. Kimmel called in Harry G. Clement, in charge of Program and Reports Division in the Farm Security Administration. Clement and Kimmel showed keen interest in the farm colony established by Fred I. Wada at Keetley, Utah, on the George A. Fisher ranch, and will probably send an investigator to consider equipping the unused school building there as a factory.

Mr. Provins said WRA will stimulate and welcome contacts between evacuees and outside people. Dr. Grace Coyle, ~~wife of Professor Harrison Elliott~~, is adviser on community relations. Already various organizations like the Boy Scouts and 4H Clubs have begun to work inside Relocation Centers. Every effort will be made to create in each Center the natural institutions of a town of 10,000. Obviously this is difficult, since the WRA officials always

stand in the background, and since intercourse and economic exchange with the outside world are restricted, but that is the general ideal. Leadership in every phase of activity will be placed in the hands of evacuees, although lack of trained teachers will necessitate employing four fifths Caucasian teachers in the schools. There will be no censorship of mail.

2. Conference with a Congressional Representative.

This gentleman has kept fully informed of developments and is particularly concerned over two matters, first, that the efforts to disfranchise Japanese shall be defeated. He thinks the Bill presented by Senator Stewart for disfranchisement of Japanese during the war will not pass, being opposed by Secretaries of War, Navy, and Justice. He expressed concern also that Colonel Bendetsen's statement to the effect that nisei had not given information as to disloyal persons to the Intelligence Services should be corrected, since there was ample evidence to the contrary. He suggested no publicity be given to this matter, but that the ample evidence available to the contrary should be presented personally to Colonel Bendetsen.

3. Conference with Messrs. Roswell Barnes and Mark Dawber and a group of executives of Councils of Churches at Conference Point, Wisconsin, July 3.

Substantial agreement was reached along the following lines:

- a) A persistent and long term campaign must be undertaken through national, state and local Protestant organizations in order to create a public opinion favorable to the dispersal of small numbers of Japanese, chiefly nisei, in interior communities.
- b) Field representatives appointed jointly by interdenominational and denominational agencies should be secured to spend several months visiting Church and community leaders in hundreds of communities across the country, chiefly west of the Alleghenies and east of the Rockies. The services of regular denominational district representatives (secretaries, superintendents, bishops, etc.) should be fully utilized.
- c) Special pamphlets, circulars, releases and articles, and interviews in newspapers must be systematically utilized. Many influential publications are issued on Atlantic seaboard and must be properly covered. Denominational papers should be systematically supplied with pertinent articles and news items.
- d) A pronouncement regarding the issues involved in Japanese evacuation and resettlement should be issued with the support of about a hundred nationally known religious and civic leaders. Fisher was asked to make a first draft which he will send to Barnes and Dawber. Pearl Buck was suggested as a good person to write the final draft.
- e) Funds for this campaign will have to be supplied chiefly from denominational treasuries. Already Presbyterians and Baptists have made liberal appropriations. Other denominations will doubtless follow suit. If they allocate several thousand dollars each to a common interdenominational fund, the campaign can be most effectively conducted.
- f) Available pamphlet material favorably mentioned was as follows: TOUCHSTONE

May 17, 1942

OF DEMOCRACY issued by the Council for Social Action, 289-4th Ave., N.Y.C., 10¢ a copy, 6¢ a copy for 100 or more; THE JAPANESE IN OUR MIDST, available at Colorado Council of Churches, Mack Building, Denver, Colo., 25 for \$1., 100 for \$3., 500 for \$7.50; PUBLIC AFFAIRS NEWS SERVICE, (Y.W.C.A.) Woman's Press, 600 Lexington Ave., N.Y.C., 15 ¢. Pacific Citizen, the J.A.C.L. organ, Beason Bldg., Salt Lake City, Utah, has reprinted from the Christian Century of April 1 the article by Fisher, OUR JAPANESE REFUGEES. Unfortunately several words have been omitted in paragraph 1, but otherwise it is substantially correct. Copies available at cost of postage by applying to Galen Fisher at 260 California Street, Room 311, San Francisco, California.

4. Miscellaneous interviews.

Several persons interviewed, editors, jurists, religious leaders, urged that we continue to press for hearings for Japanese evacuees, and for Germans and Italians. On the other hand, a leading liberal jurist in Washington said civilian hearing boards for evacuees in California would probably be anti-Japanese in enough cases to queer the results, since their bias would lead them to fasten the suspicion of disloyalty rather than to remove it from a considerable number. The question was raised by a Quaker whether it was not unsound to urge hearings while ignoring the illegality of the Executive Order authorizing the evacuation. Norman Thomas said he was writing a special pamphlet on the evacuation and asked for reference material. Clarence Pickett and Reed Carey were interested in the campaign to make dispersed settlement possible, and thought the Keetley Colony might be a good precedent for a number of small group settlements. Roger Baldwin of A.C.L.U. discussed the significant legal cases bearing on the evacuation and on the citizenship of nisei that are now before the courts, and that deserve vigorous support.

The June number of the National Council Bulletin of the Y.M.C.A. printed Fisher's THE BOTTLENECK IN JAPANESE RESETTLEMENT and urged all Associations to cooperate in finding jobs and sponsoring the placement of evacuees.

5. Dr. Clarence Gillett and Dr. Wynn Fairfield cooperated effectively with me at the General Council of Congregational Churches at Durham in securing unanimous approval of resolutions on The Japanese Evacuation and National Policy, and in preparing the way for cooperation of Congregational Church leaders in resettlement.

6. Keetley Colony, *Utah - headed by Fred J. Wada (in Los Angeles since return in 1945)*

I visited this colony both going east and returning, and found it had been unexpectedly successful in disarming suspicion and winning friends. Dozens of farmers in the neighborhood have begged the colony leader, Wada, to supply them with labor on shares or on wages, and to secure more colonists to develop large areas of irrigable land. I have written an article covering the story of the colony, largely in Wada's own words, which may be published in a few weeks.

August 21, 1942

FAIR PLAY FOR THE JAPANESE EVACUEES

Note: Dr. Monroe Deutsch recently invited me and a few others to discuss a long-range program for dealing with the resettlement and reincorporation of Japanese evacuees with Mr. Ward Shepard, Planning Adviser of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, now on the staff at Poston Relocation Project. The result was this memorandum, drafted by Mr. Shepard, with minor emendations. Its main proposal is that our Committee on National Security and Fair Play should be converted into a nationwide body, with paid staff and vigorous program.

Galen M. Fisher, Secretary.

The evacuation of 100,000 citizens and residents of Japanese ancestry foreshadows one of the gravest moral conflicts in our history. It will be the conflict between enlightenment and obscurantism, between tolerance and hatred, between democracy and nascent fascism. This conflict will sharpen as the war goes on and will reach its height when we begin realistically to seek answers to the question, What is to be done with the Japanese-Americans after the war?

Reactionary forces are already clamoring for "solutions" ranging all the way from deportation to segregation. These forces are organized and vocal, and by the use of clamor, fear, and terrorism, will seek to impose their will on America. They can and will do this unless the abundant forces of good-will, friendliness, and tolerance are summoned into action.

It is a fallacy to suppose that the Government can work out a happy solution of this minority problem without the support of enlightened public opinion. If the only organized and vocal public opinion is on the reactionary side, Government policy will inevitably veer in that direction or be warped out of its course. If, on the contrary, the forces of good-will should be organized and directed, they can not only rout the enemy but give positive help and guidance to the Government. In a crucial battle involving the very essence of democracy, it is not enough for the people to hand over their responsibility to officials; they must range themselves in the front line.

There is urgent need for the immediate formation of a national committee on tolerance and fair play to assist in making the present plight of the evacuees as tolerable as possible and to assist the Government in working out a constructive permanent solution of this minority problem.

Such a committee should be composed of outstanding men and women from the entire country and so distributed that every section will have a representative. The members should be people who command public confidence and who personally have a burning zeal for liberty and justice. A committee composed merely of official representatives of organized groups might lack both the enterprise and the courage to fight a hazardous battle. Nevertheless, a group selected purely for the personal qualities of its members can and should be representative of the main community groupings, including the universities and churches, agriculture, labor, industry, the press, the bar, and women's organizations, and could also well include outstanding Governors and Congressmen.

The main functions of such a committee can be elaborated under four heads:

(1) Public Education.--The citizens who constitute the majority of the evacuees are confused and humiliated by their forced detention in a democratic country and in the midst of a war for democracy whose burdens they claim the right to share. They deeply resent the unjust suspicion directed at them and feel they have been judged without a trial. At the same time the people as a whole have been misled into an attitude of unwarranted suspicion which, unless removed, will block a rational post-war solution.

As a matter of fact, a strong case can be made that the decision for evacuation was primarily motivated by the need to protect the good name of America against violent racial outbreaks. Otherwise, the entirely contrary policy adopted toward the Japanese residents of Hawaii does not make sense. This fact--if it is a fact--should have a sobering effect on our entire people, including the extremist groups. In any event, there is urgent need for an educational program that will fearlessly present the profound moral, political, and social issues created by the evacuation--issues that are of the order of magnitude of those raised by the Dred Scott decision. The committee should cooperate with the American Civil Liberties Union and similar agencies that are concerned with the legal and constitutional rights of the evacuees.

There is a tendency even among "good" people to shrug their shoulders and wash their hands of the whole business. After all, it is a fait accompli and we must get on with the war. This apathy is aided and abetted by much of the publicity that has been given to the camps, which are picture as a cross between Utopia and a Sunday School picnic. The public must be prodded out of this apathy. Even with the most humane administration, evacuation, unless rapidly transformed into resettlement, is likely to end in the permanent embitterment and moral disintegration of most of its victims. This leads to the second main function of the proposed committee.

(2) Reestablishing Normal Living.--The basic policy of the War Relocation Authority is to get the people out of the relocation centers as rapidly as possible. This means resettling small groups in agriculture and industry, under some type of local and probably non-official sponsorship. Obviously, however, this resettlement can make progress only as public suspicion and hostility are allayed. The proposed national committee, with its regional members as local foci for rallying the support of fair-minded people, would perform an indispensable function in the resettlement program. It could lead the fight against reactionary groups and strengthen the hands of officials who might waver before such groups. And there are many aspects of ameliorating living conditions within the centers--such as reestablishing family life and raising funds for adult education--on which such a committee could have a very helpful influence.

(3) The Post-War Problem.--The most important function of such a committee would be the elaboration of a complete and integrated post-war policy of assimilation. Indeed, the immediate resettlement program could and should be worked out as the major step toward the post-war solution. It should be worked out with the necessary deliberation to insure its being an integral part of the permanent solution rather than a temporary makeshift.

In so crucial an issue, with its enormous implications for civil liberty, it is dangerous to leave policy-making exclusively to Government, especially when Government is under pressure of groups that have a vested interest in hate. And it would be fatal strategy to delay the formulation of policy until the end of the war, when it would become the football of violent, emotional factionalism. If he is thrice armed who hath his quarrel just, it is equally true that the battle is half won if it is launched with the strategy fully thought out. The proposed committee, armed with an integrated and articulated program of enlightened action, would find its adversaries divided and confused by their various extremism.

(4) The Raising of Funds.--The committee would obviously need a full-time executive staff and possibly also an investigative staff. In addition to financing its own operation, it should also undertake the raising of funds for urgent needs that the Government is inadequately meeting or not meeting at all. The outstanding need is for adult education, including college students who will be unable to go to college. Adult education of a mature type, such as is now being developed at Poston through the seminar discussion method, can be made a most important means for equipping the Japanese for an intelligent role in the solution of their minority problem. There is urgent need for funds for books, magazines, and laboratory equipment, and to pay the travel expenses of visiting professors and lecturers. There is need for recreational materials--athletic equipment, movies, musical instruments, art and crafts materials, costumes for actors, and the like. Such projects will appeal strongly to the generosity of Americans when they realize that the Government is making wholly inadequate provision for them.

It is clear that the work of the proposed committee could be a profoundly significant contribution not merely to the Japanese evacuees, but to the cause of all racial minorities in America and to the strengthening of our civil rights for all time to come. Our self-respect and the judgment of history are deeply involved in the evacuation. The cleansing of our national conscience can not safely wait until the war is won. In the war for democracy, our own internal democracy must be reaffirmed and enlarged. The evacuation can and should be transformed into a reaffirmation and an enlargement of our practice of democracy.

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PACIFIC COAST

Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

Headquarters: Room 203, 465 California Street, San Francisco

July 22, 1943

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Memorandum on Financing Executives of Southern California
and Northwestern Fair Play Affiliated Committees

1. Basis

It is assumed that for effective functioning each of these Committees will require a capable half-time secretary, whose salary would be about \$100. a month, and that other expenses would amount to about \$75. a month. For the six months' testing period, the total would therefore be approximately \$1050.

2. Quotas

It is proposed that the Central Committee treasury contribute toward these budgets \$600. for the Northwestern and \$400. for the Southern California committees respectively, the difference representing roughly the present probable capacity of the supporters in each region, namely \$450. in the Northwest, and \$650. in Southern California.

It is understood that this arrangement would not affect the regular obligation of all affiliated committees to contribute reasonable amounts to the Central Treasury. Since the Pasadena Committee has already made a generous contribution, it would not be expected to send any further contribution to the Central Treasury until next year.

3. Contribution of Central Staff and Facilities

The Executive Secretary of the central Committee would give constant counsel and aid to the affiliated committee secretaries, and would expect to visit each ~~of them~~ ^{region} occasionally. All central committee releases would be sent directly to all members of the affiliated committees, and in addition, materials for special publicity and answers to local questions would be supplied, through the close contact of the central staff and ~~Executive~~ Committee with Government and other authorities.

4. Autonomy

Since each affiliated Committee is autonomous, ~~it would appoint its own secretary, but~~ ^{each of the regions} it would presumably take counsel ~~on this and other mat-~~ ^{of this and other mat-} ters of importance with the central staff and officers.

(This Memorandum drafted by the Asst. Treasurer, ^{and} approved by the Treasurer, the Chairman of the Executive Committee and the Executive Secretary.)
"... Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry."—Franklin D. Roosevelt, February 1, 1943

[944]

Memo on General Program of
Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles
and Fair Play
with emphasis upon:

Program for Mobilization of support for War Department, in event of relaxation of present measures excluding law-abiding persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast.

1. Personal interviews of leaders in key cities by staff members
2. Series of Conferences (12 - 14) in California and Northwest.
3. Follow up program integrating our specific program with those of other groups working in field of minorities.

The program of the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play for the year July 1, 1944 to July 1, 1945 will probably be carried on within two distinct periods of time, one following the other, and differing in character from the first. This first period, roughly defined, will include the months previous to any modification of military orders now excluding persons of Japanese ancestry from the Pacific Coast. The second period will follow such modification. The length of the first period will depend entirely upon the War Department. The length of the second period will be largely determined by the vigor with which we carry out the first part of the program.

Since the War Department ordered the evacuation, the War Department should and almost certainly will, rescind it while the matter is still within their jurisdiction: i.e., before the end of the war. No sudden mass return of evacuees is likely. On the contrary, a majority of the 22,000 evacuees who have already resettled east of the Sierras are planning to stay there, and many others will do likewise. The legal right of all to return will doubtless be assured by the Federal courts, in case either State or local governing bodies attempt to debar them. But the practical question is this: will there be a social and economic boycott against returning evacuees sufficiently strong to prevent them from earning a living or dwelling in safety. The answer is: just such a boycott will probably confront them in many communities, unless the tide of contempt and hatred against all evacuees is turned into a tide of constitutional liberty and tolerance.

This is the task before us. There are, here on the Coast, (and even in the Middlewest and in the East) organizations and individuals who are eager to work with us. Many of them have come to accept our suggestions as to program, and to rely upon us for informative materials.

In order that there might be a full mobilization of available support for the War Department when it announces a liberalization of its policy, we are planning a concentrated drive to gain that support.

This drive will constitute the first part of the year's program, and will, itself fall into two natural time units. First, a period of from two to three months' concentrated effort on the part of an enlarged staff, in which they will go into each of the key areas of California, (and to a much less degree into Washington and Oregon) to secure support.

As has been our policy in the past, we expect to continue to work through existing organizations when possible, taking full advantage of their exper-

ience and contacts in their communities, thus avoiding duplication of effort on our part, and contributing program direction and educational material for the local groups.

Thus, staff persons -- spending time in conference with leaders in local clubs, welfare, church, educational, patriotic, industrial and labor organizations will be able to set into motion a pattern of thinking and action which can avoid much hysteria that might be aroused by the presence in a community of a few persons of Japanese ancestry.

Staff necessary for development of program:

1. Executive Secretary for Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play.
2. Staff Assistant for same (full time)
3. Executive Secretary for Southern California (half or full time if possible)
4. Staff Assistant for same (full time)
5. Office secretary in Executive Office in Berkeley (full time)
6. Typist-clerk in Executive Office in Berkeley (full time)
7. Public Relations member of staff, to work with Executive Secretaries and their Assistants and to prepare material selected for release (part time)

Careful preparation will be made so that the proper contacts are available and the itineraries of the staff workers will be tightly scheduled. A proposed plan for covering a typical area, together with suggested method is as follows:

<u>one week</u>	Red Bluff		
	Redding	
	Chico	
<u>one week</u>	Santa Rosa	SACRAMENTO (headquarters for one month
		<u>one week</u> for one person)
<u>one week</u>	Stockton	
	Tracy	

It is not contemplated that organized or organizational meetings will be held. Methods of getting materials and information out into the surrounding communities through leaders conferred with, will be the aim, together with the development of sufficient conviction and enthusiasm to assure a carryover into the critical period of evacuee return.

An intensive development of this program by the Executive Secretary, Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman, and the Secretary in Los Angeles, Mrs. Katharine Kaplan assisted by two additional persons, one assigned to Mrs. Kingman, and one to Mrs. Kaplan, should cover the state of California. One or two part time staff persons in the Northwest will be able to carry on as much of the program there as is necessary. While the Northwest is important in this field of activity, it is quite clear that the focal point is California, and that the citizens of Washington and Oregon will almost certainly follow California in attitude and conduct toward persons of Japanese ancestry returning to their former homes.

As a follow up of this intensive mobilization of support throughout the state, we look forward to a relatively simple procedure in organizing and conducting a series of conferences, in twelve or more critical areas, after any change in policy is announced, and before any return of evacuees is effected.

As preliminary preparations will have been made by the staff workers, while covering their assigned areas, the actual drawing together of local leaders to discuss ways and means, and more important, to publicly announce interest and concern for a decent and orderly approach to the inevitable problems which will arise, will be a simple follow up process.

These conferences, short and concise in program will be made up of a single dinner, and after dinner meeting, with outstanding speakers and carefully channelled discussions.

The conclusion of this series of conferences will mark the transition into the second part of the year's program, one which will require careful planning and even more careful execution.

The latter part of the year will be spent on efforts to firmly establish the rights of the returning evacuees, to normal life: many and varied problems peculiar to local conditions will have to be met by a flexible approach.

Of this we are certain. The status of any one minority is irretrievably related to all minorities. There are many able groups and individuals here on the Pacific Coast and elsewhere who have made the problems of minorities their chief concern. Some have maintained a warm and active interest in the thousands of Americans of Japanese ancestry during these past bitter years. More have allowed problems of a less vicious controversial nature take first place in their overcrowded schedules and budgets.

One of the most important things we must do is to gain recognition of the rights of law-abiding persons of Japanese ancestry, recognition and membership in any Inter-Racial post war or social planning group in California.

We have occasionally, in the past, been criticized for concentrating our efforts in behalf of law-abiding persons of Japanese ancestry. We look forward to the day when that concentration of effort will not be necessary, when members of this, one of our smallest racial minorities, will receive friendly recognition by all groups working in the field of minority problems.

When that day comes, our immediate task will be done, and we can turn our keen interest and strong support toward the development of proper attitudes and conduct among men of all races.

Memo on General Program of
Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles
and Fair Play
with emphasis upon:

[1944]

*Correspondence
Aug 25 44*

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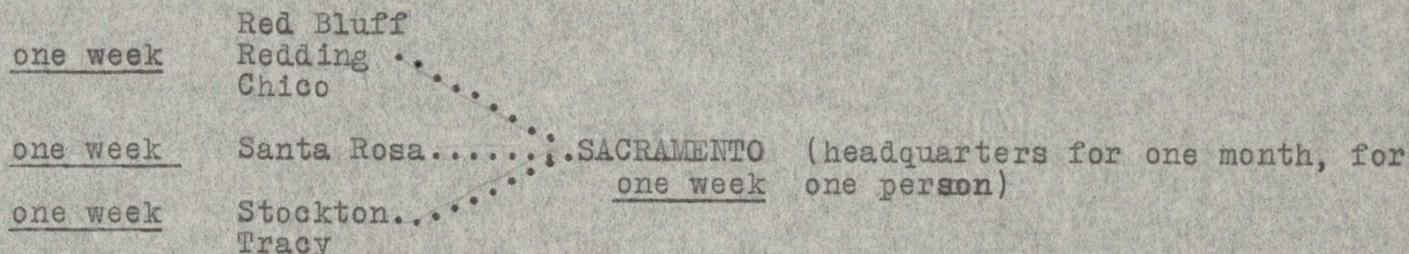
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Plans for Fostering Community
Cooperation on Behalf of Evacuees

1. Time: September, October and November 1944
2. Program: the main effort would be directed toward enlisting influential individuals and groups who would a) take a positive stand for constitutional rights for the evacuees, and b) would exert themselves quietly to recruit others to do the same, and c) would undertake to get lists of residents who will agree to employ returning evacuees, especially those residents who used to employ them. All this would be done without publicity.

All workers would be instructed to emphasize the desirability of wide dispersal of evacuees in Middle-west and East.

The second stage of the program would consist of mass-meetings addressed by eminent persons, to be held in about a dozen of the chief centers on this Coast, after the War Department has publicly announced the relaxation of exclusion. Maximum publicity would be sought for these meetings.

3. Field Work for the first and main stage:

To be done by both volunteers and paid agents, who will spend from two or three days to a week in each of at least forty communities, chiefly those where the larger numbers of evacuees used to live.

Volunteers would consist of persons serving kindred agencies and members of our own Committee who would give their time, but should have their expenses paid, e.g. Miss Cosgrave might cover several towns in the Valley, and Reginald West might cover some places around Sacramento.

4. Securing synchronized action by National Liberal Agencies.

Certain national religious, social, civic and educational agencies will cooperate by circularizing their Coast membership, along lines to be agreed upon by us, and fused to lend the most support to our efforts.

Names from their lists of members in the communities where we are working, can be given to workers assigned, for personal interviews or correspondence. Among such agencies are: Federal Council Commissions on Minorities, and on Race Relations; National Council of Jewish Women; Common Council for American Unity; National YMCA and YWCA Public Affairs Committee, or other committees as may seem best, the various denominational Councils for Social Action, etc.

5. Press support, While keeping still as to the exact nature of the community campaign, editorials and articles could be stimulated in many journals calculated to create a friendly and constitutional attitude.
6. Circularization: Distribute Sproul's speech and other cogent materials to large selected list, especially in communities to be visited by Field Workers, shortly in advance of the visit.
7. Planning Conferences of Workers. Hold group consultations with various agency representatives, both separately, and jointly; that is, with religious, labor, social, educational, groups as units, and with a joint group representing all of them. Probably there should be one preliminary consultation by a half-dozen insiders of this Committee alone.

MEMO-- (Not for Publication) April 23, 1945

Subject: Program of Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play--
Summary to date.
Plan for coming months.

- 1) Originally devoted to preparation and dissemination of material in support of Constitutional rights of law-abiding persons of Japanese ancestry.
- 2) Soon recognized that education alone not enough in face of strong opposition. Persons, however, well informed, needed encouragement and impetus afforded by affiliation with other like minded individuals.
- 3) Assistance given in organizing such groups.
- 4) There has been constant contact with state and federal officials, both civil and military, for purpose of emphasizing constitutional rights of evacuees, particularly in light of war aims (Four Freedoms, etc.)
- 5) Since lifting of Exclusion Order (December 17, 1944) emphasis has been as follows:
 - 1) Continued contact with military and civil authorities.
 - 2) Continued organization, but with the difference that emphasis has been made on relation of this minority to others, and suggestion offered to interested groups, that Councils of Civic Unity be organized, these Councils to include the problems of all minorities.
Purpose:- eventual turning over of work of Fair Play Committee to established organizations. To this end, we are hoping to operate the Central Office only until September 1, 1945, but will continue to operate longer if need exists.

Plans for coming four months

- 1) Continued contact with military and civil authorities
 - a) Urging Western Defense Command to recognize share of responsibility for security of evacuees on return.
 - b) Pressure on War Relocation Authority to pursue realistic policy re:
 - 1) Acceptance of responsibility of Government for resettlement of returnees. Present policy relies too much on interested lay groups such as Fair Play Committee, Friends Service Committee, Churches, etc.
 - 2) Housing
 - 3) Public Assistance
 - 4) Public Relations
 - 5) Employment

- 2) Preparation for and staffing of conferences, or institute-seminars in outlying communities in Washington, Oregon and California for purpose of crystallizing thinking and action in support of loyal returnees. These conference-institutes are expected to be held only if some degree of participation by representatives of the War Department can be secured. Much work has been and is being done in this direction. Decision will be made after conferences with representatives of War Department before middle of May.
- 3) Renewal of documentation program:
West Coast communities still uninformed as to specific replies needed to refute detailed inaccuracies expressed by opposition.
We are expecting to employ full time trained personnel to prepare such material, which will be sent out whenever and wherever it is needed.
- 4) Field personnel, when available will travel to "hot spots" on coast to determine what kind of material is needed to support program in those areas.
- 5) Local committees should be ready to locate "hot spots" in general vicinity and to analyze need for material. Also make all possible contacts with local outlets (press, radio) which might be expected to accept carefully documented material written with "press" slant.
Where small outlying communities present specific problems strong local committees, such as Los Angeles, Pasadena, and Santa Barbara in the South, San Jose, Sacramento, San Mateo, in the North, and Portland and Seattle in the Northwest, should be ready to send representative or representatives together with members of local W.R.A. staff to confer with persons causing difficulty and/or the law enforcement agents involved.
- 6) Every organized community should remain alert to stories in West Coast Press which indicate desirability of letters to the Governor, Legislature, Congress, etc. The Central Office does not always receive the press releases indicating such incidents until after the strategic moment is past. This is a simple, but one of the most potent parts, of the program. Its potency will depend upon the vigor with which it is pursued.
- 7) Continued contact with the major organizations working in the field of Race Relations--notably the American Council on Race Relations, the churches, Friends Service Committee, etc., so that our programs will supplement and not overlap each other.

April 30, 1945

MEMORANDUM for Secretary Ickes

SUBJECT: Relocation Plans of persons of Japanese ancestry wishing to return to the Pacific Coast.

As the Secretary knows, the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play has always given strong support to the program and policies of the War Relocation Authority and its Director, Dillon S. Myer, whose high courage and fearlessness claim our deep appreciation. We recognize at least some of the difficulties confronting the administration of such a program, and in the interest of further, and more effective support, we would like to make the following observations and suggestions:

Return of evacuees to West Coast--

It has long been clear to persons who have watched the progress of relocation and resettlement, that the Centers could not be cleared until the West Coast was reopened. A rough estimate of the figures shows that over 60,000 evacuees are still in the Centers, not counting the nearly 18,000, in Tulelake.

If one half were to relocate in the Middle West and East (large numbers unwillingly) that leaves approximately 30,000 who expect to return to the West Coast. It is our impression that the War Relocation Authority contemplates movement east and west in some such proportionate numbers. Of this 30,000, less than half claim an agricultural background indicating that more than half came from homes in urban areas.

We question the realism of expecting those 30,000 to return to the West Coast before January 1, 1946 for the following reasons:

- 1) Housing shortage
- 2) Antagonism, increase in number of incidents.
- 3) Rising unemployment after July 1.

Notwithstanding evidence appearing in community analyses prepared by War Relocation Authority analysts, scores of reports received by persons who have the confidence of Center residents indicate an increasing distrust of the War Relocation Authority within the Centers. This distrust is growing out of what the residents feel to be refusal on the part of the Administration to provide alternatives in a situation which they feel to be intolerable. As strong supporters of the War Relocation Authority, we deplore this mounting distrust as we feel certain that it will lead to the following:

- a) With decrease in typically American activities such as education and directed recreation, there will follow an increase of Japanese controlled recreation and schools.
- b) A sharp increase in requests for expatriation and repatriation, as evacuees know that such a change of political allegiance will assure them of security at least for the duration of the war.

These to be followed by:

- c) Resulting increase in ammunition for opposition press, radio and organizations.
- d) Unfavorable reaction against persons already relocated.

- e) Unjustifiable increase of "burden of proof" of loyalty, already too great, upon Nisei in uniform.
- f) Deplorable international implications.

SUGGESTIONS based on foregoing:

- 1) We suggest that the War Relocation Authority recognize the impossibility of emptying the centers by January 1, 1946 and that concrete and specific plans for the maintenance of satisfactory relocation center life after January 1, 1946 be on paper by September 1, 1945, at latest, and released to the residents of the centers.
- 2) We suggest that the high intelligence of many of the evacuees, particularly of their leaders, be recognized by providing something concrete in the way of thinking for the future of those who will not have left the Centers by the end of the year. We sympathize with their resentment at being forced to follow a "psychic bid".
- 3) We suggest that War Relocation Authority frankly admit that large scale return to the West Coast this year is impractical, (due to lack of housing, to antagonism, and to pending unemployment) and lay primary emphasis upon eastern and mid-west relocation.
- 4) We suggest further, that the War Relocation Authority marshal all possible support from the heads of the Departments of Interior, State and Justice to press the War Department for a demand for the following:
 - a) Adequate housing for dispossessed (on account of the war) families of men and women in the services.

- b) Adequate security for these families, wherever they may relocate.
- c) Public assumption of responsibility for such security.

We understand that the Presidential Order No. 9102 called for the cooperation of other agents of the Government with the program of the War Relocation Authority. We urge that full use be made of that part of the Exclusion Order.

5) We suggest that War Relocation Authority recognize that its friends in local communities on the West Coast have no intention of developing a program for permanent relocation of the returnees. We are urging church and welfare groups to provide hostels only where permanent housing is available, and where we know that work opportunities on pre-evacuation levels are available. We are not inclined to urge the evacuees to return to domestic or farm labor, unless they held such positions prior to evacuation. We are familiar with the reasoning that anything is better than life in the Centers, and to a certain degree, we concur. At the same time, we are inclined to place ourselves in the position of the evacuees, and to feel that there should be another, perhaps less easy, solution of one of their sharpest dilemmas.

Our reasons for maintaining this position:

- I. West Coast groups have neither personnel, budget, nor the necessary priorities to do an adequate job on housing or job placement.
- II. We have no inclination to undertake what we feel to be the task of War Relocation Authority, as it acts under Presidential Order.

- III. We can conscientiously urge local church groups (far less active and potent than in the Middle West and East) to provide temporary hostels, and minor assistance, only where permanent housing is available.
- IV. We will continue to do everything within our power to create public acceptance of a strong War Relocation Authority program, and will give full support to any and all War Relocation Authority efforts to gain the cooperation of government agencies and officials. Beyond this, we do not feel that we can or should go.

SUMMARY

- I. West Coast groups friendly toward returning evacuees wish to reaffirm desire to support War Relocation Authority and Mr. Myer.
- II. We urge development of plan, and announcement of same, for persons left in Centers after January 1, 1946.
- III. We urge clearer thinking as to specific means of relocating persons returning to West Coast, or frank abandonment of large scale return.
- IV. We urge fuller use of potential assistance of all departments of Government leading to strong position by War Department.
- V. We urge recognition by War Relocation Authority that responsibility for Relocation Program lies with War Relocation Authority and not with friendly groups in local communities who cannot and do not accept that responsibility.

Copies to: Abe Fortas
Dillon S. Myer

for your information - not for publication

A group of representatives from various local agencies met at the Council of Social Agencies office on Tuesday, July 24, 1945 with two members of the W.R.A. staff. The purpose of the meeting was as follow:

1. To discuss current problems with regard to returning Japanese and American s of Japanese background, problems which are now likely to become more acute due to the U. S. Government's announcement of the closing dates of various Relocation Centers. The last center is to beclosed by December 15th. The Topaz Center, which houses most of the former Alameda County residents, is scheduled to close on November 1, 1945.
2. To clarify the extent of participation by the local agencies in W.R.A.'s present resettlement program.
3. To attempt to learn what plans, if any, are being made by the W.R.A. to meet this coming emergency situation, especially on the West Coast.
4. To learn how large a staff W.R.A. will have available to handle the adjustment problems which these Japanese Americans will face and to learn how thoroughly W.R.A. is prepared to do this job.

After much discussion during which it was brought out that of the original 5,000 residents, about 3,000 might be expected to return. It was decided to recommend to the Board of the Council of Social Agencies that a letter be written to Secretary Ickes of the Department of Interior in which the following ideas should be expressed:

1. We are in agreement that centers should be closed since the reason for their establishment, namely national security, no longer exists.
2. When clesing the centers due consideration must be given not only to the rights of the individuals being sent from the centers, but that it is also necessary to give careful study to the conditions existing in the local community, especially where any considerable number are planning to locate.
3. The housing shortage in Oakland which has been in an acute stage for many months would make it impossible to absorb any sudden large influx of returning Japanese Americans.
4. This community is taking it for granted that the government realizes that some definite plan for the return of these former residents must be made in advance in order that tensions and misunderstandings be kept at a minimum.
5. The Council of Social Agencies should like to be kept informed of any such plans and will be glad through its member agencies to continue to offer all possible cooperation.

Report presented to Board meeting of Council of Social Agencies in Oakland.

Wilhelmine W. Yoakum

7/27/45 It was voted to sent the letter.

WY

Not sent

August - 1945

Memorandum to Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes

Many informed Americans who strongly favor the prompt release of evacuated persons of Japanese descent, nevertheless find themselves deeply disturbed by the methods which the War Relocation Authority is adopting to accomplish this desirable objective.

While agreeing with the War Relocation Authority that center life is most undesirable, and should be terminated as soon as possible, we feel even more strongly that the evacuees who have been impoverished and rendered homeless due to federal action should not be subjected to further hardship.

The War Relocation Authority's policy of forced evacuation of the relocation centers seemingly ignores the following:

1. There is no adequate supply of housing available in California, either private or public.
2. West Coast community agencies and organizations are neither equipped nor inclined to take the responsibility for the solution of resettlement problems of returning evacuees. They consider that this responsibility rests solely with the federal government.
3. Under California law, state old age pensions are not available to aliens.

Train schedules have been prepared which order every evacuee family, whether with or without adequate plans, to leave the centers for return to their places of legal residence. By this compulsory departure plan it appears that local community agencies are expected by the War Relocation Authority to "be mobilized to assist in the care of the arriving families..." "This will be done in order to avert difficult housing situations and hardships". With the best will in the world, no community can find housing when there is none. No community can provide the means of support for aged and inca-

pacitated persons except through charity, which these people, normally self-reliant, but impoverished through federal action, should not be forced to request.

The evacuees are federally displaced persons, and should, therefore, be entitled to federal assistance.

In speaking of federal responsibility, it should be noted that we consider it quite possible that under the existing Presidential Order, the War Relocation Authority may not now have authority to develop an adequate and realistic policy for the resettlement of persons still remaining in the centers. This possibility in no way absolves the federal government of its responsibility, but merely indicates a need for some agency properly authorized and equipped to cope with the remaining problems.

The War Relocation Authority's policy of forced evacuation with inadequate planning has been in effect now for several months. Thousands of persons remain in the centers for whom no satisfactory plan has been made. Within this policy we see no possible outcome other than the wholesale "dumping" of these people in communities, often unfriendly, and at best, unequipped to give them adequate assistance.

We feel that we need not dwell upon the problems of pauperization, family disorganization and juvenile delinquency which the present policies of the War Relocation Authority will inevitably bring about.

We are, therefore, suggesting the following alternative program, which in our judgment, will more adequately meet the real needs of the situation:

1. The War Relocation Authority should intensify its own planning for housing in the communities and cease giving the impression that (a) a substantial number of vacancies can be found in the private market: and, (b) that finding housing is a responsibility that

will be undertaken by the communities.

2. An adequate family plan should be constructed for every family still to be relocated, including, (a) a specific provisions for housing and (b) assurance of support for those too old or otherwise incapacitated for work.
3. One or more centers should be kept open beyond the closing dates to provide only temporary haven for those families for whom adequate resettlement plans cannot be constructed within the previously established time limits.
4. One center, preferably Poston or Gila should be set aside as a Maintenance Center to provide for (a) persons 60 years of age and over without means of support; (b) widows with children; (c) others who, because of physical or other disability cannot be assimilated into ordinary community life on a self-supporting basis: or,
5. As a preferable alternative to point 4, consideration should be given to establishment of a special federal provision of old age and dependency which would be available to persons referred to in points 2 and 3.
6. We feel that a special federal old age pension program should be recommended for the benefit of those Issei who, because of lack of United States' citizenship, cannot qualify for legal aid categories.

Our suggestions are made in full recognition of many of the difficulties which would have to be overcome were such changes in policy made.

At the same time, our concern for the fundamental rights of all persons living under our Constitution demands just treatment for this group, and

our concern for the maintenance of workable community relationships makes it necessary that we try to avoid impractical demands upon limited community resources.

Feeling confident that you share our concern, we feel free to submit these suggestions to you, hoping to enlist your support.

MEMO

Race tensions

✓ File
not sent.

The forced re-evacuation of the people of Japanese ancestry from the War Relocation Centers to which they were evacuated from the Pacific Coast by the Federal Government in the spring of 1942, should be discontinued until proper provision for housing each family still in the Centers has been worked out by the Federal Government.

Responsibility for housing rests squarely with the Federal Government, which created the problem by (1st) removing the people from their West Coast homes, and (2nd) forcing them to leave their present homes.

The evacuees, who were told, early in 1942 that they would be permitted to stay in the centers for the "duration plus" are confused by the increasing pressure being placed upon them by WRA to relocate in the immediate future.

Added to this confusion is a well sub-stantiated conviction that any resistance to relocation is evidence of disloyalty.

7

The WRA relocation staffs within the centers have lost or are rapidly losing the confidence of the evacuees, who recognize the difficulties faced by these staffs as they have been forbidden to "harbor dangerous thoughts" - i.e. - forbidden to permit even an unspoken doubt as to the soundness of the present resettlement policy.

The War Relocation Authority has determined and set down policies which, if carried out, call for the cooperation of:

Evacuees

Field Personnel of WRA, who are charged with carrying out the program, and who are faced with immediate problems of individual evacuees. (assistance, housing, employment, etc.)

Public and Private agencies (State, County, and local)
 Interested groups and organizations. (Church, Civic, etc.)
 Other government departments and agencies, War Dept.,
 Navy Dept. Civil Service, Housing, Manpower, etc.

1) The War Dept. has given limited but effective support to the resettlement program. Navy, Civil Service and Manpower have cooperated to a still lesser degree. If the extent of the support of the program by National Housing is to be measured by results, that support, at least on the Pacific Coast, has been negligible.

2) The evacuees remaining in the centers do not share WRA's conviction that "we (WRA) have so far found a solution for every family relocation problem that has arisen," and are rapidly being frustrated and demoralized as announced closing dates approach.

3) Field Personnel of WRA are being overloaded with unsolved relocation problems, and being faced in Washington by orders to solve these problems, and in their local communities by an ever increasing burden of homeless evacuees, they are not "producing" to the satisfaction either of WRA, of the evacuees, or of the local communities in which they work.

4) Public agencies (state, county, and local), particularly on the West Coast are loath to take responsibility for returning evacuees as they feel that the burden should be carried by the Federal Government. This plus the antagonism felt in most communities, makes it almost impossible to persuade needy evacuees to apply for aid.

5) Private agencies, no matter how much interested and sympathetic have neither funds nor personnel, nor public support necessary to give the degree of cooperation demanded by WRA policy.

6) Interested groups and organizations, particularly on the West Coast, feel that the responsibility of solving the relocation problems of returning evacuees lies solely with the Federal Government. The War Relocation Authority has decided to close the centers by December 31; and in making that decision, has created problems for the evacuees which are too difficult of solution by community groups, no matter how sympathetic.

Repeated suggestions have been made to WRA, by members of Private agencies, civic and other friendly committees, by evacuee committees and to some extent by WRA field personnel (until the forbidding of "dangerous thoughts" urging a reconsideration of the present policy.) In the face of the deplorable lack of available housing on the West Coast and because of the inordinate hardships which will face many of the older, less assimilable evacuees if forced to reevacuate at this time, we wish to make the following specific suggestions:

We believe that the Federal Government must provide the following:

A. A maintenance center, preferably either Poston or Gila, for 1) those people 60 years of age or over, 2) widows with children; and, 3) those who, because of language, physical, economic, or other handicaps cannot be assimilated into the average community.

B. A haven or refuge for those families whose plans for relocation are delayed until decent housing can be provided.

C. That all planning for relocation be specific for each family. Heretofore, general promises of assistance have frequently not been realized.

ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:

An Army officer and a Navy officer shall be assigned to work under the direction of the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play.

The Army officer shall be Col. Evans Carlson, or The Col. Marshall, now in Washington, who has been in charge of the "How to Act" pamphlets and who is conversant with this subject -- as well as deeply concerned in its settlement.

The Navy officer shall be _____.

(There's a healthy-minded young Lieut. Earl Waugh in the San Francisco Office of Navy Intelligence, who is familiar and favorable on this subject.)

The following itinerary (subject to change but necessary as a pattern) shall be followed:

Thursday night, April 5 -- El Centro or Brawley
Friday night, April 6 -- San Diego, U.S. Grant Hotel
Saturday noon, April 7 -- Los Angeles, Biltmore Hotel
Saturday night, April 7 -- Riverside

Monday noon, April 9 -- Santa Barbara
Monday night, April 9 -- San Luis Obispo
Tuesday night, April 10 -- Bakersfield
Wednesday noon, April 11 -- Fresno
Wednesday night, April 11 -- Modesto
Thursday night, April 12 -- Watsonville
Friday noon, April 13 -- San Jose
Friday night, April 13 -- San Francisco
Saturday noon, April 14 -- Oakland

Monday noon, April 16 -- Stockton
Monday night, April 16 -- Sacramento
Tuesday noon, April 17 -- Chico

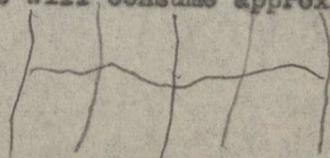
Thursday noon, April 19 -- Portland
Thursday night, April 19 -- Hood River

Saturday noon, April 21 -- Kent or Auburn
Saturday night, April 21 -- Seattle

Each meeting should be dominated by local personalities.

Each meeting should have a fifteen minute talk by the Army and the Navy representative, indicating their confidence in the loyalty of Nisei, war contributions and constitutional rights. Even if the main speaker makes mention of these subjects, the repetition of them by the uniformed men will give added confirmation.

(Pattern program: San Francisco: Bart Crum, Master of Ceremonies, short news-reel on Nisei in uniform; Salute to the Flag. Speaker, Maurice Harrison: 30 minutes; Army officer 15 minutes; Navy officer, 15 minutes. This will consume approximately one hour and a half.)



The above pattern can be followed out in each community, with the noon affairs being shorter.

Transportation should be done in California by government or private automobiles.

An advance man -- public relations -- should be sent ahead with the following duties:

1. Direct and assist local Fair Play committee in arranging meeting.
2. Secure newspaper advance notices and coverage.
3. Attempt to secure radio coverage.
4. Work with WRA reports division in publicizing meetings in larger communities.
5. Attend all earlier meetings and gauge effectiveness of the talks, suggesting eliminations and additions to talks or changes in program.
6. Arrange interviews with Army and Navy representatives.

(All the 'shots' should not be fired in the first meetings, and a program of 'news' breaks should be mapped out. Subject matters should be stressed by speakers, such as El Centro-Brawley to have speaker stress actual land ownership; San Diego, the facts on "they do not breed like rabbits"; Los Angeles, the religious pattern to prove they are not all Shintoists; etc. Break down all the fictions in successive meetings.)

The size and place of these meetings should be determined by the local committees, after consultation with Fair Play executives.

Each meeting should have on the stage the mayor or chief of police of each city involved. In the case of San Francisco the District Attorney. Leaders of the Fair Play Committee should play a prominent part and be ready to take over if local speakers are not available or conversant with the subject.

MEMORANDUM: For representatives of California Organizations cooperating in Field Work re organizing Fair Play, Civic Unity or Resettlement Committees, in connection with the return of the Japanese-Americans to the West Coast.

1. Division of territories in California should conform with the War Relocation Authority districts wherever possible, as close cooperation with the District Relocation officer will be necessary.

2. District assignments might be made in this manner:

United Council

Sacramento County	'	
San Joaquin County	'	District relocation officer: Sacramento
Placer County	'	Wayne L. Phelps, 1709 21st Street
Yolo County	'	
Solano County	'	District relocation officer: Stockton
Contra Costa County	'	John R. Robertson, 343 East Main Street
Stanislaus County	'	
Merced County	'	
<u>Sonoma County</u>	'	
<i>Alameda County</i>	'	
Marin County	'	
San Francisco County	'	District relocation officer: San Francisco
San Mateo County	'	Fred Ross, De Young Building
Santa Clara County	'	District Relocation Officer: San Jose (undetermined)
<u>(northern half)</u>	'	
Southern Santa Clara County	'	District relocation officer: Watsonville
Santa Cruz County	'	Theodore R.E. Lewis, Ford & Walker Streets.
Monterey County	'	
San Benito County	'	
<hr/>		
Fresno County	'	District Relocation officer: Fresno
Madera County	'	Paul J. Fischer, 3208 Hamilton Avenue
Tulare County	'	
Kings & Kern County	'	District Relocation Officer: Visalia (undetermined)

3. CONTACTS in territories:

- First contact always District Relocation officer, who can give background on local situation and leads.
- Known sympathetic persons ^{and organizations:} (See 1. War Relocation Authority contact list
2. Fair Play Committee list)
- Newspaper and radio

- d. County agricultural agencies: (a) Members of USDA County War Board)
(b) Farm Security County Supervisor
- e. Public Officials: Mayor, City Attorney, Board of Supervisors
- f. Institutions in the community:
Churches, YM and YW, Schools, Council of Social Agencies

4. PURPOSE OF VISIT to community

(1) Organize friendly committees

Give them names of WRA district officials, complete list of relocation centers and officers, urge them to compile list of those friendly in the community--individuals and organizations-- and send to district WRA officer and to the centers, asking returning evacuees to contact them.

Supply information and outline possible public relations program for the area (depending on local facilities, resources available-- press, radio, service clubs churches).

(Field workers have available: Fair Play Committee literature, all WRA publications, American Council's "Pertinent Facts" and statements of public officials. Also WRA movie "Challenge to Democracy", and use of a speakers' bureau.)

Urge community organizations to obtain and forward to relocation centers specific information on housing possibilities, and have that information on hand for visiting Japanese-Americans. Also advice, counsel, contacts in the community should be in the hands of one or two members of the committee whom Japanese-Americans can contact.

- (2) If community opinion on the question has "frozen" and "crystallized", the problem of correcting misinformation will be the biggest job and eventually lay the groundwork for positive action by those who are sympathetic, but hesitant.

5. TIME SCHEDULE

Field work of agencies should be completed in approximately ninety days. Territories should be covered, and if there are any resources which can be utilized and brought into local action it should have been done by that time.

6. FIELD REPORTS

It would seem essential that at least one report a week should be written by field workers, giving:--General picture of community sentiment, techniques used in organizing a committee, list of names and addresses of those contacted, and some background or identification of those who cooperate. This information should be pooled for use by all groups cooperating and working on minority problems, in California. It would also be useful to send a copy to the district relocation officer who covers the territory from which the report is sent. Copy also sent to the Fair Play Committee to be routed to all agencies cooperating, and duplicate to agency the field worker represents.

After consulting with some members of the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play I am drafting this reply - which is not official for the Committee since it has taken no stand on your Bill or Resolution - to your frank and welcome letter of June 22nd.

Your first proposal is to deport every Japanese alien. It is my understanding

- (1) that all - or virtually all - these aliens were admitted to our country in full conformity to our laws as these laws stood at the time of their admission.
- (2) that a large proportion, perhaps a majority, have never been back to Japan since immigrating to the United States.
- (3) that of all aliens, including those who have returned to Japan for a visit, two-thirds have not been in Japan since 1925, or more than seventeen years ago.
- (4) that the majority of these aliens have children, or even grandchildren, born in the United States.
- (5) that, with relatively few exceptions, no accusation whatever of crime or malfeasance against our country has ever been lodged against these aliens.
- (6) that 39 percent of the "American citizens who happen to have Japanese parents" are under 15 years of age (1940 census), and that these children (or grandchildren) are the American citizens who would experience in most intimate ways the results of separation of families that deportation of aliens would entail.

In view of these considerations I believe that deportation of Japanese aliens could hardly fail to injure "loyal American citizens". As son of an immigrant, you will realize the hardship upon children of deporting their parents because of foreign birth of the latter. On the record, aren't most of these aliens innocent of everything except foreign birth, anyway?

As for Japanese Americans who are proved traitors, we think present laws on treason probably are adequate and certainly should be enforced.

It is true of course that Japanese are of a different race and color than the rest of us. Also that some of our people do not like persons of Japanese ancestry. But is there any substantial reason to believe that these Japanese aliens - with infinitesimal exceptions - had anything to do with "this war and the manner in which it was started?" Isn't it pretty clear, now that the dust has settled, that the record is to the contrary?

Japanese in Japan "are bent on destroying us," and I believe they should not be coddled. The distinction between them, on the one hand, and persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States, on the other, would not seem particularly difficult to maintain. Nor does it seem as difficult as some people appear to think to distinguish between guilty and innocent Japanese of American birth. The United States Army and the Department of Justice, among other government agencies, are making this distinction daily.

MEMORANDUM

FOR Committee Members consideration in discussion of future policy and program of Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play.

ORIGINAL PURPOSE--"To support the principles enunciated in the Constitution of the United States, and to that end to maintain, unimpaired, the liberties guaranteed in the Bill of Rights, particularly for persons of Oriental ancestry"--

.... Constitution & By-Laws, p. 1.

"....support and defend the constitutional rights of law-abiding persons of Oriental ancestry in the United States, and particularly of the Japanese American evacuees."
July, 1943

....Brochure of Committee, June, 1944.

OUTCOME OF POLL OF MEMBERS.

Plan No. I) Overwhelming majority for one or other, preference about
Plan No. II) even.

Plan No. III -- Negligible support

Plan No. IV. Approximately the same as Nos. 1 & 2, with most members willing to turn work over to other agencies provided the work definitely continues.

APPROXIMATE COST OF PLAN NO. I

Plan No. I -- "The present organization should continue and I am willing to contribute financially to such a program."

Monthly salaries, Executive Secretary		
Executive Secretary, Los Angeles		
Office Secretary, Berkeley		
Office Secretary, Los Angeles	----	\$ 585.00
Office Maintenance (Berkeley)		70.00
" " (Los Angeles)		50.00
Travel (Berkeley)		50.00
" (Los Angeles)		50.00
Printing		75.00
Mailing		15.00
Extra Personnel (salary & expenses)		250.00
		<u>\$1145.00</u>
Conferences, Etc.		\$ 55.00
Monthly expenditures approximately	----	\$1200.00

Plan No. II "The present organization should continue to function on a simplified scale."

Program could involve: 1) Less time from executive
Less field personnel
Less travel
Less office maintenance

2) Continued pressure on government
a) Federal
b) State
c) Local

3) Continued assistance to Councils of Civic Unity
(see agenda of Conference, July 6, Exhibit C.)

Suggested budget (approximate) for simplified program (Plan No. II.):

Executive Secretary, half-time	\$150.00
Office Secretary---full-time	160.00
Rent & Maintenance	85.00
	<u>Monthly ---- \$395.00</u>

Southern California -- To raise own budget, according to scope of program they wish to cover.

Plan No. III "The scope of the organization should be widened to include problems of all minorities." ---Little support.

Plan No. IV "The emergency nature of the Committee having been outgrown, the work should now be turned over to other permanently organized agencies."

1) Skeleton organization, no paid personnel, no office maintenance, small executive committee to maintain relationship with Councils of Civic Unity (see agenda, Sacramento Conference, Exhibit C.)
or 2) Complete turning over of responsibility for program to other organizations (welfare, Civic Unity, religious, etc.)

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Monthly salaries,	Executive Secretary	
	Executive Secretary, L. A.	
	Office Secretary, Berkeley	
	Office Secretary, L. A.	----- \$585.00
Office Maintenance (Berkeley)		70.00
" " (Los Angeles)		50.00
Travel (Berkeley)		50.00
" (Los Angeles)		50.00
Printing		75.00
Mailing		15.00
Extra personnel (salary & expenses)		250.00
		<u>\$1145.00</u>
Conferences, Etc.		55.00
Monthly expenditures approximately	----	<u>\$1200.00</u>

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Less field personnel

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Less Office Maintenance

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November 18, 1943

Memorandum for Mr. Elmer Davis

on behalf of the above Committee

by Galen M. Fisher

1. Help the War Relocation Authority secure a better press for the real facts on the Japanese-American evacuees.
Apparently, WRA needs top-notch public relations men in Washington and in California who know all the angles, and take constant account of the West Coast.
2. Stimulate the War Dept. public relations staff to play up the quality and combat record of the Japanese-American men in the armed forces, as in Italy.
3. Get the press to differentiate sharply between the Tule Lake Center and the other nine Centers; to recognize the presence of 6000 or more American-schooled children at Tule Lake; and to recognize the fact that the progressive deterioration of the evacuees, especially the children, should be blamed largely on the abnormal treatment and the malicious public hostility.
4. Let OWI point out frequently the bad effects on Chinese and Indian allies of denial of full constitutional rights to the evacuees; also, the right of all citizen evacuees, not charged with crime, to be given immediate freedom of movement.

EXCERPT FROM CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM

In justifying this policy, Mr. Myer states that the whole evacuation from the west coast was on the legal basis of military necessity. The changing military situation has now altered these conditions. On the basis of statements made by the Army, this military necessity no longer exists. In June, 1942, Admiral Nimitz stated that "since the battle of Midway in June, 1942, there has been no serious threat from the Japanese to the Pacific Coast or America's Pacific possessions. Both the Army and Navy have assured the Nation that "the Japanese enemy is not coming to our shores." Since November, 1943, the Westcoast has ceased to be classed as a theater of military operations and is now only "a defense command the same as other areas of the United States."

Mrs. Kingman

D.S.T.

Significant Facts about Japanese Evacuees and Government Policy

1. The Army restored the selective service draft to Nisei in January 1944 after it had been denied them for twenty months although enrollment in segregated units is resented by many Nisei.
2. The heroic conduct of the Nisei in the 100th Battalion in Italy, and of the Nisei serving in the Pacific area has won special recognition from the War Department and the public. The Army has already awarded Purple Hearts to the families of the 58 Nisei who have died in action in Italy.
3. The speech of Sgt. Ben Kuroki, of Ploesti bombing fame, before the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco on February 4, 1944, received a tremendous ovation, as did his later radio broadcast over N.B.C.
4. The War Department has for some months been allowing Nisei men in the armed forces to visit the West Coast on furlough, and none of them have suffered violence or serious trouble at the hands of white residents.
5. No convictions of subversive acts have been recorded against any of the 21,000 evacuees released for resettlement, nor against any of the 20,000 unevacuated persons of Japanese extraction living beyond the Sierras.
6. The transfer of the War Relocation Authority to the Department of the Interior, and Secretary Ickes' staunch defence of its record have apparently ended the malicious attacks upon the W.R.A.
7. At Tule Lake Center, ^{since placing} after a few hundred trouble-makers and disloyalists had been placed in a separate section, the remaining 19,000 in the Center have shown an orderly and cooperative spirit.
8. The Farm Security Administration has recently announced that it will make farm loans to Nisei evacuees who relocate, on the same basis as to any other citizen. Such loans are not available to the older evacuees, even though they are declared to be loyal to America, since they are aliens. Their lack of funds is one of the chief obstacles to resettling some 60,000 aliens and their American-born children still in the Relocation Centers.
9. Attorney General Biddle, in reply to inquiries by the House Committee on Immigration as to his opinion of proposed legislation wrote February 8, 1944:
"On the basis of exhaustive investigations conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, I have found that internal security required the internment of fewer than 2,000 Japanese aliens in the continental United States, and I am informed that only about 700 Japanese aliens have been interned by the commanding general in the Territory of Hawaii A large proportion of the Japanese aliens in this country are law-abiding and loyal to the United States. They came here many years ago, in accordance with our laws, and have raised families composed of citizens of the United States. Compulsory deportation of all Japanese nationals at the termination of hostilities appears to me to be objectionable. . . . Moreover, exile, which is what the deportation of such (citizens of Japanese ancestry) would constitute, is entirely foreign to

our constitutional history. I do not know of any way in which the exile of citizens of the United States can be reconciled with the principles for which we are fighting this war."

10. Secretary Stimson's statement of January 1943, that "It is the inherent right of every faithful citizen, regardless of ancestry, to bear arms in the nation's battle", was amplified by the California State Commander of the American Legion, on February 15, 1944, in these words:

"Numerous persons of Japanese ancestry are now serving with the armed forces of our country on the battle fronts, and according to all reports, are serving valiantly and well. . . . Every person good enough to fight for us is entitled to our respect and equal protection under our constitution."

11. Admiral Nimitz declared last June at the University of California that all danger of an invasion in force of the West Coast had passed, although he and General Emmons have recently stated that nuisance raids were still to be expected. The "military necessity" arising from danger of invasion was the chief reason given by the Army for the policy of exclusion of all persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast. The passing of that danger and the impressive record of the 9,000 Nisei in the armed forces explain the modification of the policy in the case of servicemen, and point to further reasonable modifications. The acceptance without protest by the general West Coast public of the Army's decision as to the original evacuation in 1942 gives good ground for expecting that whatever the Army and other Federal authorities decide is militarily safe and constitutionally desirable in 1944 with reference to the return of other local evacuees will command the equally hearty acceptance of West Coast residents.

GMF

PLAN FOR CUSTODIANSHIP OF PERSONAL PROPERTIES OF ALIEN EVACUEES
(Sponsored by Berkeley Committee on Fair Play to Aliens of Enemy Nationality)
(Galen Fisher, Chairman)

- I. Origin -- Outgrowth of expressed need of evacuees for some means of leaving behind such personal properties the disposition of which is not provided for by agencies under W.C.C.A.
- II. Nature -- Office set up as clearing house, provided in and by First Congregational Church of Berkeley, Dr. Vere V. Loper, pastor.
1. Staff on volunteer basis.
 2. Office merely clearing house by means of telephone and/or interview.
- III. Procedure --
1. Contact with evacuees to be made through Japanese papers and office of Japanese American Citizens League, and through local W.C.C.A. office as need arises.
 2. Lists of names and addresses of reliable custodians, together with information as to quantity of goods they wish to care for to be compiled through cooperation of local churches and clubs, such custodians to be considered as permanent residents of Berkeley.
 3. Description of properties in form of Waiver (attached hereto) to be made in triplicate, each copy to be signed by evacuee and custodian, one copy to be retained by each and one given to permanent representative of Committee on Fair Play.
 4. Delivery to be made by evacuees to points not more than 5 miles from their homes.

This plan, as outlined, has the approval of Mayor Frank Gaines, the Berkeley Police department (Captain Johnson), and the Federal Security Agency of the United States Social Security Board. The attached Waiver was drawn up by Mr. Elmer Nichols, attorney for the American Trust Company in Berkeley.

WAIVER

Whereas, _____ has agreed to receive and care for certain personal property of ours hereafter described, without compensation, until such time as we shall be able to reclaim the same;

Therefore, in consideration of the care and protection to be given to such property, we do, for ourselves, our heirs or legal representatives, release the said _____ from all liability in case of injury or destruction of said property by fire, or loss thereof by theft or other casualty.

It is agreed that said property may be reclaimed by us, our heirs or authorized representatives, on demand.

It is further agreed that the custody of said property shall be subject to any regulations made effective by governmental agencies.

The property referred to is described as follows:

Dated: _____

Approved: _____

(Name of Custodian)

MEMO RE SUPPORT OF WAR DEPARTMENT ON EVACUEE RETURN

GENERAL PRINCIPLES:

- space 1. Avoidance of statements or procedures subject to charges that the War Department is being urged to hasten withdrawal of the Exclusion Order. Emphasis should be laid on securing support for restoration of constitutional rights and whatever moves the War Department decides to be conducive to national security and the war effort, and that such support is a patriotic duty in war time.
- 2. It may reasonably be assumed that any return of evacuees will be subject to War Department approval and the availability of housing and employment.
- 3. Utilization of existing committees in churches, clubs, etc. that are devoted to social justice, and constitutional rights, getting them to adopt as their own project the plan outlined below.

PROJECT:

The preparation, in communities where considerable numbers of evacuees formerly resided, of proper attitudes toward, and employment opportunities for, such of them as may wish to return.

METHOD:

The approach is to be made only to individuals or small groups known to be committed to the constitutional right of the evacuees to return whenever the Army withdraws the Exclusion order, with the proposal that they undertake five specific things, namely:

- 1. If they or their friends definitely wish to employ competent returning evacuees, letters to that effect should be written to General Bonesteel (suggested form enclosed). Presumably, persons who formerly employed persons of Japanese ancestry might be among those to be approached.
- 2. Be ready, when the Army announces withdrawal of the Exclusion order, to make known, at once, their support of the Army action to the local press, to the War Department, and to local friends and neighbors.
- 3. Writing of letters to evacuees known to the writer, urging them to resettle, if practicable, in parts of the country where there is less anti-Oriental feeling than on the West Coast, but assuring them that if they definitely wish to return to this area, the writer will do everything in his power to smooth the way.
- 5. The use of suggested reading material for development of sound and informed attitudes toward returning evacuees (see list below).
- 4. Help evacuees who desire church connections, to make contact with some Caucasian church that will welcome them as attendants and members.

-*-*-*-*-*-*-
* * * * *

- 1. The Test of A Free Country: Speech by Dr. Robert Gordon Sproul
President of the University of California
- 2. American Fighting Men Speak Out: Compilation of letters from Caucasian and Nisei servicemen.
- 3. Ben Kuroki's Story: Text of Sgt. Kuroki's speech before the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco.
- 4. Yori Wada's "Beyond The Horizon": Reprint from the University of California Alumni Magazine.
- 5. A Balance Sheet on Japanese Evacuation: by Galen M. Fisher
- 6. What About Our Japanese-Americans?: by Carey McWilliams
- 7. The Displaced Japanese-Americans: Reprint from Fortune Magazine.

Prices for pamphlets 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6	Prices for pamphlets 1 & 7 (sample free)		
single copy \$.10	25 copies \$1.75	10 copies \$.50	50 copies \$1.75
12 copies 1.00	100 copies 6.00	25 copies 1.00	100 copies 3.00

MEMO RE SUPPORT OF WAR DEPARTMENT OF EVACUEE RETURN

GENERAL PRINCIPLES:

1. Avoidance of statements or procedures subject to charges that the War Department is being urged to hasten withdrawal of the Exclusion Order. Emphasis should be made on securing support for whatever moves the War Department decides to be conducive to national security and the war effort, and that such support is a patriotic duty in war time.
2. It may reasonably be assumed that any return of evacuees will be subject to the availability of housing and employment.
3. Utilization of existing committees in churches, clubs, etc. that are devoted to social justice, getting them to adopt as their own project the plan outlined below.

PROJECT:

The preparation, in communities where considerable numbers of evacuees formerly resided, of proper attitudes toward, and employment opportunities for, such of them as may wish to return.

METHOD:

The approach is to be made only to individuals or small groups known to be committed to the constitutional right of the evacuees to return whenever the Army withdraws the Exclusion order, with the proposal that they undertake four specific things, namely:

1. If they or their friends definitely wish to employ competent returning evacuees, letters to that effect should be written to General Bonesteel (suggested form enclosed). Presumably, persons who formerly employed persons of Japanese ancestry might be among those to be approached.
2. Be ready, when the Army announces withdrawal of the Exclusion order, to make known, at once, their support of the Army action to the local press, to the War Department, and to local friends and neighbors.
3. Writing of letters to evacuees known to the writer, urging them to resettle, if practicable, in parts of the country where there is less anti-Oriental feeling than on the West Coast, but assuring them that if they definitely wish to return to this area, the writer will do everything in his power to smooth the way.
4. The use of suggested reading material for development of sound and informed attitudes toward returning evacuees (see list below).

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1. The Test of A Free Country: Speech by Dr. Robert Gordon Sproul
President of the University of California
2. American Fighting Men Speak Out: Compilation of letters from Caucasian and Nisei servicemen.
3. Ben Kuroki's Story: Text of Sgt. Kuroki's speech before the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco.
4. Yori Wada's "Beyond The Horizon": Reprint from the University of California Alumni Magazine.
5. A Balance Sheet on Japanese Evacuation: by Galen M. Fisher
6. What about Our Japanese Americans?: by Carey McWilliams
7. The Displaced Japanese-Americans: Reprint from Fortune Magazine.

Prices for pamphlets 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6
single copy \$.10 25 copies \$1.75
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10 copies \$.50 50 copies \$1.75
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NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Rayburn

Whenever depression strikes it is easy to foment trouble between groups. When there are not enough jobs, men grasp at any device to assure that unemployment shall not fall upon themselves. At those times it is easy for men to support color, or any other mark which gives them preference, as a touchstone of priority for a share of work and income.

The Governor's Commission estimates that in the first post-war year civilian employment in our State may fall by nearly 700,000 below the 1943 level. That is the number of persons unemployed in California in June 1932. This time there will be hundreds of thousands of returning veterans additional to the displaced war workers in need of jobs which will not exist.

That will be the time when majorities can be led most easily to trample upon the rights of minorities. That will be the time when fair employment practices, without arbitrary discriminations, are most difficult to maintain. That will be when good intercultural relations are most necessary if our people are to avoid division and internal conflict. There is ~~##~~ yet time in California to anticipate and prepare for that day.

Whether we like it or not, we face a new world. In the past it was not very important to us that we European-stock whites were outnumbered in the world by about 2 to 1. That fact will be very important to our children, to their place in the world, and to their peace.

San Francisco was not chosen for the United Nations Conference on International Organization by chance. California, standing as portal

to the Pacific, stands also as portal to a future in which people of color will play a greater and more independent role than they have been able to play in the past.

History has placed representatives of some of these people in our midst as small minorities, about one tenth of our population. By the way in which we learn to get along with these few people we have it in our hands to help to make or mar our own children's future. For those intercultural problems, legal and economic discriminations based on race-- which remain unsolved, provide the salt which, rubbed into wounds, can inflame men to the pitch of war. It has been so in the past and it can be so again.

When President Roosevelt died, he left one address to the people of the United States prepared, but undelivered. In it he asks for "an end to the beginnings of all wars." Dedicated to the traditions of democracy, the public schools of California, by educating for a solution of intercultural problems here and now, can contribute effectively to that "end to the beginnings. . . ."